From: Servheen, Chris
To: Michael Thabault
Cc: Nelson, Marjorie; Fortin-Noreus, Jennifer
Subject: Re: AR assistance
Date: Wednesday, March 09, 2016 3:32:58 PM
Attachments: DRAFT OF GRIZZLY DELISTING PEER REVIEW SOW V2.docx

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Here is a draft of the SOW for grizzly bears.
Chris and Jennifer

On Wed, Mar 9, 2016 at 2:30 PM, Michael Thabault <michael_thabault@fws.gov> wrote:

> Yes substitute bear for birds I probably would not exclude USGS wholesale but wood exclude study members and State biologists working in the GB states.
>
> Michael Thabault
> Assistant Regional Director
> Ecological Services
> Mountain Prairie Region
>
> On Mar 9, 2016, at 3:11 PM, Nelson, Marjorie <marjorie_nelson@fws.gov> wrote:
>
> > I apologize fo rhte peppering of emails. How much do we want to say about the qualifications of the peer reviewers? Here is an example:
> >
> > The independent peer reviewers shall be experienced, senior-level landscape ecologists, raptor/eagle experts, statisticians, biometricians, or ecological modelers who have previously conducted similar reviews or regularly provided reviews of research and conservation articles for the scientific literature, and reviewers must be well-versed in the statistical package "R". The reviewers must be independent of the Service, US Geological Survey (USGS), SWCA consulting firm, and cannot be directly employed by wind energy companies, and cannot be working on any aspect of the aforementioned 1000 wind turbine project in Wyoming. The contractor will be responsible for assigning an experienced, senior and well-qualified manager to lead this review and for the selection of 4 (minimum) to 6 (maximum) well-qualified, independent reviewers. The *combined expertise* of the reviewers shall include:
> >
> > 1. A Ph.D. or an M.S. (with significant experience) in Wildlife Ecology, Ecology, Ornithology, Biology, Statistics, Mathematics, Biometry, or related field.
> >
> > 2. Demonstrated experience working with migratory birds, raptors (particularly bald and golden eagles), and wildlife populations, impacts of wind energy development on raptors, statistical analysis and modeling.

3. Expert knowledge of avian ecology, raptor ecology and population dynamics, bald and golden eagle ecology and behavior, population modeling, available literature on the interaction of large raptors with wind power facilities, risk assessment methods for human infrastructure lethal to birds, statistical analysis, biometry, and GIS.

4. Experience as a peer reviewer for scientific publications.

In addition, the reviewers shall have no financial or other conflicts of interest with the outcome or implications of the report (reviewers should not be currently employed by the Service or wind power interests). **A list of the reviewers and their combined original reviews and comments, without attribution, shall be submitted to the Service**. The Service will have an opportunity to seek clarification on any review comments through the contractor (Task 003.1), for a period of 10 days, starting 60 days after the Service receives the report from the contractor. The list of reviewers, the combined comments without attribution, will be part of the final report and included in the Services' Administrative Record. Four (4) to six (6) reviewers must be engaged in this effort and provide a thorough, objective peer review.

Marjorie Nelson
Chief, Division of Ecological Services
Mountain-Prairie Region
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
303-236-4258

Check out the SSA Framework - Google site for staff at : https://sites.google.com/a/fws.gov/ssa/

On Wed, Mar 9, 2016 at 2:08 PM, Nelson, Marjorie <marjorie_nelson@fws.gov> wrote:

> I also tweaked the DPS question to this: 1. Is our interpretation of the scientific information available provide an adequate logical argument pertaining to the discreteness and significance of the population sufficient according to the DPS policy, as described in the rule?
>
> Let me know if you have any edits.
> thanks,
> Marj
>
> Marjorie Nelson
> Chief, Division of Ecological Services
> Mountain-Prairie Region
> U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
> 303-236-4258
>
> Check out the SSA Framework - Google site for staff at : https://sites.google.com/a/fws.gov/ssa/

On Wed, Mar 9, 2016 at 1:59 PM, Nelson, Marjorie <marjorie_nelson@fws.gov> wrote:

> if I get the SOW downstairs by Friday am, it can go out to contractor for their pricing response in 2 weeks. If good, we can award the task order shortly there after.
>
> My questions to get this SOW done:
>
> What is our budget?
> How many peer reviewers?
> What are the deliverables? In other words, a report from each peer reviewer? any collation or other packaging of comments needed?
> Timeline for deliverables?
>
> I hope I'm not missing anything,
> Marj
>
> Marjorie Nelson
> Chief, Division of Ecological Services
> Mountain-Prairie Region
> U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
> 303-236-4258
>
> Check out the SSA Framework - Google site for staff at : https://sites.google.com/a/fws.gov/ssa/
>
> On Wed, Mar 9, 2016 at 1:37 PM, Michael Thabault <michael_thabault@fws.gov> wrote:
>
> > Yes have been thinking about that. We will get some capacity. May or may not be Jennifer.
> >
> > Michael Thabault
> > Assistant Regional Director
> > Ecological Services
> > Mountain Prairie Region
> >
> > On Mar 9, 2016, at 1:16 PM, Servheen, Chris <chris_servheen@fws.gov> wrote:
> >
> > > Mike and Marj,
> > > We talked to Marj earlier today about the peer review contract. She said "let me know if you need anything. Well, we do. We will need some assistance with the AR since we have almost no staff here. We understand that Jennifer Sturdivant is a skilled AR organizer and would hope that she or someone like her could be assigned to the AR issues
> > > with the proposed rule.
> > > Thanks,
> > > Chris

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Christopher Servheen, Ph.D.
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Region 6 White Nose Syndrome Coordinator
Polar Bear Recovery Team
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
University Hall 309
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"Try to learn something about everything and everything about something." - Thomas Huxley.

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