

**From:** [Runge, Jeff](#)  
**To:** [Burgess, Angela](#); [DeBerry, Drue](#); [Porath, Mark T](#); [Powell, Tyson H](#); [Stubbs, Kevin](#); [Bessken, Charlene](#); [Skorupa, Joseph](#)  
**Subject:** Re: R-Project Update  
**Date:** Thursday, June 10, 2021 7:03:55 AM  
**Attachments:** [USFWS ABB Conservation Measures \(2021June10 Draft\)](#) (b) (5)

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Quick update. I have heard back from Kevin and Charlie on avoidance/minimization. A revised document is attached.

I am very pleased with our multi-state and multi-region approach. This will ensure consistency with ABB whether it is the R-Project or a different project in another state. After discussing with Mark, we would want one last internal meeting to discuss avoidance/minimization and 35 acres of soil disturbance before we take these concepts to NGPC for their review. Thanks to Kevin, Charlie, and Joe for taking time out of their busy schedules to assist. Again, let me know if there is anything more I could be doing in the interim to help move things along.

I also want to reiterate the need to update the whooping crane evaluation. This is outside of my expertise, so I am dependent on outside experts to complete this. Thoughts on how we approach this?

Jeff

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**From:** Runge, Jeff <jeff\_runge@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 2, 2021 7:27 AM  
**To:** Burgess, Angela <Angela\_Burgess@fws.gov>; DeBerry, Drue <drue\_deberry@fws.gov>; Porath, Mark T <mark\_porath@fws.gov>; Powell, Tyson H <Tyson.Powell@sol.doi.gov>; Stubbs, Kevin <kevin\_stubbs@fws.gov>; Bessken, Charlene <charlene\_bessken@fws.gov>; Skorupa, Joseph <Joseph\_Skorupa@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** R-Project Update

Everyone,

Because it has been a long time since we last coordinated, I wanted to provide an update on R-Project activities and copied the broader group for awareness.

Regarding minimization/avoidance measures, we had a good meeting among biologists two weeks ago, and I think we are getting closer to an agreement on measures. I am waiting on comments from Kevin and Charlie on the draft policy document and will revise the document based on comments. We would need to share the draft policy document with NGPC for review/comment prior to finalizing.

I have also been working with Joe on the assessment of 35 acres of soil disturbance. After Joe's initial read of the draft assessment, he needed a closer look at the utility of using trap data to estimate density. I sent several references that attempted to extrapolate densities from trap data. Once we hear back from Joe, I will schedule a meeting with this working group to discuss findings.

Mark received a call from Jim Jenniges last week asking where we are at in our evaluation of the White Paper, but there does not appear to be a big push by NPPD to wrap this up (Mark please clarify if I misstated anything). Also, Matt is in next week, so we may be able to get some of his time for the whooping crane. Let me know if there is anything more I could be doing in the interim. Do we need to check back in with WAPA and Thunderhead?

Jeff

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