From: Matt Kales
To: Noreen Walsh
Subject: RE: Heads up: SGTF agenda items and related issues
Date: Friday, May 30, 2014 1:30:32 PM

Yes, I advised Katie we need to see the draft agenda and for what items we are the lead before it goes out as final. Given the short time frame, she provided the below verbal "bootleg" version so we had some idea what they were thinking.

I don't have any insight/intel into item 1. I heard in passing there was some tension between WYGF's rep and our folks, but nothing past that. I can look into it or hold until we talk.

I don't profess to have mastery of the FIAT item but just got something from Jesse, with input from Mike Pellant, that will hopefully educate both of us.

330 sounds good. I'll keep my line free then.

Thanks.

From: Noreen Walsh [mailto:noreen_walsh@fws.gov]
Sent: Friday, May 30, 2014 1:20 PM
To: Matt Kales
Subject: RE: Heads up: SGTF agenda items and related issues

Matt, I am assuming you did this but in case not, the agenda should not go out as final until we agree to what our FWS role is (i.e., which topics we will take on as the lead).

On Number 1 below, I don't want to wait for the TF to sort out that accusation. We should talk unless you are pursuing that with Mike.

Lastly, I don't understand the FIAT thing and would like to understand before I volunteer us in that regard.

Can we meet at 330 and discuss all?

Noreen Walsh
Regional Director
Mountain-Prairie Region
U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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The Mountain-Prairie Region of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service: *We provide conservation stewardship of some of America's most scenic lands, to ensure healthy fish and wildlife for the enjoyment and benefit of all people.*

From: Matt Kales [mailto:matt_kales@fws.gov]
Sent: Friday, May 30, 2014 1:15 PM
To: Noreen Walsh
Cc: Michael Thabault; Nicole Alt; Pat Deibert; Lief Wiechman
Subject: Heads up: SGTF agenda items and related issues

Folks,

I circled back with Katie Kalinowski about next month's SGTF meeting and she kindly provided some information about the forthcoming agenda:

- The states want to continue the discussion about the CED and their related/parallel efforts. Katie indicated she had heard anecdotal reports from UT and WY that FWS was not being as responsive to states' efforts to follow up and communicate on database issues, so I recommend we be prepared to address same before or at the TF meeting.
- The states also want to continue discussion about the state-federal mitigation strategy and, per last meeting's LPC presentation/discussion, hear from FWS whether and how a mitigation strategy such as that developed for LPC will factor into our ESA listing determination for GrSG.
- The states want a presentation on the recently-completed planning guidance for federal SG conservation plans. (I advised Katie that was best delivered by BLM and FS.) Katie indicated some of the states were "caught off guard" by elements of that guidance, including disturbance caps and land use allocations.
- Other likely agenda items include new research from USGS and NRCS; a FIAT update (as mentioned, I'm working with Jesse on how to best tee up a FIAT issue related to PAC mapping for the states, potentially at the TF, though there may be other, better fora to start that dialogue, e.g., WAFWA EOC); and, a presentation from FS on their species viability policy.

I advised we'll cover any updates to ACK-55 during the round robin, but I do think WGA, and the SGTF, are interested in next steps for this effort, so there may be merit in trying to engage BLM and FS on NEPA and whether those agencies are able/willing to take the ball and run with it from here, especially given the nexus to their lands and their invasive/wildfire issues in the GB.

Katie indicated she'll get us a draft agenda early to midweek next week, but I wanted to share this so we can start thinking about our role and what we need to do to prepare, especially since many of us will be out-of-pocket between next week and the TF meeting. Lastly, I ask we please keep this information internal to FWS, since the agenda is not yet final and out to the TF members.

Thanks. MK

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