

From: [Gerry McChesney](#)
To: Dennis.L.Orthmeyer@aphis.usda.gov
Subject: Fw: Farallon Gull Hazing Assistance
Date: 11/09/2011 09:26 AM
Attachments: [Gull hazing trial on Farallon NWR Trip Report 031011.pdf](#)

Hi Dennis,

Hope this finds you and your family well and good. I'm resending an email sent to you by Dan Grout of Island Conservation earlier this year. Obviously, no hazing trials will be done this fall, but we would still like to investigate working with you and your staff to develop a hazing plan for the proposed Farallon Islands mouse eradication project. We have had some delays which have pushed everything back a year.

At this time, I'm trying to budget and raise funds for several potential aspects of the project, including the list of items described in Dan's email below. Is this something you feel APHIS can help out with? If so, could you come up with a rough estimate of costs for each of the various items listed? I need these for a meeting I have next Tuesday. Anything you can provide, even if very rough, would be appreciated.

Give me a call today if you can, or I will follow up with a call. Thank you.

Gerry

Gerry McChesney
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----- Forwarded by Gerry McChesney/SFBAY/R1/FWS/DOI on 11/09/2011 09:13 AM -----

Dan Grout
<dan.grout@islandconservation.org>

To "Gerry_McChesney@fws.gov"
<Gerry_McChesney@fws.gov>

cc

10/05/2011 12:27 PM

Subject FW: Farallon Gull Hazing Assistance

Gerry:

The following is an email I sent to Dennis earlier this year. Before he could respond, the renewed alternative selection process was set in motion, and we made no headway on developing this relationship or getting some cost estimates. This is something you could help with.

Dan

From: Dan Grout
Sent: Wednesday, April 13, 2011 11:15 AM
To: Dennis.L.Orthmeyer@aphis.usda.gov
Subject: Farallon Island Gull Hazing Assistance

Dennis:

Great speaking with you yesterday about the possibility of Wildlife Services coordinating/advising on gull hazing with the three partners involved in the Farallon mouse eradication project (USFWS Refuges, PRBO, and Island Conservation). We really appreciated you loaning Derek to us in January to assist in the first mini-trial. We learned a lot in a very short period.

As promised, attached is a **Draft** Report of the 5-day January gull hazing trial conducted on the Farallon Islands by my assistant Maddie Pott, Derek Milsaps and Winston Vickers. While it is still in draft form and **not for distribution** yet, it will give you an idea of how much research has been done so far on what tools and techniques and man-power are being considered for conducting a coordinated gull hazing effort on the island during the late fall of 2012, when the eradication is planned for. We have not whittled down which techniques will definitively be used or not, but the most effective techniques do stand out.

The USFWS and IC are currently rebudgeting the project for the new EIS timeframe, and this allows us some time to both develop a more complete and detailed Gull Hazing Plan and to conduct any additional (extended) gull hazing trials, likely this fall, in November 2011.

In the event that some arrangement can be scheduled/planned for with enough notice, we would appreciate it if you could provide a basic preliminary cost estimate in dollars for the following distinct services:

1. Review and revise/comment on the current **Draft Hazing Trip Report** (20 hours?)
2. Write a **Draft Gull Hazing Plan** in coordination with USFWS, IC and PRBO (By August 2011)
3. Conduct a **limited 2-week field trial** of the Draft Gull Hazing Plan on the Farallones in

early November 2011

4. Write a brief **Trial Report** and **revise the Gull Hazing Plan** based on trial results
5. **Implement the Plan** during eradication Nov-Dec 2012 (4 – 6 weeks on island? less time if FWS trainees used)
6. Total required for all above

For implementation, it looks as if 1 or 2 fulltime hazers may be needed, with up to 2-3 others needed to assist in the early morning and late evening hours. We would need at least one professional hazing specialist from USDA to fill the lead role, with partner agencies likely filling the other roles as assistants when needed. While we understand that the USDA staff time requests involved may be challenging based on current staff allocations, perhaps these time commitments can be shortened by training on-island USFWS or PRBO staff to continue as the designated lead for the hazing after the first few weeks with USDA.

If total amounts for each task are difficult to estimate, perhaps daily or hourly rates you expect to bill the USFWS would suffice for now. We will of course revisit/revise any estimates if/when the partners move closer to a contract agreement and scope of work. Thanks for any timely estimates you can make, as we have to submit a budget request to fund this work this week.

Please call me if you have any questions -

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Gull hazing trial on Farallon NWR Trip Report 031011.pdf