Yellowstone Winter Use Adaptive Management Program
Human Dimensions Working Group
Meeting Notes
April 28, 2014

Participants:
Amy Beegle
Tom Burge
Mary Sue Consolo
Mark Douglas
Janine Roberson
Jack Welch
Kim Raap
Alicia Murphy
Jan Stoddard
Chris Edelen

Mark looked at 3 objectives for the workgroup, which is from the working group guidelines.

1. Existing basic monitoring
2. Comparability
3. New research

We can combine some of the monitoring strategies for both basic and comparability testing.

Jack asked if the document Mark sent is the initial draft of the paper that will go out to the public? Mark—Yes, but remember that we're still in the very rough draft stage of developing the chapter.

Tom asked when we will have something to review? Mark—in about 3 weeks but there will be other metrics to review by the end of today (with a one-week deadline).

Kim—this table is something he hasn't seen before. Is Mark going to ask us to rank the "unpacked" table options? 1-3, with 1 as low…can we have a zero so it's not a priority just so we can have a reasonable list for prioritization. Mark would like to stick with 1-3 so we can identify things that can drop off, by the next week. This is a chart that Rebecca did right before she moved to Denver.

Mark—these are the metrics he has in mind and wants to connect them to the items in the table.

4 metrics under "basic" monitoring—noise level satisfaction, (Jack—why is Mark using "noise" because it has a negative connotation. Mark will change that to "sound"),

Comparability—compare satisfaction levels for the event management plan (event, sound, sound level perception, wildlife viewing satisfaction/perception, exhaust, social conditions, conflict analysis, motivation comp, use patterns) Mary Sue—Are these from guidelines? What does "social" mean? The social conditions of a park refers to needs and wants of people. User perceptions and opinions of what types and level of use are preferred are an essential element in developing prescriptions of appropriate visitor use.

New—Displacement, substitution, regional eco analysis, human-wildlife, conflict analysis, use patterns for people using coach to get to interior for a backcountry trip.

There will be 12-15 specific metrics in a new chart that this group can rate. Kim—additional research on use patterns is very important and the group has had a lot of discussion on this topic.

Amy—all the past 10-13 years of the research will be used for comparability so it's not lost? Mark—these metrics relied on past variables to keep momentum and do trend analysis. Amy—looking for about 20 years of trend analysis and look at new technology analysis. Mark—if we can look at variables from the past, that's great, but he can't say for sure. He will send out reference for past research for some of these metrics. RG had sent out a chart with all past research and Mark will resend. Mark realizes that some past research may not be relevant for the future.

Mark will provide the expanded list of potential metrics and ask for ranking and feedback within 10 days by May 8th. Doodle poll for week of May 19th meeting.

By June 4th, we need a good PowerPoint for the meeting and then Mark can use the rest of June to develop the chapter.

Tom—are we expected to be at the Jackson meeting? Mark and Alicia--That would be great! But it's not mandatory by any means.

Jack—the transportation event plan is totally new and as we monitor it, we don't just look back and say "this is what happened then" and then don't look at it again. We have learned a lot along the way but it's important to evaluate what we do as we move forward.

Mark will add an abstract of a brief on adaptive management for learning by doing.