



Susan_P_Jones@fws.gov

04/07/2008 05:15 PM

To Patrick_Mock@URSCorp.com

cc Anne_Runalls@URSCorp.com, "Justin Sloan"
<JSLOAN@dfg.ca.gov>, "Julie Vance"
<JVANCE@dfg.ca.gov>, Susan_Jones@fws.gov,
bcc

Subject Re: Intro to Bethel Solar Hybrid Project 7 & 8 - Request for
Concurrence of Survey effort

The maps showing the two alternative locations are not attached to the version of this that I received. Are you in our Ventura office's jurisdiction or in Sacramento office? I would appreciate receiving the maps. You will also need Service approval for surveys.

Susan Jones, San Joaquin Valley Branch Chief
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Office, 2800 Cottage Way, W-2605, Sacramento, CA
95825
916/414-6600, fax 916/414-6713

Patrick_Mock@URSC
orp.com

04/07/2008 04:02
PM

To
"Julie Vance" <JVANCE@dfg.ca.gov>
cc
Anne_Runalls@URSCorp.com, "Justin
Sloan" <JSLOAN@dfg.ca.gov>,
Susan_Jones@fws.gov,
Theresa_Miller@URSCorp.com
Subject
Re: Intro to Bethel Solar Hybrid
Project 7 & 8 - Request for
Concurrence of Survey effort

Yes this project is a CEC AFC process.

Yes, we assumed Kit fox and BUOW are likely to present.

We will look for raptor nesting activity in the project vicinity.

We will include a hydrology assessment for the sites and will contact the local agencies for any additional data they may have.

Hope you are available to meet with Theresa & I. We will coordinate with Justin to meet this Friday.

Pat

Patrick J. Mock, Ph.D.
Senior Project Manager
Senior Biologist
URS Corporation
1615 Murray Canyon Road, Suite 1000
San Diego, CA 92108
619-294-9400
619-293-7920 Fax

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"Julie Vance" <JVANCE@dfg.ca.gov>"Julie Vance" <JVANCE@dfg.ca.gov>

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ce" (Embedded image moved to file: pic18467.gif)
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ANC (Embedded image moved to file:
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fg. <Patrick_Mock@URSCorp.com>
ca. (Embedded image moved to file: pic26500.gif)
gov cc
> (Embedded image moved to file:
pic19169.gif)
"Justin Sloan"
04/ <JSLOAN@dfg.ca.gov>,
07/ <Susan_Jones@fws.gov>,
200 <Anne_Runalls@URSCorp.com>,
8 <Theresa_Miller@URSCorp.com>
01: (Embedded image moved to file: pic15724.gif)
19 Subject
PM (Embedded image moved to file:
pic11478.gif)
Re: Intro to Bethel Solar Hybrid
Project 7 & 8 - Request for
Concurrence of Survey effort

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pic26962.gif)

Patrick,

Justin Sloan of my staff may be able to attend your meeting on April 11; I have other meetings scheduled on that date but may be able to attend also, depending on the meeting time. Justin will be back in the office tomorrow and will let you know of his availability. Does this particular project require CEC approvals?

Just as an FYI, active ag, especially in Pleasant Valley where much of the ag is dry farmed, does not preclude the presence of species like kit fox and burrowing owl. Any of the Arroyo Pasajero (AP) watershed (Los Gatos, Zapato Chino, Jacalitos and Warthan Creeks, collectively) can support all of the species, including BNLL. It appears that at least one of these creeks is present on site. I would recommend finding out where DFG's Eco Reserves in the area are; I think they are close and we have additional species info and direct and indirect impacts to these would need to be considered. Swainson's Hawks are known to occur in the area as well.

Any proposed work in the AP floodplain will need to be discussed in detail given the flashy nature of these creeks (tend to carry mudflows, heavily incised, high carving power; took out I5 in the late 90's). In addition, the AP floodplain is important from a connectivity standpoint. During the preparation of the Pleasant Valley, and later the Coalinga, HCP (never completed), primary and secondary kit fox corridors were identified in Pleasant Valley. If my memory serves, your project is in that area. Those HCPs have a lot of good biological information which may be useful. The City of Coalinga could help you with those.

