

**From:** [Porath, Mark T](#)  
**To:** [Jeff Runge \(Jeff\\_Runge@fws.gov\)](#)  
**Subject:** draft comments/suggestions  
**Date:** Thursday, July 8, 2021 1:40:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [USFWS ABB Conservation Measures \(2021July07 Draft\) mpedits](#) (b) (5)

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**From:** Runge, Jeff <[jeff\\_runge@fws.gov](mailto:jeff_runge@fws.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 7, 2021 7:27 AM  
**To:** Porath, Mark T <[mark\\_porath@fws.gov](mailto:mark_porath@fws.gov)>; Stubbs, Kevin <[kevin\\_stubbs@fws.gov](mailto:kevin_stubbs@fws.gov)>; Skorupa, Joseph <[Joseph\\_Skorupa@fws.gov](mailto:Joseph_Skorupa@fws.gov)>; Backsen, Sarah <[Sarah\\_Backsen@fws.gov](mailto:Sarah_Backsen@fws.gov)>; Boroja, Maria T <[maria\\_boroja@fws.gov](mailto:maria_boroja@fws.gov)>; DeBerry, Drue <[drue\\_deberry@fws.gov](mailto:drue_deberry@fws.gov)>; Burgess, Angela <[Angela\\_Burgess@fws.gov](mailto:Angela_Burgess@fws.gov)>; Powell, Tyson H <[Tyson.Powell@sol.doi.gov](mailto:Tyson.Powell@sol.doi.gov)>; Bessken, Charlene <[charlene\\_bessken@fws.gov](mailto:charlene_bessken@fws.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: ABB R-Project Discussion July 8 at noon MST/1 pm CST

It would be helpful to dedicate the last 5-10 minutes of the meeting to wrap up the ABB avoidance and minimization document (attached). Thanks everyone for your comments on earlier drafts. Track changes in the document were based on comments received. It would be particularly helpful to get feedback on any final changes to the draft and on the geographic extent of this document. This current draft applies policies to the Northern Plains Analysis Area, but we can change the extent.

Jeff

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**From:** Porath, Mark T <[mark\\_porath@fws.gov](mailto:mark_porath@fws.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 6, 2021 11:58 AM  
**To:** Stubbs, Kevin <[kevin\\_stubbs@fws.gov](mailto:kevin_stubbs@fws.gov)>; Runge, Jeff <[jeff\\_runge@fws.gov](mailto:jeff_runge@fws.gov)>; Skorupa, Joseph <[Joseph\\_Skorupa@fws.gov](mailto:Joseph_Skorupa@fws.gov)>; Backsen, Sarah <[Sarah\\_Backsen@fws.gov](mailto:Sarah_Backsen@fws.gov)>; Boroja, Maria T <[maria\\_boroja@fws.gov](mailto:maria_boroja@fws.gov)>; DeBerry, Drue <[drue\\_deberry@fws.gov](mailto:drue_deberry@fws.gov)>; Burgess, Angela <[Angela\\_Burgess@fws.gov](mailto:Angela_Burgess@fws.gov)>; Powell, Tyson H <[Tyson.Powell@sol.doi.gov](mailto:Tyson.Powell@sol.doi.gov)>; Bessken, Charlene <[charlene\\_bessken@fws.gov](mailto:charlene_bessken@fws.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: ABB R-Project Discussion July 8 at noon MST/1 pm CST

All,

It appears that everyone can make the Thursday meeting, so I will cancel the Wednesday placeholder.

Thank you all for your patience, on this time-sensitive issue. Looking forward to a productive discussion.

Mark

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**From:** Porath, Mark T

**Sent:** Thursday, July 1, 2021 1:59 PM

**To:** Stubbs, Kevin <[Kevin\\_Stubbs@fws.gov](mailto:Kevin_Stubbs@fws.gov)>; Runge, Jeff <[Jeff\\_Runge@fws.gov](mailto:Jeff_Runge@fws.gov)>; Skorupa, Joseph <[Joseph\\_Skorupa@fws.gov](mailto:Joseph_Skorupa@fws.gov)>; Backsen, Sarah <[Sarah\\_Backsen@fws.gov](mailto:Sarah_Backsen@fws.gov)>; Boroja, Maria T <[maria\\_boroja@fws.gov](mailto:maria_boroja@fws.gov)>; DeBerry, Drue <[Drue\\_DeBerry@fws.gov](mailto:Drue_DeBerry@fws.gov)>; Burgess, Angela <[Angela\\_Burgess@fws.gov](mailto:Angela_Burgess@fws.gov)>; Powell, Tyson H <[Tyson.Powell@sol.doi.gov](mailto:Tyson.Powell@sol.doi.gov)>; Bessken, Charlene <[Charlene\\_Bessken@fws.gov](mailto:Charlene_Bessken@fws.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: ABB R-Project Discussion July 7 at 2 pm MST/3 pm CST

