

**Subject:** RE: Safe Genes Meeting Follow-up and Thank You

**From:** "Shiels, Aaron B - APHIS" <Aaron.B.Shiels@aphis.usda.gov>

**Date:** 5/8/2017 1:08 PM

**To:** 'John Godwin' <godwin@ncsu.edu>, Royden Saah <royden.saah@islandconservation.org>, Karl Campbell <karl.campbell@islandconservation.org>, Gregg Howald <gregg.howald@islandconservation.org>, Heath Packard <heath.packard@islandconservation.org>, Alun Lloyd <alun\_lloyd@ncsu.edu>, "Piaggio, Antoinette J - APHIS" <Toni.J.Piaggio@aphis.usda.gov>, "Eisemann, John D - APHIS" <John.D.Eisemann@aphis.usda.gov>, Paul Thomas <paul.thomas@adelaide.edu.au>, "Owain Edwards (owain.edwards@csiro.au)" <owain.edwards@csiro.au>, peter.brown <Peter.Brown@csiro.au>, Jason Delborne <jadelbor@ncsu.edu>, Phill Cassey <phill.cassey@adelaide.edu.au>, "<Keith.Hayes@data61.csiro.au>" <Keith.Hayes@data61.csiro.au>, "David Threadgill" <dwthreadgill@tamu.edu>

**CC:** Derek Gatlin <derek\_gatlin@ncsu.edu>, Joanna Jones <jmjones4@ncsu.edu>, Fred Gould <fred\_gould@ncsu.edu>

Hi All,

Attached are my notes from the Safe Genes meeting in San Diego—I was only able to attend the first day (May 2, 2017). It was a very interesting meeting for me, and I really enjoyed meeting the others in attendance, especially from our team (John G, Owain, Paul, Jason). I also attach a scan of the Safe Genes schedule that they gave us upon arrival in San Diego.

Looking forward to working with you all.

Aaron

**Aaron B. Shiels, Ph.D.**

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**From:** John Godwin [mailto:godwin@ncsu.edu]

**Sent:** Monday, May 08, 2017 6:23 AM

**To:** Royden Saah <royden.saah@islandconservation.org>; Karl Campbell <karl.campbell@islandconservation.org>; Gregg Howald <gregg.howald@islandconservation.org>; Heath Packard <heath.packard@islandconservation.org>; Alun Lloyd <alun\_lloyd@ncsu.edu>; Piaggio, Antoinette J - APHIS <Toni.J.Piaggio@aphis.usda.gov>; Eisemann, John D - APHIS <John.D.Eisemann@aphis.usda.gov>; Shiels, Aaron B - APHIS <Aaron.B.Shiels@aphis.usda.gov>; Paul Thomas <paul.thomas@adelaide.edu.au>; Owain Edwards (owain.edwards@csiro.au) <owain.edwards@csiro.au>; peter.brown <Peter.Brown@csiro.au>; Jason Delborne <jadelbor@ncsu.edu>; Phill Cassey <phill.cassey@adelaide.edu.au>; <Keith.Hayes@data61.csiro.au> <Keith.Hayes@data61.csiro.au>; David Threadgill <dwthreadgill@tamu.edu>

**Cc:** Derek Gatlin <derek\_gatlin@ncsu.edu>; Joanna Jones <jmjones4@ncsu.edu>; Fred Gould <fred\_gould@ncsu.edu>

**Subject:** Fwd: Safe Genes Meeting Follow-up and Thank You

Hi All,

Please see the forwarded message below regarding announcement of the Safe Genes program from the program officer Renee Wegrzyn.

The meeting was good and I think it will be a good community to work with where we may benefit from significantly from advances in 'faster' systems than mice (flies, mozzies, and worms). I think there are plans to share the presentations from all the teams that are amenable to sharing those and will send those out as I receive them as well as any other program-related materials. I will also try to send a more detailed summary of the meeting when I get a chance (afraid we're into final exam week here and so need to dig my way out from under a pile of grading first). It would be great if others who were able to attend wanted to share thoughts they had on the meeting.

Rgds, John

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Wegrzyn, Renee** <[renee.wegrzyn@darpa.mil](mailto:renee.wegrzyn@darpa.mil)>

Date: Mon, May 8, 2017 at 6:22 AM

Subject: Safe Genes Meeting Follow-up and Thank You

To: "Wegrzyn, Renee" <[renee.wegrzyn@darpa.mil](mailto:renee.wegrzyn@darpa.mil)>

Cc: "Jenkins, Amy (contr-bto)" <[amy.jenkins.ctr@darpa.mil](mailto:amy.jenkins.ctr@darpa.mil)>, "Cheever, Anne (contr-bto)" <[anne.cheever.ctr@darpa.mil](mailto:anne.cheever.ctr@darpa.mil)>, "Lee, Andrew [USA]" <[Lee\\_Andrew@bah.com](mailto:Lee_Andrew@bah.com)>, "Parr, Lianne (contr-bto)" <[lianne.parr.ctr@darpa.mil](mailto:lianne.parr.ctr@darpa.mil)>, Sarah Carter <[carter@sciencepolicyconsulting.com](mailto:carter@sciencepolicyconsulting.com)>, "Stoddard, Colby (contr-bto)" <[colby.stoddard.ctr@darpa.mil](mailto:colby.stoddard.ctr@darpa.mil)>

Dear Safe Genes community,

I wanted to thank you all for an incredibly productive Kick-Off meeting last week, and I look forward to working with all of you as the individual efforts get underway. If you have any feedback you would like to share with me or the team, please feel free to reach out.

The first contracts were executed for the program last week. As Safe Genes contracts are awarded, you may see news items about those awards. DARPA is required by law to inform Congress about awards over \$7 million as they are issued, and these announcements are made on a public Defense Department website that is actively watched by reporters and others. Even smaller awards are often posted on a relatively obscure government website that some reporters track.

Despite this, our plan is still to make a coordinated announcement of the Safe Genes kickoff only after all of the contracts are in place, and I ask for your continued cooperation in holding off on media engagement. If your institution is contacted by a reporter about an award, you may confirm the contract, but please politely decline any additional queries and refer the reporter to DARPA Public Affairs ([outreach@darpa.mil](mailto:outreach@darpa.mil)) for additional information. We will limit the information we give out to previously published content (i.e., the Broad Agency Announcement, our program description, initial announcement soliciting proposals) until the press release is issued.

Thank you!

Renee

Renee D Wegrzyn, PhD  
Program Manager  
DARPA Biological Technologies Office  
[Renee.wegrzyn@darpa.mil](mailto:Renee.wegrzyn@darpa.mil)

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—Attachments:—

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| AS notes on DARPA Safe Genes rollout San Diego May 2 2017.docx | 15.3 KB |
| DARPA safe genes schedule for May2-4 2017 rollout.pdf          | 871 KB  |