From: Davis, Dawn
To: Ted Koch
Subject: Re: FIAT project priorities & rankings
Date: Tuesday, March 17, 2015 7:59:50 AM

No, this is the first I had heard of a separate team that is working on prioritization.

On Tue, Mar 17, 2015 at 7:55 AM, Ted Koch <ted_koch@fws.gov> wrote:

Dawn-

FYI. Are you plugged into or aware of this work planning effort?

Ted

Ted Koch
Field Supervisor
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Begin forwarded message:

From: "Pollet, Jolie" <jpollet@blm.gov>
Date: March 17, 2015 at 7:17:29 AM PDT
To: "Havlina, Douglas" <dhavlina@blm.gov>
Cc: Ted Koch <ted_koch@fws.gov>, Michael Pellant <mpellant@blm.gov>
Subject: Re: FIAT project priorities & rankings

Ted/Doug -

We are working on developing methods to prioritize the PPAs nationally to help us plan an overall budget and plan of work for FY16-17, as well as begin initiation of high-priority work that's ready to go in FY15 ($3M dedicated to initiate FIAT assessment work in FY15). Once we have some options sorted out, we intend to collaborate with FWS and NRCS on developing priorities.

Steve Small, Joe Tague and I are working together on developing preliminary options for prioritizing PPAs nationally. Let me know if you'd like more info.

Thanks.

Jolie

Jolie Pollet
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On Tue, Mar 17, 2015 at 7:34 AM, Havlina, Douglas <dhavlina@blm.gov> wrote:

Hi Ted:

Thank you for your continued engagement in all things FIAT, and for considering "so what happens now?" as the assessments approach completion.

One realm where the teams doubled down their efforts was in refining the priorities. In spite of that refinement, there are still daunting challenges relative to where to start eating the elephant. Other smart minds within BLM have been pondering this very issue, and so I will defer to one of them.....my supervisor Jolie Pollet. She has been engaged in a working group which is considering how to approach the planning, prioritization, and funding of PPAs. Some of the questions you pose in your email are kind of technical, such as which projects within a PPA are implemented first. I will let Jolie weigh in with the vision which her team is developing.

Finally, I will conclude by offering that Jolie's team does intend to include the Service in how the prioritization/implementation of treatments actually occurs. With that, I'll let you two collaborate further.

thanks, Doug

On Mon, Mar 16, 2015 at 4:00 PM, Ted Koch <ted_koch@fws.gov> wrote:

> Doug and Mike-
>
> I participated in the Southern Great Basin FIAT briefing on Friday that Sandy Gregory gave to Amy Lueders, the Forest Service and I. It generally looks good. In fact, I'd say we've come a long way fast.
>
> There seemed to be a relatively high proportion (50% to 88%?) of actions that were "First Priority" in the 20 Project Planning Areas (PPAs). We wondered how to then prioritize among those. I heard this morning there may be a subsequent "ranking" of projects within each PPA and/or FIAT Team. Do you know if this ranking will occur for all FIAT Teams? If so, would this be a place to say, for example, that surveying for cheatgrass and acting to suppress it would be a higher priority – in some areas, possibly – than other actions?
>
> I'm concerned that if a fuel break project, a PJ removal project, and surveying for and treating cheatgrass all show up as a "First Priority" in a PPA, it'll be tempting to do the fuel break and/or PJ removal first because

we are more familiar with those kinds of projects, or they'll give us a quicker "win" compared to the harder, more uncertain road of surveying for and figuring out how to deal with cheatgrass successfully.

Thanks,

Ted

Ted Koch

Field Supervisor, Reno FWO

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