Actually that might work out better for others as well since several people have had to decline Wednesday (7<sup>th</sup>) due to calendar drop-ins, but can make Thursday (8<sup>th</sup>) work. For now, I recommend keeping both spots reserved on the calendar and we can finalize on Tuesday based on Drue's schedule since he was out for the poll and won't be back until then. Would like to have a single meeting for all our sakes, and especially for Joe not having to present twice.

Have a good holiday weekend all.

Mark

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**From:** Stubbs, Kevin <[kevin\\_stubbs@fws.gov](mailto:kevin_stubbs@fws.gov)>

**Sent:** Thursday, July 1, 2021 1:45 PM

**To:** Porath, Mark T <[mark\\_porath@fws.gov](mailto:mark_porath@fws.gov)>; Runge, Jeff <[jeff\\_runge@fws.gov](mailto:jeff_runge@fws.gov)>; Skorupa, Joseph <[Joseph\\_Skorupa@fws.gov](mailto:Joseph_Skorupa@fws.gov)>; Backsen, Sarah <[Sarah\\_Backsen@fws.gov](mailto:Sarah_Backsen@fws.gov)>; Boroja, Maria T <[maria\\_boroja@fws.gov](mailto:maria_boroja@fws.gov)>; DeBerry, Drue <[drue\\_deberry@fws.gov](mailto:drue_deberry@fws.gov)>; Burgess, Angela <[Angela\\_Burgess@fws.gov](mailto:Angela_Burgess@fws.gov)>; Powell, Tyson H <[Tyson.Powell@sol.doi.gov](mailto:Tyson.Powell@sol.doi.gov)>; Bessken, Charlene <[charlene\\_bessken@fws.gov](mailto:charlene_bessken@fws.gov)>

**Subject:** Re: ABB R-Project Discussion July 7 at 2 pm MST/3 pm CST

If possible I'm checking to see if we can use the back up date for July 8th. My wife has a spinal injection on the 7th that she didn't tell me about until today.

Kevin

918-695-6769

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**From:** Porath, Mark T <[mark\\_porath@fws.gov](mailto:mark_porath@fws.gov)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, June 29, 2021 7:15 AM

**To:** Stubbs, Kevin <[kevin\\_stubbs@fws.gov](mailto:kevin_stubbs@fws.gov)>; Runge, Jeff <[jeff\\_runge@fws.gov](mailto:jeff_runge@fws.gov)>; Skorupa, Joseph <[Joseph\\_Skorupa@fws.gov](mailto:Joseph_Skorupa@fws.gov)>; Backsen, Sarah <[Sarah\\_Backsen@fws.gov](mailto:Sarah_Backsen@fws.gov)>; Boroja, Maria T <[maria\\_boroja@fws.gov](mailto:maria_boroja@fws.gov)>; DeBerry, Drue <[drue\\_deberry@fws.gov](mailto:drue_deberry@fws.gov)>; Burgess, Angela <[Angela\\_Burgess@fws.gov](mailto:Angela_Burgess@fws.gov)>; Powell, Tyson H <[Tyson.Powell@sol.doi.gov](mailto:Tyson.Powell@sol.doi.gov)>; Bessken, Charlene <[charlene\\_bessken@fws.gov](mailto:charlene_bessken@fws.gov)>

**Subject:** ABB R-Project Discussion July 7 at 2 pm MST/3 pm CST

Thanks everyone for the prompt replies. Calendar invite(s) coming shortly. As an FYI, will send a back-up invite for July 8 at noon MST/1 pm CST as Drue is out of office till next week.

