

Sykes, Robbie

From: Pelren, David
Sent: Tuesday, August 30, 2022 7:38 AM
To: Sykes, Robbie
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Mussels Around the Kingston Plant

I just want to be sure you don't have anything to add before I send this to Josh.

-Dave

From: Pelren, David
Sent: Monday, August 29, 2022 2:19 PM
To: Sikula, Nicole R <nicole_sikula@fws.gov>; Sykes, Robbie <Robbie_Sykes@fws.gov>
Cc: Ford, Anthony <Anthony_Ford@fws.gov>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Mussels Around the Kingston Plant

Thanks, Nicole. Andy walked in just now and mentioned some figures that we could throw in to represent the effort needed with a petite ponar. Should we add the language in yellow below?

-Dave

Josh –

As I indicated earlier, your question about the need for a mussel survey at the Kingston crossing site is a good one. We might assume that a large part (if not all) of the substrate at the proposed gasoline crossing site of the Clinch River at Kingston was covered with ash during the spill. However, a degree of ash cleanup was conducted in this general area, and there is potential for mussels to have re-colonized the crossing site since the cleanup effort. Therefore, in due diligence to address potential mussel impacts, a survey of the site should be conducted with a phased approach.

First, substrate conditions across the entirety of the river's width should be evaluated. We suggest use of a method such as dredge/ponar sampling in order to describe substrate surface condition and the composition of substrate approximately three to six inches below the surface. A level of effort on the order of approximately ten 0.25-meter quadrats would be appropriate for this site. For example – if a petite ponar were used, 10 grab samples would equal one 0.25-meter quadrat sample.

This method would provide an opportunity to search for juvenile native mussels and Corbicula. The presence of mussels with a substrate composition to support them would likely warrant additional survey effort to search for federally listed mussels, while a dominant substrate of silt and lack of any mussels might not warrant such effort. We would work with you to determine the most appropriate steps after this initial survey effort.

We request that you provide an overview of methods that would be used at the Kingston crossing site with a "phased approach". I'll be glad to talk with you further in discussion of the particulars of this issue.

David Pelren
Fish and Wildlife Biologist
Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
446 Neal St.

Cookeville, TN 38501
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mobile phone: 931-261-5844

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From: Sikula, Nicole R <nicole_sikula@fws.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 29, 2022 2:14 PM
To: Pelren, David <david_pelren@fws.gov>; Sykes, Robbie <robbie_sykes@fws.gov>
Cc: Ford, Anthony <anthony_ford@fws.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Mussels Around the Kingston Plant

Looks good to me.

Nicole Sikula
Deputy Field Supervisor
Tennessee Ecological Services Field Office
South Atlantic-Gulf Interior Region
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

From: Pelren, David <david_pelren@fws.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 29, 2022 1:43 PM
To: Sikula, Nicole R <nicole_sikula@fws.gov>; Sykes, Robbie <robbie_sykes@fws.gov>
Cc: Ford, Anthony <anthony_ford@fws.gov>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Mussels Around the Kingston Plant

Nicole, Robbie, and Andy - here's a draft of the email I would send in response to Josh about the Kingston gasoline crossing site and need for a mussel survey there. How does this look to you?

-Pelren

Josh –

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From: Adams, Joshua <Joshua.Adams@stantec.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 24, 2022 7:11 AM
To: Pelren, David <david_pelren@fws.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mussels Around the Kingston Plant

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Dave,

I seem to remember in the first meeting we had about the Ridgeline Project, TVA mentioned that the Kingston Ash Spill pretty much destroyed the river around the plant. Is there any need to do mussel surveys at the crossing going into the plant?

Thanks

Josh Adams

Natural Resource Team Lead, Terrestrial Wildlife Technical Lead, Principal

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