From:	Burgess, Angela
To:	Matt Kales
Cc:	Kathy Hollar; Paul Henson; Jeff Everett; Pat Deibert; Mary Grim; Jesse DElia; Theresa Rabot; Dawn Davis; Holly Freifeld
Subject:	Re: FW: GRSG: working agenda for 3/5 NRCS-FWS coordination meeting
Date:	Thursday, March 05, 2015 12:25:49 PM
Attachments:	GRSG SGI CCAA predictabilityassurances language.docx

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Hi All - apologies for not providing this to you before the meeting.

Angela Burgess
Fish and Wildlife Biologist
Mountain Prairie Region - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
134 Union Blvd., Lakewood, Colorado 80228
303-236-4263
angela_burgess@fws.gov

On Thu, Mar 5, 2015 at 1:22 PM, Matt Kales <matt_kales@fws.gov> wrote:

> Ah, yes: Angela's draft language. Asking her to please e-mail same to you and the others copied here now if she can. We'll resume at 130 pm MST on the phone. Hope this meeting is helpful for you all.
>
> **From:** Hollar, Kathy [mailto:kathy_hollar@fws.gov]
> **Sent:** Thursday, March 05, 2015 11:09 AM
> **To:** Matt Kales
> **Cc:** Paul Henson
> **Subject:** Re: FW: GRSG: working agenda for 3/5 NRCS-FWS coordination meeting
>
> Thanks Matt, we did get this, but I thought I heard you were all looking at a handout?
>
> *Kathy Hollar*
> 503-231-6156 office
> 503-961-3993 cell

On Thu, Mar 5, 2015 at 10:05 AM, Matt Kales <matt_kales@fws.gov> wrote:

Sorry if you didn't get this through other channels earlier. Holler with other questions. Thanks.

From: Matt Kales [mailto:matt_kales@fws.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, March 04, 2015 10:27 AM
To: 'Griffiths, Tim - NRCS, Bozeman, MT'; 'Naugle, Dave'; 'GroganStewart, Julie - Washington, DC'; 'Hall, Galon - NRCS, Washington, DC'; Michael Thabault; Nicole Alt; Pat Deibert; Theresa Rabot; Jesse DElia; Holly Freifeld; Mary Grim; Lief Wiechman; Kevin Doherty; Will Meeks; Heather Johnson
Cc: 'Lowenfish, Martin - NRCS, Washington, DC'; dave_w_smith@fws.gov; Noreen Walsh; Ren Lohoefener; Richard Hannan; Kate Norman; Kristine Martin; Trina Vigil
Subject: RE: GRSG: working agenda for 3/5 NRCS-FWS coordination meeting

Folks,

I hope this finds everyone well. Please see attached a working agenda for our meeting tomorrow. Tim, I'd be grateful if you'd please distribute this information for the other NRCS participants not copied here.

For those of you who are guests at the FWS' Regional Office, we'll have staff at the front door of our office at 134 Union Boulevard who will admit you and direct you to the 4th floor Migratory Birds conference room. We'll have coffee on and would appreciate everyone getting settled before 9 am so we can start on time.

Here are instructions for the webinar portion of the meeting. For those of you participating remotely, when the webinar concludes, please remain on the telephone line, which we'll use to connect you for the balance the meeting:

Attendee: https://www.livemeeting.com/cc/mmancusa/join?id=4HZP52&role=attend&pw=AttendRec

Presenter: https://www.livemeeting.com/cc/mmancusa/join?id=4HZP52&role=present&pw=PresenterRec

Call in number: 1(877) 710-2834

Participant Code: 23589171

A list of participating FWS staff follows. Please let me know if anyone has any immediate questions and we look forward to seeing everyone tomorrow for what we anticipate will be a productive discussion.

Thanks.