Sincerely,

Julie

Julie Vance, Senior Environmental Scientist
Permitting and Project Review
Department of Fish and Game
Central Region (R4)
1234 E. Shaw Ave
Fresno, CA 93710
(559) 243-4014 x 222
>>> <Patrick_Mock@URSCorp.com> 4/4/2008 10:30 AM >>>
Julie:

As with the Ausra project, URS would like to obtain concurrence from CDFG regarding the surveys, level of effort and schedule for this new power project.

Attached is the 10-mile & 1-mile buffer maps for the two alternative sites we are assessing. Both sites are currently active agricultural fields. Site photos to follow once they are available. We will be doing a preliminary site visit next Friday (4/11). Are you or one of your staff available to meet us on site or in your office to discuss our survey approach? Based on our site visit, we will determine the surveys we think should be required. We have tentatively scheduled BNLL/SJAS and BUOW surveys given their CNDDDB locations on the adjacent parcels. Botanical surveys will also be conducted.

Please reply ASAP next week so that we can coordinate and perhaps meet next Friday.

Pat

Patrick J. Mock, Ph.D.
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Senior Biologist
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"Justin Sloan" <JSLOAN@dfg.ca.gov>
05/30/2008 11:30 AM

To <Theresa_Miller@URSCorp.com>
cc
bcc
Subject Re: blunt-nosed observed on coalinga reference site

History: This message has been forwarded.

Theresa,

Do you know if the client had already purchased the section with the arroyo? It could be something they could use for mitigation if allowed to revert back to "natural" conditions.

Have a nice weekend.

Justin

>>> <Theresa_Miller@URSCorp.com> 5/30/2008 5:32 AM >>>
Hi Justin,

Thanks for the quick response. We have not surveyed the arroyo because the client dropped that section out of the project when we told them of the setback requirements. It wouldn't work for their project needs.

Also, thank you for the confidence, I was just reading my email and I thought it was confusing, and it occurred to me that I might sound unsure. I didn't want to portray that about our company or myself.

We will submit the information to CNDDDB.

Thanks and have a great day,
Theresa

Theresa Miller
Wildlife Biologist
URS Corporation
1615 Murray Canyon Rd
Suite 1000
San Diego, CA 92109
Office: 619-294-9400 ext 1070
Mobile: 619-888-0131
Fax: 619-293-7920

-----"Justin Sloan" <JSLOAN@dfg.ca.gov> wrote: -----

To: <Theresa_Miller@URSCorp.com>
From: "Justin Sloan" <JSLOAN@dfg.ca.gov>
Date: 05/29/2008 04:33PM
Subject: Re: blunt-nosed observed on coalinga reference site

Hi Theresa,

Thanks for the pics.

I don't know that your email was confusing, it could have been my reading comprehension skills.... I didn't mean to imply and did not think that you might not know the protocol, I just wanted to be clear about things.

I think it would be ok to stop the surveys at this point. We know they are there and are detectable. We will have to include some specific avoidance measures during construction and likely for the life of the project.

Did you already survey the arroyo on the southeast parcel?

Are you planning on submitting this location to CNDDDB? Please do so if you weren't. Otherwise, let me know and I can submit it. This is a BIG sighting for the area as it has been a long time since they have been observed in the area.

We appreciate your effort on DFG lands. It makes the dump site to the north that much more important.

Thanks again,
Justin

>>> <Theresa_Miller@URSCorp.com> 5/29/2008 3:59 PM >>>

Hi Justin,

sorry for the confusing email. I attached the photos below.. yes, it was found on the quarter section of DFG land adjacent to the proposed sites.

I am asking if we stop the protocol transect surveys for the reference site now that we saw the BNLL. And if we did stop the transect surveys for the reference site, I was saying we would still visit to check for activity during the entire survey.

