

**From:** [Bush, Jodi](#)  
**To:** [Matt Kales](#)  
**Cc:** [Jeff Berglund](#); [Pat Deibert](#); [Michael Thabault](#); [Nicole Alt](#)  
**Subject:** Re: GRSG: revisions to state-specific issues in Dan's SGTF TPs  
**Date:** Friday, January 16, 2015 2:32:48 PM

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Hey Matt. Sorry didn't see this as assignment. Our response.

While MT Gov's Office has made huge leaps on our issues with the EO, including identifying what agencies the EO applies to -the governor hasn't yet made it mandatory for those agencies to implement the EO. He has committed to issue a second EO to do this -AFTER the legislative session (likely April 2015). Of course thats months from now so we are just asking that Dan remind them that this is what we want to see, its what they have committed to but it really is going to make it hard to consider in our status review because of the timing. This is also true of the mitigation issue - commitment to do and with about \$10 million but again not until after legislative session.

The buffer issue remains an outstanding issue that the governor's office has told us they cannot move on.

Relationship with Gov's office is good. Baker working hard with us to give us preliminary agreement on things before the session is over but we won't have formal commitment from Gov until after session.

Hope that is helpful. JB

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On Fri, Jan 16, 2015 at 2:22 PM, Mackey, Dennis <[dennis\\_mackey@fws.gov](mailto:dennis_mackey@fws.gov)> wrote:  
Hi Matt:

Good seeing you this week, and enjoyed dinner with you Tuesday.

Thanks for the followup on this topic:

Regarding RFPAs, Noreen is right, so please have Dan remark that "these are good things Idaho is doing and we support their efforts".

FYI on the other components, Governor Otter recently included in his budget to the Legislature, a request for all of those items (or similar) so I think if Dan touches on those by simply mentioning them per the current talking point that will make a positive connection.

Have a great weekend!

Dennis

On Fri, Jan 16, 2015 at 10:55 AM, Matt Kales <[matt\\_kales@fws.gov](mailto:matt_kales@fws.gov)> wrote:

Folks,

Good to see everyone this week, and thanks for working with Pat and Jesse to develop some state-specific content for Dan's talking points for next week's Governors' Sage-Grouse Task Force meeting. Noreen reviewed the content we sent her yesterday and had the following questions:

For Montana we said:

- In **Montana** fully implement mandatory adherence to the EO by all state agencies (in sufficient time to be considered in our status review), with use of a minimum 1-mile lek buffer and application of the mitigation sequence (avoid, minimize, reclaim, compensate) to all core areas, connectivity areas and general habitats. Require compensatory mitigation for all projects that will result in direct, indirect, temporary and permanent impacts so as to achieve a net conservation gain for sage-grouse and their habitats.

Question for Jodi and Jeff: Noreen got the impression from speaking with you all this week that resolution of issues w/the state (Tim B.) was going well and we'd settled many of the above issues, so can you please indicate whether Dan should be highlighting the above as things we've agreed to or are these things the state still needs to do?

For Idaho we said:

- In **Idaho** finalize commitments for sage grouse conservation measures for state and private lands, including implementation of a mitigation strategy; development of mechanisms and funding for fire prevention and suppression (including additional Rural Fire Protection Associations); development of measures and funding for sage grouse habitat enhancement and restoration; and Increase capacity for sage grouse population and habitat monitoring.

Question for Dennis and Jason: Noreen understands ID to be a leader in supporting RFPAs so, similar to the MT question, should Dan couch his remarks more in terms of "these are good things ID is doing and we support their efforts" or are these things the state still needs to do?

Please advise ASAP on the above. Pat: FYI; I made some minor changes to CO and WY per Noreen's direction and will send same back to you all once we finalize this product.

Thanks in advance.

MK

**Matt Kales**

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