



Lauren Chan
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02/14/2011 09:03 AM

To Debra_Hill@fws.gov
cc
bcc
Subject DSL

History:  This message has been replied to.

Hi Debra,

I apologize for responding to you at the last minute.

I have read the proposal and only have one minor comment. The time of divergence between *S. arenicolus* and *S. graciosus* may actually be older than the formation of the sands. Some new analyses of our data assuming a mitochondrial mutation rate of 2% (unpublished) suggests that the divergence within *S. arenicolus* among northern and central, and central and southern clades occurred closer to 200,000 ybp. This would place the divergence between *S. arenicolus* and *S. graciosus* at an even older date (which we don't have data for at the moment).

I am not familiar with how the peer review process for these proposal proceeds so please let me know if you need me to send comments in a more formal matter or if you need additional information or comments.

Best,
-Lauren

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