From: Matt Kales
To: Katie Kalinowski
Subject: RE: GRSG: FWS revisions to April, 2014 SGTF meeting notes
Date: Monday, October 06, 2014 2:35:54 PM

Katie,

Thanks for your time earlier. As mentioned, we are good with the June meeting notes with the one edit I provided. For the April meeting notes, we are also good with the final language on the relevant section, below, though I recommend you close the loop with NRCS to confirm that was/is in fact Chief Weller's formal position on the matter, since (a) he wasn't at the meeting and (b) my understanding is that conversation evolved significantly soon after the April TF meeting and it may be the Chief wants the record to reflect same. Again, that's for NRCS to determine. Beyond that, we are good, and as always appreciate the opportunity to review/provide feedback.

See you tomorrow.

Matt

From: Katie Kalinowski [mailto:kkalinowski@westgov.org]
Sent: Wednesday, September 03, 2014 2:53 PM
To: Matt Kales
Subject: RE: GRSG: FWS revisions to April, 2014 SGTF meeting notes

Matt,

Sorry it has taken me awhile to get back to you about the SGTF meeting summaries.

For the April summary, your page 7 edit was incorporated as provided. For the page 2 edit (now page 3), Jerimiah asked me to add language to indicate that some of the meeting participants did not agree with Director Ashe and did feel that the bi-state proposed rule impacted SGI enrollments. This edit is in track changes in the attached document. Assuming that change makes sense, I will clean up the document and consider it final.

A draft of the June summary is now attached for your review. Thanks for giving it a read and sending any proposed edits. It would be nice to finalize both of the summaries this month so I can get them out to the SGTF as a refresher before the next meeting.

Regards,
Katie

From: Katie Kalinowski
Sent: Friday, June 20, 2014 11:56 AM
To: 'Matt Kales'
Subject: RE: GRSG: FWS revisions to April, 2014 SGTF meeting notes

Matt,

Thanks for sending these edits. I've shared them with Jerimiah and will circle back to you with any feedback.

Regards,
Katie

From: Matt Kales [mailto:matt_kales@fws.gov]
Sent: Thursday, June 19, 2014 1:39 PM
To: Katie Kalinowski
Subject: GRSG: FWS revisions to April, 2014 SGTF meeting notes

Katie,

Thanks for your patience as we reviewed the summary notes from the April 28-29 2014 Governors Sage-Grouse Task Force meeting. By way of this message, we respectfully request you revise the notes as follows:

- Page 2, NRCS SGI: The notes indicate NRCS reported "*Landowner interest in participating in the Bi-State SGI has declined precipitously in FY 2014 according to NRCS Chief Jason Weller in his letter to the Western Governors and Chief Weller suggested the decline is associated with the FWS proposal to list the bi-state population. NRCS plans to continue trying to engage landowners and communicate the benefits of participating in the SGI*." We ask you please add a follow-on sentence noting FWS Director Ashe did not agree with this statement and that subsequent discussion of the point clarified that the Service's proposed rule for the bi-state population was not, in fact, the primary driver of declining enrollment and that other factors, e.g., the program had effectively captured all willing landowners in bi-state range and there were fewer remaining landowners eligible to participate, may be driving enrollment numbers.

- Page 7, FWS: The notes indicate "*FWS clarified that new staff hirings are intended to show commitment to conservation, not in anticipation of a listing*." We ask you please revise this sentence to read: "*FWS provided an update of their capacity-building efforts, which they are undertaking not in anticipation of a listing, but in order to acquire and deploy additional human resources to conserve sage-grouse and sage-stepped ecosystems for the long-term, regardless of the outcome of FWS' 2015 regulatory decision*."

Please let me know if you have any questions on the above, and thanks, as always for all your time and effort on SGTF issues. Regards.

Matt

Matt Kales
Special Assistant for Greater Sage-Grouse Conservation
Office of the Regional Director

US Fish and Wildlife Service, Mountain-Prairie Region
Office: (303) 236-4576
Mobile: (720) 234-0257