

Holland, Kelly

From: Holland, Elizabeth G SPK [Elizabeth.G.Holland@usace.army.mil]
Sent: Wednesday, September 28, 2011 12:51 PM
To: Holland, Kelly; Buck, Peter (MSA); washburnt@saccounty.net; Waggoner, Jon
Subject: FW: request for work window extension for SAFCA phase 2, 3, and 4a
Attachments: NLIP 234a winter work.pdf

Importance: High

All,

Please see attached window extension for NLIP Phase 3 and 4a extension.

Elizabeth Holland
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Senior Environmental Manager
(916) 557-6763 Cell (916) 524-8239
e-Mail Elizabeth.g.holland@usace.army.mil

-----Original Message-----

From: Kenneth_Sanchez@fws.gov [mailto:Kenneth_Sanchez@fws.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, September 28, 2011 12:15 PM
To: Holland, Elizabeth G SPK
Cc: Jennifer_hobbs@fws.gov; Kellie_Berry@fws.gov
Subject: Fw: request for work window extension for SAFCA phase 2, 3, and 4a

I concur with the proposal to extend the work window on this project.

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Ken Sanchez
Assistant Field Supervisor
Endangered Species Program
US Fish and Wildlife Service
Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office
2800 Cottage Way-Suite W-2605
Sacramento, CA 95825
(916) 414-6671

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----- Forwarded by Kenneth Sanchez/SAC/R1/FWS/DOI on 09/28/2011 11:56 AM  
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Kellie  
Berry/R8/FWS/DOI

To  
09/28/2011 11:52 AM Kenneth Sanchez/SAC/R1/FWS/DOI@FWS  
cc  
Jennifer Hobbs/SAC/R1/FWS/DOI@FWS  
Subject  
Fw: request for work window  
extension for SAFCA phase 2, 3, and  
4a

Hi Ken,

I have reviewed the attached GGS work window extension past October 1st and am ok with the approval. If you concur, please respond with your approval to Elizabeth.G.Holland@usace.army.mil.

Thank you.

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Kellie J. Berry, Chief  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Sacramento Valley Division  
2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2605  
Sacramento, CA 95825-1846

(916)414-6631 Direct,/(916) 414-6645 Division Kellie\_Berry@fws.gov

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----- Forwarded by Kellie Berry/R8/FWS/DOI on 09/28/2011 11:44 AM -----

Jennifer  
Hobbs/SAC/R1/FWS/  
DOI

To

Kellie Berry/R8/FWS/DOI@FWS

09/28/2011 11:43  
AM

cc

Subject

Fw: request for work window  
extension for SAFCA phase 2, 3, and  
4a

Kellie, can you review my recommendation below for a work window extension for SAFCA's Natomas Levee Improvement Programs Phase 2, 3, and 4a projects, and forward to Ken with the request that he forwards his approval to Elizabeth Holland of the Corps at Elizabeth.g.holland@usace.army.mil.  
Thanks!

Ms. Holland,

The Service received your request on September 22, 2011, to reinstate formal

consultation on the Natomas Levee Improvement Program (NLIP) Phase 2 Project, Phase 3 Project, and Phase 4a Project (Service #s 81420-2008-F-0195-R004 , 81420-2009-F-0890-R005 , and 81420-2010-F-0446-R002). You have requested to continue work past the October 1 end date as described in the biological opinions and have provided tables (see attachments of this e-mail) for when work will be completed. All work except the woodland plantings in the Phase 3 project will be completed by January 1, 2012. October 1 is the end of the "active" period for the giant garter snake (GGS), during which GGS are expected to be more mobile and better able to move to avoid danger. The projects have not only restricted the GGS from habitat utilization of the project footprints during the snake's active period due to construction activities, but also during its inactive period (that is, the GGS loses the opportunity to hibernate in areas where SAFCA is working over the winter months). Construction activities that extend beyond October 1 may adversely affect the GGS by limiting their ability to find and utilize suitable upland habitat for winter hibernation, by hindering its dispersal behavior, and by exposing it to increased risk of injury and mortality from predation, exposure, entombment, vehicular traffic, and construction equipment as it may be forced to disperse through and/or around the construction site in response to habitat changes and seasonal indicators. Thus, projects that extend beyond October 1 may result in additional effects to the GGS during its inactive period. In the case of these 3 projects within the NLIP work has been occurring over the course of this summer and exclusionary fencing has been erected between suitable GGS aquatic habitat and ongoing fall and winter work. A monitor will be available during construction and will conduct regular monitoring inspections to ensure exclusionary fence is intact and does not have holes that might allow GGS access to the work areas. The Service has evaluated these effects and determined that the project schedule modification as proposed is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of the GGS. The project descriptions for the NLIP Phase 2 Project, Phase 3 Project, and Phase 4a Project biological opinions are thereby amended to reflect that work will be completed by January 1, 2011, except for the woodland plantings for the Phase 3 Project which will be completed by March 31, 2012.

Jennifer Hobbs  
Fish and Wildlife Biologist  
Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office  
(916)414-6541  
jennifer\_hobbs@fws.gov

(See attached file: NLIP 234a winter work.pdf)