

From: [Matt Kales](#)
To: [Noreen Walsh](#)
Subject: FW: Sagebrush Focus Area (for now)
Date: Wednesday, January 07, 2015 9:48:59 AM

So you aware of where we are going with this item. Thanks.

From: Deibert, Pat [mailto:pat_deibert@fws.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, January 07, 2015 9:26 AM
To: Berglund, Jeff
Cc: Jodi Bush; Michael Thabault; Matt Kales
Subject: Re: Sagebrush Focus Area (for now)

Hi Jeff -

I've checked in with Mike and we agree on the following response (re-worded as necessary for your partner relationships):

Thanks for reaching out to us. We have not been engaged in these mapping discussions with John. Our understanding of the stronghold maps are that modifications are appropriate to correct GIS mapping errors only. Otherwise the maps are to stand as originally drafted. While we understand your efforts to re-construct portions of this map we cannot support any changes of the original boundaries outside of correcting mapping errors.

or something similar. What do you think?

p

On Wed, Jan 7, 2015 at 6:42 AM, Berglund, Jeff <jeff_berglund@fws.gov> wrote:
Hi all - received this email while at another meeting yesterday afternoon and am looking for some guidance as to how to (and who should) respond. Any thoughts? Thanks!

Jeff

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From: **Miller, Ruth** <ramiller@blm.gov>
Date: Tue, Jan 6, 2015 at 3:21 PM
Subject: Fwd: Sagebrush Focus Area (for now)
To: Jeff Berglund <jeff_berglund@fws.gov>
Cc: John Chaffin <jchaffin@blm.gov>

Hi Jeff,

John is out for the next 5 weeks and Jake and I are filling in, so I'm sorry if you've had some conversations on this topic already that we aren't up to speed on... but John has proposed these refined 'focus areas' and we were wondering if you had worked with him on this and are good with it; or, if you had any comments on this proposal (if you've not seen it already)? Thanks. Ruth.

Ruth Miller
Planning and Environmental Specialist

Montana State Office
406.896.5023 (desk)
406.896.5293 (fax)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Carlson, John** <jccarlso@blm.gov>

Date: Tue, Dec 30, 2014 at 10:10 AM

Subject: Sagebrush Focus Area (for now)

To: "Brooks, Sandra S" <ssleach@blm.gov>, Jamie Connell <jconnell@blm.gov>, Stephanie Carman <scarman@blm.gov>

Cc: Ruth Miller <ramiller@blm.gov>, Jake Chaffin <jlchaffi@blm.gov>, Randall Schardt <rschardt@blm.gov>

Hello all,

Attached is a map for the BLM proposed Sagebrush Focus Area in MT.

This map was built using the FWS provided data layer from their mapping exercise with modifications based on BLM land parcel continuity, size and location to achieve an area that can better provide sage-grouse conservation certainty on BLM lands at a scale that matters to GRSG.

The parcels removed from the data provided as a starting point by the USFWS were generally peripheral, small and isolated parcels where changes in BLM management actions would not necessarily provide conservation gains to sage-grouse due to current and ongoing changes to habitat on the interstitial lands (in particular the areas south of the Missouri River have high levels of current impairment from agricultural conversion and human disturbance (J. Smith pers. comm)). All are within PHMA already identified.

John C. Carlson
Conservation Biologist
Bureau of Land Management
Montana/Dakotas State Office
5001 Southgate Drive
Billings, MT 59101-4669
(406) 896-5024

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Jeff Berglund
Fish and Wildlife Biologist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Montana Field Office
585 Shepard Way, Suite 1
Helena, MT 59601
(406) 449-5225, ext. 206

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Pat Deibert, PhD
Certified Wildlife Biologist®
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
5353 Yellowstone Road, Suite 308A
Cheyenne, WY 82009
307-772-2374, ext. 226

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