

**From:** [Taina Pankiewicz](#)  
**To:** [Smith, Kimberly](#)  
**Cc:** [Sumalee Hoskin \(sumalee\\_hoskin@fws.gov\)](#); [Troy Andersen \(troy\\_andersen@fws.gov\)](#)  
**Subject:** RE: 3 MVP questions  
**Date:** Monday, March 21, 2016 4:02:31 PM  
**Attachments:** [USFWS Consultation Information - 21 March Spring Sampling](#)

---

Please see attached info for #3. I have not copied the Client on this email in order to maintain Client Confidentiality for the OTHER project being discussed.

Taina

**From:** Smith, Kimberly [mailto:kimberly\_smith@fws.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 21, 2016 2:13 PM  
**To:** Taina Pankiewicz  
**Cc:** Sumalee Hoskin (sumalee\_hoskin@fws.gov); Troy Andersen (troy\_andersen@fws.gov); Neylon, Megan (MNeylon@eqt.com)  
**Subject:** Re: 3 MVP questions

Taina,

1. We are available for a conference call on the morning of April 7 or 8. We prefer April 8.
2. We will provide you comments regarding eagles in the MBTA plan this week.
3. Please provide us with more information on this issue. Can you provide the project name and a copy of our written comments?

Thanks,

Kim

On Mon, Mar 21, 2016 at 10:54 AM, Taina Pankiewicz <[TPankiewicz@envsi.com](mailto:TPankiewicz@envsi.com)> wrote:  
Hey Kim and Sumalee,

I have a few (relatively quick) follow up questions for you:

- 1.) Can we confirm April 7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> for a meeting with you folks?
- 2.) Did you get the MBTA plan I sent last week? Did it contain what you need? Do you need more field surveys for eagles? (Leaf out is progressing daily.)
- 3.) We are working on a TOTALLY DIFFERENT project for a TOTALLY DIFFERENT client in VA where your office has given us approval to start bat hibernacula harp trapping early (this week) instead of waiting until 1 April. May we have permission to do that on this project too?

Thank you!

Taina



**Taina Pankiewicz**

President, COO

Environmental Solutions & Innovations, Inc.  
4525 Este Avenue | Cincinnati, OH 45232 | USA  
**office:** 513.451.1777 **direct:** 513.591.4311  
**fax:** 513.451.3321 **cell:** 513.910.1676  
[tpankiewicz@envsi.com](mailto:tpankiewicz@envsi.com) | [www](http://www.envsi.com)

--

Kimberly Smith  
Fish and Wildlife Biologist  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
6669 Short Lane  
Gloucester, VA 23061  
[Kimberly\\_Smith@fws.gov](mailto:Kimberly_Smith@fws.gov)  
804-824-2410  
[http www Fws Gov north east](http://www.fws.gov/northeast/virginiafield)  
virginia field

**From:** [Wendy Baltzersen](#)  
**To:** [Taina Pankiewicz](#)  
**Subject:** USFWS Consultation Information - 21 March Spring Sampling  
**Date:** Monday, March 21, 2016 12:57:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)  
[10-19-2015 BAI USFWS - Bat Mist Net Report Receipt and Concurrence.pdf](#)  
[Sarah approval 2 29 16.pdf](#)  
[Rick Reynolds spring sampling date approval 2-29-16.pdf](#)  
[Sarah spring sampling date approval 2-23-16.pdf](#)

---

Hi Taina,

Bland Area Improvements 138 kV Transmission Rebuild Project  
Consultation Code: 05E2VA00-2015-SLI-2199  
Reviewer: Sarah Nystrom

Attached original correspondence recommending late March and confirmation (from USFWS and VDGIF) that starting 21 March 2016 is appropriate so long as weather conditions are suitable.

Wendy



---

**Wendy Baltzersen, Ph.D. and CWB**

Senior Project Scientist

Environmental Solutions & Innovations, Inc.  
101 Old Cove Rd, Ste 108 | Liverpool, NY 13090 | USA  
**Office:** 315.314.7309 **Direct:** 513.591.4333  
**fax:** 315.314.7546 **Cell:** 315.558.8912  
[wbaltzersen@envsi.com](mailto:wbaltzersen@envsi.com) | [www.envsi.com](http://www.envsi.com)

---

**From:** Nystrom, Sarah [[mailto:sarah\\_nystrom@fws.gov](mailto:sarah_nystrom@fws.gov)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 23, 2016 2:48 PM  
**To:** Wendy Baltzersen <[wbaltzersen@envsi.com](mailto:wbaltzersen@envsi.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: Bland Area Improvements Project - Spring Sampling

Hi Wendy,

Thanks for the reminder! I checked with our bat lead and March 21 should be appropriate to start the spring surveys, weather permitting. If Rick Reynolds has a different recommendation, we'll defer to him.

