From: Amy Lueders
To: Theresa Rabot; Matt Kales; Noreen Walsh; Ren Lohoefener
Cc: Richard Hannan
Subject: RE: GRSG Fwd: Final FIAT Protocol
Date: Monday, June 16, 2014 1:37:38 PM

I visited with Joe Tague re: Jesse's two remaining concerns. I have attached his response below. I do think it is important to get started with doing the assessments themselves, working together with all the appropriate federal and state agencies, and working out the kinks at that level. I think it is important that we launch the IM to start that process. Let me know if you all have additional questions

Thanks

Amy

1. PAC maps split at State boundaries (affecting the prioritization)

The PACs were not used in the prioritization. They were used to identify which administrative units would be involved in doing the assessment. The prioritization was done to locate the focal location within the 75% breeding bird density areas with over 65% sagebrush cover and low resistance to cheatgrass and low resiliency to wildfire. The draft IM identifies the lead state for each focal area and provides direction to coordinate across jurisdictional boundaries (agency and states).

2. Additional focus on areas on the dryer end of moderate resistance and resilience.

The FIA Team's charge was to identify the highest priority areas to take action with limited resources. As a result, the FIAT report only identified approximately 6 million acres for initial action. The goal would be to move to the next highest risk areas after the initial priorities have been addressed. Over time, all areas should be assessed. During Step 3 and project implementation, the project area should include adjoining areas that need to treated to protect the focal areas and provide the complete life cycle needs for sage-grouse.

From: Theresa Rabot [mailto:theresa_rabot@fws.gov]
Sent: Friday, June 13, 2014 6:03 PM
To: Amy Lueders; Matt Kales; Noreen Walsh; Ren Lohoefener
Cc: Richard Hannan
Subject: Fwd: GRSG Fwd: Final FIAT Protocol

Jesse's report out on fiat concerns. Any suggestions on how to resolve?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** "DElia, Jesse" <jesse_delia@fws.gov>
> **To:** Theresa Rabot <Theresa_Rabot@fws.gov>
> **Cc:** Ted Koch <ted_koch@fws.gov>, Dawn Davis <dawn_davis@fws.gov>, Mike Gregg <mike_gregg@fws.gov>, Cyndi Sidles <cyndi_sidles@fws.gov>, Jason Pyron <jason_pyron@fws.gov>, Kevin Doherty

<kevin_doherty@fws.gov>, Michael Carrier <michael_carrier@fws.gov>, Todd Hopkins <todd_hopkins@fws.gov>, Kathy Hollar <kathy_hollar@fws.gov>
Subject: Re: GRSG Fwd: Final FIAT Protocol

Hi Terry,

I went back and looked at the report and the prioritization is definitely still affected by the PAC mapping and the issue is propagated through the report.

Here is one example from the final report that shows how the Northern/Western Great Basin polygon in southeastern Oregon (white area in the map below) was removed from the priority PAC (because it was split from the western great basin polygon in Nevada, and the Northern Great basin polygon in Idaho, Oregon, and Nevada). Northwest Utah is also still affecting by splitting the PACs at State lines. The tables in the report also continue to show that this issue has not been resolved.

[image: Inline image 2]

On Fri, Jun 13, 2014 at 9:49 AM, Theresa Rabot <Theresa_Rabot@fws.gov> wrote:

Jesse –

> The SGTF was briefed on the report, and Matt's impression from that briefing was that all was resolved. Also, Amy believes that while the one map shows the state boundary, the prioritization process used a different mapping protocol thus mooting the concern. Of course none of us on the phone had read the report……..can you tell if it's just the map that hasn't changed but the ranking has been fixed? If that's the case are we still concerned?
>
> And we still need to pursue item 2

From: DElia, Jesse [mailto:jesse_delia@fws.gov]

Sent: Thursday, June 12, 2014 2:25 PM

To: Theresa Rabot; Ted Koch; Dawn Davis; Mike Gregg; Cyndi Sidles;

Jason Pyron; Kevin Doherty; Michael Carrier; Todd Hopkins; Kathy Hollar

Subject: GRSG Fwd: Final FIAT Protocol

FYI - received this late yesterday. Does not appear to address our 2 outstanding concerns relayed to Mike P. a couple of weeks ago:

1. PAC maps split at State boundaries (affecting the prioritization)

2. Additional focus on areas on the dryer end of moderate resistance and

resilience.

Jesse

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

From: *Pellant, Michael* <mpellant@blm.gov>

Date: Wed, Jun 11, 2014 at 7:01 PM

Subject: Final FIAT Protocol

To: Todd Hopkins <todd_hopkins@fws.gov>, Amarina Wuenschel <

awuenschel@thegreatbasininstitute.org>, Chad Boyd <

chad.boyd@oregonstate.edu>, Clinton McCarthy <cmccarth01@gmail.com>,

"David A. Pyke" <david_a_pyke@usgs.gov>, Douglas W Havlina <

dhavlina@blm.gov>, Jeanne Chambers <jchambers@fs.fed.us>, Jeremy Maestas <

jeremy.maestas@or.usda.gov>, Lou Ballard <lou_ballard@fws.gov>, Melvin

Tague <jtague@blm.gov>, Mike Gregg <mike_gregg@fws.gov>, Randall Sharp <

sharphay@att.net>, Steve Knick <sknick@eagle.boisestate.edu>, Timothy J

-FS Metzger <tmetzger@fs.fed.us>, Tom Rinkes <rinkes.t@gmail.com>,

cmark@fs.fed.us, Chris Theisen <ctheisen@fs.fed.us>, David Repass <

drepass@blm.gov>, Glen -FS Stein <gstein@fs.fed.us>, Jesse DElia <

jesse_delia@fws.gov>, Ken Collum <kcollum@blm.gov>, Krista Gollnick <

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polwell@blm.gov>, Tate Fischer <tfischer@blm.gov>,

don.kemner@idfg.idaho.gov

Cc: Jason Pyron <jason_pyron@fws.gov>

Good evening:

The final FIAT protocol is attached in the two pdf files that follow. Due

to file size, the protocol document is in one file and the appendices are

in the other. We are considering this version as final pending review and

input by the National Sage-grouse Policy Team (NPT). Since the NPT has not

has not been briefed on this product yet, we would appreciate if you do not

distribute at this time. A request has been submitted to the NPT for a

briefing in the very near future. Once that briefing occurs and the NPT

approves distribution, we will let you know.

The supporting scientific reference for this protocol, *"Using Resistance

and Resilience Concepts to Reduce Impacts of Invasive Annual Grasses and

Altered Fire Regimes on the Sagebrush Ecosystem and Greater Sage-Grouse – A

Strategic Multi-scale Approach*" by Chambers et al. is in press as a

Forest Service General Technical Report. A link to this document will be

inserted into the FIAT protocol within a week or so. If you want a pdf of

the Technical Report, please let me know and I will email it to you.

We appreciate your assistance in this important project. Although not

every comment could be incorporated, we tried to capture as much of this

input as was feasible. We are working on how to implement the protocol

with NPT input and will keep you informed of future tasks that may be

required from either the Development or Review Teams. It has been a

pleasure working with all of you!

--

Mike Pellant

Great Basin Ecologist

BLM,

1387 S. Vinnell Way, Boise, ID 83709

208-373-3823, mpellant@blm.gov

http://www.blm.gov/id/st/en/environmental_education/science-research/gbri.html

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Jesse D'Elia

Candidate Species Conservation Coordinator

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U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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