

From: [Bush, Jodi](#)
To: [Jeff Berglund](#); [Brent Esmoil](#)
Subject: Fwd: GRSG: FWS staffing on GRSG issues moving forward
Date: Tuesday, March 17, 2015 8:19:35 PM

FYI

Jodi L. Bush
Field Supervisor
Montana Ecological Services Office
585 Shepard Way, Suite 1
Helena, MT 59601
(406) 449-5225, ext.205

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From: **Thabault, Michael** <michael_thabault@fws.gov>
Date: Tue, Mar 17, 2015 at 4:50 PM
Subject: Fwd: GRSG: FWS staffing on GRSG issues moving forward
To: FW6 Sage-grouse FMT <fw6_sage-grouse_fmt@fws.gov>

Dear Sage-grouse FMT, As you can see from the note below from Noreen to the National Policy Team we are quickly realigning some of our people to be fully invested and engulfed in the status review. We are going to be leaning pretty heavily on Pat, Leif, Dawn, Jesse, and Steve over the next couple of months to bring the information together and analyze it of r the status review and impending meetings with the Regional Directors. As such we are requesting that you as the FMT take this under consideration as you contemplate requests for information of these 5 individuals. We will be subsequently relying on your field offices to engage in plan reviews and consistency etc.

On that note I know BLM is beginning to ask for reviews of their plans etc. We are in the process of developing a template for that review which will reflect our understanding of the agreements etc from NPT on through the most recent drop in language etc. We highly encourage folks to begin that review. We are asking, however, that we not send any formalized comments until you have this guidance document in hand. Pat is working feverishly on that and we hope to get that out very soon.

Thanks if you have any questions feel free to get a hold of me, Nicole or Matt K.

Michael Thabault
Assistant Regional Director
Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Mountain Prairie Region
303-236-4210
michael_thabault@fws.gov

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From: **Noreen Walsh** <noreen_walsh@fws.gov>

Date: Tue, Mar 17, 2015 at 2:39 PM

Subject: GRSG: FWS staffing on GRSG issues moving forward

To: Edwin Roberson <eroberso@blm.gov>, Chris Iverson <civerson@fs.fed.us>

Cc: Stephanie Carman <scarman@blm.gov>, gstein@fs.fed.us, Michael Thabault

<michael_thabault@fws.gov>, nicole_alt@fws.gov, Mary Grim

<mary_grim@fws.gov>, Theresa Rabot <theresa_rabot@fws.gov>, Matt Kales

<matt_kales@fws.gov>, Richard Hannan <richard_hannan@fws.gov>, Ren

Lohofener <ren_lohofener@fws.gov>, pat deibert <Pat_Deibert@fws.gov>, Lief

Wiechman <lief_wiechman@fws.gov>, Jesse DElia <jesse_delia@fws.gov>, Dawn

Davis <dawn_davis@fws.gov>, Steve Abele <steve_abele@fws.gov>

Dear NPT colleagues,

I wanted to let you know of the current status of our sage-grouse team staffing and ask your assistance as we go forward.

Our team of species experts (comprised of **Pat Deibert, Jesse D'Elia, Lief Wiechman, Dawn Davis, Steve Abele**) is now virtually sequestered working on issues related to our GRSG status review and decision recommendation. In order to meet our deadline for making a determination of species status, these folks are now totally dedicated to that process.

If questions arise relative to our teamwork on the federal land management planning process, please direct them to one of the FWS individuals listed below, and they will help direct your question or need to someone who can answer or meet it in a timely manner. Pat, Jesse, Lief, Dawn, and Steve must now turn their attention to our analytical processes in order to ensure we can meet our deadline, and will not be available to work on federal land management planning issues from here on out.

We will endeavor to meet your requests or answer your questions in a timely manner if you contact one of the following at the email addresses above or phone number below:

Michael Thabault: 303 236 4210

Theresa Rabot: 503 872 2719

Mary Grim: 916 414 6574

Nicole Alt: 303 236 4213

Thank you; we look forward to completing this process with you to a successful conclusion and we appreciate all your conservation efforts. Please give me a call if you have any questions,

Noreen

Noreen Walsh

Regional Director

Mountain-Prairie Region

U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service

303 236 7920