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**From:** Livingston, Sue </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=6C64F523E6FE40E4A883A5295030EC38-SUE\_LIVINGS>  
**To:** Russell, Daniel  
**Sent:** 3/10/2020 5:11:54 PM  
**Subject:** RE: revisions to the response to comments section

I was too fast on the trigger. Sorry about that.

In addition to what I sent below, Please replace Green et al. 2019a with Green et al. 2019b wherever found in the following comments and associated responses:

Comment 50 and response

Comment 52 (listed as Green et al. 2019)

Thanks!

Sue Livingston

Fish and Wildlife Biologist

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**From:** Livingston, Sue  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 10, 2020 1:35 PM  
**To:** Russell, Daniel <Daniel\_Russell@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** revisions to the response to comments section

Hi Dan,

Below are revisions to the response to comments section (yellow highlighted where change is supposed to be).

Thanks!

Question 36 response, first paragraph:

We do not agree with the conclusion that habitat usable by fisher has dramatically expanded. A range expansion for fisher or any other species does not automatically mean that habitat has increased. Many factors serve to limit species distribution (e.g. connectivity and fragmentation, prey and predators, population demographics), and these factors may or may not be affected by habitat. Although not perfect, our analyses for vegetation management and wildfire show losses of either fisher habitat or structural elements used by fishers (as represented by OGSi-80). Furthermore, the OGSi-80 analysis, which incorporates ingrowth and is only for the NWFP portion of the NCSO DPS, indicates a net loss of this structural condition ~~habitat type~~. In the SSN, areas within ~~that were~~ the previously known fisher distribution experienced a reduction of nearly 40% due to fire, drought, and associated tree mortality. Although we expect ingrowth to occur, we are uncertain how soon the landscape will be considered fisher habitat, particularly because large trees that often act as a seed source for future regeneration were disproportionately affected.

Question 50 response, first paragraph:

We elaborate more on Green et al. (2019a, entire) in this rule, noting the observation that the post-fire population estimates have confidence intervals that overlap with pre-fire estimates, as well as the uncertainties in the ultimate fate of fishers in response to wildfire ~~response by individual fishers~~.

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