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Subject: PD Update: taking a timeout

Good afternoon, Commissioners.

Another p-dog update. But I'll be brief.

First, I had a productive conversation with the Governor's office earlier this week. Outreach from them is forthcoming, and if my understanding of the conversation's takeaways is accurate, I think you will be amenable to their solicitation.

Second, I am concerned with the direction (or lack thereof) the amendment process is going. Especially within the context from which we started: constructive, substantive engagement from a place of mutual respect. It is a bar we set for ourselves and one that we expect in return from those we are at the table with, regardless the jurisdiction or political subdivision represented. It has become clear to me, and likely without a doubt to those representing you during the discussion with the USFS, that the bar we set for ourselves going in to this is no longer being met. I am loathe to compromise on that principle. And, frankly, feel we must preserve the good that has come out of your engagement (and there is!) before that goodwill gets diluted or otherwise corrupted by the flawed process we now find ourselves mired in.

So, here is my recommendation. Let's take a step back from the proceedings while the USFS works its will on its idea of updating the 2009 strategy outside of the NEPA process. At the end of the day, this "proposal" to update the 2009 strategy outside of the process we originally signed up for is the USFS to validate, not us. We will give them a little more time to put some meat on that bone and provide us a product we can compare and contrast with our desire to move forward with the EIS path. But until then, I suggest that your time will be better served focusing on other county priorities, which there are many, regrouping and taking stock of what you have provided to the process thus far, and be ready to engage at the level you expect once direction and leadership return to the process.

I have placed a call to your ID team representatives and have communicated this recommendation to the Governor's office.

I plan on calling in during tomorrow's ID team meeting and conveying this sentiment on your behalf.

Let me know if you have any questions or concerns moving forward. I promise to pass developments along as they become known. Thanks for what you've done and continue to do.

Gregory

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