

From: [Ted Koch](#)
To: [Michael Thabault](#)
Cc: [Michael Fris](#); [Mary Grim](#); [Kate Norman](#)
Subject: RE: GRSG: Sage-grouse biologist and Project Leaders meeting invite.
Date: Tuesday, December 16, 2014 1:28:51 PM

Mike-

It looks like you included Steve Abele, Genevieve Skora, Dan Hottle and me from Reno in your email invitation, below, for the January meeting in Denver. Should we also include Ron Baxter of my staff since he's now drafting the Species Report chapter on mining?

Do you have concerns about meeting size? While I'd like our External Affairs guy, Dan Hottle, to be exposed to this, I'm not sure the meeting goals you offered are aimed at him.

Thanks,

Ted

Ted Koch
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Reno, Nevada 89502
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From: Thabault, Michael [mailto:michael_thabault@fws.gov]
Sent: Monday, December 15, 2014 2:38 PM
To: Amy Nicholas; Angela Burgess; Anna Harris; Carey Galst; Craig Hansen; Daniel Hottle; Dawn Davis; Douglas Krofta; Drue DeBerry; Ed Turner; Genevieve Skora; Heather McPherron; Holly Freifeld; James Lindstrom; Jay Martini; Jeff Berglund; Jeff Everett; Jennifer Siani; Jennifer Sturdivant; Jesse DElia; Jodi Bush; John DeClerck; Kathy Hollar; Kevin Doherty; Kevin Shelley; Kris Tita; Lara Drizd; Lara Juliusson; Larry Crist; Lief Wiechman; Lisa Solberg Schwab; Mark Sattelberg; Mary Grim; Matt Kales; Michael Carrier; Michael Fris; Michael Thabault; Nicole Alt; Pat Deibert; Paul Henson; Rich Young; Sarah Backsen; Scott Larson; Steve Abele; Susan Linner; Ted Koch; Theodore Stein; Theresa Rabot; Trina Vigil; Kate Norman
Subject: GRSG: Sage-grouse biologist and Project Leaders meeting invite.

Good Afternoon-

As you are aware Congress has passed a spending bill that includes specific provisions for greater sage-grouse. The spending bill does not affect our ability to develop, implement, and analyze conservation efforts to support the species. Nor does it relieve us of our obligation to determine by Sept. 30, 2015 whether the species still warrants protection under the ESA. In fact, the expectation of Congress and the Interior Department is that we will continue to push forward with these efforts with the same urgency as before.

We're now bringing on additional staff who've been working on planning or conservation to help us draft report chapters, review information, and prepare for the analysis and decision workshops this spring.

In the past, the Field Management Team (FMT) has come together in person to discuss sage-grouse work (largely

plan revisions). It's been almost a years since we held our last FMT meeting and we're shifting our focus now from planning to the status review.

For all of the above reasons, we want to hold an all-status-review team meeting in January, 2015. If you are receiving this invitation you have a direct role in the status review and we want you to attend. If there are difficulties please work with your respective Regional ARD regarding participation and coverage.

Goals:

- Discuss spring analysis workshops and solicit feedback from project leaders
- Improve communication within and between teams by providing face-to-face contact for employees working with team members in other offices and regions
- Provide a solid foundation so all parties understand their roles and the roles of others in this process
- Address concerns and needs of team members

Dates:

1/13/2015 - Entire GRSG 2015 Team

1/14/2015 - Entire GRSG 2015 Team

1/15/2015 - GRSG 2015 Team sans Project Leaders

Times:

~8:00 am to 5:00 pm each day (option evening social events)

Location:

Mountain Prairie Regional Office
134 Union Blvd
Lakewood CO 80228

Hotel:

Hampton Inn (Group rate = \$119, Group code = FW8)
137 Union Blvd
Lakewood, CO 80228
303-969-9900
www.denverwestfederalcenter.hamptoninn.com

Travel Coordination:

*The Shuttles aren't great, so carpooling might be the best bet. **There are two tabs**; one for travel to Denver, one for travel from Denver back to your duty station.*

https://drive.google.com/open?id=1yXbTe5JFK_LdmvCFeKy8FG6XZin0Ye5ILaH_40CoDzI&authuser=0

Materials:

Please note this Library View is relatively empty at this time.

You will be informed when documents are available.

<https://portal.doi.net/usfws/SG/docs/Forms/JanMtg.aspx>

Thank you for all of your work to date and for your continued work over this coming year.
Mike

Michael Thabault

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