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**From:** Porath, Mark T

**Sent:** Monday, June 28, 2021 1:42 PM

**To:** Stubbs, Kevin <[Kevin\\_Stubbs@fws.gov](mailto:Kevin_Stubbs@fws.gov)>; Runge, Jeff <[Jeff\\_Runge@fws.gov](mailto:Jeff_Runge@fws.gov)>; Skorupa, Joseph <[Joseph\\_Skorupa@fws.gov](mailto:Joseph_Skorupa@fws.gov)>; Backsen, Sarah <[Sarah\\_Backsen@fws.gov](mailto:Sarah_Backsen@fws.gov)>; Boroja, Maria T <[maria\\_boroja@fws.gov](mailto:maria_boroja@fws.gov)>; DeBerry, Drue <[Drue\\_DeBerry@fws.gov](mailto:Drue_DeBerry@fws.gov)>; Burgess, Angela <[Angela\\_Burgess@fws.gov](mailto:Angela_Burgess@fws.gov)>; Powell, Tyson H <[Tyson.Powell@sol.doi.gov](mailto:Tyson.Powell@sol.doi.gov)>; Bessken, Charlene <[Charlene\\_Bessken@fws.gov](mailto:Charlene_Bessken@fws.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: ABB R-Project Discussion

All, just a reminder to complete the doodle calendar poll by the end of the day. It would be much appreciated.

Mark

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**From:** Porath, Mark T

**Sent:** Friday, June 25, 2021 10:29 AM

**To:** Stubbs, Kevin <[Kevin\\_Stubbs@fws.gov](mailto:Kevin_Stubbs@fws.gov)>; Runge, Jeff <[Jeff\\_Runge@fws.gov](mailto:Jeff_Runge@fws.gov)>; Skorupa, Joseph <[Joseph\\_Skorupa@fws.gov](mailto:Joseph_Skorupa@fws.gov)>; Backsen, Sarah <[Sarah\\_Backsen@fws.gov](mailto:Sarah_Backsen@fws.gov)>; Boroja, Maria T <[maria\\_boroja@fws.gov](mailto:maria_boroja@fws.gov)>; DeBerry, Drue <[Drue\\_DeBerry@fws.gov](mailto:Drue_DeBerry@fws.gov)>; Burgess, Angela <[Angela\\_Burgess@fws.gov](mailto:Angela_Burgess@fws.gov)>; Powell, Tyson H <[Tyson.Powell@sol.doi.gov](mailto:Tyson.Powell@sol.doi.gov)>; Bessken, Charlene <[Charlene\\_Bessken@fws.gov](mailto:Charlene_Bessken@fws.gov)>

**Subject:** ABB R-Project Discussion

Good morning All,

As Jeff will be heading out for some well-deserved vacation, we'd like to have a Teams meeting on all our calendars as soon as possible. The link below is to a traditional Doodle poll calendar, please complete by COB next Monday June 28<sup>th</sup> if at all possible.

Thanks,

Mark

[https://doodle.com/poll/yaitkziyy9bhnuvi?utm\\_source=poll&utm\\_medium=link](https://doodle.com/poll/yaitkziyy9bhnuvi?utm_source=poll&utm_medium=link)

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**From:** Stubbs, Kevin <[kevin\\_stubbs@fws.gov](mailto:kevin_stubbs@fws.gov)>

**Sent:** Friday, June 25, 2021 8:46 AM

**To:** Runge, Jeff <[jeff\\_runge@fws.gov](mailto:jeff_runge@fws.gov)>; Skorupa, Joseph <[Joseph\\_Skorupa@fws.gov](mailto:Joseph_Skorupa@fws.gov)>

**Cc:** Darnall, Nathan <[nathan\\_darnall@fws.gov](mailto:nathan_darnall@fws.gov)>; Backsen, Sarah <[Sarah\\_Backsen@fws.gov](mailto:Sarah_Backsen@fws.gov)>; Boroja, Maria T <[maria\\_boroja@fws.gov](mailto:maria_boroja@fws.gov)>; DeBerry, Drue <[drue\\_deberry@fws.gov](mailto:drue_deberry@fws.gov)>; Porath, Mark T <[mark\\_porath@fws.gov](mailto:mark_porath@fws.gov)>; Burgess, Angela <[Angela\\_Burgess@fws.gov](mailto:Angela_Burgess@fws.gov)>; Powell, Tyson H <[Tyson.Powell@sol.doi.gov](mailto:Tyson.Powell@sol.doi.gov)>; Bessken, Charlene <[charlene\\_bessken@fws.gov](mailto:charlene_bessken@fws.gov)>

**Subject:** Re: R-Project Review

Thanks Jeff, I completely agree with Joe on the trapping results being more reliable for presence/absence than density. Joe and I both worked in the Sacramento FO almost 30 years ago.

