

From: [Thorson, Robyn](#)
To: [Thorson, Robyn](#)
Subject: Dungeness Dungeness Refuge aquaculture information
Date: Friday, April 1, 2022 7:23:31 AM

*Robyn Thorson, Regional Director
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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.

From: Morrison, Hugh R <hugh_morrison@fws.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, December 28, 2021 4:32 PM
To: Foerster, Kevin <kevin_foerster@fws.gov>
Cc: Ogura, Christine <christine_ogura@fws.gov>; Thorson, Robyn <robyn_thorson@fws.gov>; Holm, Jason <Jason_Holm@fws.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Dungeness Refuge aquaculture information

Thanks, Kevin. I am confident that Refuges and EA can develop responses that accurately reflect the Service efforts to maintain the biological values for which the Refuge was established, while fulfilling our tribal trust responsibilities and honoring the Tribe's millenia of stewardship.

Hugh Morrison
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(he/him/his)

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.

From: Foerster, Kevin <kevin_foerster@fws.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, December 28, 2021 2:46 PM
To: Morrison, Hugh R <hugh_morrison@fws.gov>
Cc: Ogura, Christine <christine_ogura@fws.gov>; Thorson, Robyn <robyn_thorson@fws.gov>

Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Dungeness Refuge aquaculture information

Hugh - see the note from Jennifer below. Note the second question.

Kevin

Kevin Foerster

Regional Chief, Interior Regions 9 and 12

(Idaho, Oregon, Washington, Hawaii, Western Montana, American Samoa, Guam, CNMI, and remote territories)

National Wildlife Refuge System

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From: BrownScott, Jennifer <jennifer_brownScott@fws.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, December 28, 2021 1:07 PM
To: Foerster, Kevin <kevin_foerster@fws.gov>
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Dungeness Refuge aquaculture information

Sorry...could have sworn the Teams light was green when I initiated the call.

We just received a media request from the Sequim Gazette re: Aquaculture. The email is below, but the main questions are summarized as follows:

- The Tribe received their permits in August, have they started the project?
- Is the Service completing a compatibility determination?
- Is it correct that they can move forward, since they have their permits?
- Who provides oversight and environmental safeguards for the project? How often is monitoring completed?
- Do Refuge officials or staff still have concerns about the project's impacts to the Refuge's eelgrass, birds and other wildlife?

I will reach out to external affairs to start a draft response. Your thoughts are very much appreciated.

-jennifer

From: Michael Dashiell <mdashiell@sequimgazette.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 28, 2021 12:37 PM
To: Dietz, Kirk P <kirk_dietz@fws.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Dungeness Refuge aquaculture information



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Thanks for your help, Kirk.

Part of these questions is to clarify a letter and part for a general story to give folks an update on the project:

According to the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe, the tribe's aquaculture project received (I believe) the last of its permits needed in August, from DNR in early August, and had planned to start the projects in October. Is the project now underway?

(<https://jamestowntribe.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/September-2021-Tribal-Newsletter.pdf>)

We've received some letters of concern from local environmentalists about the project. One letter writer said "Refuge staff are currently conducting a determination of compatibility to decide if the aquaculture use is compatible with Refuge goals." However it's my understanding that with permitting in place, the tribe can move forward with the project. Can you help clarify?

In terms of oversight/environmental safeguards about the project, who/what entity provides that? How and how often does that entity monitor the project?

Lastly, do Refuge officials or staff still have concerns about the project's impacts to the Refuge's eelgrass, birds and other wildlife?

Thanks,

Mike

Michael Dashiell

Editor

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