

From: [Wenham, Logan WLRs:EX](#)
To: [Yantis, Noah](#)
Cc: [MacArthur, Christopher](#); [McLaurin, Josie](#); [Psyllakis, Jennifer WLRs:EX](#); [Elliott, Richard WLRs:EX](#)
Subject: RE: Introduction/BC tribal question
Date: Wednesday, May 15, 2024 7:05:13 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)

Hi Noah:

Thanks for your email and nice to hear from you.

Yes, BC Government staff are in regular contact with U.S. counterparts on the North Cascades but there are no immediate plans in B.C. to move bears into the Canadian side of the North Cascades ecosystem, nor to provide bears to U.S. efforts at this time. The only change I'm aware of is the decision on the environmental impact statement and the 10(j) in the U.S.

As before we continue to work with First Nations on our side of the border in a collaborative way, but I am similarly not aware of any direct action underway on the part of the Okanagan Nation Alliance (or any other Nation) to imminently move a bear.

So, no significant news north of the border at this time.

Kind regards,

Logan Wenham
Executive Director, Wildlife Branch
Resource Stewardship Division
Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship
Phone: 778-698-9221

From: Yantis, Noah <Noah.Yantis@mail.house.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, May 14, 2024 12:55 PM
To: Wenham, Logan WLRs:EX <Logan.Wenham@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: MacArthur, Christopher <Christopher.MacArthur@mail.house.gov>; McLaurin, Josie <Josie.McLaurin@mail.house.gov>; Psyllakis, Jennifer WLRs:EX <Jennifer.Psullakis@gov.bc.ca>; Elliott, Richard WLRs:EX <Richard.Elliott@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Introduction/BC tribal question

Some people who received this message don't often get email from noah.yantis@mail.house.gov. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Hi Logan:

It has been a few months since we emailed on the U.S. National Park Service and Fish and Wildlife Service proposed, now finalized, environmental impact statement and accompanying section 10(j) rule to relocate grizzly bears to the North Cascades Ecosystem. Administration officials are still claiming that First Nation tribes are imminently planning to move culturally significant grizzly bears into the Canadian portion of the NCE and use this as justification for the 10(j) rule.

Can you provide an update to if First Nation tribes have changed course since our last correspondence?

Additionally, can you confirm that the National Park Service and/or Fish and Wildlife Service has been in communication with your ministry about the relocation of grizzly bears into the NCE?

Any insight you have here is greatly appreciated.

Thanks,
Noah



Noah Yantis

Executive Director

Congressional Western Caucus

noah.yantis@mail.house.gov

Cell: (217) 853-7826



From: Wenham, Logan FOR:EX <Logan.Wenham@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: Thursday, October 12, 2023 12:00 PM

To: Yantis, Noah <Noah.Yantis@mail.house.gov>

Cc: MacArthur, Christopher <Chris.MacArthur@mail.house.gov>; McLaurin, Josie <Josie.McLaurin@mail.house.gov>; Psyllakis, Jennifer WLRS:EX <Jennifer.Psyllakis@gov.bc.ca>; Elliott, Richard FOR:EX <Richard.Elliott@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: Introduction/BC tribal question

Hi Noah:

Regrettably both myself and Executive Director of Species at Risk and Recovery Jennifer Psyllakis (cced), are in a session and will not be able to speak prior to your deadline. Richard Elliott is on annual leave and I am acting in his absence. I can provide a few high level notes in the absence of a call.

Translocation is an identified recovery action for the north Cascade population unit but there are no imminent plans or translocations underway in B.C.. Among several conditions we have discussed coordinating with states and USFWS as a priority. This is happening at a technical level through established inter-government committees.

An ESA 10 J rule is one factor that has been raised as being an important enabling condition.

We are collaborating with First Nations on this work in recent years who are very supportive of recovery. I am not aware of any direct action underway on the part of the Okanagan Nation Alliance to imminently move a bear separate from this collaborative work.

Given the nature of my role in today's seminar I will not be immediately available throughout today, but hope this is helpful.

Logan Wenham
Director of Fish and Wildlife
Integrated Resource Operations Division
Ministry of Forests
Phone: 778-698-9221

From: Yantis, Noah <Noah.Yantis@mail.house.gov>
Sent: Thursday, October 12, 2023 6:33 AM
To: Wenham, Logan FOR:EX <Logan.Wenham@gov.bc.ca>; Elliott, Richard FOR:EX <Richard.Elliott@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: MacArthur, Christopher <Chris.MacArthur@mail.house.gov>; McLaurin, Josie <Josie.McLaurin@mail.house.gov>
Subject: Introduction/BC tribal question
Importance: High

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Logan and Richard:

My name is Noah Yantis and I'm the Executive Director of the Congressional Western Caucus under Rep. Dan Newhouse (WA-04). I'm reaching out because we are currently trying to stop a proposal by the US Fish and Wildlife Service under 10(j) of the Endangered Species Act that would move grizzly bears into the North Cascades Ecosystem (map attached).

On a call with Fish and Wildlife Service today, it was brought up that the First Nations of Canada, including the Okanagan Nation Alliance, are in the process of relocating grizzlies into the British Columbia portion of North Cascades. Our fear with this move is these grizzlies would cross the border south into the US, into Rep. Newhouse's district, and pose an immediate danger to livestock and small communities.

Rep. Newhouse is meeting with the Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service today. We anticipate her to defend the agency's 10(j) proposal by pointing to First Nations relocating grizzlies. If either of you are available for a call before 12:30pm ET, I would greatly appreciate it.

Thanks,
Noah



Noah Yantis

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