

From: [Spragens, Kyle A \(DFW\)](#)
To: [Thomas, Sue](#); [Joe Evenson](#); [Sands, Joseph P](#)
Cc: [Munes, Ryan J](#); [BrownScott, Jennifer](#); [McMillan, Anita K \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: looking for Brant data from Thurston Co, WA if possible by COB today
Date: Monday, October 25, 2021 10:49:33 AM
Importance: High

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Hi Sue,

Here is the other piece of information I was struggling to find... eelgrass.

Please see DNR's eelgrass viewer (based on the monitoring reports):

<https://www.dnr.wa.gov/programs-and-services/aquatics/aquatic-science/puget-sound-eelgrass-monitoring-data-viewer>

Note there is no detectable eelgrass in Totten Inlet (may be too high in the bathymetry/tidal range)... but without eelgrass this would explain our lack of detections... and would not parallel Nisqually NWRs info.

While I say this... I'm keeping to brant... though I will note, Oyster Bay/Kennedy Creek one of the fingers of Totten Inlet definitely has migratory bird values... just not for brant.

Respectfully,

Kyle

From: Thomas, Sue <sue_thomas@fws.gov>

Sent: Monday, October 25, 2021 10:04 AM

To: Spragens, Kyle A (DFW) <Kyle.Spragens@dfw.wa.gov>; Joe Evenson <evensjre@dfw.wa.gov>; Sands, Joseph P <joseph_sands@fws.gov>

Cc: Munes, Ryan J <ryan_munes@fws.gov>; BrownScott, Jennifer <jennifer_brownScott@fws.gov>; McMillan, Anita K (DFW) <Anita.McMillan@dfw.wa.gov>

Subject: looking for Brant data from Thurston Co, WA if possible by COB today

External Email

Hi All,

We just received an information request from our Regional Director regarding Brant use of Totten Inlet (Thurston County), WA. Can any of you share Midwinter Waterfowl and/or Brant survey data for that area? I am trying to determine the importance of the inlet to Brant in WA

as part of a comparison between Totten Inlet and Dungeness Bay relative to aquaculture (present or future, respectively). If you could share any data you have for that area some time today, that would really help. Also, do you know if Totten Inlet supports any habitat features key to Brant such as gritting sites, eelgrass beds, etc similar to those found in Dungeness Bay?

Thanks for any help you can give! Apologies for the last-minute request, but the RD would like any info we can find by the end of the day.

Best,
Sue

Sue Thomas
Wildlife Biologist
Washington Maritime NWRC
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