Thursday April 1, 1-2:30 Mountain Time - Agenda Items

1. Introductions, Additions, deletions, modifications to Agenda (Layne)
   1. Barry Irving
   2. Elena Dosamantes
   3. Layne Coppock
   4. Aimee Robinson
   5. Elisabeth Huber-Sannwald
   6. Peter Ballerstedt (Introduction)
   7. Dale Weisbrot
   8. Hailey Wilmer
   9. Jurgen Hoth
   10. Ray Smith
   11. Serkan Ates
   12. David Toledo
   13. Bill Payne
   14. Kelly Hopping
   15. Mark Thorne
   16. N. Padilla
   17. Arvind Panjabi
   18. Barbara Hutchinson
   19. Peter Ballesteros
   20. David Borre
   21. Maryam Niamir
   22. Diana Doan-Crider
2. Approval of Minutes from March 4th
   1. Seconded by Bill P.
3. Key takeaways from the IYRP Support Group March meeting (Jim and Maryam)
   1. Mongolian government is still on board despite changes, must wait for FAO process (sometime in July).
   2. Ministry of Agriculture is getting Ministry of Foreign Affairs on board
      1. Ministry of Foreign Affairs request for draft action plan describing activities and how it is going to be financed.
      2. Draft of action plan and list of organizations will be sent out for members to review.
      3. Where letters will now be addressed to: Current contacts within the Mongolian Government have been distributed to the ISG mailing list.
4. Tri-National Initiatives Update (Arvind and Jurgen)
   1. Annual meeting in June (Commission for Environmental Cooperation). (Jurgen)
   2. Tri-lateral meeting for conservation of species and ecosystems in May 18th; IYRP to be included. (Jurgen)
   3. Grasslands Roadmap update. (Arvind)
   4. Development of a governance document (constellation governance model)
5. Indigenous People’s Engagement (Diana, Jurgen, Barry)
   1. Effort for inclusion of indigenous communities. (Jurgen). Potential groups to contact and build relationships with:
      1. Canada: Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations, the Blackfoot Confederacy, the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs, or the Assembly of First Nations
      2. USA: Intertribal Agriculture Council
   2. Letters from USA indigenous tribes challenging. (Diana)
      1. National Congress of American Indians, last chance.
      2. Attempt to obtain participation through UN group. (Maryam and Barb)
6. Mexico Status Report (Elisabeth, David and Jurgen)
   1. Access to directory of: SOMMAP Mexican Society for the Management of Grasslands. Jurgen and Elisabeth are preparing standalone letter, inspired in Canada´s
   2. Access to directory of: Secretary of Agriculture; will help reach indigenous communities. (Elisabeth)
7. US Status Report (Layne)
   1. Federal government outreach.
      1. Identifying federal decision-makers; have enlisted help from Matt Luizza of USFWS and Andrew Bisson of USAID. We have sent them an IYRP concept note for initial circulation among targeted federal decision makers
      2. Finding more contacts with USDA via Lia Biondo and Bill Payne
   2. American stakeholder outreach.
      1. About 75 Stakeholders are in the current master list along with contact details
      2. Effort needed to grow the list
      3. Working with/through SRM to increase and diversify stakeholders for the list
      4. Stakeholders will receive call for support from SRM and a cover letter that asks recipients to sign on to a group letter to US federal decision makers
      5. Lia will provide the oversight for managing the stakeholder list
   3. We need a short technical justification as to why IYRP should matter to the USA, and this will be written by Bill Payne.   
      One challenge has been dealing with the change of administration in DC.
8. Canada Status Report (Jurgen and Barry)
   1. Sent out letter, 71 individuals, 51 NGOs, 15 positive responses back and Canadian Cattlemen’s Association has sent a standalone letter to be included with the group letter when we send it to the Federal Ministers of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Environment and Climate Change Canada, and Foreign Affairs Canada. Expect to send the group letter before our next NA IRSG meeting. (Barry)
   2. Indigenous community outreach still pending.
9. Key takeaways from Global Communications Team Meeting (Elena and Barb)
   1. Discussion on decision-making on improving communications materials. (Barb)
   2. Website: main resources on website and archive website; updating regional websites. (Barb)
   3. Each regional group will be putting together a communications strategy. (Barb)
   4. Social media. (Barb)
   5. Word cloud on different terminology for “rangelands” and “pastoralists”. (Maryam)
10. Open Discussion/Others?
    1. Next steps: expand stakeholder contacts through SRM (Ray and Layne)
    2. Offering something immediate and long-lasting to start conversation and build trust with indigenous communities, for instance establishing a portal for indigenous groups (Jurgen)
    3. Motion to close the meeting was supported by Barb and seconded by Jurgen
    4. Next Meeting: Thursday, May 6th, 1:00 p.m. Will do a Doodle poll for a different time that might allow more attendees.