From: julie_reeves@fws.gov
To: Amy_Defreese@fws.gov; Ann_E_Gray@fws.gov; Brian_Novosak@fws.gov; Chris_Warren@fws.gov; Creed_Clayton@fws.gov; Doug_Young@fws.gov; Jeff_Berglund@fws.gov; Jeff_Everett@fws.gov; Jeri_Wood@fws.gov; Melanie_Cota@fws.gov; Rick_Donaldson@fws.gov; Stefanie_Stavrakas@fws.gov; Suzanne_Anderson@fws.gov
Subject: Re: Monthly FO transmission team call Wednesday, November 7 at 2 (Mtn)
Date: Monday, November 05, 2012 1:15:51 PM

Good thinking, Amy,

All, I agree that this is a topic that should be discussed among offices, particularly those that are overlapped by projects. We can add this to the agenda during the open mike/specific issues section, but I think we will likely have a full call on Wednesday with the existing items.

Perhaps as an action item between our November and December calls, everyone can work on a response to those issues specific to their own offices. I think this may be best approached by species, i.e. species-specific survey requirements, BMPs, and mitigation. We can discuss this further on Wednesday.

Thanks!
Julie

On Mon, Nov 5, 2012 at 12:11 PM, <Amy_Defreese@fws.gov> wrote:

Hi Julie,
I'm guessing we would probably get to this topic, but I'm wondering if it might be worth it to specifically reference the following as an agenda item:

- Potential or existing variation among field offices in treatment of wildlife resources in NEPA processes and Section 7 consultations (ie expectations for surveys, impact analyses and mitigation protocols)

Thanks!
Amy

Amy Defreese, Ecologist

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"Reeves, Julie" <julie_reeves@fws.gov>

"Reeves, Julie"
<julie_reeves@fws.gov>
11/05/2012 09:23 AM

To Amy Defreese <Amy_Defreese@fws.gov>, Ann E Gray <Ann_E_Gray@fws.gov>, Brian Novosak <Brian_Novosak@fws.gov>, Chris Warren <Chris_Warren@fws.gov>, Creed Clayton <Creed_Clayton@fws.gov>, Doug Young <Doug_Young@fws.gov>, "Jeff Berglund" <Jeff_Berglund@fws.gov>, Jeff Everett <Jeff_Everett@fws.gov>, "Jeri Wood" <Jeri_Wood@fws.gov>, Melanie Cota <Melanie_Cota@fws.gov>, Rick Donaldson <Rick_Donaldson@fws.gov>, Stefanie Stavrakas <Stefanie_Stavrakas@fws.gov>, Suzanne Anderson <Suzanne_Anderson@fws.gov>

cc Tyler Abbott <tyler_abbott@fws.gov>

Subject Monthly FO transmission team call Wednesday, November 7 at 2 (Mtn)

Hi, fellow transmission gurus,

Please remember to call in on Wednesday at 2 for our monthly discussion about transmission lines and the issues that we face in dealing with them. We have a lot on the agenda this week, so please plan to participate. We will try to touch base on everything.

Call in#: (866) 650-7570 Passcode: 889 6811, then pound

1) Transmission lines - each state can give a brief background and then an update on what is happening with the project. Any issues shared among transmission lines can be discussed under agenda item 3:

a) Boardman to Hemingway: Idaho Power (near Boardman, OR to near Melba, ID)

b) Cascade Crossing: Portland General Electric (near Boardman, OR to near Salem, OR)

c) Energy Gateway South: PacifiCorp (near Rawlins, WY to near Utah Lake, UT)

d) Gateway West: Rocky Mountain Power and Idaho Power (near Casper, WY to near Boise, ID)

e) TransWest Express: TransWest Express, LLC (affiliate of Anschutz Corporation; near Rawlins, WY to near Las Vegas, NV)

f) Bonneville Power Administration (covers projects in eastern Washington, parts of northern Idaho, and into western Montana)

g) Avista (covers projects in Eastern Washington, Northern Idaho, and Western Montana areas)

2) Policy/Directive updates and impacts.

a) USFWS Region 6 1997 wetland mitigation policy guidance (see attached document). Defines mitigation ratios for project-specific impacts (not necessarily limited to R6 or to wetlands).

3) Open mike/Specific issues. Some of these will bring up more questions than answers...

a) TransWest Express: USFWS proposed alternatives in Utah to avoid greater sage-grouse

b) Greater sage-grouse: avoidance, mitigation (and

easements?), BLM's IM to "cumulatively maintain and enhance"
c) BLM's impact analysis: temporary versus permanent impacts
d) Migratory birds: Migratory bird conservation strategies
e) WECC guidance on separation of adjacent lines
f) Other pressing issues?

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~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~
We abuse land because we regard it as a commodity belonging to us. When we see land as a community to which we belong, we may begin to use it with love and respect. ~Aldo Leopold, A Sand County Almanac

(See attached file: FWSRegion6WetlandMitigationPolicyGuidance1997.pdf)

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~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~
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