



Fitzgerald, Katy <katy_fitzgerald@fws.gov>

[EXTERNAL] US Coast Guard Request for Formal Consultation under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act for the BNSF Sandpoint Connector Project

1 message

Sugarman, Shelly CIV <Shelly.H.Sugarman@uscg.mil>

Thu, Oct 4, 2018 at 6:48 AM

To: Christy JohnsonHughes <christy_johnsonhughes@fws.gov>

Cc: "Fitzgerald, Katy" <katy_fitzgerald@fws.gov>, "Moore, James M CIV" <James.M.Moore2@uscg.mil>, "Fischer, Steven M CIV" <Steven.M.Fischer3@uscg.mil>

Dear Ms. Johnson Hughes – good morning. As a point of clarification, we transmitted the draft BA to Mr. Marshall Williams on August 29, 2018 for review. On September 28, 2018, Ms. Katy Fitzgerald responded (attached email) that she had reviewed the draft BA and that it adequately met the USFWS's need for consultation at that time and addressed the questions and proposed changes provided by Mr. Williams. We will now consider the BA a final document. The link to the BA is below and will remain active for 15 days to allow time to download the document. Please let me know if you have trouble with the link.

Thank you,

Shelly Sugarman

Chief, Bridge Permits and Policy Division

Bridge Program

Coast Guard Headquarters

From: Sugarman, Shelly CIV**Sent:** Wednesday, October 3, 2018 1:44 PM**To:** Christy JohnsonHughes <christy_johnsonhughes@fws.gov>**Cc:** 'Fitzgerald, Katy' <katy_fitzgerald@fws.gov>; Fischer, Steven M CIV <Steven.M.Fischer3@uscg.mil>; Moore, James M CIV <James.M.Moore2@uscg.mil>**Subject:** US Coast Guard Request for Formal Consultation under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act for the BNSF Sandpoint Connector Project**Importance:** High

Dear Ms. Johnson Hughes,

The United States Coast Guard (USCG) has received an application for the BNSF Sandpoint Junction Connector Project, which would require USCG bridge permits to modify bridges across Lake Pend Oreille and Sand Creek. The Biological Assessment (BA) to initiate formal consultation under Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) has been discussed in a pre-BA review meeting and subsequently reviewed in draft form by USFWS staff. The USCG has been informed by the USFWS that the BA contains sufficient information to initiate formal consultation based on the following determinations:

As described in the enclosed BA, the proposed action will have no effect on the following ESA-listed species: Grizzly Bear (*Ursus arctos horribilis*), Canada Lynx (*Lynx Canadensis*), North American Wolverine (*Gulo gulo luscus*), and Woodland Caribou (*Rangifer tarandus caribou*). No concurrence or other consultation with USFWS is required for 'no effect' actions.

As also described in the enclosed BA, the proposed action may affect, and is likely to adversely affect Bull Trout (*Salvelinus confluentus*) and Bull Trout critical habitat. Therefore, we request initiation of formal consultation under Section 7 of the ESA.

Please initiate formal consultation using the attached BA and accompanying information. If you have any questions, please contact Steve Fischer, our District 13 Bridge Manager, at 206-220-7282 or via email (his email address is in the cc line) regarding this consultation request.

Thank you,

Shelly Sugarman

Chief, Bridge Permits and Policy Division

Bridge Program

Coast Guard Headquarters
[REDACTED]

----- Forwarded message -----

From: "Fitzgerald, Katy" <katy_fitzgerald@fws.gov>

To: "Sugarman, Shelly CIV" <Shelly.H.Sugarman@uscg.mil>

Cc:

Bcc:

Date: Fri, 28 Sep 2018 14:45:55 -0400

Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Fwd: [EXTERNAL] BNSF Sandpoint Connector Project: USCG Revised BA and Initiation of Formal Consultation

Hello Shelly. I reviewed the draft BA and found that it adequately met our needs for consultation, at this time, and addressed the questions and proposed changes provided by Marshall Williams. Thanks for your coordination on this effort. Katy

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Sugarman, Shelly CIV** <Shelly.H.Sugarman@uscg.mil>

Date: Wed, Aug 29, 2018 at 11:59 AM

Subject: [EXTERNAL] BNSF Sandpoint Connector Project: USCG Revised BA and Initiation of Formal Consultation

To: "Williams, Marshall" <marshall_williams@fws.gov>

Cc: "katy_fitzgerald@fws.gov" <katy_fitzgerald@fws.gov>, "Moore, James M CIV" <James.M.Moore2@uscg.mil>, "Fischer, Steven M CIV"

<Steven.M.Fischer3@uscg.mil>

Hello Mr. Williams,

Attached is our memo to the USFWS initiating formal consultation for the BNSF Sandpoint Connector Project under the Endangered Species Act and transmitting the revised BA and comment tracking tool to assist with your review. The tracking tool is also attached to this email.

The ftp link for the BA is: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

It includes:

- A clean Word document of the BA with no comments or tracked changes
- A bookmarked PDF of the BA with appendices

Please let me know if you have any issues with downloading the documents. As stated in the attached memo, Mr. Jason Smith from Jacobs Engineering will be contacting you shortly to schedule a facilitated review of the document.

Thank you,

Shelly Sugarman

Chief, Bridge Permits and Policy Division (CG-BRG-2)

Office of Bridge Programs

USCG Headquarters
[REDACTED]




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Katy Fitzgerald
US Fish and Wildlife Service
IFWO-Spokane, Section 7 lead
11103 E. Montgomery Dr, Ste 2
Spokane Valley, WA 99206

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

3 attachments

-  **Sandpoint Connector Project - USCG Revised Biological Assessment.pdf**
102K
-  **2018-08-24_SJC-RevisedBA_Comment-Response-Spreadsheet.docx**
77K
-  **[Non-DoD Source] Fwd [EXTERNAL] BNSF Sandpoint Connector Project USCG Revised BA and Initiation of Formal Consultation**
257K