From: Noreen Walsh
To: Katie Kalinowski
Subject: RE: GRSG: Greater sage-grouse rangewide mitigation framework
Date: Thursday, September 04, 2014 9:47:55 AM

Thanks so much Katie.

Noreen Walsh
Regional Director
Mountain-Prairie Region
U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service

303 236 7920

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From: Katie Kalinowski [mailto:kkalinowski@westgov.org]
Sent: Thursday, September 04, 2014 9:47 AM
To: Noreen Walsh
Subject: RE: GRSG: Greater sage-grouse rangewide mitigation framework

Sure thing, Noreen, I'll get this out right now.

Thanks,
Katie

From: Noreen Walsh [mailto:noreen_walsh@fws.gov]
Sent: Thursday, September 4, 2014 9:35 AM
To: Katie Kalinowski
Subject: GRSG: Greater sage-grouse rangewide mitigation framework

Katie, could you please assist with transmitting this to the current mailing list for the Task Force? Many thanks,
Noreen

Dear Sage-grouse Task Force,

At the request of partners, last year the Service developed and circulated a draft of a Greater Sage-Grouse Range-Wide Mitigation Framework. We have revised the draft and it is attached here for your use. The purpose of this document is to communicate some of the factors the Service is likely to consider in evaluating the efficacy of mitigation practices and programs

in reducing threats to sage-grouse as we make a decision about whether to propose the species for listing under the ESA.

The Greater Sage-Grouse Range-Wide Mitigation Framework provides mitigation principles, standards and general sideboards that can assist in addressing the primary threats of habitat loss/fragmentation and inadequate regulatory mechanisms. This document is intended to share our recommendations about a successful mitigation framework and it is subject to modification as new information on sage-grouse science or mitigation policies emerge.

We understand that state wildlife agencies have management expertise, authority, and responsibility for sage-grouse conservation in their respective jurisdictions and that private and public land managers have management expertise and authority for sage-grouse habitat conservation. Coordination among federal, state and local agencies, tribes, and stakeholders in forming landscape-scale strategies which include mitigation processes is vital. The Service believes there is no one right or correct design for a mitigation program, but that the principles and recommendations in this Framework can promote effective mitigation programs across the species' range, while providing for some degree of local flexibility.

Thank you very much,

Noreen

Noreen Walsh
Regional Director
Mountain-Prairie Region
U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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