

From: [Conard, Ben](#)
To: [Leith Edgar](#)
Subject: Fwd: WAFWA
Date: Wednesday, December 24, 2014 2:09:31 PM
Attachments: [WAFWA Summer Meeting 2013.docx](#)

With attachment this time...

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

From: **Holder, Russ** <russ_holder@fws.gov>
Date: Friday, July 12, 2013
Subject: Fwd: WAFWA
To: Ben Conard <ben_conard@fws.gov>, David Kampwerth <david_kampwerth@fws.gov>

FYI - what we submitted for WAFWA - sorry I didn't coordinate better but actual assignment from Mike Roy didn't come to me and so I got caught at the last minute needing to submit something. Worked with Tom and we got it done. ...Russ

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

From: **Holder, Russ** <russ_holder@fws.gov>
Date: Thu, Jul 11, 2013 at 5:22 PM
Subject: Fwd: WAFWA
To: Vicki Finn <vicki_finn@fws.gov>
Cc: Michael Roy <michael_roy@fws.gov>, Brian T Kelly <Brian_T_Kelly@fws.gov>, Dennis Mackey <dennis_mackey@fws.gov>, Cynthia Barry <cynthia_barry@fws.gov>, Cathy Rogers <cathy_rogers@fws.gov>

Vicki, For your use. Thanks for your patience. ...Russ

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From: **Alvarez, Thomas** <thomas_s_alvarez@fws.gov>
Date: Thu, Jul 11, 2013 at 5:20 PM
Subject: WAFWA
To: Russ Holder <russ_holder@fws.gov>

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U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service – Pacific Region

WAFWA Summer Meeting 2013 Idaho Fish and Wildlife Office (IFWO)

Subject:

- **Gray Wolf Recovery:** The FWS Pacific Northwest Gray Wolf Coordinator is working closely with the State of Idaho/Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) and Nez Perce Tribe of Idaho (frequent communication at biologist and management levels, FWS assistance with wolf monitoring, and FWS attendance at IDFG Commission Meetings). Idaho, Oregon and Washington FWS Offices are sharing expertise internally within Region One to form a collective approach to wolf recovery and management in the Pacific Northwest.
- **Sage-grouse Conservation:** The IFWO continues to work with the State of Idaho on a strategic approach to sage-grouse conservation. The IFWO has frequent communication and coordination with the Idaho Governor's Office, Governor's Office of Species Conservation (OSC), and Idaho Fish and Game (IDFG) regarding sage-grouse.
- **Bull Trout Recovery Planning:** IFWO held recent meeting with state fisheries directors from the Pacific Northwest (ID, MT, NV, OR and WA) to continue progress drafting recovery plan, which is scheduled for completion and public release in the spring of 2014.
- **Kootenai River White Sturgeon Recovery:** FWS management and Technical Team coordination continues with Bonneville Power Administration, US Army Corps of Engineers, Kootenai Tribe of Idaho, Kootenai Valley Resource Initiative (KVRI), and the States of Idaho and Montana on sturgeon recovery.
- **Management Relationships with the State of Idaho:** The IFWO State Supervisor continues to work closely with Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) State Director, Governor's Office and Governor's Office of Species Conservation (OSC) on multiple species and habitat issues. ESA coordination discussions relative to the National Joint Task Force on ESA have been positive and are ongoing with the IFWO State Supervisor, IDFG Director, State of Idaho OSC Administrator, and NOAA. The IFWO has worked with IDFG to hire one IDFG employee on a six-month IPA for bull trout recovery planning.
- **Local Government Interactions:** IFWO, and Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program, working with the Palouse Land Trust, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, and Latah Soil and Water Conservation District, have secured initial agreement from seven landowners to proceed with an appraisal of their property as part of a Recovery Land Acquisition proposal to place a conservation easement on the largest remaining Palouse Prairie remnants in Idaho. This area has been identified as a Spalding's catchfly (*Silene spaldingii*) Key Conservation area and all landowners have agreed to have this listed plant reintroduced onto their property. The proposal will be submitted in January 2014.
- **Snake River Basin Adjudication (SRBA):** Section 6 forestry collaboration with the State of Idaho continues. NOAA Fisheries has provided supplemental funding for keeping the process moving. IFWO is working with NOAA and the State on the SRBA Section 6 process.