Matt

Mike Thabault/ARD-ES (Region 6)

Nicole Alt/DARD-ES (Region 6)

Will Meeks, ARD-NWRS&PFW (Region 6)

Heather Johnson, Regional Coordinator, PFW (Region 6)

Pat Deibert (National GrSG Conservation Coordinator) – by phone

Terry Rabot, ARD-ES (Region 1) – by phone

Jesse D'Elia, Candidate Species Conservation Coordinator (Region 1) – by phone

Holly Freifeld, F&W Biologist (Region 1) – by phone

Mary Grim, Regional Sage-Grouse Coordinator (Region 8) – by phone

Angela Burgess, F&W Biologist (Region 6)

Lief Wiechman, Sage-Grouse Ecologist (Region 6)

Kevin Doherty, Spatial Ecologist (Region 6)

Matt Kales, Senior Advisor for GrSG Conservation (GrSG)

From: Griffiths, Tim - NRCS, Bozeman, MT [mailto:Tim.Griffiths@mt.usda.gov]
Sent: Thursday, February 26, 2015 12:29 AM
To: Matt Kales
Cc: Naugle, Dave; Michael Thabault; Nicole Alt; Pat Deibert; Will Meeks; Heather Johnson; dave_w_smith@fws.gov; GroganStewart, Julie - Washington, DC; Hall, Galon - NRCS, Washington, DC; Lowenfish, Martin - NRCS, Washington, DC

Subject: Re: GRSG: draft agenda for 3/5 NRCS meeting

Matt,

This agenda looks good to us, thanks for putting it together. We are looking forward to the meeting and will be bringing the following representatives:

Astor Boozer, RC West

Julie Grogan-Stewart, NRCS Deputy Chief of Staff

Astrid Martinez, STC WY

Ron Alvarado, STC OR

Ray Dotson, Acting STC MT

Tim Griffiths, SGI Coordinator

Dave Naugle, SGI Science Advisor

Seth Gallagher, IWJV

Jeremy Maestas, State Biologist, OR

Brian Jensen, State Biologist, WY

Galon Hall, WLFW Coordinator

The only remaining question we have is are the other FWS regions (1 and 8) also going to be joining via VTC? I had assumed that was the case but want to clarify.

Again, we're looking forward to the meeting and will see you next week.

Tim

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 25, 2015, at 10:54 AM, Matt Kales <matt_kales@fws.gov> wrote:

Tim,

Hope you are doing well. Please see attached a draft agenda for our meeting next week. Please review and let me know if you have revisions. Please note I included a placeholder for your roster. A few notes on the meeting:

- We have a conference room that accommodates ~20 folks. We'll have VTC capability and a laptop projector. I anticipate 7 or so FWS folks in person and roughly ½ again that number via VTC and/or phone. In terms of our actual roster, you can expect the folks copied here, plus our other ARDs-ES (or their representatives); and key members of our technical team.
- I put the spatial data items first on the agenda be: I think we are close to tying those off and am hopeful we can spend the balance of the day working through remaining questions re: CCAAs.
- Noreen is flying back from UT that morning and has a Colorado River Recovery Program executive meeting that afternoon but will try her best to join in between those commitments.

Thanks in advance for your review and reply and we look forward to seeing you all next week here in Denver.

Matt

<FWS.GrSG.March 2015 NRCS meeting agenda.draft 022514.docx>

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USFWS Draft Language on SGI Predictability and CCAA Assurances
3/4/2015

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) produced a conference report in which NRCS and the Service conducted in-depth analysis of the effects of 40 conservation practices implemented by SGI on GRSG, agreed on the impacts, conditioned the conservation practices to avoid or minimize impacts, and concluded that the conditioned practices would be beneficial to the species and should not require additional conservation measures. The conference report with NRCS provides flexibility to modify conservation practices in the future through informal or formal consultation with the Service. Should the species be listed, enrolled landowners will have predictability that they will be exempt from any incidental take that may be caused by implementation and maintenance of the NRCS practices covered by the conference report and conservation measures identified in their conservation plan. In the unlikely event that the NRCS and the Service modifies those practices in the future, landowners who are already enrolled will continue to have predictability for previously agreed upon SGI conservation practices. Additionally, if they choose, landowners may request inclusion and predictability for any SGI conservation practices that have been vetted through the consultation process.

The assurances provided by CCAAs are based on ESA regulations and are provided directly to the non-Federal landowners who agree to voluntarily take specific conservation actions for candidate species. As long as landowners properly implement the conservation actions in the CCAA, they receive an incidental take permit and assurances that no additional conservation measures will be required by the Service for covered activities if the species becomes listed in the future. No additional land, water, or resource restrictions would be put into place for the covered activities beyond what is included in the CCAA.

From a landowner's perspective, predictability from SGI and assurances from CCAAs result in exemption from incidental take under the ESA for practices/activities identified if the species becomes listed. Predictability is provided for the SGI conservation practices covered under the conference report for SGI participants. Assurances are provided for all covered activities described in a CCAA.