

**From:** [Claudia Narcisco](#)  
**To:** [Tabish, Dillon](#)  
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**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Comments and suggestions from Claudia Narcisco  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 2:51:15 PM

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A few comments from today's discussion:

### **Re Hunting:**

From hunting section of the DRAFT July 17 report:

"Many council members recognize that hunting has been an important and effective tool in the North American Model of wildlife management, and yet, as a council, we can imagine successful grizzly bear management that does not include hunting."

It would be helpful to add a concise statement of the purpose of hunting in the North American Model of wildlife management to this section of the report. Please include specific reference to the application of hunting grizzly bear in context of the model.

Clearly, the council is not going to come to a consensus on hunting so I agree with Erin, Michele and others who do not support hunting as a means to manage grizzly bear.

### **Re Habitat:**

Please add 'Habitat' to the subsection header titled: **Grizzly Bear Distribution, Relocation, Connectivity, and Habitat**. Quality habitat is key to connectivity, distribution, and relocation.

### **Re Definitions:**

At the end of the third meeting in December, the council realized that they were not operating off of common definitions or understanding of key elements. Please include a glossary of terms that the Council used in its deliberations and reporting. Some terms that emerged at the end of the December meeting were:

- What is conflict?
- What is tolerance?
- What is total recovery?
- What is connectivity?
- What is best management?
- What is prevention?
- Long term sustainability?

### **Re Long term usefulness of the GBAC work and report:**

If the end product of the council's dedicated work is intended to have long term usefulness, the GBAC might consider the broad range of conditions on the landscape and the changes that may occur over time. For example, the Northern Plains of Montana has large blocks of protected public lands including Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument and the Charles M Russell Wildlife Refuge and the UL Bend Wilderness Area. In addition there are

large tribal lands, where free roaming wildlife including bison, grizzly, and many other species is part of their heritage. The American Prairie Reserve is also piecing together a landscape scale model inclusive to all components of any ecological diversity.

If the council wants its work to endure, they might consider better reflecting the potential for grizzly bear 'expansion' over this vast landscape. There are also ranchers who are already figuring out how to operate in such a context. Hopefully, the council is able to clearly incorporate these landscapes, perspectives, and efforts into the outcome of their work on the council.

### **Re The Consensus Discussion:**

I agree with Michele and Erin and others, that if it is not a consensus it doesn't go into the recommendations part of the report. Here is a section from my notes from the October 3-4 meeting:

#### Decision-making

- Thumbs up, down, side
- If thumbs down need to come up with alternative
- If a consensus it is given to governor FWP as a formal recommendation.
- Not consensus – can provide input but given as not a formal recommendation.
- Question regarding if not a consensus could it be a vote? Response is to strive for consensus.
  
- Comment from Trina – at what point does someone higher up than the council make decisions.

From my notes, it is clear that any topic that does not result in a consensus can be provided as 'input' but does not go into the report under recommendations. You can kick it down the road, or put it in another section of the report.