Hope things are going well.

Sarah

On Tue, Feb 23, 2016 at 1:13 PM, Wendy Baltzersen <[wbaltzersen@envsi.com](mailto:wbaltzersen@envsi.com)> wrote:

Hi Sara,

I wanted to get this e-mail back to the top of your box. Can you comment on what day in March is considered "late March" for beginning spring sampling? To maximize the potential for completion of spring sampling on the Bland Area Improvements Project, we are currently planning to have crews begin on 21 March 2016 (weather permitting) pending your approval.

Thanks,

Wendy

**Wendy Baltzersen, Ph.D., CWB**

**Office:** 315.314.7309 **Direct:** 513.591.4333

**fax:** 315.314.7546 **Cell:** 315.558.8912

[wbaltzersen@envsi.com](mailto:wbaltzersen@envsi.com)

**From:** Wendy Baltzersen  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 16, 2016 8:38 AM  
**To:** 'Nystrom, Sarah' <[sarah\\_nystrom@fws.gov](mailto:sarah_nystrom@fws.gov)>  
**Cc:** Virgil Brack <[VBrack@envsi.com](mailto:VBrack@envsi.com)>  
**Subject:** Bland Area Improvements Project - Spring Sampling

Hi Sarah,

We are in the process of planning to complete spring sampling in 2016 for numerous portals already found in the vicinity of the Bland Area Improvements Project (Project). Please note that portal searches are ongoing. Based on prior correspondence (e-mail dated October 19, 2015) regarding fall sampling of Kegley Cave, we understand that the USFWS in Virginia recommends spring sampling be conducted as early as late March if weather permits. To maximize the potential for completion of spring sampling, we plan to have crews begin on 21 March 2016 weather permitting. Please confirm that beginning as soon as 21 March 2015 is acceptable so long as weather conditions are suitable per USFWS guidelines.

Thank you for your continued assistance on this Project,

Wendy



**Wendy Baltzersen, Ph.D. and CWB**

Senior Project Scientist

Environmental Solutions & Innovations, Inc.

101 Old Cove Rd, Ste 108 | Liverpool, NY 13090 | USA

**Office:** 315.314.7309 **Direct:** 513.591.4333

**fax:** 315.314.7546 **Cell:** 315.558.8912

[wbaltzersen@envsi.com](mailto:wbaltzersen@envsi.com) | [www.envsi.com](http://www.envsi.com)

--

Sarah Nystrom

Fish and Wildlife Biologist

Virginia Field Office - Ecological Services

6669 Short Lane

Gloucester, Virginia 23061

(804) 824-2413

**From:** [Nystrom, Sarah](#)  
**To:** [Wendy Baltzersen](#)  
**Subject:** Bland Area Improvements Project  
**Date:** Monday, October 19, 2015 3:12:11 PM

---

We have reviewed the 2015 Summer Mist Net Survey for Listed Bats report received on August 27, 2015 and the proposed winter cave survey protocol for the referenced project received on September 22, 2015. The following comments are provided under provisions of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531-1544, 87 Stat. 884), as amended, and Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668-668d, 54 Stat. 250), as amended.

We concur with the determinations for species located on federal lands provided in the Summer Mist Net Survey for Listed Bats Report dated August 26, 2015 and have no further comments. As surveys for listed species on private lands will be conducted during 2016, we will provide our determinations for those species occurrences at a later date.

We concur with the proposed protocol for sampling Kegley Cave provided via email on September 30, 2015. Two nights of sampling should be conducted at least two weeks apart. Portal trapping should follow guidelines contained in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) 2011 Draft Protocol for Assessing Abandoned Mines/Caves for Bat Use and Appendix B of the Service's 2014 Northern Long-eared bat Interim Conference and Planning Guidance unless specific direction otherwise has been provided by both the Service and the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries in writing.

