
From: Maria Rea - NOAA Federal <maria.rea@noaa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 16, 2019 8:40 AM
To: Hannah Mellman - NOAA Federal
Cc: Jim Milbury; Ruth Howell - NOAA Federal; Howard Brown; Cathy Marcinkevage
Subject: Re: Draft talking points/statement next week

All,
As of COB yesterday, it looks like we will likely get a two week extension from CEQ (per a DOI request). This will likely delay our peer review. We will keep you posted. Cathy, can you take the lead at responses to these questions when the time is right? Thanks,
- Maria

Sent from my iPad

On May 14, 2019, at 4:23 PM, Hannah Mellman - NOAA Federal <hannah.mellman@noaa.gov> wrote:

Thanks for the heads up Maria. Can you answer a few more basic questions for us:

1. What's specifically in the draft analyses?
2. Why are we sharing this draft analyses?
3. Are we doing this in lieu of sharing a draft biop?
4. Who make up the independent scientific peers? Have we been working with them for a long time?

Ruth, Jim and I just circled up and we're thinking a reactive approach would be best. We'll create a simple set of talking points for Jim to use to respond to inquiries but otherwise stay quiet. Sound okay?

Thanks!

On Tue, May 14, 2019 at 3:18 PM Maria Rea - NOAA Federal <maria.rea@noaa.gov> wrote:
Jim - - We will get a lot of inquiries at some point next week. Think about having some version of this statement at the ready. Feel free to edit!

- Maria

NMFS has issued draft analyses for independent scientific peer review, and Reclamation, DWR and water contractor review. These are draft products subject to revision. These draft products are components of a biological opinion; they are not the entire Opinion. NMFS has not reached any determination on whether effects will jeopardize listed salmon, steelhead and sturgeon. Consistent with the Section 7 process, NMFS and Reclamation continue to work closely together to resolve any differences on analyses. The science review will be helpful in providing independent review of our draft products. We are scheduled to issue a final opinion on June 17th.

- Maria

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