

From: [Thorson, Robyn](#)
To: rallen@jamestowntribe.org
Cc: [Hansi Hals](#); [Morrison, Hugh R](#)
Subject: Checking in
Date: Friday, February 25, 2022 5:26:27 PM

Chairman Allen:

Yesterday I attended the Treaty Rights at Risk meeting (virtually, not in person) and heard your remarks, including criticism of the Fish and Wildlife Service over access to the shellfish permit in Dungeness Bay. I also heard your firm comments about the priority for salmon and habitat recovery in Pacific Northwest marine waters, and the need for actions (not just talk). In all your remarks (including “who’s in charge?”) I noted respect among attendees for your contributions and appreciation for your expressions of good will (including good humor). I extend my compliments, even though the shellfish permit comments (well known to me already) were critical.

As update: after much dialogue (“marshaling” is the word I previously used) about the Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe access issue at Dungeness Bay, the Fish and Wildlife Service convened a work group mid-February to examine this matter through application of Joint Secretarial Order 3403. The charge to the workgroup includes this language:

On November 15, 2021 the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture issued Joint Secretarial Order 3403 (JSO), which reflects the intention to strengthen the consideration of tribal knowledge and interests in decision-making and outlines requirements for interactions with Tribes in the management of Federal lands and waters managed by the two agencies. The JSO was issued concurrent with ongoing deliberations between the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and the Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe regarding access to the tribe’s shellfish farming lease on tidelands in Dungeness National Wildlife Refuge.... This presents opportunity to examine how interests of both the tribe and the refuge could be considered with perspectives not previously applied. The analysis...is to look afresh at the situation and identify options.

Assessing this matter through the JSO lens has been slow, contrary to your request for expediency; I realize that is a disappointment. However, this reflects firm resolve on our part to step back from conflict and examine this with larger consideration of tribal heritage and interests, as expressed in the JSO. I’ll receive a progress report on the analysis on/around March 4 and after that I should have an update for you about the timeline ahead.

Again, I appreciate your TRAR remarks (even though I look forward to not being the target of some of them).

Thank you.
Robyn

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I live and work in the traditional homelands of the Chinook, Clackamas, Cowlitz, Kalapuya, Kathlamet, Molalla, Multnomah, and Wasco people who have made their homes along the lower Columbia River for thousands of years.