

From: [Larry Crist](#)
To: [Ted Koch](#)
Subject: RE: GRSG 2015: Urgent - Review of FIAT Step-down Assessment Comment Letter Needed by 12:00PM PST, Friday 1/30/15
Date: Friday, January 30, 2015 12:41:11 PM

Ted,

Sorry I haven't been able to respond to your email. Am tied up in other meetings with State and Tribes today and Jay is out of the office. I'm comfortable with leaving this in your's and Dennis's capable hands. Jay was involved in the most recent meetings in Boise and provided our input.

From: Ted Koch [mailto:ted_koch@fws.gov]
Sent: Friday, January 30, 2015 12:28 PM
To: Dawn Davis
Cc: Dennis Mackey; Jesse DElia; Paul Henson; Larry Crist; Mary Grim
Subject: FW: GRSG 2015: Urgent - Review of FIAT Step-down Assessment Comment Letter Needed by 12:00PM PST, Friday 1/30/15

Dawn-

Attached are the RFWO's proposed revisions to the FIAT memo to BLM/FS, in two versions – with and without changes tracked. See my email, below, for suggestions on how to view our proposed changes. Dennis and I spoke yesterday at some length, and then touched base again just now. We think we're generally in agreement on substance from what he just sent you, and what I'm sending you here.

If you want, we can get on the phone with you to help you reconcile these two versions of edits. Let us know.

Thanks,

Ted

Ted Koch
Nevada State Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1340 Financial Boulevard
Reno, Nevada 89502
775-861-6300

From: Ted Koch [mailto:ted_koch@fws.gov]
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2015 4:13 PM
To: Dennis Mackey; Jesse DElia
Cc: Mary Grim
Subject: FW: GRSG 2015: Urgent - Review of FIAT Step-down Assessment Comment Letter Needed by 12:00PM PST, Friday 1/30/15

Dennis and Jesse-

Per our conversations today, attached is a draft revision of the memo with changes tracked and changes accepted.

Changes made:

1. We thought the memo was good and captured important issues, and we believe that in our edits we kept the substance of all content including the 12 original bullet points. No substance should have been omitted.
2. We added a new, third paragraph on the first page advocating a higher level consistency review across all 5 assessments, and offered to help.
3. We reordered bullets based on what we thought were the highest priority considerations for the assessments. So #11 became #1; #12 became #2; #5 became #3, and others after that.
4. We combined the original bullet #2 into the original bullet #4 because we thought they were similar.
5. We combined the original bullet #8 into the original bullet #1 because we thought they were similar.
6. We combined the original bullet #9 into the first sub-bullet under the original #5 because we thought they were similar.
7. We made several text edits that were intended to add clarity and succinctness, but hopefully not change meaning.

Review Tip: Perhaps start by reviewing the revised 1/29 document with the redline “tracked changes” accepted (not showing), and keep the original version of the document alongside to track the changes 1-6 listed above (the reordering and combining of bullets makes a mess of the redline “tracked changes” version.) For tracking the changes described in 7, above; perhaps look at the redline “tracked changes” 1/29 version to see what specific text edits were made.

Thanks,

Ted

Ted Koch
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From: Davis, Dawn [mailto:dawn_davis@fws.gov]

Sent: Wednesday, January 28, 2015 3:24 PM

To: Larry Crist; Michael Carrier; Dennis Mackey; Paul Henson; Ted Koch; Mary Grim; Jesse DElia; Pat Deibert; Lief Wiechman

Cc: Angela Sitz; Sarah Kulpa; Jason Pyron; Jay Martini; Katie Powell; Brandon Miller

Subject: GRSg 2015: Urgent - Review of FIAT Step-down Assessment Comment Letter Needed by 12:00PM PST, Friday 1/30/15

All,

As you are aware, the BLM pushed back their deadline to complete FIAT step-down assessments to the end of February. The revised timeline includes a review period of the draft assessments by FWS (1/20 – 2/3/15) and then a subsequent period for revisions and improvements in assessments, with a final delivery of the FIAT assessments to the BLM State Directors 2/27/15.

The FWS FIAT technical team has completed their initial review of the FIAT assessments; however, due to the length and complexity of the step-down assessments and the short review period, we were not able to provide the BLM the line-by-line comments they initially requested. Despite these limitations, I want to commend our FO staff (Angela Sitz, Sarah Kulpa, Jay Martini, Jason Pyron, Katie Powell, and Brandon Miller) for their timely review and compilation of comments.

Attached, please find the FWS FIAT technical team review and draft comment letter. The team was not in complete agreement on the content and extent of comments for this product and we are seeking additional input on the inclusion of ecologically-based statements. For example, to what extent (if any) should ecologically-based statements (specifically items 5 and 9) be included in our initial comments to the BLM? Are inclusion of these statements beyond the scope of the FIAT assessments? In addition, is there a need to demonstrate certainty of implementation and effectiveness at this stage of the process (item no. 11)? The FIAT report (this was attachment 2 in the August IM which announced FIAT) articulates what the BLM is attempting to accomplish in the Step 2 assessments (attached for additional guidance).

Please provide your written edits/comments/and requested changes to me by **12:00PM PST, Friday 1/30/15**. We recognize that this is a tight time frame to work within but this allows me to compile comments and deliver a draft to ARDs for review by COB Friday, and ultimately our final comments to the BLM by **2/3/15**.

The FIAT assessments can be accessed electronically at the BLM FIAT SharePoint site. For FWS folks who have not accessed the SharePoint site, you will need to get permissions through the BLM's SharePoint steward. If you would like access to the SharePoint site please let me know and I will request permissions; otherwise, I encourage you to work directly with the FWS technical team lead for your priority area.

Thank you,

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Dawn Davis, Ph.D.

Certified Wildlife Biologist ®

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