

## **Frequently Asked Questions about the Caspian Tern Draft EIS And Implications for the Dungeness, Washington Area**

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***Q: What is being proposed in the Draft EIS for the Dungeness Spit area?***

The preferred alternative in the Draft EIS proposes to further protect the tern colony by monitoring predators and managing potential human disturbances. Currently, a small colony of fewer than 300 Caspian terns nests on the spit.

***Q: Will there be any impacts to refuge visitation from the management of terns on Dungeness National Wildlife Refuge?***

There will be no change in the public areas on the refuge. Terns currently nest in an area that is closed to the public for wildlife protection.

***Q: Are Caspian terns currently nesting in the Dungeness NWR?***

Yes. Caspian terns were first documented nesting on the refuge in 2003. The colony was monitored in 2004 and preliminary data shows that the colony contained approximately 260 to 270 pairs.

***Q: Won't terns at Dungeness eat federally protected salmon?***

Yes. But like terns at East Sand Island and in San Francisco Bay, their diet in marine environments includes a variety of fish besides salmon, such as herring and anchovies, so there is less of an impact on salmon. Because the size of the nesting colony is expected to remain relatively small and the prey base is varied we do not expect the number of salmon to be eaten by terns to be high and thus, no substantial impact to protected salmonids is expected.

[Click here for additional \*Frequently Asked Questions\* about the Draft EIS](#)