

From: [Hansi Hals](#)
To: [Ogura, Christine](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Wanted to let you know how we are responding to a media inquiry
Date: Wednesday, December 29, 2021 3:59:23 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

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Thank you Christine for the notification.

We have plenty of snow and a surprising amount of ice on Sequim Bay. It's been interesting to watch the waterfowl huddle into the pockets of open water during high tide.

It's a curious press inquiry, and I appreciate your courtesy notice. All best Season's Greetings to you, and Happy New Year. Hansi

Hansi Hals
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From: Ogura, Christine <christine_ogura@fws.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, December 29, 2021 3:52 PM
To: Hansi Hals <hhals@jamestowntribe.org>
Subject: Wanted to let you know how we are responding to a media inquiry

Hi Hansi,

I hope this email finds you well and having enjoyed a nice holiday last week.

I wanted to let you know that we received a media inquiry from the Sequim Gazette inquiring about the Tribe's interest in pursuing aquaculture operations at the refuge and the current status of this.

I wanted to share with you our response that we will be sending the Gazette.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is currently assessing issues related to access to seasonally closed portions of Dungeness National Wildlife Refuge by the Tribe for the aquaculture project. Where applicable, the Service determines if a proposed use is compatible with purposes of the refuge. If developed, a written compatibility determination has a minimum 14 day public review period. Washington DNR, the Army Corps of Engineers and Clallam County are the agencies responsible for the permits and leases issued for the project. We defer comments on the processes and monitoring requirements to those agencies. The Service will continue to work with the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe and other agencies on this matter. The Service is responsible for addressing potential impacts to plants and wildlife on the refuge.

I am sharing this with you so you are aware as we want to continue to keep our lines of communication open and we don't want the Tribe to be surprised.

Thanks and please take care,
Christine

Christine Ogura
Deputy Regional Chief, [National Wildlife Refuge System](#)
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