

Attachment D

From: [Larson, Nicholas - FS, NC](#)
To: [Spencer Scheidt](#)
Cc: [Sam Evans](#)
Subject: RE: [External Email]GAP Project - Biological Assessment.
Date: Monday, July 22, 2024 1:04:41 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
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[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Spencer,

We're reaching out to our folks to see if there's any other conflicts with sharing a draft. I'll ask again if there's a specific resource you're interested in so I can ensure we share with you as much as I'm able.

I ought to have ought to have a draft document or an explanation by tomorrow, just need to run through a few folks.

Thanks hope to see you or one of your folks this evening.



Nicholas Larson
District Ranger

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Caring for the land and serving people

From: Spencer Scheidt <sscheidt@selcnc.org>
Sent: Monday, July 22, 2024 9:50 AM
To: Larson, Nicholas - FS, NC <nicholas.larson2@usda.gov>
Cc: Sam Evans <sevens@selcnc.org>
Subject: RE: [External Email]GAP Project - Biological Assessment.

Hi Nick,

Thanks for the quick response and detailed explanation. I guess the issue I'm having is that while reviewing the draft EA, I noticed it repeatedly relies on the BA "and says several times that there is more detail" in the BA and that effects on species are only "summarized" in the draft EA. I understand that the BA isn't in a final form quite yet, and I get that the Forest Service still needs to check in with NPS, but CEQ regs require agencies to make materials incorporated by reference "available for review" during the public comment period. 40 C.F.R. § 1501.12. Is there any way you could share the version of the BA that the draft EA relied on?

I totally understand that a lot of the information shared between the BA and draft EA is duplicative.

I'm just trying to do my due diligence to understand what, if anything, I might be missing so I can better comment on the proposal.

Thanks for your help.

Spencer Scheidt (he/him)
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From: Larson, Nicholas - FS, NC <nicholas.larson2@usda.gov>
Sent: Friday, July 19, 2024 10:23 AM
To: Spencer Scheidt <sscheidt@selcnc.org>
Cc: Sam Evans <sevens@selcnc.org>
Subject: RE: [External Email]GAP Project - Biological Assessment.

Hey, Spencer. Thanks for reaching out. I'll be here at the Grandfather meeting on Monday. Hopefully we see you there.

So, the Draft BA was just shared with FWS this week. NPS also wants some additional input/review since they're a cooperating agency. Unfortunately it will be deliberative until it's finalized. We expect that it will be available when the final EA/Draft Decision are out. The EA lists the species considered, summarizes the effects, and lists out the conservation measures/design features. Is there a particular species or measure that you're interested in? I might be able to address your concern with something I can share, as you know a lot of this info is duplicative, from a host of different sources, or I can give our folks ahead up as they are discussing the BA with FWS and NPS.

Thanks



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Caring for the land and serving people

From: Spencer Scheidt <sscheidt@selcnc.org>
Sent: Thursday, July 18, 2024 11:31 AM
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Cc: Sam Evans <sevens@selcnc.org>
Subject: [External Email]GAP Project - Biological Assessment.

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Hello Nick,

It was great to meet you in person the other day during the GAP fieldtrip outside of Hot Springs. I hope to see you at one of the upcoming open houses.

Quick question for you – the GAP draft EA refers to a Biological Assessment for the project quite a few times, but I can't seem to find it on the project page or on Pinyon. Any chance you could pass along a copy of that document when you get the chance?

Thanks for your help. I look forward to talking with you soon.

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