

From: [Chris Smith](#)
To: [Scott Talbott](#)
Cc: [Matt Hogan](#)
Subject: Revised Agenda for Grizzly Bear Meeting
Date: Friday, February 06, 2015 9:37:57 AM
Attachments: [GBMtg DRAFTagenda 2015 - C Smith Revision.docx](#)

Scott,

As the meeting facilitator, I have taken over development of the agenda for the Denver Grizzly Bear meeting from Matt. He shared the draft agenda he had sent to you with me, and mentioned your suggestion to him, yesterday, that we break for day one after Frank and Chris' presentations, then begin with the states' perspectives on day 2.

As you'll see from the attached revised agenda I developed, I've taken a slightly different tack, but one that I truly believe will be most productive, given my conversations with most of the folks who will be in the room and my experience in conflict resolution.

What I am suggesting is that we begin with Frank's and Chris' presentations, as Matt had in his draft, but move through that faster than Matt had on his agenda. The reason we can do that is that is that during these presentations I do not believe we should get into any substantive discussion or debate about the science (e.g. should we use Chao2 vs MRE) or whether the changes between the 2007 rule and the proposed rule are appropriate. We may identify those (or other things) as issues that need to be resolved, but we won't debate them at this stage.

Those presentations would be followed by time for the states, either individually or collectively, to lay out their perspectives on the issues, raise concerns that need to be addressed, etc. Again, the FWS folks could ask questions for clarification, but we would not debate any of the issues at this stage.

This approach gives both the FWS and the states the opportunity to lay things out on the table without being challenged as they do so, and gives each side the opportunity to "listen for understanding" without having to respond or react right away. The next step would be framing the issues for resolution. This would be done collectively, so that both the states and FWS have a common understanding of what the most important issues are (after hearing from the "other side"), and we all know what we're trying to accomplish.

I'd like to get through the stage of issue framing by the end of the first day so that everyone has time to reflect on the issues overnight. If either the FWS or states feel the need to "caucus" in preparation for the in-depth discussion, that can happen over dinner. Or, who knows, maybe we can all go out for the evening together and so some "informal" issue resolution over food and adult beverages.

On the 19th, we would tackle the issues identified in a logical order, with the goal of resolving them if we can, or – failing that – defining the process through which they will be resolved with clear assignments, timelines and accountability for follow-up. We would conclude the meeting with an

overview of any agreements reached, next steps, etc. so that everyone leaves the room with a common understanding.

Look this over and give me a call to discuss.

Chris

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Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Fish and Wildlife Service Grizzly Bear Meeting
Denver, CO
February 18-19, 2015

February 18

12:00 Noon **Opening Comments/Agenda Review/Rules of the Road - Chris Smith**

12:15 PM **GYE GB Science - Frank Van Manen**

This portion of the meeting will consist of a series of brief presentations by Frank Van Manen covering the work of the study team. Topics covered will include:

1. Delineation of the Designated Monitoring Area
2. Population estimation methods
3. Methods for determining sustainable mortality limits
4. Implications of revised population estimation methods/mortality limits on management flexibility

Following each topic presentation, there will be time for clarifying questions. Issues or policy-level questions that arise will be captured, but not discussed or debated at this stage. Breaks will be taken as needed.

2:15 PM **2007 Final Rule vs Proposed Strategy/Rule/Recovery Plan - Chris Servheen**

This portion of the meeting will be a “side-by-side” comparison of the 2007 Final Rule and the proposed conservation strategy/rule/recovery plan. Clarifying questions may be asked, but no discussion or debate will occur at this stage.

3:00 PM **State Perspectives & Concerns – Virgil Moore, Jeff Hagener, Scott Talbot**

This portion of the meeting will provide each state the opportunity to express their perspectives and/or concerns regarding the proposed conservation strategy/rule/recovery plan. Clarifying questions may be asked, but no discussion or debate will occur at this stage.

4:30 PM **Framing Issues for Discussion – Chris Smith**

This portion of the meeting will focus on defining the issues related to recovery, delisting and post-delisting management that need to be resolved for the states and FWS to move forward collaboratively. Issues will be identified and defined, but not discussed, negotiated or debated.

February 19

8:00 AM **Recap of yesterday/ground rules/goals - Chris Smith**

8:10 AM **Discussion and Resolution of Identified Issues – Chris Smith**

Issues identified will be addressed in sequence through discussion and, if necessary, negotiation and debate among policy-level representatives of the FWS and state agencies. The goal will be to resolve each issue to the satisfaction of all 3 states and the FWS. Failing that, the alternative will be to define a process through which the states and FWS will continue efforts to reach consensus. Breaks will be taken as necessary.

11:30 AM **Summary of Agreements and Clarifying Next Steps – Chris Smith**

This portion of the meeting will review agreements reached and any necessary follow-up actions by the parties.

12:00 Noon **Adjourn**

DRAFT