From:	Stewart, Joann
To:	Stewart, Joann
Subject:	FW: [EXTERNAL] City of Anacortes, Washington Optic Fiber Expansion Project - EDA Funded Grant Application
Date:	Monday, March 1, 2021 10:40:56 AM

From: McReynolds, Ryan <ryan_mcreynolds@fws.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 10:24 AM
To: Stewart, Joann <joanns@cityofanacortes.org>; WFWOCTAP, FW1 <wfwoctap@fws.gov>
Cc: Schuh, Emily <emilys@cityofanacortes.org>; McReynolds, Ryan <ryan_mcreynolds@fws.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] City of Anacortes, Washington Optic Fiber Expansion Project - EDA Funded Grant Application

Hello Ms. Stewart,

Your documents indicate the following:

<> All underground installation will be conducted in existing City transportation ROW's. No vegetation will be removed to accomplish this project.

<> The activities ... [include] (i) placement of new aerial fiber upon existing utility poles within existing transportation rights-of-way (ROW), (ii) placing approximately eight new underground vaults, (iii) placing a new fiber distribution cabinet enclosure on top of each underground vault, (iv) placing several dozen new, medium underground vaults and small underground handholes within existing transportation ROW, (v) placing new multi-port service terminals aerially and in the medium underground vaults, and (vi) placing new underground conduit and fiber within existing transportation ROW as well as private property. And,

<> There are no known wetlands ... Any portions of the project that may be within 200 feet of the Ordinary High Water Mark are either aerial or underground with no direct impact to the shoreline. There are no proposed overwater structures that could affect navigable waters. During construction, all best management practices for erosion control will be followed to insure no adverse impacts to the surrounding waters will occur.

Based on the proposed work, its locations and likely impacts, I see no potential for measurable effects to any listed species or designated critical habitat under FWS jurisdiction.

<u>Please keep records of your "no effect" determinations and provide them to Commerce/EDA</u>

... The Service has no authority or responsibility for concurring with "no effect" determinations, and we do not keep records of such.

Please let me know if you have questions.

Thank You, Regards,

--Ryan--

Ryan McReynolds
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Lacey WA
Consultation & Conservation Planning Division
Federal Activities / Coastal, Lowland Aquatics, and Marine
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Working with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people.

From: Stewart, Joann <joanns@cityofanacortes.org>
Sent: Friday, February 26, 2021 9:50 AM
To: McReynolds, Ryan <ryan_mcreynolds@fws.gov>; WFWOCTAP, FW1 <wfwoctap@fws.gov>
Cc: Schuh, Emily <emilys@cityofanacortes.org>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] City of Anacortes, Washington Optic Fiber Expansion Project - EDA Funded Grant Application

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The City of Anacortes is applying for a federal grant from the EDA (Economic Development Administration) and initially had a conversation with Larry Salata of the Portland, Oregon office back in September, 2020. Mr. Salata concurred over the phone that the project posed no significant effect upon wildlife but directed me to reach out to Emily Peachout to obtain a formal concurrence. I never

heard from Ms. Peachout.

The application is moving forward with the EDA and a requirement of this is to confirm that we have contacted FWS to ascertain concurrence or determine next steps if needed to address any issues with fish and wildlife.

We are working with a deadline and would appreciate input from your department on this project. Please contact me at your earliest convenience to let me know if you need any further information. Thank you.

Joann Stewart
City of Anacortes
Planning Community & Economic Development
P.O. Box 547
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360-293-1907 (work)
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From: Stewart, Joann
Sent: Tuesday, February 23, 2021 9:39 AM
To: teammillcreek@dfw.wa.gov
Subject: FW: EDA funded project within City of Anacortes

I am trying to get assistance on an environmental review for a project the City of Anacortes and while it was put on hold while further review was taking place, we are now ready to move forward. One of the requirements for the grant the city is applying for includes consultation with Fish and Wildlife to determine any effects on the wildlife in the area of the work being proposed.

I sent an inquiry to Emily Peachout back in September and never heard back from her or anyone else from F&W. Because this is now moving forward, can someone from your department provide input on the information outlined below? If you need further information, please let me know or if there is someone in particular I need to talk with, please forward that contract information. Thank you.

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From: Stewart, Joann
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 3:41 PM
To: 'emily.peachout@fws.gov' <emily.peachout@fws.gov>
Subject: EDA funded project within City of Anacortes

Hi Emily, I reached out to your offices and spoke with Larry Salata today about a proposed project the City of Anacortes is pursuing federal dollars to fund.

We are planning an expansion of high speed fiber connection though out the urban area of Anacortes and will apply for federal EDA (Economic Development Administration) funding to help this expansion. The project will consist of laying cable in already existing utility Right of Ways along existing street corridors through the main portions of the city. I am preparing the NEPA that is to be submitted with this application, which includes review/consultation with Fish and Wildlife to ensure the project will have no adverse effect on any species located in our area.

I have downloaded the species list from the US Fish & Wildlife Services that may be affected by this project and believe that there will be no effect upon any species listed. This project consists of digging along existing utilities on established streets within the city to lay cable and there will be no disturbances in areas that may be home to wildlife. No wooded areas or areas that have never been developed will be disturbed by this project. The areas closest to the waterways will be more than 200 feet from the Ordinary High Watermark and best management to avoid any discharge will be employed by the contractors.

I am attaching a map that provides the general distribution layout for the fiber. All of the areas colored brown with the Letter designation are the general distribution areas for this project. While some of the areas are along the waterfront, the fiber will be installed along existing utility corridors that already contain utilities and they will be installed more than 200 feet from the shoreline. Also, no wetlands will be disturbed in this process.

Please let me know if you have any questions and please let me know if you concur with our evaluation. Thank you.

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