

From: [Runge, Jeff](#)
To: [Bessken, Charlene](#); [DeBerry, Drue](#); [Burgess, Angela](#); [Stubbs, Kevin](#); [Porath, Mark T](#); [Powell, Tyson H](#)
Subject: Re: Draft Guidance on ABB Avoidance/Minimization
Date: Thursday, April 29, 2021 7:37:51 AM

Charlie,

Thank you for your review and response. This is the candid feedback that I wanted from the group. NPPD is proposing to mow areas prior to soil disturbance, and they are looking for our response about whether they should (or should not) mow. (b) (5)

I know this was mentioned on the call, and I inadvertently omitted concerns about mowing on non-ABB resources such as nesting birds, pollinators, etc. There may be additional concerns as well.

I would like to know more about your perspective on mowing. Feel free to respond by email. Alternatively, we can discuss concerns on our next call.

Jeff

From: Bessken, Charlene <charlene_bessken@fws.gov>
Sent: Thursday, April 29, 2021 6:51 AM
To: Runge, Jeff <jeff_runge@fws.gov>; DeBerry, Drue <drue_deberry@fws.gov>; Burgess, Angela <Angela_Burgess@fws.gov>; Stubbs, Kevin <kevin_stubbs@fws.gov>; Porath, Mark T <mark_porath@fws.gov>; Powell, Tyson H <Tyson.Powell@sol.doi.gov>
Subject: Re: Draft Guidance on ABB Avoidance/Minimization

I think your guidance should be for the R-Line only and not all ABB projects until there is further discussion. (b) (5)

Thanks.

Charlene "Charlie" Bessken

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My weekly schedule is M-Th - 6:30 am to 5:00 pm CST/CDT

From: Runge, Jeff <jeff_runge@fws.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, April 28, 2021 11:35 AM

To: DeBerry, Drue <drue_deberry@fws.gov>; Burgess, Angela <Angela_Burgess@fws.gov>; Stubbs, Kevin <kevin_stubbs@fws.gov>; Bessken, Charlene <charlene_bessken@fws.gov>; Porath, Mark T <mark_porath@fws.gov>; Powell, Tyson H <Tyson.Powell@sol.doi.gov>

Subject: Draft Guidance on ABB Avoidance/Minimization

Hello everyone,

This is a follow-up to our internal R-Project meeting last Wednesday. First of all, I would like to welcome Mark Porath to the team as the Nebraska Field Office Supervisor. In our meeting last week, we made good progress in our assessment of the R-Project as well as identifying avoidance/minimization measures for the project.

I committed to developing discussion points from our meeting, and after further reflection, I see this as a two-step process. Our meeting included discussion on: 1) general guidance about mowing, litter removal, carrion relocation, and matting that can apply to any project; and 2) R-Project specific guidance. I thought it would be important to address the first point, and then we can work on the latter once there is agreement on general guidance. Attached is a draft guidance document developed, in part, from our discussion last week with references. Please review and provide as much constructive criticism as possible. It is critical that the guidance is clear and is supported by the literature.

Also know that I will be working with Joe Skorupa next week on our analysis of R-Project effects. It is important for a statistician to review our methods, and I am thankful to have Joe's available for review. Probably best to wait to schedule a meeting to until after we receive comments on the attachment, and we receive comments from Joe (but let me know if we need to schedule sooner).

Jeff

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