

From: [Matthew Thompson](#)
To: [Orms, Mary](#); [Stacey.Zee@faa.gov](#); [Gardiner, Dawn](#); [Clements, Pat](#); [Reyes, Ernesto](#); [Winton, Bryan](#); [Jess, Robert RJ](#); [Kendal Keyes](#); [Spier, Mark E](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: SpaceX closure scheduled for March 25th or 26th. Biological Opinion non-compliance
Date: Sunday, March 24, 2019 8:20:26 AM
Importance: High

Hi Mary –

Thank you, I confirmed that Bryan is on the list and the address we have appears correct.

Bryan – please let me know if you continue to have issues receiving the messages.

Thanks very much

Matt

From: Orms, Mary <mary_orms@fws.gov>

Sent: Saturday, March 23, 2019 9:22 PM

To: Stacey.Zee@faa.gov; Matthew Thompson <Matthew.Thompson@spacex.com>; Dawn Gardiner <dawn_gardiner@fws.gov>; Pat Clements <pat_clements@fws.gov>; Ernesto Reyes <ernesto_reyes@fws.gov>; Bryan Winton <bryan_winton@fws.gov>; Robert Jess <robert_jess@fws.gov>; Kendal Keyes <Kendal.Keyes@tpwd.texas.gov>; Mark Spier <mark_spier@nps.gov>

Subject: SpaceX closure scheduled for March 25th or 26th. Biological Opinion non-compliance

Our office, TPWD and NPS got this notice, but Bryan Winton of the Refuge did not. Seems there is still an issue on who is getting the notices.

SPACEX UPDATE as of 3/21/19, 3 PM CT:

SpaceX anticipates the need to temporarily close State Highway 4 (*and Boca Chica Beach*) in the event of a spaceflight activity today, March 21, 2019 between 12:00 p.m. and **8:00 p.m. CST. This eliminates the need for a possible closure on Friday, March 22, 2019.**

Then our office got the attached notice forwarded to us. We never received the notice directly. It is a notice from Cameron County Judge saying they are going to be another closure on the 25th and possibly 26th.

The BO states:

Approximately 2 weeks in advance of a launch operation with restricted public access (i.e., actual launch, wet dress rehearsal, or static fire engine test), FAA/SpaceX will coordinate with the Cameron County Commissioner's Court, Secretariat of Communications and Transportation – Mexico, U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), Houston Air Route Traffic Control Center (ARTCC), Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD), National Park Service (NPS), the Service's Lower Rio Grande Valley NWR and Ecological Services Office, National Marine Fisheries Service, and Customs and Border Patrol regarding launch activities and ensure public safety. This will allow for the issuance of a Notice to Mariners (NOTMARs) and Notice to Airmen (NOTAMs). Approximately 3-6 days prior to a launch operation with restricted public access, the public would be notified of the upcoming launch operation and security closure through local media and through the use of NOTMARs and NOTAMs. The notices will include the proposed date, the expected closure time and a backup

closure date and time.

This means SpaceX is suppose to contact these agencies 2 weeks prior and coordinate any testing with them, then after coordinating with the agencies, 3-6 days prior to those activities a notice can come out for the pubic. This closure was not even mentioned in our discussions about the 21st and 22nd closure Thursday. No agency coordination has taken place for these new dates (25th and 26th).

That is twice FAA and SpaceX have been out of compliance. Future closures should not occur until this is corrected. We request a full list of all the agencies and the contacts with phone numbers and email addresses that need to be informed by SpaceX, as the BO states, for our review. We also request a summary of coordination prior to any closure. The Summary should include date, time, agencies, method of coordination (via email, phone call or meeting) and if that agency had any particular comments or requests. The summary can be emailed to mary_orms@fws.gov.

If you have any questions please contact Mary Orms at (361) 225-7315 or by email at mary_orms@fws.gov. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Mary Orms
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Ecological Services Field Office
P.O. Box 81468
Corpus Christi, TX 78468-1468
4444 Corona Dr., Suite 215
Corpus Christi, Texas 78411-4300
Office Phone: (361) 994-9005
Direct Line: (361) 225-7315
Fax: (361) 994-8262