Theresa Miller
Wildlife Biologist
URS Corporation
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San Diego, CA 92109
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"Justin Sloan" <JSLOAN@dfg.ca.gov>
05/29/2008 03:50 PM

To
<Theresa_Miller@URSCorp.com>
cc

Subject
Re: blunt-nosed observed on coalinga reference site

Theresa,

So to be clear, they found a BNLL on the quarter section of DFG land adjacent to the proposed sites?

Great to hear! At least in some aspects. I wouldn't have expected them there either. I have to ask since it will be asked of me, was the observer 100% sure and confident in the id?

Also, are you asking to stop the transect surveys for the project site or just the reference site? What do you mean by "still visit for protocol requirements" but not continue the transect surveys?

I just want to be clear what you are asking before I answer.

Thanks for the news.

Justin

>>> <Theresa_Miller@URSCorp.com> 5/29/2008 3:39 PM >>>

Hi Justin,
My team just informed me that they found a blunt-nosed on the reference site. They were pretty surprised since the habitat is so poor... So do you want us to continue the protocol surveys of the site, or is it not necessary? We would still visit for our protocol requirements, however not sure we need to continue the transect surveys.

Thanks,
Theresa

Theresa Miller
Wildlife Biologist
URS Corporation
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San Diego, CA 92109
Office: 619-294-9400 ext 1070
Mobile: 619-888-0131
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"Justin Sloan" <JSLOAN@dfg.ca.gov>
07/09/2008 07:57 AM

To <Theresa_Miller@URSCorp.com>
cc
bcc
Subject Re: Coalinga Solar Project

History: This message has been replied to.

Hi Theresa,

Attached is a species list for the DFG surveys that were done on PVER. Most of these species were found on the main parcel. I guess we can add BNLL as well.

Is it called San Joaquin Solar 1 & 2 because they are back to 2 sites? Are they including the southeast parcel again?

Take care,
Justin

>>> <Theresa_Miller@URSCorp.com> 7/8/2008 12:04 PM >>>
Hi Justin,
How are you? I hope you had a great 4th of July holiday!

I am working on the AFC document for the Bethel Project in Coalinga (it is now actually called the San Joaquin Solar 1 & 2). I saw in my notes from our meeting in April that you may have data from the 2005-2006 resource assessments done at the Pleasant Valley Ecological Reserve, and other surveys in the area. Is it possible for me to get that data or a species list from you to include in the project analysis?

As an update, we will finish our surveys for adult BNLL this week. None have been observed on the transmission line alignment to date.

Thanks,
Theresa

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Wildlife Biologist
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Suite 1000
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DFG PVER RAP sp lists.xls



"Justin Sloan" <JSLOAN@dfg.ca.gov>
07/09/2008 09:17 AM

To <Theresa_Miller@URSCorp.com>
cc
bcc
Subject Re: Coalinga Solar Project

History: This message has been replied to.

Reference sites aren't required in the San Joaquin Valley but with current climatic conditions and the resulting reduced detectability in some areas, they don't hurt. This turned out to not be the best of years for surveys in some areas due to lack of rainfall and seed production.

So, while it would be beneficial to have results from reference sites to submit with results from Project sites, you are correct, reference sites aren't required.

>>> <Theresa_Miller@URSCorp.com> 7/9/2008 8:03 AM >>>
Thanks Justin.

The client is not using the southeast site again, they just called it 1&2...not sure why actually.

I wanted to check in again about the BNLL reference site. We didn't get access to the other Eco Reserve Reference site yet.. But since we are in the upper San Joaquin Valley, reference site visits are not required, correct? We have been seeing BNLL consistently at another reference site in the Elkhorn Plain.