Kevin  
918-695-6769

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**From:** Runge, Jeff <[jeff\\_runge@fws.gov](mailto:jeff_runge@fws.gov)>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 25, 2021 8:04 AM  
**To:** Skorupa, Joseph <[Joseph\\_Skorupa@fws.gov](mailto:Joseph_Skorupa@fws.gov)>  
**Cc:** Darnall, Nathan <[nathan\\_darnall@fws.gov](mailto:nathan_darnall@fws.gov)>; Backsen, Sarah <[Sarah\\_Backsen@fws.gov](mailto:Sarah_Backsen@fws.gov)>; Boroja, Maria T <[maria\\_boroja@fws.gov](mailto:maria_boroja@fws.gov)>; DeBerry, Drue <[drue\\_deberry@fws.gov](mailto:drue_deberry@fws.gov)>; Porath, Mark T <[mark\\_porath@fws.gov](mailto:mark_porath@fws.gov)>; Burgess, Angela <[Angela\\_Burgess@fws.gov](mailto:Angela_Burgess@fws.gov)>; Powell, Tyson H <[Tyson.Powell@sol.doi.gov](mailto:Tyson.Powell@sol.doi.gov)>; Stubbs, Kevin <[kevin\\_stubbs@fws.gov](mailto:kevin_stubbs@fws.gov)>; Bessken, Charlene <[charlene\\_bessken@fws.gov](mailto:charlene_bessken@fws.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: R-Project Review

Everyone,

Mark and I will be coordinating with the group to find a date/time to discuss Joe's findings and to discuss the draft avoidance and minimization document. Once we address these two items, we will be much closer to a final decision for the R-Project. Thanks everyone for your participation throughout this process.

Joe – I know that you had been working overtime on the selenium review, so I greatly appreciate finding extra time for R-Project review. I wanted you to take the time to develop a scientifically sound solution, and we were fortunate to have that time. Please enjoy the rest of your vacation, and we will talk later.

Jeff

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**From:** Skorupa, Joseph <[Joseph\\_Skorupa@fws.gov](mailto:Joseph_Skorupa@fws.gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 24, 2021 2:02 PM  
**To:** Runge, Jeff <[jeff\\_runge@fws.gov](mailto:jeff_runge@fws.gov)>  
**Cc:** Darnall, Nathan <[nathan\\_darnall@fws.gov](mailto:nathan_darnall@fws.gov)>; Backsen, Sarah <[Sarah\\_Backsen@fws.gov](mailto:Sarah_Backsen@fws.gov)>; Boroja, Maria T <[maria\\_boroja@fws.gov](mailto:maria_boroja@fws.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: R-Project Review

Jeff,

First off, thanks for your patience with me. I took some vacation time between your 6/17 email and now; in fact, I'm on annual leave today, but wanted to get back to you.

I put some of my vacation time to good use to be able to contemplate the ABB question w/o

the daily barrage of competing work demands cluttering up my mind. I finished my review of all the documents and have come up with what I would propose as a statistically sound approach if it were up to me to decide. (b) (5)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

(b) (5)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I would suggest that we have an internal discussion about what I have come up with, and only after that, if you all agree, move forward to discussion it with NPDD.

Thanks again for the patience, I'm hopeful you will find it well worth the wait.

All best,

Joe

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**From:** Runge, Jeff <[jeff\\_runge@fws.gov](mailto:jeff_runge@fws.gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 17, 2021 1:57 PM  
**To:** Skorupa, Joseph <[Joseph\\_Skorupa@fws.gov](mailto:Joseph_Skorupa@fws.gov)>  
**Subject:** R-Project Review

Hello Joe,

I was talking to my supervisor today, and I found out that NPPD has been inquiring about a Service conclusion for their project. Although we have not received anything to date from the region, our office may receive a request soon to wrap this up.

In consideration of this, I wanted to check in with you to see how the analysis is coming. If additional work is needed, then would it be beneficial to have a progress meeting to understand the uncertainties of the problem? I also wanted to see if you would need additional information/reports or would like to discuss with the ABB biologists (i.e., Angela and Kevin).

Jeff

Jeff Runge

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

9325 South Alda Road

Wood River, Nebraska 68883

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