

To: Backer, Dana[dbacker@blm.gov]; Pilmanis, Adrienne[apilmani@blm.gov]
Cc: Luke John Zachmann[Luke.Zachmann@nau.edu]; khmiller@blm.gov[khmiller@blm.gov]; Casey Addy[caddy@blm.gov]; Bradshaw, James[jbradshaw@blm.gov]; Matthew Betenson[mbetenso@blm.gov]
From: Brett G Dickson
Sent: 2017-08-24T13:26:57-04:00
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Subject: Re: LCI GSENM Draft Final Report
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Thanks again for your call this morning, Dana. We'll look forward to hearing back from you on any additional Phase 1 comments, as well as thoughts your team has on revisiting Phase 2 and the broader implications of the effort to AIM/BLM.

Best,

Brett

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On 8/21/2017 9:56 AM, Backer, Dana wrote:

Hi Brett and Luke,
I read the draft of the report and certainly have some items to discuss with you. Primarily, the datasets used are quite old at this point and more recent data are available (AIM). As you indicated the plot stratification for AIM would change in 2014, well it changed again in 2015.

I have been holding off in responding because I need to get some background information from my supervisor and Kevin. Kevin has been in/out of office and we have not yet connected. I'm also waiting to hear back from my supervisor regarding his comments to the report.

I would like to discuss the 2015 modification to the agreement for Spatially explicit state-and-transition models to support management planning and improve the statistical efficiency and utility of the AIM Strategy at Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument (\$35K) and get the status of this component.

The point of contact at GSENM was also a point of clarification. We were going to ask a Range Specialist to be the POC but now my supervisor as appointed me to be the POC. Again, sorry for the delay and the confusion.

Thanks
Dana

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On Mon, Aug 21, 2017 at 10:16 AM, Pilmanis, Adrienne <apilmani@blm.gov> wrote:

Hello Luke -

Darn, that all sounds really interesting, but I am no longer the PO for this agreement. It has been passed off to our new Monitoring Coordinator, Casey Addy, and Dana Backer, new GSENM Science Coordinator, is a Technical Contact.

Incidentally, I think that all three of us BLM UT folks will be in Flagstaff for the Biennial in a few weeks. Will you?

Best,
Adrienne

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On Fri, Aug 18, 2017 at 4:33 PM, Luke John Zachmann <Luke.Zachmann@nau.edu> wrote:

Hi Kevin and Adrienne,

I wanted to touch base quickly to see whether there's anything you'd like to follow up on regarding the final Phase I report. Adrienne, last time we spoke you mentioned the possibility of a new PO. We'd be happy to bring someone else up to speed, as necessary. Additionally, I wanted to mention some travel I'm scoping to Denver / Fort Collins in Oct. If necessary, I could also build in some travel to the BLM's headquarters in Salt Lake City. It would be great to

meet up to discuss wrapping up Phase II.

Finally, we wanted to mention that there's been a lot of activity here at NAU and at Conservation Science Partners related to the development, analysis, and applications of other national monitoring datasets. Specifically, we've been working with NRCS's NRI, USFS FIA, and NPS I&M data to develop approaches that permit linking samples (even at a national scale) to the bevy of remote sensing data available in the cloud (e.g., through portals such as Earth Engine) in a way that is both flexible, fast, and repeatable, but most importantly doesn't compromise the confidentiality of the underlying data. In short, it's a way to create appendices of covariate data, including remotely sensed data, that can be linked to the monitoring data directly for analysis, inference, and reporting purposes. I've also been working closely Tom Hobbs at CSU to develop a fairly comprehensive statistical framework for analyzing data that are coming out of such programs (often from some sort of 'master sample', in which plots are visiting in a rotating panel). At any rate, there's a lot we could talk about, and certainly a considerable amount of material that may be suitable for rolling up into a phase II report and even future work.

Please let me know if you're expecting to be available in mid- to late-Oct or even early Nov as this might help me finalize travel dates.

Luke

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On June 15, 2017 at 5:05:35 PM, Brett G Dickson (brett.dickson@nau.edu) wrote:

Hi Adrienne and Kevin,

Our apologies for the delayed delivery of this final report (on the original, 'phase I' of the work). You may know Valerie went to work for the USFS last year and Luke has moved to half time at NAU, so I've been short staffed for a while. Nevertheless, we've pulled together the attached, draft final report for your review. We look forward to your comments and discussing when convenient.

Considering the data and results in this report, one (as-yet informal) take-home

we'd like to discuss entails the idea that all information is good information as long as it is modeled appropriately. If these data did not arise from a probabilistic sampling design, or are otherwise not highly informative, then it may not be worth the expense to digitize these data (or implement in the context of a statistical model). As such, your final judgement and knowledge about the available resources, such as funding, interns, etc., will be critical as we consider moving this particular effort any further forward.

Also, all of the code used for the representation analyses and the matching is available via Bitbucket: <https://bitbucket.org/lzachmann/gsenm>. We can invite collaborators upon request.

In light of the delays in reporting the attached work to you, we still would be excited by the opportunity to advance the outcomes and discuss future possibilities when convenient. Thanks for your patience.

Best,

Brett

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