

From: [Noreen Walsh](#)
To: [Edwin Roberson](#)
Cc: [Pat Deibert](#); [Matt Kales](#); [Stephanie Carman](#); [Chris -FS Iverson](#)
Subject: RE: NSO exception language - double checking
Date: Wednesday, January 14, 2015 4:16:04 PM

Thanks much. I thought we were ok in MT (I should not have confused the issue by including those notes) and am glad to know the word federal is taken care of.

Seeing your doc before the TF call would be very helpful – thanks for the offer.

From: Roberson, Edwin [mailto:eroberso@blm.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, January 14, 2015 10:20 AM
To: Noreen Walsh
Cc: pat deibert; Matt Kales; Stephanie Carman; Chris -FS Iverson
Subject: Re: NSO exception language - double checking

Noreen,

I copied Chris and Steph on the response for continuity. The copy that I am working from for the Friday conference call with the Task Force has the word "Federal". Also, there is no Montana exception shown to the NSO without exception in the stronghold. So, I think we are on the same page. We will be sharing the final version with our SDs at 10:30 eastern. I will send to you all then so you can share with your folks before the Task Force call. If you and Chris want to talk before then, I have time tomorrow. Might be good. ed

On Wed, Jan 14, 2015 at 11:52 AM, Noreen Walsh <noreen_walsh@fws.gov> wrote:
Ed, could I trouble you to double check an issue that I think we have resolved regarding exception language for NSO?

My personal notes follow and the portion in red is what I think may have been lost in your final docs:

Remaining discussion has been around the exception language for exception to NSO. Direction set at 11/25/14 meeting, new language provided in 12/19/14 document. Two remaining issues needed final decision:

- 1. The following edit needs to occur to ensure final language is consistent with our agreement from 11/25/14: "... or (b) areas of the public lands where the proposed exception is an alternative to an action occurring on a nearby parcel subject to a valid **FEDERAL** oil and gas lease existing as of the date of this RMP..."*
- 2. In discussions on 12/19/14, BLM indicated a change in that they now wanted to include NSO with exceptions in the MT stronghold area. FWS Director has indicated this is not recommended by FWS. **Final BLM decision as stated on 12/22/14: Agreed to reinsert the word federal and to keep NSO without exception in MT stronghold.***

I'm not sure, but if you could double check that the word federal was reinserted, I would appreciate it.

Thanks,
Noreen

Noreen Walsh
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