

JAGUAR CONSERVATION TEAM (JAGCT) SUMMARY NOTES

January 13, 2005

Location: Willcox Community Center located at 312 W. Stewart St., Willcox, Arizona
Time: AZ Time: 0930 – 1200
Participants: Bill Van Pelt, Terry Johnson (AGFD)
Invitees: Warner Glenn, Sue Krentz, Richard Moore, Kelly Glenn-Kimbro, David Moore, and Ron Thompson (Rancher or ranch affiliated); Richard Mahler, Billie Hughes, Steve Pavlik, Gary Groban, Chris Hass, and Kevin Hansen (private citizens); George Ortega (former NMDGF commissioner); Jesus F. Moreno and Jorge Barcelo (Jaguar, Sonora); Bud Starnes (New Mexico Department of Agriculture); Judy Keeler (BHA); Bobbi Barrera and Gary Helbing (U.S. Forest Service); Janice Przybyl, Jo Ann Caruthers, and David Hodges (Sky Island Alliance); Heidi Kuska and Bill Grossi (Bureau of Land Management); Paul Barrett and Delivan Ropir (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service); Tim Veeneudaal and Jim Schmidt (USDA APHIS Wildlife Services); Stephen Williams (Arizona State Land Department); Jack Childs, Anna Mary Childs, and Emil McCain (Jaguar Project); Keel Price (U.S. Department of Agriculture); Chuck Hayes (New Mexico Department of Game and Fish); Michael Robinson (Center for Biological Diversity); Octavio C. Rosas (New Mexico State University); Scotty Johnson and Craig Miller (Defenders of Wildlife); Sharon Wilcox (University of Texas); Deb O'Neill, Tim Snow, and Terry Johnson (Arizona Game and Fish Department)

Introduction

Terry Johnson, JAGCT Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

A. Opening comments and ground rules

Ground rules were the same as previous meetings. Participants were asked to raise their hand to ask a question or state an opinion. Only one person was allowed to speak and side conversations were kept to a minimum. This allowed each person to be heard and kept the meeting moving through the agenda. Participants in the Jaguar Working Group (JAGWG) (i.e. everyone present at JAGCT meetings) may comment and are encouraged to do so on any issue being discussed at the JAGCT meeting. Everyone was reminded to pick up documents at the entrance and sign in.

All in attendance introduced themselves and the organizations they represented. Terry Johnson provided an update on his new position and described the purpose of the Conservation Team effort at AGFD. Priorities for the AGFD Conservation Team includes the development of a Jaguar Conservation Plan that will involve multi-agency collaboration on Jaguar issues in a multi-use/private property habitat environment. Any agreement developed by the agencies will not involve more regulatory measures and will be voluntary in nature.

B. Agenda Review/Additional Discussion Points

The agenda for the day was reviewed. The CBD has prepared a slide show on the Jaguar and would like to show it.

C. Discussion of summary notes from August 5, 2004 JAGCT meeting

The August 5, 2004 JAGCT meeting notes were not distributed at this meeting, however, everyone was reminded that Jaguar information could be found on the Arizona Game and Fish Department (AGFD) website at http://www.azgfd.com/w_c/jaguar_management.shtml.

D. Task Reports:

1. Update on AZ-NM sightings: Bill Van Pelt

There were 2 sightings in Arizona.

2. Kill verification activities/camera surveys (Section 5.H.2): Jack Childs

There were 2 sightings, one in California and one along the Mississippi as it flows into the Illinois River. There were 2 males and possibly a third, within a 30 square mile area.

3. Habitat report updates: Bill Van Pelt and Chuck Hayes

E. Result of the August 30 meeting regarding *Review of Jaguar Conservation Agreement Activities March 1997 through December 2003* Technical Report

Two drafts have been made available for comment. There were not many comments on the first draft, but there were several constructive comments made on the second draft.

F. Other business

1. Update on Defenders of Wildlife and the Center for Biological Diversity lawsuit against the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

2. Role and Function of Work Group and Conservation Team.

Determine management guidelines for conservation measures, open funding windows, determine the least intrusive means for conservation and develop timelines for deliverables. Provide background information on Jaguar conservation.

3. Recovery Strategy – what is that and how does it relate to the Conservation Team.

A discussion of collaring ensued. Collaring is considered the least invasive technique for tracking the Jaguar population next to scat analysis. A radio collar frequency would need to be obtained. A contingency plan for injury would include assembling the Jaguar Capture Team.

Action Items: The Scientific Advisory Group is available in April.
Bill Van Pelt will check with Tim on the status of the letter to TEP.
Bill Van Pelt will send John Holcomb the NGTR 105.
Bill Van Pelt will discuss the possibility of offering a slide show with the Education Committee.
Get the Region 5 self-subscription site.

G. Close meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 1200.