

Exhibit F

**Supplemental Public Correspondence
received as of December 6, 2018**

Roxann B Borisch

Subject: FW: Comments to Draft Wild Turkey Management Plan
Attachments: USFS_Turkey Plan Comments_113018.docx

From: Gregg, Monty -FS <mgregg@fs.fed.us>
Sent: Friday, November 30, 2018 1:51 PM
To: Mikal Cline (mikal.l.cline@state.or.us) <mikal.l.cline@state.or.us>
Cc: Chapman, Joshua L -FS <joshuachapman@fs.fed.us>
Subject: Comments to Draft Wild Turkey Management Plan

Mikal,

Thanks for the opportunity to provide comments on the Wild Turkey Management Plan. Please see attached.



Monty Gregg
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11/29/2018

R6 USFS Comments on Draft Wild Turkey Management Plan

From: Josh Chapman Regional Wildlife Biologist, Monty Gregg Upland Game Bird Centers of Excellence

Thank you for providing the opportunity to comment on the Draft Wild Turkey Management Plan. The Forest Service are vested partners with ODFW to support the management of wild turkey populations in Oregon as they relate to National Forest System Lands. In addition, the Forest Service has one of the largest partnerships in the country with the National Wild Turkey Federation and regionally participates through the Making Tracks Program and associated national committee. Lastly, Region 6 of the Forest Service has identified the wild turkey as socio-economically important species in many of the eco-regions identified within the Terrestrial Restoration and Conservation Strategy.

Comments based on our review:

- In 2013, the USFS and ODFW co-funded a comprehensive food habitat study from 2009-2011 (Evans-Peters 2013). We acknowledge the use of the information in the draft plan. Although the plan has addressed impacts to sensitive plants and wildlife, and has stated “to date there is no evidence wild turkeys negatively impact populations of native wildlife species or plants in Oregon”. The Forest Service also agrees that “the absence of evidence is not evidence of absence” and the Forest Service will continue to partner with ODFW and further consider findings that document turkey population’s potential impacts to native species. The 4 strategies identified to native wildlife risk reduction, are the nexus for engagement with our agency on this topic.
- As ODFW has pointed out, the trap and transplant guidelines have been updated to be more efficient, using other sources of data collection to identify occupied habitat. The Forest Service highly recommends coordinating the prioritized list of release sites with the associated Forests. The Forest Service has gone great lengths to restore large expanses of hard wood and meadow habitats. These habitat sites are often associated with sensitive plants and animals, and restoration activities are specific to these species, especially invertebrates. The Forest Service acknowledges that these habitats are also important for polt production and birds often key into these areas due to the abundance of invertebrates. By coordinating the list of prioritized release sites the Forest Service can assist ODFW with its continued efficiencies with their trap and transplant strategies, as well as reducing impacts to recently restored habitat.
- Designated wilderness areas contain a specific set of guidelines for management, including the management of wildlife species. Although the Draft Wild Turkey Management Plan does not identify any management actions associated with wilderness areas, the Forest Service highly recommends coordinating any future turkey management actions that ODFW identifies in wilderness areas. The Forest Service will need to complete an assessment of proposed actions to determine the appropriate methods to accomplishing these management activities.