

From: [Thorson, Robyn](#)
To: rallen@jamestowntribe.org
Cc: [Ann Sargent](#); [Elizabeth Tobin](#); [Hansi Hals](#); [Morrison, Hugh R](#); [Ogura, Christine](#)
Subject: communication regarding shellfish operations located in Dungeness Bay, WA
Date: Friday, October 8, 2021 10:53:04 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Chairman Allen:

Thank you for your letter last Friday, and your email (below), and thank you for the dialogue between Hansi Hals and Dungeness NWR to discuss the refuge's concerns. You are expecting a reply to your letter today, but that will be delayed slightly. Here is my understanding of the current status (I believe I'm fully up to date on this; I will supplement this information promptly if needed):

Your letter last Friday was copied to the Solicitor of the Department of the Interior, Bob Anderson, and he has promptly convened his team of Interior lawyers (headquarters and region) to address this matter. They will meet Tuesday, October 12. The Regional Solicitor's office asked my office to postpone any written reply to your letter, in the interim, to allow the attorneys to discuss this first. Other than this email message, FWS is abiding by that request to stand down momentarily.

I am grateful for the engagement by the DOI Solicitors, to help all of us move forward with the best information in regard to the tidelands, the Tribe's interests, and the refuge and its resources. I am confident in their skills as well as their perspective for identifying opportunities for resolution. We share that intent for finding workable outcomes; the legal complexities require their expertise to aid our effort to work best with you.

The Jamestown S'Klallam permit at Dungeness NWR is the top priority issue in my office; this message is to assure you of that, and avoid any appearance of discourtesy in a delayed reply to your letter. I believe we will both benefit from Solicitor input before our next discussion. Thank you for your cooperation for productive discussion ahead; please contact me if delaying further discussion until after the Solicitor's meeting presents problems.

Regards,
Robyn

*Robyn Thorson, Regional Director
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
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Pronouns: she/her/hers*

I live and work in the traditional homelands of the Chinook, Clackamas, Cowlitz, Kalapuya, Kathlamet, Molalla, Multnomah, and Wasco people who have made their homes along the lower Columbia River for thousands of years.

From: W Ron. Allen <rallen@jamestowntribe.org>
Sent: Thursday, October 7, 2021 7:48 PM

To: Morrison, Hugh R <hugh_morrison@fws.gov>; Hansi Hals <hhals@jamestowntribe.org>
Cc: Ann Sargent <asargent@jamestowntribe.org>; Ogura, Christine <christine_ogura@fws.gov>; Thorson, Robyn <robyn_thorson@fws.gov>; Elizabeth Tobin <etobin@jamestowntribe.org>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe - communication regarding shellfish operations located in Dungeness Bay, WA

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Hugh, looking forward to a positive reply tomorrow.



W. Ron Allen
Jamestown S'Klallam Tribal Chair/CEO
(360) 681-4621 (Direct #)
(206) 369-6699 (Cell #)

From: Morrison, Hugh R <hugh_morrison@fws.gov>
Sent: Friday, October 1, 2021 4:51 PM
To: Hansi Hals <hhals@jamestowntribe.org>
Cc: Ann Sargent <asargent@jamestowntribe.org>; W Ron. Allen <rallen@jamestowntribe.org>; Ogura, Christine <christine_ogura@fws.gov>; Thorson, Robyn <robyn_thorson@fws.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe - communication regarding shellfish operations located in Dungeness Bay, WA

You don't often get email from hugh_morrison@fws.gov. [Learn why this is important](#)

Director Hals,

Thank you for sending Chairman Allen's letter outlining concerns with respect to the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe's Dungeness oyster farm. We are carefully reviewing the letter and will follow-up with you by Friday, October 8.

I also want to thank you for your recent meeting with Christine Ogura, Acting Regional Refuge Chief. I know she conveyed our sincere interest in working to reach an outcome that is satisfactory to the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe. I want to reiterate the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's commitment to a positive resolution.

Thank you,

Hugh

Hugh Morrison
Deputy Regional Director
Interior Regions 9 & 12
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(503) 231-2282
(he/him/his)

I live and work in the traditional homelands of the Chinook, Clackamas, Cowlitz, Kalapuya, Kathlamet, Molalla, Multnomah, and Wasco people who have made their homes along the lower Columbia River for thousands of years.

From: Hansi Hals <hhals@jamestowntribe.org>
Sent: Friday, October 1, 2021 12:52 PM
To: Morrison, Hugh R <hugh_morrison@fws.gov>
Cc: Ann Sargent <asargent@jamestowntribe.org>; rallen@jamestowntribe.org <rallen@jamestowntribe.org>; Ogura, Christine <christine_ogura@fws.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe - communication regarding shellfish operations located in Dungeness Bay, WA

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Acting Regional Director Morrison,

At the request of Ron Allen, I am forwarding the attached letter to your attention regarding Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe's efforts to resume shellfish operations in Dungeness Bay, WA.

Hansi Hals
Natural Resources Director
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