From:	James Lyons
To:	Steven Ellis
Cc:	Sarah Greenberger
Bcc:	noreen_walsh@fws.gov
Subject:	Re: New BLM language on sage-grouse
Date:	Wednesday, February 18, 2015 5:50:39 AM

Steve and Sarah -

I would be VERY careful messaging that we are meeting with the states to review and "tailor" management direction to meet their needs.

We've done that once. But the more we signal a willingness to rework language to meet each states needs, the more each state will want more fixes.

It is a never ending cycle and sending out. Chapter "two" for guidance to clarify the original guidance will require us to sit down AGAIN and review all the guidance. Worse, it will necessitate that FWS and FS join in that discussion.

We have worked with the states and our plans are largely built off of what they wanted as a starting point.

This idea of sending out a chapter two with new guidance based on individual conversations with individuals in the states is fraught with peril.

We need to discuss this before the Secretary says anything about revised guidance to the states and commitments are made to make changes to meet individual needs.

Remember that we are trying to manage across a landscape and it means that the BLM and the states need to work to provide more certainty to FWS that we will honor prior commitments to address the threats to the bird and provide FWS with certainty.

We need to discuss first thing Monday before any new guidance is contemplated or goes out. And we need to agree on a process for considering ANY changes to state guidance that involves FWS an FS.

Jim

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 18, 2015, at 5:33 AM, Steven Ellis <sellis@blm.gov> wrote:

> Sent from my iPhone
>
> Begin forwarded message:

From: Katie Kalinowski <kkalinowski@westgov.org>
Date: February 17, 2015 at 12:21:13 PM PST
To: "Carman, Stephanie" <scarman@blm.gov>
Cc: "Edwin Roberson (eroberso@blm.gov)" <eroberso@blm.gov>, Steve Ellis <sellis@blm.gov>
Subject: RE: New BLM language on sage-grouse

Hi Stephanie,

Thanks for this additional clarification. I'll relay this to the states so they are all on the same page about where your process stands and when you expect to meet with the Governors' representatives/states again on the language. If I get additional questions from the Governors' offices, I'll reach out to you by phone or email.

Regards,
Katie

From: Carman, Stephanie [mailto:scarman@blm.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, February 17, 2015 1:04 PM
To: Katie Kalinowski
Cc: Edwin Roberson (eroberso@blm.gov); Steve Ellis
Subject: Re: New BLM language on sage-grouse

Hi Katie -
On the key issues, each BLM office received "personalized" direction, with the overview that Ed provided being the "norm". Much of it is the same; for instance, nearly all states, with the exception of WY, are NSO without exception in the SFAs. But, there seems to always be an exception, depending on the topic. For instance, ID has a difference method for calculating disturbance than the other states, Wyoming has its Core Strategy, Utah has some General Habitat exceptions. These exceptions were worked out in consultation with the state and the state BLM office, as well as FWS and FS, and provided in the "personalized" direction.

Since the "key issues" were distributed, we have been working on some other issues, which again, while generally consistent, are sometimes being tailored to the individual states. Discussion are on-going, as we continue to strive for consistency and certainty, while respecting the individual state efforts.

We anticipate having language/"Chapter Two" completed in the next two weeks, after which our state directors are planning to meet specifically with Governor's representatives/states to discuss them in detail.

Does that clarify? Would it be easier to talk about this? I am available at 202 380 7421.

Thanks,
Stephanie

Stephanie Carman
Bureau of Land Management
Sage-Grouse Project Coordinator (Acting)
office 202-208-3408
mobile 202-380-7421
scarman@blm.gov

On Tue, Feb 17, 2015 at 2:49 PM, Katie Kalinowski <kkalinowski@westgov.org> wrote:

Hi Stephanie,

It is my understanding that states are getting language specific to their states based off of the big picture that Ed laid out at the January task force meeting. I heard from the Idaho Governor's office that it received new language from BLM-DC that differed from language it had reached agreement on with its state task force and the Idaho BLM offices. Now the states are asking me which states got new language—North Dakota, for instance, was not sure if BLM-DC has/will provide new language from what was already written with the state and MT BLM offices.

It would be helpful if I can relay which states received new language, or should expect to receive it, so the states can coordinate on their review and response.

Thanks for connecting with Ed about posting BLM's response to the WGA inventory when you are back in the office tomorrow.

Regards,
Katie

From: Carman, Stephanie [mailto:scarman@blm.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, February 17, 2015 12:33 PM
To: Katie Kalinowski
Cc: Edwin Roberson (eroberso@blm.gov); Steve Ellis
Subject: Re: New BLM language on sage-grouse

Hi Katie -
The Land Use Plans are complex and covering a wide variety of topics. We presented some of the "big issues" at the meeting in January to the WGA Task Force, but there are many others remaining. We have continued to develop guidance and language for the EISs, based on discussions and decisions from the federal family and other meetings, and the process will continue as we near the publication dates. For instance, last week we were working on language regarding land retention and recreational facilities, and the

process for tribal consultation. While we are striving for consistency across the BLM, and as discussed with our federal, state, and other partners, there are differences between the states and correspondingly in the EISs under development.

Are there specific concerns that you are hearing which we can address?

I apologize for not getting to your request on publishing the BLM's response to the WGA inventory. I have been out of the office, but will follow up with Ed on this first thing tomorrow.

Stephanie

Stephanie Carman
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scarman@blm.gov

On Tue, Feb 17, 2015 at 2:06 PM, Katie Kalinowski <kkalinowski@westgov.org> wrote:
Stephanie,

I've heard from some of the sage-grouse states that they received new language from BLM last week that is meant to be inserted in their individual EISs. However, there is some confusion about whether just some of the states got new language or all of them did. Can you verify for me which states received the new language and why it was sent to them?

Also, any answer on whether it is OK to post BLM's response to the WGA sage-grouse inventory on our website?

Thanks,
Katie

Katie Kalinowski
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