

**From:** [Matt Kales](#)  
**To:** [Michael Thabault](#); [Nicole Alt](#); [Pat Deibert](#); [Theresa Rabot](#); [Mary Grim](#); [Jesse DElia](#); [michael\\_fris@fws.gov](mailto:michael_fris@fws.gov)  
**Cc:** [Richard Hannan](#); [Ren Lohofener](#); [Noreen Walsh](#)  
**Subject:** RE: GRSG: issues needing further attention  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2015 7:51:49 AM  
**Attachments:** [FWS.GrSG.final federal issues.011615.draft.docx](#)  
**Importance:** High

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Morning, all.

By way of follow to Noreen's below tasking, please see attached a simple template for us to populate in response to the below items. Please use this document so we can more efficiently and consistently organize our thought and develop our corporate position. For version control, I ask where possible you all please work together and send me one response to each item.

Lastly, please note the field "Recommendations for resolution" will reflect our current position on each item, so we'll need to make sure everyone's on the same page for that content.

Thanks, and please let me know if you have any immediate questions.

Matt

-----Original Message-----

From: Noreen Walsh [[mailto:noreen\\_walsh@fws.gov](mailto:noreen_walsh@fws.gov)]  
Sent: Friday, January 16, 2015 6:43 AM  
To: Matt Kales; Michael Thabault; [nicole\\_alt@fws.gov](mailto:nicole_alt@fws.gov); pat deibert; Theresa Rabot; Mary Grim  
Cc: Richard Hannan; Ren Lohofener  
Subject: GRSG: issues needing further attention

Today's webinar was cancelled because late-breaking or simmering issues are not resolved. I will need your review and advice. This is the universe of issues under continued discussion:

1. How to handle the USGS buffer report (they modified the work we did two days ago; attached) - all please review
2. Changes in the language that addresses grazing and veg management (they modified the previously agreed upon language; attached) - all please review
3. Explanation of the NV stronghold - our interpretation of what was changed with the Coates map and how to handle it - R6 and R8 were working on this issue; need a written explanation and recommendation that we can discuss before responding to BLM or DOI
4. OR exceptions for wind and solar - Terry was checking

Matt Kales will serve as lead to compile perspectives on each issue. Please work with him to provide your input this morning, as soon as possible.

Thank you AGAIN,

Noreen

-----Original Message-----

From: Edwin Roberson [<mailto:eroberso@blm.gov>]

Sent: Friday, January 16, 2015 3:55 AM

To: Noreen Walsh

Cc: Stephanie Carman; Matt Kales

Subject: Veg and Grazing 1.15.docx

Noreen, here is the edited version of the veg management and grazing section. I think you can open it in track changes. There were no change in veg. In grazing, we made clarification changes to address legal concerns about misinterpretation and some confusion among our field folks about what it meant. We clearly state they need to insure their NEPA includes GrHG related veg management objectives and land health standards. And, that they need to include a range of management responses related to the objectives which they can incorporate into the permits to allow them to change management when they need to without going through NEPA again. This had to be worded carefully and clearly.

This version includes an addition on grazing relinquishments that the conservation community asked in their comments that we include.

That's it. This what we will discuss at

9:30 with the DOI family (along with the buffer document and a updated remaining issues document). Ed

US Fish and Wildlife Service  
Greater Sage-Grouse Conservation  
Remaining Federal Planning Issues  
January 16, 2015

1. Service perspective on and recommended path forward for revised BLM implementation language for USGS buffer report:
  - a. Comments on new language, e.g., biological or management implications
  - b. Recommendations for resolution
2. Service perspective on and recommended path forward for grazing and vegetation management
  - a. Comments on new language, e.g., biological or management implications
  - b. Recommendations for resolution
3. Service perspective on Nevada stronghold area, specifically:
  - a. Summary and effect of changes to stronghold boundaries due to application of Coates map
  - b. Recommendations for resolution
4. Service perspective on BLM proposed exceptions for wind and solar in pending land use allocations