

SSN Fisher Working Group Meeting

February 4, 2020

Excerpts from Craig Thompson

2020 Personal Communication

Discussion Topics

Conservation Strategy status:

- Author letter talked about conservation measures that talked about how the recommended process was no longer an implantable standard
- Getting vegetation data was extremely difficult
- Remote Sensing Lab data received Dec 2019
- Decided to release the interim recommendations finalized last week
 - Talk to Craig if you want a copy of this
- Found other similar work - in the Netherlands based on wetlands plus models of fruit flies– so have smaller systems but can manipulate these systems and identified 3 key takeaways to address
 - Stabilize key habitat
 - Restoring landscape permeability
 - Promoting landscape heterogeneity
- Lost about 40% or ~1 million acres of habitat
- Habitat Patch number declined
- Habitat Patch size declined
- Increase in fragmentation
- Models included foraging and denning habitat models
- CAVEAT – might not be as bad as this looks like b/c these models are built with fisher information pre-drought but doing a horrible job of catching what the fisher are actually doing now
 - E.g. fishers doing something different with the post-drought habitat
- Places like Kern Plateau might be even more important if it's identifying what the ecological boundaries of where this animal exists are
- Trying to come up with core and den buffers to have something better than the 700 acre buffers identified in the SNFPA to protect known dens
 - 60 and 370 acre buffers
- Trying to put words and explanation to the 4d rule – e.g. how do we define what that is???

Next Steps

- Revamping monitoring program
- Strategy
 - Timeline starting next week to work with the region on the RSL data to relate it to fishers – maybe by the end of this year???

- Q: What happens if fisher is listed?
 - A: TBD