MONTANA WILDLIFE AND TRANSPORTATION

DATA AND INFORMATION WORK GROUP

Meeting Notes

August 27, 2020

Purpose: To hear the Steering Committee's feedback on the mission, product, and criteria, and make a plan for revising the document.

Objectives:

- Understand the Steering Committee's feedback
- Make revisions
- Determine next steps for the mission, product, and criteria
- Make progress on a work plan

Attendees:

- D&I Work Group: Paul Sturm (MDT), Gabe Priebe (MDT), Brian Klapstein MDT), Liz Fairbank (MSWP), Joshua Theurer (MSWP), Andrew Jakes (MSWP), Justin Gude (FWP), Adam Messer (FWP)
- Planning and Implementation Team (PIT Crew): Renee Lemon (FWP), Deb Wambach (MDT), Nick Clarke (MSWP), Hannah Jaicks (MSWP)

Agenda:

1. **Introduction**
    - The PIT Crew went over the purpose and objectives of the meeting and members introduced themselves. Brian Klapstein, MDT GIS Specialist, attended as a proxy for Brian Andersen.

2. **Steering Committee's feedback**
    - MDT, MSWP, FWP shared the feedback and guidance from the respective entities. These comment documents were provided electronically to the D&I members. Key direction included:
        - Everyone is very impressed with the composition of the workgroup and the great start on direction and workplan
        - Take a stepwise approach and focus on Recommendation 4a and Action 7
        - Start with a needs assessment, not a list of priority projects, not feasibility
        - Product should include an interactive mapping tool with informative layers to be turned on and off by users. Tool should be created to support and inform decisions
        - The wording is important to ensure clarity and set appropriate expectations – stay away from "priority" and "hot spot"
        - It was suggested to consider and document what this effort is, what it is not, and what are the sensitivities – keep this list updated as concerns emerge

- Take a look at some recent efforts by other states (CO, ID, WY) to get ideas that make sense for MT effort – CLLC is working on a summary document of these efforts and can provide when ready
- Separate the identification of areas of need and areas with specific data gaps/research needs. This effort can inform a variety of projects from accommodations to research
- Consider implementation criteria and process guidance under a second phase, in line with Recommendation 4b and Action 9

3. **Work plan**
    - Not discussed

4. **Meeting Logistics**
    - PIT Crew will organize and facilitate meetings and take notes. Next meetings scheduled for Thursday September 10th and Thursday September 24th. Recurring meeting set the 4th Thursday of every month for the next six (6) months.

5. **Review and Close**

ACTION ITEMS:

- Nick to have MSWP to provide clarification on comment regarding prioritization by district (done)
- Deb to provide summary of Recommendation 4 from summit report and Actions 7 and 9 from workplan (done)
- Renee to schedule out meetings for workgroup (done)