



JAMESTOWN S'KLALLAM TRIBE

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Sent Via Electronic Mail: hugh_morrison@fws.gov

Original Sent USPS

August 10, 2022

Hugh Morrison
Acting Regional Director
Interior Regions 9 & 12
911 NE 11th Ave.
Portland, Oregon 97232-4181

Re: Self-Governance Compacting Dungeness Bay Refuge, Sequim, Washington

Dear Director Morrison:

We appreciate the opportunity to meet with your team regarding our July 1, 2022, request to negotiate an agreement to return operations and management of the Dungeness National Wildlife Refuge to the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe in recognition of our ancestry and historical ownership of the lands and demonstrated ability and determination to protect both wildlife and the cultural heritage of our people.

We feel the meeting was productive and a sense of urgency on the part of our Tribe was communicated. Our Tribe would like to express appreciation that the USFWS appears willing to provide the necessary information. The following information is important to receive in a timely manner so the Tribe can finalize its request:

- a. A clear and updated description of all PFSA's and related funds spent by USFWS at the Refuge.
- b. A current description of all the positions at USFWS that carry out the USFWS's mission at the Refuge to include detailed information regarding duties, functions and responsibilities associated with said positions.
- c. A list of all current vacancies at USFWS and associated funding for these positions.
- d. An explanation of the expertise you deem essential to properly manage the refuge and whether USFWS outsources any of these obligations.
- e. A current and updated description of the land and all physical and other assets that are part of the Refuge to include property deeded to the USFWS that has become part of the Refuge as well as information on how this property is being used relative to the Refuge mission and agenda.
- f. A detailed map of the Refuge and all related properties, e.g., Sequim Bay properties.
- g. A status report on the condition of current facilities to include any maintenance or upgrade issues and whether facility expansion has been proposed or planned.
- h. A breakdown of all the funds that were spent on the Refuge by USFWS during the past 2 fiscal years and that it plans to spend on the Refuge in FY-2023.

- i. Information related to the identification and justification of residuals and balance of funds that is available for the Tribe.
- j. An explanation of and legal justification for all inherent federal functions that USFWS carries out at the Refuge and the related funds necessary for those functions to be carried out.
- k. A current list of all intergovernmental agreements and/or any other agreement with private parties that the USFWS has in place that relate to the Refuge.

As we discussed, we appreciate receiving this information within 2 weeks, or by August 23rd, 2022. Pursuant to further discussion, we will schedule our next negotiation session to take place after we receive the additional information requested.

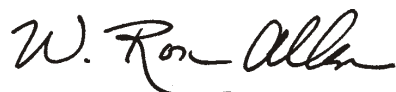
Further discussion of the lack of any response to the Tribe's February 2022 request for a Letter of Agreement, and failure to communicate to the Tribe was briefly touched upon and we reiterated our continued frustration at the USFW delays and lack of support of the Tribe and its efforts.

We trust that this negotiation will be consistent with the spirit and instruction of the President's Executive Order #13175 Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments, The Joint Secretarial Order #3403 on Fulfilling the Trust Responsibility to Indian Tribes in the Stewardship of Federal Lands and Waters, and the Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Interagency Coordination and Collaboration for the Protection of Tribal Treaty Rights and Reserved Rights, and its intent and promises repeatedly made by the DOI, Solicitor's Office and other agencies regarding the commitment to the respect of Tribes and our Treaty rights.

Our Tribe remains confident that the USFW can find a way to respect Tribal Treaty aquaculture and not attempt to hold Tribes back to techniques and practices of the nineteenth century when the Tribe was a signatory to the 1855 Treaty of Point No Point. Times have changed and practices and techniques evolve as a means of ensuring the survival of our people and our cultural traditions. Holding Tribes back from utilizing advanced techniques and practices is not respectful of the Tribe's deep commitment to the land, culture, and resources.

We look forward to bringing this negotiation to a timely closure since this Refuge sits on top of our historical and cultural villages. Our Tribe looks forward to becoming the primary steward of natural, historical and cultural resources of Dungeness Bay today and for future generations. Thank you.

Sincerely,



W. Ron Allen, Chairman/CEO
Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe

Attachments (3)

Cc Deb Haaland, Secretary of Interior
Bob Anderson, Department of Interior Solicitor
Bryan Newland, Department of Interior Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs
Martha Williams, Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service
Ann Marie Bledsoe-Downes, Deputy Solicitor for Indian Affairs
Lynn Peterson, Regional Solicitor Pacific Northwest
Loni Greninger, Jamestown Council Vice-Chair
Lauren P. Rasmussen, General Counsel for the Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe
Geoff Strommer, Legal Counsel and Partner, Hobbs, Straus, Dean and Walker,
LLP
Hansi Hals, Jamestown Natural Resource Director
Elizabeth (Liz) Tobin, Jamestown Shellfish Program Manager
Nathan Dexter, USFWS Tribal Liaison