

From: [Hansi Hals](#)
To: [Thorson, Robyn](#); [Elizabeth Tobin](#)
Subject: RE: Correction and apology
Date: Thursday, November 25, 2021 8:55:39 AM

Director Thorson (Robyn - !),

Thank you very much for this correspondence. Your goal of clear and open communication is appreciated. Thank you for taking time to provide clarification. I understand we'll hear more from you following the holiday break, and I hope you have a very nice Thanksgiving.

Hansi Hals
Natural Resources Director
Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe
1033 Old Blyn Hwy
Sequim WA 98382
(360) 681-4601
Cell (360) 460-1578

From: Thorson, Robyn <robyn_thorson@fws.gov>
Sent: Thursday, November 25, 2021 8:29 AM
To: Hansi Hals <hhals@jamestowntribe.org>; Elizabeth Tobin <etobin@jamestowntribe.org>
Subject: Correction and apology

I received information yesterday that made me realize I had made a serious mis-statement during our discussion last Friday, November 19. This note is to promptly admit to my error, in the earnest hope that our dialogue can continue openly and honestly.

Last Friday you shared JST's concerns about communications and consultation with the Fish and Wildlife Service in regard to shellfish operations in Dungeness Bay, and you invited me to respond. I did not respond, explaining that the Department of the Interior's (DOI) Office of the Solicitor has a lead role in this matter and my comments would need to be coordinated with them. Yesterday (November 24) the Solicitor's Office corrected me: the legal analysis by their office has been completed and the lead role on this matter is with the Fish and Wildlife Service. I was told the Deputy Solicitor clarified this with Chairman Allen.

As soon as I heard this I realized I had done you a disservice by my error and I felt compelled to contact you – hence this message. I misunderstood the roles but in anticipation of dialogue November 19 I should have learned/confirmed roles in advance. My mistaken characterization of roles was unintentional but it was avoidable, and it is my fault entirely.

There is already tension on this issue and my error, if left unaddressed, would likely worsen the communications between us. That is the opposite of my intent. I owe you a response to your comments; I will contribute to our dialogue with honesty and respect. I hope you will accept my explanation (no excuses) and this apology for my error.

Robyn

*Robyn Thorson, Regional Director
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Legacy Region One, Interior Regions 9 and 12
Idaho, Oregon, Washington, Hawaii & Pacific Islands
911 NE 11th Avenue, Portland, OR 97232
Office: 503 231 6119 Cell: 503 926 2727
Pronouns: she/her/hers*

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.