Theresa Miller
Wildlife Biologist
URS Corporation
1615 Murray Canyon Rd
Suite 1000
San Diego, CA 92109
Office: 619-294-9400 ext 1070
Mobile: 619-888-0131
Fax: 619-293-7920

-----"Justin Sloan" <JSLOAN@dfg.ca.gov> wrote: -----

To: <Theresa_Miller@URSCorp.com>
From: "Justin Sloan" <JSLOAN@dfg.ca.gov>
Date: 07/09/2008 07:57AM
Subject: Re: Coalinga Solar Project

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[attachment "DFG PVER RAP sp lists.xls" removed by Theresa Miller/SanDiego/URSCorp]

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Susan_P_Jones@fws.gov

04/08/2008 12:18 PM

To Patrick_Mock@URSCorp.com

cc Anne_Runalls@URSCorp.com, "Justin Sloan"
<JSLOAN@dfg.ca.gov>, "Julie Vance"
<JVANCE@dfg.ca.gov>, Susan_Jones@fws.gov,
bcc

Subject Re: Intro to Bethel Solar Hybrid Project 7 & 8 - Request for
Concurrence of Survey effort

Patrick -

Now that I know where the project is located, I have turned it over to my staff person Shelley Buranek. Please include her in your e-mails, and take me out of the e-mails. The more we can have joint meetings and site visits with DFG, the smoother your project will go. I have forwarded the pictures and maps you sent to Shelley. She does not have any survey proposals from you. She won't be able to attend this Friday.

Thanks!

Susan Jones, San Joaquin Valley Branch Chief
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Office, 2800 Cottage Way, W-2605, Sacramento, CA
95825
916/414-6600, fax 916/414-6713

Patrick_Mock@URSC
orp.com

04/08/2008 10:14
AM

To
"Justin Sloan" <JSLOAN@dfg.ca.gov>
cc
<Susan_Jones@fws.gov>, "Julie
Vance" <JVANCE@dfg.ca.gov>,
<Theresa_Miller@URSCorp.com>,
<Anne_Runalls@URSCorp.com>
Subject
Re: Intro to Bethel Solar Hybrid
Project 7 & 8 - Request fo
Concurrence of Survey effort

We can either meet at your office and then go out to the site or just meet at the site. Your preference. If we meet at your office, then maybe Julie Vance and Susan Jones can also meet with us if they are available.

We will be arriving at 9 AM on Friday, so we can meet between 10 and 11 AM depending on the meeting location.

Thank you for being available on short notice.

Pat

Patrick J. Mock, Ph.D.
Senior Project Manager
Senior Biologist
URS Corporation
1615 Murray Canyon Road, Suite 1000
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619-294-9400
619-293-7920 Fax

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From: "Justin Sloan" <JSLOAN@dfg.ca.gov>
Date: 04/08/2008 09:57AM
Subject: Re: Intro to Bethel Solar Hybrid Project 7 & 8 - Request for
Concurrence of Survey effort

Pat,

I am available to meet Friday. Do you have a preferred time/location?

Justin

Justin Sloan
Environmental Scientist
California Department of Fish and Game
Central Region
1234 E. Shaw Ave
Fresno, CA 93710
Phone: (559) 243-4014 ext 216
Fax: (559) 243-4020

>>> <Patrick_Mock@URSCorp.com> 4/7/2008 4:02 PM >>>

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"Julie Vance"
<JVANCE@dfg.ca.gov>

04/07/2008 01:19 PM

<Patrick_Mock@URSCorp.com> To
cc

"Justin Sloan"
<JSLOAN@dfg.ca.gov>,
<Susan_Jones@fws.gov>,
<Anne_Runnalls@URSCorp.com>,
<Theresa_Miller@URSCorp.com>

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Re: Intro to Bethel Solar
Hybrid Project 7 & 8 -
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given the flashy nature of these creeks (tend to carry mudflows, heavily incised, high carving power; took out I5 in the late 90's). In addition, the AP floodplain is important from a connectivity standpoint. During the preparation of the Pleasant Valley, and later the Coalinga, HCP (never completed), primary and secondary kit fox corridors were identified in Pleasant Valley. If my memory serves, your project is in that area.

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Sincerely,

Julie

Julie Vance, Senior Environmental Scientist
Permitting and Project Review
Department of Fish and Game
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Fresno, CA 93710

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Julie:

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