

From: [Landenburger, Lisa A -FS](#)
To: [Gunther, Kerry](#); [Shoemaker, Rebecca](#)
Cc: [Haroldson, Mark](#); [Frank Van Manen \(fvanmanen@usgs.gov\)](#)
Subject: RE: CS revisions: Winter-killed ungulate surveys
Date: Wednesday, November 19, 2014 8:12:00 AM

I will work with Mark & Frank to tone down the language so we are not committed to monitoring practices that are no longer being conducted. Kerry, we will check in with you for input when there's something to review. Thanks.

Lisa Landenburger
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From: Gunther, Kerry [mailto:kerry_gunther@nps.gov]
Sent: Monday, November 17, 2014 1:52 PM
To: Shoemaker, Rebecca
Cc: Landenburger, Lisa A -FS; Haroldson, Mark; Frank Van Manen (fvanmanen@usgs.gov)
Subject: Re: CS revisions: Winter-killed ungulate surveys

I don't mind leaving that section in as we plan to continue the surveys. So if that is what we need to do, we can do it.

Kerry

On Mon, Nov 17, 2014 at 1:46 PM, Shoemaker, Rebecca <rebecca.shoemaker@cfc.umt.edu> wrote:

hmmmmm. Right off-hand, I'm hesitant to remove it entirely...although I completely understand and agree w/ Kerry's concerns. I guess I don't view it as necessary even if it is somewhat preferable. (as opposed to the CEM references...it's mandatory that we clean that up). Also, I start to get a little wary of making these types of semi-major changes without calling a meeting of all conservation strategy team members. Thoughts? (that didn't really answer your question)
rebecca

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From: Landenburger, Lisa A -FS [<mailto:lalandenburger@fs.fed.us>]
Sent: Thursday, November 13, 2014 2:21 PM
To: Shoemaker, Rebecca
Cc: Haroldson, Mark; Frank Van Manen (fvanmanen@usgs.gov); Kerry Gunther/YELL/NPS

(Kerry_Gunther@nps.gov)

Subject: FW: CS revisions: Winter-killed ungulate surveys

Rebecca,

We could use your insight on our discussion pertaining to the relevance/utility of the current Habitat Monitoring protocol for the 4 major food types. Talking with IGBST on how to proceed with this section, Kerry Gunther has suggested we remove the section all together (see his message below) and makes some good points. The question for you is: if IGBST decides to remove this section – what is the likelihood that it would land us in court?

Another point, if we remove this section we will be limiting Chapter 3 (Habitat Standards) strictly to the barebones of 3 habitat standards and their associated application rules & monitoring requirements. We have already decided to remove the sections on *Habitat Effectiveness*, *Hunter Numbers*, and *Private Land Development*. We're left with one lingering outlier – *Habitat Connectivity*. Would this constitute a “substantive” change to the CS?

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From: Gunther, Kerry [mailto:kerry_gunther@nps.gov]

Sent: Thursday, November 13, 2014 1:52 PM

To: Landenburger, Lisa A -FS

Cc: mark_haroldson@usgs.gov; Frank Van Manen (fvanmanen@usgs.gov)

Subject: Re: CS revisions: Winter-killed ungulate surveys

Lisa,

Although we are still monitoring the 4 so-called major foods, and intend to continue as long as budgets allow, I believe that the 4 monitoring protocols should be removed from the Conservation Strategy. We monitor those 4 foods, because they are relatively easy to monitor. But by listing those 4 major foods, we lead the public to think they are the only foods important to bears, and without them bears are doomed. Each of these 4 foods is only available to bears in certain parts of the GYE and none of them are available to all bears. So in the Conservation Strategy, I think it best if we state something more generic, like we will use direct observation of feeding activity, feeding site investigation (based on GPS collar locations), scat analysis, hair and blood isotope analysis, or other methods to monitor grizzly bear foods habits and habitat use in the GYE. However, I don't know if a generic statement like that is enough to keep us out of court on habitat monitoring issues? Rebecca could best answer that.

Kerry

On Thu, Nov 13, 2014 at 1:22 PM, Landenburger, Lisa A -FS <lalandenburger@fs.fed.us> wrote:

RE: Winter-killed Ungulate Carcass Surveys

Mark, Frank, & Kerry,

I am currently working with Rebecca Shoemaker on the cleanup to the Conservation Strategy. There has been some uncertainty regarding the future commitment for conducting annual carcass surveys. These surveys are part of the monitoring protocol requirements of the IGBST in the current (2007) Conservation Strategy for the 4 major food types. Could you please take a look at the brief sections pertaining to the carcass surveys and give me some direction on how to treat these? Do we want to delete them altogether? If so, do we provide rationale for doing so? Do we want to put some open-ended statements that give us a way out?

Please scroll to bottom of page **47 - 48 of the attached Conservation Strategy** and the **first paragraph in Appendix E**.

In fact, if you see any obvious problems with any portion of the Foods monitoring program, this would be a good time to say something. Your feedback will be greatly appreciated. Thanks so much.

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