

From: McDonald, Ken
To: Fortin-Noreus, Jennifer; dkharrell@blm.gov; Kerry Gunther; Tyers, Daniel - FS; dsaville@blm.gov; Tom Rice, MACO; Delissa Minnick, BLM WY; Landenburger, Lisa A -FS
Subject: RE: habitat sub-group work
Date: Wednesday, August 03, 2016 10:08:15 AM
Attachments: [Chapter3 proposed revisions + 1998 development standarads.docx](#)

Greetings Habitat Subcommittee,

At the YES meeting yesterday an issue arose related to concerns about the 1998 baseline, and constraints it creates towards development of new infrastructure to accommodate the significant growth in visitors to the region. We have been directed by the YES committee to develop a recommendation for wording on this issue that will address the issue and could be included in the CS. Specifically, it was a very focused direction to address developed sites related to the baseline. Options include no change (i.e., everyone will adhere to 1998 baseline), acknowledge the concern and suggest that over the next 5 years we will work on this and possibly recommend a change, or we can recommend a change now. However, this last option would be a significant change at a very late point in the process. After thinking on it, I think a hybrid of the last 2 options might be a solution. What I was thinking is that we need to differentiate between major developed sites (e.g., Mammoth, Old Faithful), and minor developed sites like trailheads and individual buildings, and then develop different rule sets for major vs minor (or all the rest) developed sites. I defer to the land management agencies, but it seems to me that some additional development at major developed sites would have negligible impact on bears while allowing accommodation of a lot of the pressures associated with the increased use of the area. I also understand that developing this will take some work, and likely can't get done in the time frame we have. So I have attached the portion of Chapter 3 related to this topic, and took a stab at some possible wording to capture this concept. This is just a strawman for discussion based on my perceptions of the issues and possible solution, but there is no pride of ownership so if I am way off base, my feelings won't be hurt if you tell me I am way off base. I am looking for input and leadership on this from the land management agencies so we can craft something that works for the land management agencies while not jeopardizing delisting. So please take a look, and give it some thought, and when I get back I will set up a time for a conf. call next week. My suggested additions are in track changes (in red on my screen).

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-----Original Message-----

From: Fortin-Noreus, Jennifer [<mailto:jennifer.fortin-noreus@mso.umt.edu>]
Sent: Thursday, July 21, 2016 1:53 PM
To: McDonald, Ken; dkharrell@blm.gov; Kerry Gunther; Tyers, Daniel - FS; dsaville@blm.gov; Tom Rice, MACO
Subject: RE: habitat sub-group work

Ken,

We need a few more days to give everyone on the Study Team adequate time to review the food monitoring revisions to Chapter 3. I should receive all edits by the COB Monday and will prioritize incorporating those on Tuesday and providing them to the habitat sub-group. Thank you for your patience.

Jennifer

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