Guidelines and Assignments

Agency Coordination/Conflict Management Sub-Group

Conservation Strategy Update Steering Committee

Purpose: The intent of this document is to provide the Population Management Sub-Group with guidance and direction regarding the charge and expectations of the team. This team was established by the Conservation Strategy Update Steering Committee to help in achieving its commitments and assignments by the YES committee.

Background: During the April 2016 YES meeting, the committee identified several major themes offered for consideration in their update of the 2016 Conservation Strategy. The YES committee decided to establish a steering committee to: `1) categorize the major themes 2) develop the conservation strategy approval process 3) develop the timeline 4) determine whether major themes could be addressed in the conservation strategy. The Steering Committee decided to establish three sub-groups to help them in evaluating the major themes. Those teams were identified as the population management, habitat and agency coordination/conflict management sub-groups. Each group is assigned a set of major themes with the goal of providing recommendations on each theme to the steering committee. Your group themes are contained in the table at the end of this document.

Guidance and Expectations:

1) Your state agency representative will plan and facilitate the first meeting until a chair person is selected.
2) Identify a chair person-this person will be responsible for planning and facilitating meetings and communicating with the steering committee.
3) Maintain focus on the Conservation Strategy. Do not get side tracked by other processes and documents currently being worked like the delisting rule.
4) Review each theme and report back to the steering committee by May 25th with a recommendation on whether each theme is appropriate for the conservation strategy and the approximate amount of time it may take to address the issue. Please have your chair person report by e-mail to the Steering Committee. Your evaluation criteria should focus on:
    a. Is this theme necessary to update the conservation strategy based on changes that have occurred in the science or delisting framework or to improve the strategy?
    b. Is this item relevant to the Conservation Strategy or should it be addressed somewhere else?
5) The steering committee will report back to your group with a modified list of themes that your group will be charged with addressing.

6) The deliverable will be recommended edits to the Conservation Strategy.. If the subgroup is unable to reach consensus on a recommendation, report this to the steering committee with appropriate background information.
7) There may be additional themes your group is asked to address as this process moves forward.

Timeline: The steering committee is working towards an ambitious goal of completing final YES approval of the document on or before the November meeting. As outlined above in item #4, your first due date is May 25th. Others will be established and disseminated as the steering committee continues its work.

Please contact any of the steering committee members if you have questions or concerns.

Agency Coordination/Conflict Management

Theme	Originator	Sub-group
NPS unit managers be included in the discussions and decision making process that occur during annual meetings regarding the allocation of harvest mortality by the states.	NPS	AC
Chapter on conflict bears has outdated terminology that needs to be changed	States	AC
Connectivity/Linkage/Genetic Management	States/USFS	AC
USFS concerns about moving bears is related to safety, and want to know when bears are moved on/off forest service ground	USFS	AC
Food storage, consistency of orders, and linkage to the NCDE	USFS	AC
Coordination and consultation re: moving bears is vague and overly burdensome in some portions	USFS/States	AC
How do we see the USDA sheep station as it relates to connectivity	USFS	AC
Limit on bear relocations to other ecosystems	County Commissioners	AC