From: Michael_Thabault@fws.gov
To: Noreen_Walsh@fws.gov
Subject: Re: Hunting sage-grouse letter (DCN 053015)
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 4:13:13 PM

It is only supposed to be 11. I didn't check the list. Pat got it from someone at WAFWA.

From: "Walsh, Noreen" [noreen_walsh@fws.gov]
Sent: 10/25/2012 03:58 PM CST
To: Michael Thabault
Subject: FW: Hunting sage-grouse letter (DCN 053015)

22?

I thought it was 11 state directors….

From: Frazer, Gary D
Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2012 3:53 PM
To: Walsh, Noreen; Thabault, Michael
Cc: Souza, Paul
Subject: Hunting sage-grouse letter (DCN 053015)

Noreen/Mike – This draft letter just landed on my desk. With 22 recipients, I can envision about 22 ways in which it could be misconstrued, so I wanted to touch base before moving it along.

What states are asking for clarification? Why now? Is a letter the best way to provide that clarification, or have you thought about a discussion at the WAFWA winter meeting or Task Force meeting as an alternative?

If you do think that a letter is needed, I think this one needs some careful tuning. I read it as sending a pretty distinct mixed message, i.e., hunting not significant in our petition finding, but recommend you proceed very carefully. That, to me, generates more questions than answers. But your radar is no doubt better tuned to the state directors than mine is on this issue, so tell me if you think I'm all wet. -- GDF

Gary Frazer

Assistant Director - Endangered Species

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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