

Huff, Daniel MVS

From: Cotner, Sharon R MVS
Sent: Thursday, July 21, 2011 3:03 PM
To: Huff, Daniel MVS; James, Vick L MVS
Subject: FW: Supplemental Noise Information for the Biological Assessment for the Proposed Remedial Action at the FUSRAP Areas of the Iowa Army Ammunition Plant, Middletown, Iowa (UNCLASSIFIED)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

Daniel and Vick,

FYI -- just so you know what's going on.

Thanks
Sharon

-----Original Message-----

From: Cotner, Sharon R MVS
Sent: Thursday, July 21, 2011 3:00 PM
To: michael_coffey@fws.gov; Frerker, Ron MVS; Cotner, Sharon R MVS
Subject: Supplemental Noise Information for the Biological Assessment for the Proposed Remedial Action at the FUSRAP Areas of the Iowa Army Ammunition Plant, Middletown, Iowa (UNCLASSIFIED)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

EMAIL FROM: USACE, St. Louis District - FUSRAP Office

Subject: Supplemental Noise Information for the Biological Assessment for the Proposed Remedial Action at the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program Areas of the Iowa Army Ammunition Plant (IAAAP), Middletown, Iowa

Mr. Coffey,

Per your request, we are providing the following supplemental information related to the subject Biological Assessment that USACE submitted to USFWS on June 17, 2011. This supplemental information provides additional information on expected noise associated with implementation of remedial actions at the Firing Sites Area of the Iowa Army Ammunition Plant. Should you have any questions, please contact me (314-260-3915) or Ron Frerker (314-260-3936.)

Sincerely,
Sharon Cotner
FUSRAP Program Manager

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION FOR BIOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT
(IAAAP)**

Potential noise disturbance, in addition to the ongoing regular testing of munitions that occurs at the FSA, would include noise from typical construction equipment used to excavate and sort soil, equipment used to construct temporary roads, and trucks used to transport soil. Generally, the overall noise level is dependent on several factors such as the amount and type of equipment in operation at a given time, the type, location, and level of activity being performed by the equipment, and wind direction. Caterpillar's website estimated that one tractor /scraper would produce a continuous noise level of approximately 110 decibels (dB). Additionally, as equipment is mobilized across the Firing Site 12 Area, the magnitude of noise will vary inversely with distance from the equipment relative to any potential roosting area within the FSA. In other words, decibel levels reached at a roosting area would decrease as distances from the equipment are increased. The decrease would not be linear because the decibel scale is logarithmic. For example, the 110-decibel level produced by a tractor /scraper would result in noise levels approximately equivalent to 90 dB, 76 dB, and 70 dB at distances of 10 meters, 50 meters, and 100 meters, respectively, from the source. A noise level of 76 dB is comparable to the sound of an automobile from a distance of 20 meters. A noise level of 70 dB is comparable to the noise level generated by the human voice during a conversation. It should be noted that most of the Firing Site 12 Area is open field and nearly devoid of trees, making the distance between the tree line and the center of the Firing Site 12 Area, where the majority of the remediation will occur, approximately 100 meters. In potential roosting areas, the impact of the additional noise from the construction equipment is considered minor relative to the ongoing regular testing of munitions at the adjacent Firing Site 6 Area. Considering the above factors, it is expected that the relative noise levels at any potential roosting area during active remediation periods would be low, and would not adversely affect the Indiana bat.

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