

From: [Thomas, Sue](#)
To: [BrownScott, Jennifer](#)
Subject: Re: Work windows and e-copy of questions
Date: Monday, April 4, 2016 1:06:30 PM
Attachments: [Ralph.docx](#)
Importance: High

how bout this:

Sue Thomas
Wildlife Biologist
Washington Maritime NWRC
715 Holgerson Rd
Sequim, WA 98382
360-457-8451

On Mon, Apr 4, 2016 at 12:59 PM, BrownScott, Jennifer <jennifer_brownscoott@fws.gov> wrote:

Ralph,

What a great meeting! I thought you might want an electronic copy of the additional information that we requested, so it is attached below.

I also wanted to get back with you on your request for work windows. At this point, we are not providing a work window since we have not received a detailed proposal and would need to look at the activities and how they may impact wildlife resources. The following information on high-use seasons for shorebirds and over-wintering birds, as well as information on eelgrass will be used to evaluate impacts of your proposal and, eventually, help set work windows.

We would be concerned about disturbance to migrating shorebirds mid-April through mid-May (spring migration) and August - October (fall migration). Disturbance to over-wintering birds would be a concern November - the end of March. Suspended solids in the water column could negatively impact eelgrass during the growing season (June - September is our best guess without having the chance to talk to experts or research).

It seems like reduction of bird disturbance was used to reach the work window that is in the current lease (May 15 - July 30) because it lines up pretty closely with the dates mentioned above. Any non-ground disturbing activities taking place in June and July will most likely have the least impacts to wildlife resources and, therefore, be easier to accommodate.

Again, we are not setting a work window prior to evaluating your proposal. We did want to provide you with the dates that correspond to increased use of the area by wildlife so you could complete your proposal using as much information as possible, and plan activities to avoid sensitive times as much as possible.

Hope you find this information helpful.

-jennifer

Jennifer Brown-Scott
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~~*Dungeness NWR~Protection Island NWR~San Juan Islands NWR*~~
~~*Copalis NWR~Flattery Rocks NWR~Quillayute Needles NWR*~~

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