

**From:** [Westerman, Kile W \(DFW\)](#)  
**To:** [Owen, Melissa](#)  
**Subject:** RE: clarification re: PHS map polygons  
**Date:** Monday, August 26, 2024 10:47:53 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)  
[image005.jpg](#)

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[CAUTION - EXTERNAL EMAIL - Verify Sender]

Hi Melissa,

Thanks for reaching out to me about this. The bat polygons are pretty big, and really the only time that I would recommend a Habitat Management Plan for a development that is within those polygon is if there are old dilapidated buildings that are potential maternity roosts. Looking at this property and proposal I do not see any buildings. I don't know that I would suggest handing anything out for developments within the bat polygons as they are rather large and 99 percent of projects will not have any impacts. Again, the thing we are mainly concerned about are the maternity roosts which take place in old buildings or in attics, etc. Also, the Shrubsteppe layer is based on modeling and designed to be extra conservative (in terms of protection) and over identifies potential shrubsteppe habitat. The polygons that are near this development are mapped as presumptive and not actually shrubsteppe. So no HMP is being recommended by me (WDFW). I hope this helps answer your questions. Please let me know if you need more information.

Thanks,



**Kile Westerman**

Habitat Biologist, WDFW Habitat Division

2315 N Discovery Place  
Spokane Valley, WA 99216  
Office: 509-892-1001 ext.323  
Cell: 509-742-0529

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**From:** Owen, Melissa <mowen@spokanecity.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 23, 2024 2:15 PM  
**To:** Westerman, Kile W (DFW) <Kile.Westerman@dfw.wa.gov>  
**Subject:** clarification re: PHS map polygons

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## External Email

Kile,

I am working on a project (Ash Place Subdivision, Z23-587PPLT) where the city's GIS mapping does not include any priority habitat and species; however, when I use the PHS map I can see polygons for Big Brown Bat and Townsend's Big-eared Bat. The maps also show close proximity to Shrub-steppe at and around a nearby wetland. Can you tell me more about the bat polygons in particular? Is there any kind of recommended mitigation other than letting folks know that all species of bats are classified as protected wildlife and cannot be hunted, trapped, or killed (WAC 232-12011)? Should I include the living with bats handout from the WDDW website in the applicant materials? With more detail about the location of the project would you be able to identify if there were concerns about bat habitat at the project site? Thank you.

**Development Services Center is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday 8 am – 5 pm in person (11 am – 5 pm each Wednesday), [online](#) or over the phone at 509.625.6300!**



Melissa Owen | City of Spokane | Planning & Development Services  
509.625.6063 | [mowen@spokanecity.org](mailto:mowen@spokanecity.org)



**From:** [Westerman, Kile W \(DFW\)](#)  
**To:** [Owen, Melissa](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Liebhaber Comment on SEPA Application/Review Additional Attachment 4  
**Date:** Friday, February 21, 2025 10:03:17 AM  
**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)

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[CAUTION - EXTERNAL EMAIL - Verify Sender]

Hi Melissa,

Thanks for reaching out to me. While Rocky Mountain Mule Deer are a listed PHS species, that doesn't mean that everywhere a mule deer is spotted warrants protections. We rely on the PHS map that has identified critical areas or limiting factors associated with mule deer and may require a Habitat Management Plan (HMP) with possible mitigation etc. within those Identified polygons. The parcels in question, while I don't doubt that mule deer move in and out of that area is not an identified PHS critical area for mule deer. Which is not surprising being in the middle of the city. There is also no identified biodiversity area or corridor for that area. So no HMP would be triggered for the proposed development because it is not a critical or limiting factor for mule deer. Please let me know if you need more information.

Most current PHS map

[PHS on the Web](#)

Thanks,



**Kile Westerman**

Habitat Biologist, WDFW Habitat Division

2315 N Discovery Place  
Spokane Valley, WA 99216  
Office: 509-892-1001 ext.323  
Cell: 509-742-0529

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**From:** Owen, Melissa <mowen@spokanecity.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 21, 2025 9:23 AM  
**To:** Westerman, Kile W (DFW) <Kile.Westerman@dfw.wa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Liebhaber Comment on SEPA Application/Review Additional Attachment 4

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## External Email

Kile – sorry I missed one of the parcel numbers for the project when sending the email below. The Third parcel is Parcel Number 25014.4702 addressed as 3224 N ASH PL. Thank you.

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**From:** Owen, Melissa

**Sent:** Thursday, February 20, 2025 5:50 PM

**To:** Westerman, Kile W (DFW) <[Kile.Westerman@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:Kile.Westerman@dfw.wa.gov)>

**Subject:** FW: Liebhaber Comment on SEPA Application/Review Additional Attachment 4

Kile,

I am in receipt of the following items from a concerned neighbor related to Ash Place Preliminary Long Plat located at 25014.4701 and 25014.4207 addressed as 3230 and 3242 N ASH PL. I'm not sure where the Drumheller 9 labeled picture was taken (the fish and wildlife handout the neighbor included in their public comment indicates that the exact coordinates should be sent to WDFW). While I cannot confirm the location of the image sent, I'm hoping you can verify if the species is known in this area and/or if the project area is considered protected habitat for Rocky Mountain Mule Deer. The City's GIS layers does not include any priority habitat and species related to Rocky Mountain Mule Deer. Before we finalize the SEPA determination for this development, is there anything you would suggest related to the images we received as part of a public comment? Would the presence of Rocky Mountain Mule Deer result in the need for a habitat management plan.

Thank you.

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**From:** Anne Marie Liebhaber <[amliebhaber@gmail.com](mailto:amliebhaber@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, February 19, 2025 7:35 AM

**To:** Owen, Melissa <[mowen@spokanecity.org](mailto:mowen@spokanecity.org)>

**Subject:** Liebhaber Comment on SEPA Application/Review Additional Attachment 4

**[CAUTION - EXTERNAL EMAIL - Verify Sender]**

Please confirm receipt of this email that I inadvertently omitted in yesterday's email attachments.

Thank you.

Anne Marie Liebhaber