

RE: update for elk on dry creek
Loveless, Karen ,KLoveless@mt.gov>
Kujala, Quentin; Flowers, Pat; Burt, Howard
Friday 2/22/2013 13.44 PM

Here are a few maps I put together that might help with our conversation later.

Also, here's some brief status updates:

Trail Creek: Fencing voucher for materials up to \$2000 was given to landowner. Herder has been out there several evenings to push elk back.

Dry Creek: Fencing voucher for materials up to \$2000 was given to land lessee's. Herder has been out there to survey area and discuss herding/hazing strategy. Elk have not been back down this week.

Mill Creek: Have met with all producers in the affected area and established who is interested in participating in hunt if we go forward with it. In discussions with 1 landowner who is hesitant to participate, he may be willing to work with us on herding/hazing. Questions have come up as to whether we will manage the hunt with a hunt coordinator or hand off responsibility for coordinating to landowners/ranch managers. Also some interest in using herder in conjunction with dispersal hunt. Additional question on where to draw hunt boundaries and how to delineate.

6-Mile: No elk have been in proximity to cattle at all yet this year, the herder has not yet worked any hours in the 6-mile area.

More details at 3!

Thanks,

Karen

From: Kujala, Quentin
Sent: Wednesday, February 20, 2013 7:49 AM
To: Loveless, Karen
Cc: Burt, Howard; Flowers, Pat
Subject: RE: Update for elk on Dry Creek

I'll try look at everybody's schedule and see if we can find a time on Friday.

Q

From: Loveless, Karen
Sent: Wednesday, February 20, 2013 6:39 AM
To: Kujala, Quentin
Cc: Burt, Howard; Flowers, Pat
Subject: RE: Update for elk on Dry Creek

I'm happy to do a conference call, can't hurt to be sure we're all clear on the various projects and protocols. Right now Friday afternoon looks best, possibly Thursday afternoon, but let me know if neither of these work. It would be really helpful for me if we can also discuss if/when/what sort of public meeting we might want to put together for Paradise Valley, working in the direction of forming a working group.

Thanks,

Karen

From: Kujala, Quentin
Sent: Tuesday, February 19, 2013 1:53 PM
To: Loveless, Karen; Frey, Rebecca K - APHIS
Cc: Burt, Howard; Flowers, Pat
Subject: RE: Update for elk on Dry Creek

Thanks Karen for work you're doing. I wonder if we need a conf call later this week just to make sure everybody sees all the balls in the air?

Not looking for a call for the call's sake—just asking if some discussion would help folks? It certainly wouldn't hurt me in my efforts to keep up.

Thoughts?

Q

From: Loveless, Karen
Sent: Tuesday, February 19, 2013 9:27 AM
To: Frey, Rebecca K - APHIS; Kujala, Quentin
Cc: Burt, Howard; Flowers, Pat
Subject: RE: Update for elk on Dry Creek

Thanks Becky, that's all great to hear. Let's start with herding and fixing the fence, and see if these measures will address the problem before initiating a dispersal hunt. I will need to write this up for Howard and Pat and get an ok before we move forward, and I'll need to put an agreement in writing with Mtn Sky for herding elk across their property. I'll make all efforts to get these both done today. We had discussed hazing the elk west towards the state section, I'm not so sure about the idea of herding elk to the south, as there is a cattle operation just south of Big Creek Ranch that could be impacted. I'll touch base with these folks, as the elk may end up moving their way even if they are pushed to the west. I'll be in touch with you & Ben later today.

Thanks again –

Karen

From: Frey, Rebecca K - APHIS [<mailto:Rebecca.K.Frey@aphis.usda.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 19, 2013 8:45 AM
To: Kujala, Quentin; Loveless, Karen
Subject: Update for elk on Dry Creek

Hello Karen and Quentin,

We have gotten cooperation from Mountain Sky to take the elk through their place to wherever they haze to.....as elk will do. They would like to see them go south, but mostly concerned with fence damage....ie. minimizing.

I have also gotten the ok from the Church to have a damage hunt. They would like to be in the loop on when and who....they did not say they needed a release form, but I would expect they might ask for one when/if the time comes. It has been warmer, elk are in the upper pastures, but don't seem to be in the cows for the last few nights. Or if they are, they are

getting sneakier.

Thanks,

Becky

Rebecca Frey

Wildlife Disease Specialist

USDA APHIS Veterinary Services

Montana

406-333-4425

From: Kujala, Quentin [<mailto:qkujala@mt.gov>]

Sent: Saturday, February 09, 2013 7:24 PM

To: Frey, Rebecca K - APHIS

Subject: update

Sounds like Karen Loveless continues the discussion for FWP. I will try to keep checking in with her for updates. Beyond that, please do let me know if we need to stop or go faster for whatever reason.

Regards,

Q

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