- **Hells Canyon Hydropower Complex Relicensing:** Ongoing consultation for this complex relicensing project continues with negotiations involving the states of Oregon, Washington and Idaho DEQs, EPA, Tribes including the Nez Perce Tribe of Idaho, FERC and Idaho Power Company.
- **Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program in Idaho:** The Partners Program is the Service's primary program for delivering cost-share funding and technical assistance for habitat conservation projects on private and tribal land. We have co-funded approximately 30 projects per year in Idaho over the past several years, and provided technical assistance to many private landowners, other agencies and NGOs.
- **Northern Idaho Ground Squirrel (NIDGS):** The IFWO has been working collaboratively with new University of Idaho PhD student working on NIDGS, specifically looking at NIDGS responses to habitat treatments and potential plague presence. PhD student working under Dr. Courtney Conway, University of Idaho Wildlife Cooperative unit Research Leader.
- **2013 Libby Dam Hydroelectric Operations:** The Idaho FWO assisted the US Army Corps of Engineers at their annual public meetings in Bonner's Ferry, Idaho; Libby Montana; and Cranbrook, British Columbia, regarding hydro operations for the upcoming water season. The Service's participation is in support of public information regarding endangered Kootenai River white sturgeon recovery efforts.
- **Comprehensive Conservation Framework Team (IFWO CCF):** A collaborative species/habitat planning effort with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG). IFWO CCF Team members met this past spring with IDFG to advance partnership goals, utilizing Idaho Strategic Wildlife Action Plan concepts to best focus landscape conservation planning in the state. A FWS-IDFG meeting took place in mid-June in Idaho. The IFWO CCF is transitioning from the information collection phase into planning, action and organizational phases, including products such as the almost-completed Idaho Framework map (species-habitat distributions). The Idaho CCF is in the process of coordinating with David Hines to assess the Bull Trout Mapper to serve as the Idaho Framework Database for that species.
- **Coeur d'Alene Basin Restoration Partnership:** The Coeur d'Alene Basin Partnership NOI was published in the Federal Register. Public scoping meetings throughout June and July have or are taking place throughout the Coeur d'Alene, Idaho region to solicit input and commentary from regional residents regarding their concerns and values relating to the restoration efforts and projects. Approximately \$140 million in settlement funds are available for the restoration effort. The Partnership collaborative, also known as the Coeur d'Alene Basin Natural Resource Trustee Council, consists of the U.S. Department of Interior, represented by the Fish and Wildlife Service and Bureau of Land Management; The U.S. Department of Agriculture represented by the Forest Service; the State of Idaho, represented by the Idaho Departments of Fish and Game and Environmental Quality, and the Coeur d'Alene Tribe. The Partnership activated a website — www.restorationpartnership.org, used for public comment and information on the restoration.
- **Connecting People with Nature (CPWN), Youth in the Great Outdoors/America's Great Outdoors:** The IFWO continues its participation in the "Be Outside, Idaho!," a statewide initiative and still serves as a Steering Committee member and Legislative Sub-Committee lead. The IFWO is supporting outdoor classrooms/schoolyard habitat projects in the local area. The Service's "Bird by Bird" Program has completed entering its third year with multi-partner support for elementary and high schools, and one senior assisted living center.

- **Community Conversations:** Idaho Fish and Wildlife Office initiated meetings with citizens to discuss the proposed wolverine listing and other fish, wildlife, plant and habitat conservation issues in Idaho. The meetings were held in Coeur d'Alene, Lewiston, and Rexburg. Idaho State Supervisor Brian Kelly and other Idaho FWO staff and managers were in attendance.
- **CONTACT: Brian Kelly, Idaho State Supervisor, 208-685-6953**