In addition to the proposed fall survey, we recommend conducting a spring portal survey. A spring survey would capture data concerning bats that were highly likely to have used the cave for hibernation. Due to white-nose syndrome, bats may leave the hibernacula earlier in the spring than historically. We recommend that any spring surveys be conducted as early as late March if weather permits and completed by late April and should follow the Service's guidance.

Should project plans change or if additional information on the distribution of listed species or critical habitat becomes available, this determination may be reconsidered. If you have any questions, please contact me at (804) 824-2413, or via email at [Sarah\\_Nystrom@fws.gov](mailto:Sarah_Nystrom@fws.gov).

Thanks!

Sarah

--

Sarah Nystrom

Fish and Wildlife Biologist

Virginia Field Office - Ecological Services

6669 Short Lane

Gloucester, Virginia 23061

(804) 824-2413



---

**From:** Nystrom, Sarah [[mailto:sarah\\_nystrom@fws.gov](mailto:sarah_nystrom@fws.gov)]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 29, 2016 11:37 AM  
**To:** Wendy Baltzersen <[wbaltzersen@envsi.com](mailto:wbaltzersen@envsi.com)>  
**Cc:** Virgil Brack <[VBrack@envsi.com](mailto:VBrack@envsi.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: FW: Bland Area Improvements Project - Spring Sampling

Great, thanks!

Sarah

On Mon, Feb 29, 2016 at 10:27 AM, Wendy Baltzersen <[wbaltzersen@envsi.com](mailto:wbaltzersen@envsi.com)> wrote:

Hi Sara,

Rick concurs that the 21 March 2016 is a reasonable date to begin spring sampling so long as weather conditions are suitable.

Thanks,

Wendy

**Wendy Baltzersen, Ph.D., CWB**

**Office:** 315.314.7309 **Direct:** 513.591.4333

**fax:** 315.314.7546 **Cell:** 315.558.8912

[wbaltzersen@envsi.com](mailto:wbaltzersen@envsi.com)

---

**From:** Reynolds, Rick (DGIF) [<mailto:Rick.Reynolds@dgif.virginia.gov>]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:13 AM  
**To:** Wendy Baltzersen <[wbaltzersen@envsi.com](mailto:wbaltzersen@envsi.com)>  
**Cc:** Virgil Brack <[VBrack@envsi.com](mailto:VBrack@envsi.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Bland Area Improvements Project - Spring Sampling

That is reasonable depending on weather. The way this winter has progressed I suspect that date should work. Thanks

Rick

---

**From:** Wendy Baltzersen [<mailto:wbaltzersen@envsi.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 23, 2016 2:57 PM  
**To:** Reynolds, Rick (DGIF)  
**Cc:** Virgil Brack  
**Subject:** FW: Bland Area Improvements Project - Spring Sampling

Hi Rick,

We are currently planning for spring sampling of portals on the Bland Area improvements Project. The USFWS has recommended beginning these surveys in "late March". Through discussion with the USFWS, we have landed on 21 March 2016 as a reasonable date to begin spring sampling so long as weather conditions are suitable. Do you find this date suitable as well?

Thanks,

Wendy

**Wendy Baltzersen, Ph.D., CWB**

**Office:** 315.314.7309 **Direct:** 513.591.4333

**fax:** 315.314.7546 **Cell:** 315.558.8912

[wbaltzersen@envsi.com](mailto:wbaltzersen@envsi.com)

--

Sarah Nystrom  
Fish and Wildlife Biologist  
Virginia Field Office - Ecological Services  
6669 Short Lane  
Gloucester, Virginia 23061

(804) 824-2413

---

**From:** Reynolds, Rick (DGIF) [<mailto:Rick.Reynolds@dgif.virginia.gov>]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 29, 2016 10:13 AM  
**To:** Wendy Baltzersen <[wbaltzersen@envsi.com](mailto:wbaltzersen@envsi.com)>  
**Cc:** Virgil Brack <[VBrack@envsi.com](mailto:VBrack@envsi.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Bland Area Improvements Project - Spring Sampling

That is reasonable depending on weather. The way this winter has progressed I suspect that date should work. Thanks

Rick

---

**From:** Wendy Baltzersen [<mailto:wbaltzersen@envsi.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 23, 2016 2:57 PM  
**To:** Reynolds, Rick (DGIF)  
**Cc:** Virgil Brack  
**Subject:** FW: Bland Area Improvements Project - Spring Sampling

Hi Rick,

We are currently planning for spring sampling of portals on the Bland Area improvements Project. The USFWS has recommended beginning these surveys in "late March". Through discussion with the USFWS, we have landed on 21 March 2016 as a reasonable date to begin spring sampling so long as weather conditions are suitable. Do you find this date suitable as well?

