From: Gardetto, Jessica
To: Harris, Anna
Subject: Re: Questions
Date: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 1:31:37 PM

Thank you so much for the information Anna!

Oh whew, I remember what it's like to have the Secretary/Political visit...it's a LOT of work and you feel exhausted at the end. I'm glad it all went well for you.

The fact that FWS has three SG PAOs will definitely help me sell this to our leadership in DC, so thanks a TON for your help! We should have hired SG PAOs about four years ago. Ha.

Also, thanks for the information on the IJNR tour. I'll see if my supervisor wants me to see about attending, if he wants to, etc.

I hope you are doing well and keeping your head above water! Thanks again and take care!

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On Tue, Mar 31, 2015 at 2:03 PM, Harris, Anna <anna_harris@fws.gov> wrote:

> Hi Jessica,
>
> SORRY for the late reply to your questions-- we had the Oregon Governor and Secretary of Interior out here in Oregon last week, so needless to say, things were pretty hectic in sage grouse world!! Event went really well though,
>
> 1) We have 3 Public Affairs Officers dedicated to Sage grouse: each of us have a unique set of skills, and I think it really helps our approach (1 PAO has a background in journalism, 1 runs the social media on sage grouse, and 1 is a film-maker and able to create short, effective videos). That being said, you can definitely say USFWS hired 3 PAOs just for

sage grouse communications!!

2) IJNR... I'm no longer going on the tour, but Leith Edgar, our Idaho PAO does plan to be in the field with the journalists on April 11th (that's when they will be in Idaho). Check with Leith on whether or not he needs any help, or maybe you can join him for the Idaho portion of the tour? just a thought,

3) WOULD LOVE to take you up on all things sage-grouse and fire!! Once things "cool" down a little from last weeks events, lets plan to catch up,

hope this helps!

all the best,
Anna

On Wed, Mar 25, 2015 at 2:03 PM, Gardetto, Jessica <jdgardetto@blm.gov> wrote:

Hi Anna,

How are you doing? I bet you're very busy with sage-grouse madness, so I'll try to keep this short.

I have two quick questions that I'm hoping you have time to answer:

1) I am working with our WO staff to justify the need to hire at least one, maybe two BLM Public Affairs Specialists that would be dedicated to sage-grouse conservation (ideally I'd ask for an entire *team*, but realistically, that's not going to happen). I wasn't sure if you are the only FWS PAO that is solely dedicated to sage-grouse or if there are others? Basically, I'm trying to build the case by using the FWS example as one aspect of my proposal, i.e., "Hey, the FWS hired X number of PAOs just for sage-grouse communication! It's time for BLM to do the same!" This should have been done about four years ago, but at least they are listening now. :) So, are you the one and only SG PAO, or are there more? If so, do you know how many?

2) I wanted to check in on the journalism sage-grouse tour. Even though I'm in a new position now, I'm still involved in sage-grouse, at least regarding the fire perspective, so I'm wondering if you need any help with the Idaho leg of the tour. If you need any help or want some BLM people to assist, please let me know. I tried to get them to assist back when you let us know about this during your tour practice route, but of course, everyone was "too busy" so now I'm asking again. I hope this isn't redundant. If so, I apologize!

3) (I'm cheating because I said there were only 2 questions, but this isn't a question!) I hope you are doing well and that all-things sage-grouse are going

your way. If you ever need any help with fire/sage-grouse issues, I'm your chica. :)

Thank you a thousand times! Have a lovely day!

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