

Advisory Committee Accomplishments

12/12/2012 to 11/06/2014

- Formation of Advisory Committee December 12, 2012
 - Comprised of several stakeholder representatives
- Vision
 - Piloting a new way of doing great things for wildlife and associated habitats
 - Open sharing of ideas and perspectives
 - Finding common ground
 - Learning from results – Adaptability
 - Facing challenges
 - Developing trust and partnerships
- Defined goal of the project
- Reviewed scientific data including
 - Sheep management and life history
 - The complex relationship between predator and prey
 - Mountain lion management and life history
 - Habitat evaluations
- Dissected mountain lion management plan
 - Looked for ways to manage impacts in a conservative and discriminate manner
 - Evaluated lion management techniques and the effectiveness of each
 - Removal of lions that kill sheep only as opposed to population reductions
 - Subject matter experts provided information on techniques and effectiveness
 - Analysis of socio-political impacts
- Provided recommendation to the Department on edits to the Mountain Lion Management Plan
 - Recommended circumstances when lions could be removed
 - Focus on lions that killed sheep
 - Constant reevaluation and modification of the plan as necessary
 - Duration of the removal efforts
 - Methodology
 - Criteria for removal efforts
 - Eligible lions - Spotted kittens or female lions accompanied by spotted kittens will not be removed.
 - Pursuit parameters including distance and time
 - Documentation of removed lions involvement in sheep kill
 - Director reviewed and approved the Mountain Lion Management Plan
- Mountain lion management
 - Recommended that a Multiple Bag Limit hunt not be used
 - Recommended the prohibition of dogs for hunting in the Bighorn Sheep Management area
 - Recommended boundaries for area where sheep kills would trigger pursuit efforts
 - Providing evidence that removed lions were involved in the sheep kill
- Looked at Management needs for habitat enhancement and maintenance

- Provided perspective and advice on wilderness regulations and values
 - Evaluated possible management needs and ways to mitigate the effects on wilderness characteristics
 - Provided recommendations on when NEPA would be required
- Public involvement
 - Recommendations on conveying complex aspects of the project
 - Recommendations on ensuring proper context when providing information
 - Developed in response to Department releases that were misinterpreted
 - Recommended review process
 - Recommended adaptive changes to media releases
 - Participated in public forums to answer the public's concerns
 - 3 meetings (Saddlebrooke, Westward Look and Ventana Canyon)
 - Provided media outreach
 - Opinion Editorials
 - Interviews with reporters
 - Participation in Radio Talk show discussions
 - Press conferences
 - Personal contact with constituency
 - Personal contact with opposition to discuss concerns
 - Presentations to interested stakeholder groups
 - Audubon Society
 - Southern Arizona Hiking Club
- Funding
 - Provided perspective on the funding for the project and wildlife management in Arizona
 - Recommendations on development of donation opportunities
- Dedication
 - Meeting Attendance
 - Nearly 40 meetings
 - Over 100 hours
 - 22 months
 - Overcame obstacles to keep all parties engaged with the project