From: Ashe, Dan
To: James Lyons
Cc: Michael Bean; Robert Dreher; Noreen Walsh
Subject: Re: GRSG: BLM-FWS Rollup
Date: Saturday, June 21, 2014 3:35:19 PM

Happy to discuss on Monday, Jim. FWS will be a partner/participant in the effort. I believe it's important that we maintain a more objective stance as to the process and especially the outcome/conclusions of the rollup. Those should be the views of BLM/USFS/States who are doing the roll up, as informed by the FWS.

I'm in the office Monday. Enjoy your weekend also.

Dan.

On Sat, Jun 21, 2014 at 2:37 PM, James Lyons <james_lyons@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

> Glad to discuss Dan. I think it's a mistake not to be part of
> circulating a memo that simply describes the process for bringing the
> land management agencies and the states together to compare notes.
> Unless there is a legal reason for not signing on, the noticeable
> absence of FWS as a partner in this collaborative effort -- with all
> the necessary caveats re: FWS role -- it is likely to fuel speculation
> that FWS has made up its mind and is pulling back from the excellent
> and unprecedented partnership we've had thus far.
>
> We should discuss further on Monday.
>
> Enjoy the rest of your weekend,
>
> Jim
>
> Sent from my iPhone
>
> > On Jun 21, 2014, at 11:39 AM, Dan Ashe <d_m_ashe@fws.gov> wrote:
> >
> > Jim, I've had several discussions about this issue over the past two
> > weeks. I have serious concern about direct USFWS sponsorship of the
> > rollup process. We are participating -- happily -- as a technical
> > advisor to make sure BLM and USFS (and participating states) have the
> > benefit of our views as they finalize, roll up and analyze the
> > cumulative conservation effect of their respective plans. We think
> > this will be a crucial effort. It will provide key information to the
> > planning process, it will help build a foundation for the cumulative
> > analysis that must underlie and inform our listing decision, and we
> > will participate enthusiastically.
> >
> > However, we need to maintain a healthy separation. This is a BLM/USFS
> > (and hopefully states) exercise to help inform the final stages of
> > their planning efforts. We are a participant, at their request. We are
> > not running it, and I want to make sure that we are not put in the
> > awkward position of "endorsing" the outcome, lest this be viewed as a

> preview of our listing decision, which it is not.
>
> My position is that the draft letter which you circulated this past
> week should come from BLM and USFS (and the states if they so decide).
> The FWS will not be a signatory to the letter.
>
> Dan.
>
> Dan Ashe
> Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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Dan Ashe
Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service