From: Jodi Bush
To: Fortin-Noreus, Jennifer
Subject: Fwd: Habitat sub-group final recommendations
Date: Monday, July 18, 2016 8:56:00 PM

FYI. I haven't reviewed. JB

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Brian Nesvik <brian.nesvik@wyo.gov>
Date: July 16, 2016 at 11:41:27 AM EDT
To: <Dan_Wenk@nps.gov>, "O'Connor, Patricia -FS" <poconnor@fs.fed.us>, Loren Grosskopf <lgrosskopf@parkcounty.us>, "Delissa Minnick, BLM WY" <dminnick@blm.gov>, little bear watson <lwatson@sbtribes.com>, "Bush, Jodi" <jodi_bush@fws.gov>
Cc: "Erickson, Mary C -FS" <mcerickson@fs.fed.us>, "Laye, Jan" <janice_laye@nps.gov>
Subject: Habitat sub-group final recommendations

All,

Below are the final set of recommendations I received from Habitat sub-group chairman Ken McDonald.

Brian

Theme #1-Other methods to monitor foods—*Proceed as recommended. Attempt to complete your work in 6 weeks rather than 8 to meet July 15 deadline. Jennifer will work with Study team to address this.* Jennifer met with study team, and are finalizing recommendations. Primary recommended change will be to stop doing spring carcass surveys and eliminate requirement to monitor hunter numbers. Final recommended changes should be available by end of the week of July 18.

Theme #2-Update habitat layer—*Combine with Theme #7. Prepare to discuss with Steering Committee to provide additional clarification. No action was recommended* No changes recommended so additional work necessary on this theme.

Theme #3-Commitments….level of effort for delisted species—*Proceed with your recommendation Forest Service (Dan Tyers) has lead on this. Dan was going to provide copy of power point previously provided to FWS* Power Point and text of recommended changes provided to USFWS by USFS in late 2015 were provided to the committee. USFS reviewed draft CS to confirm recommendations were incorporated in the draft CS. They were – no additional work necessary on this theme at this time.

Theme #4-Definitions of dispersed vs. developed sites and implications—*Proceed with your recommendation* USFS and FWS work to develop alternative language that works for both (FS and FWS). USFS and USFWS have developed recommended language that addresses this issue to the satisfaction of both parties – includes modified definition of dispersed sites that accounts for what the USFS has done for safety and resource protection at otherwise undeveloped sites. Recommended language has been provided to the affected National Forest Supervisors for their concurrence. Expect final language will be available by end of the week of July 18.

Theme #5-Monitoring outside PCS-*Proceed with your recommendation (note: This is of significant interest to the Steering Committee and they will likely weigh in following your recommendation)* FS and FWS (Dan Tyers and Jennifer) need to review Chapter 3 and identify any existing examples of this theme, and suggest edits to address concerns. The current CS contains provisions to track secure habitat outside the PCA and report on the results every other year, but this monitoring is not tied to any standards. Options include 1) keep monitoring and reporting on secure habitat outside the PCA (i.e., status quo), 2) discontinue this monitoring, and 3) continue monitoring AND establish standards. As this is not a significant workload, and does provide good baseline information, the Habitat Sub-Committee recommends we continue with option 1 (status quo) for the immediate future. Developing standards and requiring adherence to those standards outside the PCA (option 3) would be a significant change and is considered unnecessary to maintain recovery – therefore not recommended at this time.

Theme #6-Conversation between USFS and States re: habitat protections outside the PCA- *Prepare to discuss with Steering Committee to provide additional clarification regarding this recommendation. No additional action required by the subcommittee* No additional work necessary on this theme at this time

Theme #7-Use 2016 developments as the baseline—*Combine with Theme #2 No additional actions needed by subcommittee* No additional work necessary on this theme at this time

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Brian R. Nesvik
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