



State of Washington
Department of Fish and Wildlife

Mailing Address: 1550 Alder St. NW, Ephrata, WA 98823
Main Office Location: Natural Resources Building, 1111 Washington St. SE Olympia WA

August 27, 2019

Surface Transportation Board
Attention: Adam Assenza
395 E. St., SW
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

Dear Mr. Assenza:

**SUBJECT: DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT, SURFACE
TRANSPROTATION BOARD DOCKET NO. FD 34936**

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) apologizes for submitting its comments for the Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment (DSEA) after the close of the comment period due to a notification error. WDFW hopes that its recommendations will be considered and added to the Final Supplemental Environmental Assessment for this project.

Revised Measure 9 in Chapter 6, page 6-2 states "The Port shall consult with the WDFW and comply with its applicable laws and regulations so that Project-related construction activities are conducted in a manner that avoids or minimizes impacts to birds and bats (e.g., roosting bald eagles, over-wintering waterfowl, migrating shorebirds, foraging bats, and nesting birds). WDFW's District 5 Wildlife Biologist, Sean Dougherty, consulted with representatives from Jacobs regarding potential impacts to nesting Clark's Grebes. During those discussions, Biologist Dougherty recommended remaining outside 300' of the stream channel from June 1st to September 1st to lessen or avoid potential impacts to nesting Clark's Grebe. WDFW would ask that this specified information be included in the Finalized Environmental Assessment for the protection of Clark's Grebe, a Washington State Candidate Species.

If you have any questions, please call me at (509) 754-4624 ext. 215.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Eric D. Pentico".

Eric D. Pentico
Area Habitat Biologist