

1 **Yellowstone Winter Use Adaptive Management Program**  
2 **Working Group Kick-off Meeting Notes<sup>1</sup>**

3 January 22, 2014

4 Conference Call from 9-10 a.m. MST

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6 **Participants**

7 Alicia Murphy	Kurt Angersbach
8 PJ White	Thomas Burge
9 John Treanor	Dave Hallac
10 Ann Rodman	Shan Burson
11 Rebecca Garvoille	Wayne Freimund
12 Wade Vagias	Sue Bury
13 Dan Reinhart	Jack Welch
14 Randy Roberson	Jeanine Roberson
15 Scott Carsley	Amy Beegel
16 Kim Raap	Sarah Onderus
17 Don Bachman	Mary Sue Costello
18 Jon Catton	Bart Melton
19 Scott Christensen	Chris Edelen
20 Fred Button	Tim French
21 Bruce Gourley	David Hodges
22 Jason Hurd	Brad Johnson
23 Chris Jourdain	Kay Lloyd
24 Amy MacKenzie-Sanders	Ron DuCharme
25 Molly Ross	Tim Russ
26 Barbara Shesky	Pat Williams Stevens
27 Mary Sue Costello	Doyle Vaughan
28 John Vimont	Travis Watt

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30 I. **Working Group Overview** – Rebecca Garvoille, WUAMP Coordinator

- 31 • Description of Five Working Groups
- 32 • Working Groups Ultimate Goal: Develop a Monitoring Strategy for Their Impact
- 33 Topic
- 34 • Three Questions Each Working Group Needs to Answer
  - 35 ○ To evaluate impacts of OSV use and help managers implement actions
  - 36 that keep impacts within the range predicted under the final SEIS’
  - 37 Selected Alternative;
  - 38 ○ To gather additional data regarding the comparability of impacts from a
  - 39 group of snowmobiles versus a snowcoach;
  - 40 ○ To reduce impacts on park resources after implementation of the Selected
  - 41 Alternative by gathering additional data regarding the overall social and
  - 42 ecological impacts of winter use and using those data to guide future
  - 43 management decisions.
- 44 • Introduce NPS Working Group Leads

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<sup>1</sup> Any edits to the draft meeting notes, made in response to participant comments, are denoted in RED.

- 45 ○ Ann Rodman and Shan Burson: Air Quality and Soundscape
- 46 ○ John Treanor: Wildlife
- 47 ○ Rebecca Garvoille: Human Dimensions
- 48 ○ Wade Vagias: Technology and Operations:
- 49 ○ Alicia Murphy: Non-commercially Guided Snowmobile Access Program

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51 **II. Roles and Responsibilities of Working Group Members** – Rebecca Garvoille,  
52 WUAMP Coordinator

- 53 ● Working Group members will:
  - 54 ○ Provide feedback on the impact topic
  - 55 ○ Provide feedback on future results
  - 56 ○ Can join groups at any time
  - 57 ○ Participate in at least 3 meetings by June 2014
    - 58 ■ Review materials ahead of time
    - 59 ■ Meetings will be 1-2 hours via phone
  - 60 ○ Bring information about the impact topic to the table
  - 61 ○ Come to the process with an open mind and respect

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63 **III. Timeline**– Rebecca Garvoille, WUAMP Coordinator

- 64 ● Each group will hold at least 3 meetings to develop the monitoring strategy by  
65 June 2014 (can be more if needed)
- 66 ● All groups come together to present strategies in June 2014 at an Adaptive  
67 Management Team Meeting in Jackson, WY
- 68 ● Public comment on overall plan by the end of the summer 2014
- 69 ● There will be monthly coordination calls for the Adaptive Management Team so  
70 that all participants and interested parties can receive updates from the Working  
71 Group leads and members

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73 **IV. Audience Question and Answer**

- 74 1. Can members get notes from today's meeting?
  - 75 a. Rebecca will resend the WUAMP Working Group Guidelines to
  - 76 participants, and share the notes from today's meeting. These materials
  - 77 will also be available online via
  - 78 <http://www.nps.gov/yell/parkmgmt/wuamp.htm>
- 79 2. Where is the meeting in June 2014?
  - 80 a. Jackson, WY
  - 81 b. The NPS is working on the meeting logistics and we will provide at
  - 82 least 2 months notice of the meeting time/place so that participants can
  - 83 make travel arrangements.
- 84 3. How does the adaptive management process coincide with the already ongoing  
85 work of the non-commercially guided snowmobile access program (N-CGSAP)?
  - 86 a. The N-CGSAP working group will focus on metrics of success to
  - 87 evaluate this program while also addressing broader program design
  - 88 and development issues.
- 89 4. Will the results from the oversnow vehicle noise testing be released to the public  
90 and will they be proprietary? This data was collected in the public domain The

- 91 release of this data may impact contract awards to commercial tour operators, and  
92 the preparation of the contract proposals due Feb. 10.
- 93 a. The NPS is developing data collection and data sharing protocols for  
94 this program and will release the data when these are more fully  
95 developed.
  - 96 b. This is a public process and will be developed with your feedback.
  - 97 c. The NPS will look into your questions about the commercial contract  
98 process.
- 99 5. Will the Working Groups have a specific budget?
- 100 a. This process will not result in a blank check but the NPS is committed  
101 to this program
  - 102 b. Each Working Group's monitoring strategy should focus on the three  
103 guiding questions and come up with practical and prioritized solutions  
104 to ensure that resources can be allocated efficiently and effectively.