



Hicks, Scott <scott_hicks@fws.gov>

Re: FWS pilot fly lynx to MN?

1 message

Fasbender, Peter <peter_fasbender@fws.gov>

Mon, Mar 25, 2019 at 12:19 PM

To: "Hicks, Scott" <scott_hicks@fws.gov>

Cc: Lori Nordstrom <lori_nordstrom@fws.gov>, Sean Marsan <Sean_Marsan@fws.gov>

There is at least one pilot/fws plane in the area now currently performing eagle nest surveys...and then gearing up on mig bird surveys as spring progress. I'm not sure the timeline of all this, but one could explore the possibility of their ability to do so. I've worked with them in the past on other transport issues. Mark Koneff is the guy to ask.

On Mon, Mar 25, 2019 at 11:04 AM Hicks, Scott <scott_hicks@fws.gov> wrote:

The lynx from the MI thumb is currently at the Detroit zoo. Although still being evaluated as to condition/health and origin, it's looking like the lynx should be released into the wild.

You'll recall that Jim Zelenak suggested releasing somewhere in MN (Arrowhead/Superior NF/Boundary Waters Canoe Area, Voyageurs NP). MI DNR is exploring that with MN DNR now (to see if would be option, what would be required, etc.)

MI DNR is also coordinating with researchers in MI that have been working with snowshoe hare to see which areas in MI might have a decent enough prey pop to support the lynx.

Also weighing if released in MN then more likely could be a part of breeding pop, less people (especially given already proven to have issues with farmers).

Just exploring options now, but if MN is selected as the best choice, getting the lynx to MN with the least amount of additional stress would be ideal.

In the light, was wondering do you think it might be possible for the FWS pilots to fly the lynx from Detroit to Northern MN?

Thoughts?

Thanks
Scott

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