Thanks,  
Wendy

**Wendy Baltzersen, Ph.D., CWB**  
**Office:** 315.314.7309 **Direct:** 513.591.4333  
**fax:** 315.314.7546 **Cell:** 315.558.8912  
[wbaltzersen@envsi.com](mailto:wbaltzersen@envsi.com)

---

**From:** Wendy Baltzersen  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 23, 2016 2:51 PM  
**To:** 'Nystrom, Sarah' <[sarah\\_nystrom@fws.gov](mailto:sarah_nystrom@fws.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Bland Area Improvements Project - Spring Sampling

Thanks Sarah,

I will engage Rick Reynolds.

Thanks again.

**Wendy Baltzersen, Ph.D., CWB**  
**Office:** 315.314.7309 **Direct:** 513.591.4333  
**fax:** 315.314.7546 **Cell:** 315.558.8912

[wbaltzersen@envsi.com](mailto:wbaltzersen@envsi.com)

**From:** Nystrom, Sarah [[mailto:sarah\\_nystrom@fws.gov](mailto:sarah_nystrom@fws.gov)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 23, 2016 2:48 PM  
**To:** Wendy Baltzersen <[wbaltzersen@envsi.com](mailto:wbaltzersen@envsi.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: Bland Area Improvements Project - Spring Sampling

Hi Wendy,

Thanks for the reminder! I checked with our bat lead and March 21 should be appropriate to start the spring surveys, weather permitting. If Rick Reynolds has a different recommendation, we'll defer to him.

Hope things are going well.

Sarah

On Tue, Feb 23, 2016 at 1:13 PM, Wendy Baltzersen <[wbaltzersen@envsi.com](mailto:wbaltzersen@envsi.com)> wrote:

Hi Sara,

I wanted to get this e-mail back to the top of your box. Can you comment on what day in March is considered "late March" for beginning spring sampling? To maximize the potential for completion of spring sampling on the Bland Area Improvements Project, we are currently planning to have crews begin on 21 March 2016 (weather permitting) pending your approval.

Thanks,

Wendy

**Wendy Baltzersen, Ph.D., CWB**

**Office:** 315.314.7309 **Direct:** 513.591.4333

**fax:** 315.314.7546 **Cell:** 315.558.8912

[wbaltzersen@envsi.com](mailto:wbaltzersen@envsi.com)

---

**From:** Wendy Baltzersen  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 16, 2016 8:38 AM  
**To:** 'Nystrom, Sarah' <[sarah\\_nystrom@fws.gov](mailto:sarah_nystrom@fws.gov)>

**Cc:** Virgil Brack <[VBrack@envsi.com](mailto:VBrack@envsi.com)>

**Subject:** Bland Area Improvements Project - Spring Sampling

Hi Sarah,

We are in the process of planning to complete spring sampling in 2016 for numerous portals already found in the vicinity of the Bland Area Improvements Project (Project). Please note that portal searches are ongoing. Based on prior correspondence (e-mail dated October 19, 2015) regarding fall sampling of Kegley Cave, we understand that the USFWS in Virginia recommends spring sampling be conducted as early as late March if weather permits. To maximize the potential for completion of spring sampling, we plan to have crews begin on 21 March 2016 weather permitting. Please confirm that beginning as soon as 21 March 2015 is acceptable so long as weather conditions are suitable per USFWS guidelines.

Thank you for your continued assistance on this Project,

Wendy



**Wendy Baltzersen, Ph.D. and CWB**

Senior Project Scientist

Environmental Solutions & Innovations, Inc.

101 Old Cove Rd, Ste 108 | Liverpool, NY 13090 | USA

**Office:** 315.314.7309 **Direct:** 513.591.4333

**fax:** 315.314.7546 **Cell:** 315.558.8912

[wbaltzersen@envsi.com](mailto:wbaltzersen@envsi.com) | [www.envsi.com](http://www.envsi.com)

--

Sarah Nystrom

Fish and Wildlife Biologist

Virginia Field Office - Ecological Services

6669 Short Lane

Gloucester, Virginia 23061

(804) 824-2413