From: Tony Mong
To: Jeffrey L. Beck
Cc: Tom Christiansen; Millspaugh, Joshua; j75morto@blm.gov; Hogan, Mark; Matt Holloran; Matt Dzialak
Subject: Re: NPL Sage-grouse WCA Final Report
Date: Tuesday, September 03, 2013 7:47:21 AM

My recollection is that we decided on the 50 because of the uniqueness of the area in the NPL with the large flock sizes that are seen during the winter. I believe that we wanted to focus on the most important areas and we based this on the larger flock size. Our discussion also eluded to the fact that in any other area, that number would be different, so it is truly a flock size that is specific to the NPL.

~Tony

On Mon, Sep 2, 2013 at 11:54 AM, Jeffrey L. Beck <JLBeck@uwyo.edu> wrote:

> Tom,
>
> I checked my notes from the Vee Bar meeting and did not find anything specifically about our selection of 50 or more birds. I do remember that we discussed the relative merits of using locations from all grouse (regardless of group size) or just those in larger groups (50+) to model an RSF and I believe we decided to use certain size groups to identify the winter concentration areas. I believe we even discussed group sizes of 25 or more as being important. We must have decided on using groups of 50+ to demarcate winter concentration areas, but I think that group size had some bearing on the discussion we had with the managers the first morning.
>
> Can anyone clarify what I remember? It has been nearly 5 months since we met at the Vee Bar Guest Ranch and my notes on that topic are not complete…
>
> Jeff
>
> Jeffrey L. Beck, PhD
> Rangeland Wildlife Habitat Restoration Ecologist

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From: Tom Christiansen [mailto:tom.christiansen@wyo.gov]
Sent: Friday, August 30, 2013 6:42 PM
To: Tony Mong
Cc: Millspaugh, Joshua; j75morto@blm.gov; Hogan, Mark; Matt Holloran; Jeffrey L. Beck; Matt Dzialak
Subject: Re: NPL Sage-grouse WCA Final Report

Just a question, I think I remember (?) a discussion at the VeeBar meeting regarding 50 being an arbitrary #. Can someone refresh my memory on this? Thanks. tc

Tom Christiansen

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On Fri, Aug 30, 2013 at 6:13 PM, Tony Mong <tony.mong@wyo.gov> wrote:

All,

After a fast paced week of reviews and revisions we have come to a final product that incorporates our language regarding having 50 or more birds seen over multiple years to delineate actual winter concentration areas. I know you have seen several iterations of this document but I believe we have a sound document that is based on science and what we said we would deliver.

I want to thank Matt and the Hayden- Wing team for sticking with the analysis and working with me and the rest of the committee to create this GREAT product.

Thanks again for all of your hard work. Please feel free to send major concerns/questions however, I believe this to be the document that we will send to the local managers and SGIT.

Thank you and have a great weekend.

~Tony

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Tony Mong

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