To assist with responses to questions raised during the Medford hearing, we have provided additional information on our consultation process throughout the research project.

We have communicated primarily with the Joint Fire Sciences Program concerning our progress through this research. We believed this was consistent with the lines of communication for other Joint Fire Sciences Program projects. However, we have also communicated with Tom Sensenig, Project Inspector. We have attached a chronology of our contacts and consultation with him. We were never led to believe that these contacts were insufficient or that we should be communicating with anyone else within BLM.

Aside from interactions with Tom Sensenig, we only received requests for information from BLM once. That was a phone call from Terry Johnson in late November, 2004, asking Douglas Robinson if the project was on schedule with its budget expenditures for that year. She said we could confirm with a phone call or email that we were on schedule. Robinson sent an email confirming that we were right on schedule. Thus, we had no reason to believe we needed to communicate with anyone else at BLM. We felt our communication with the Joint Fire Sciences Program and with the Project Inspector, Tom Sensenig met our responsibilities for consultation. Although Tom Sensenig, the Project Inspector, left BLM for the Forest Service in fall, 2004, we were not notified of a new Inspector. Therefore, we continued to communicate with Tom Sensenig as Project Inspector. Had we known, we would have been happy to share our communications and updates of our progress more broadly within BLM. No clearly defined procedures for consultation were provided to us.

All the investigators were invited to the national meeting of the Joint Fire Sciences Program held in San Diego, California, in early November 2005. Tom Sensenig chose not to attend that meeting. Dan Donato, Joe Fontaine, and Boone Kauffman attended the meeting. Donato presented during an oral presentation the same results that were later accepted for publication by Science. Since Tom Sensensig did not attend the national meeting, Dan Donato and Joe Fontaine offered to show Sensenig the talk and the results. Sensenig told them he would be in Corvallis in Dec so they met with him and showed him the same powerpoint presentation that was presented in San Diego. They told Sensenig they were publishing those results and Sensenig expressed no concerns to them about it. The content of all those presentations contained the same results that were later published in Science.

Finally, we sought input from Sensenig throughout the project. We provide dates below of the times we consulted with him.

**Chronology of Interactions with Dr. Thomas Sensenig**

The following chronology summarizes the interactions with Dr. Thomas Sensenig, the original project inspector for our Joint Fire Science Program grant.
2002

Fall 2002  Project Inception
Dr. Boone Kauffman visits SW Oregon, meets with Dr. Tom Sensenig, discusses finding sites to construct a fire chronosequence. Sensenig and Kauffman tour Quartz fire.

2003

August
~27 August. Dr. Douglas Robinson and Joe Fontaine drive to Central Point to meet Sensenig at BLM District Office. Discuss management needs and regulatory climate in morning, tour Quartz fire in afternoon. Sensenig provides Robinson and Fontaine with resource area maps and telephone directory of Medford BLM employees. Sensenig also provides general directions to several fires mentioned in JFSP project proposal.

[Dan Donato begins graduate program in September]

2004

[Fontaine begins graduate program in January]

February
Fontaine and Sensenig exchange emails about BLM personnel with GIS expertise.

March
March 8-12. Fontaine and Donato attend fire conference in Medford.
Donato meets Sensenig for first time.
Donato, Fontaine, Sensenig speak briefly on two occasions about project logistics.

Late March. Donato and Fontaine meet with Sensenig in Central Point to discuss locating field sites. Sensenig provides newspaper articles, aerial photos, and additional contact information for BLM personnel familiar with past salvage logging sales.

April
Donato and Fontaine both hold graduate committee meetings where they present project proposals to their graduate committees in Corvallis. Sensenig is later emailed these proposals. Sensenig does not provide comments or feedback.

May-August
Sensenig contacts Robinson in early August inquiring about the status of the project. Robinson directs Sensenig to talk to Donato and Fontaine who were most familiar with project field sites and status of data collection. Donato arranges a time with Sensenig for a field tour.
September (first week)
Sensenig, Donato, Fontaine, and Adam Pfleeger (field technician) spend day together touring BLM portion of project study area (Galice fire, BLM portion of Biscuit). Sensenig asks questions, discusses regulatory issues he faces in his job, and gives positive feedback on project status, but no specific scientific feedback (design, ecological considerations, etc) is offered.

October/November
Sensenig moves from BLM to USFS.

2005

April
Fontaine presents revised research proposal to graduate committee. Sensenig is emailed a copy of the document. Sensenig does not provide comment or feedback.

Early June
Donato emails (June 6th) and speaks with Sensenig about access to salvage logging units.

Sensenig emails (June 10th) Lee Fox, head Law Enforcement Officer of Siskiyou National Forest, alerting him to our presence in and around salvage logging units.

July
Donato and Sensenig speak again about permits and gaining access to units with active salvage logging (July 5-14). Sensenig sends several emails to other SNF personnel in an attempt to aid us. Donato and Fontaines’ project proposals are attached to one of these emails. Fontaine leaves 4-5 voice mails that go unreturned regarding access to salvage units.

August
Sensenig helps with logistics in permitting process. Sensenig again sends around project proposals to demonstrate validity of scientific work.

Sensenig is emailed a progress report intended for the Siskiyou NF on August 15.

September
Sensenig is emailed the annual project report (and included in the circulation of drafts) written for our funding agency, the Joint Fire Sciences Program. Sensenig does not provide comments or feedback.

Sensenig speaks with Donato and emails Donato and Fontaine about his need for maps of our study plots.

A map of the study area is sent to Sensenig on 9/23. He responded on 9/26 thanking us for our quick response. Fontaine emailed Sensenig and asked him to stay in touch,
especially if he was coming to Corvallis. Sensenig is notified several times about Donato’s upcoming presentation at the Joint Fire Science Program meeting:

From Fontaine to Sensenig on 9/23 “Dan and I are both eager to represent our project and provide meaningful research results to the USFS and BLM in SW Oregon. Currently, we are gathering the last of the data for this year and beginning to analyze data for our presentation at the JFS meeting in early November. “

From Sensenig to Fontaine & Donato 9/26 “I'll be in corvallis next month so maybe we could get together to look over your data. I'll be in touch.”

From Fontaine to Sensenig 9/28 “Hi Tom,

When are you planning on being in Corvallis? Dan and I would really like to get together and want to make sure that we’re both around. Also, other than working on our permit renewal, what else can we provide to help you represent our project for the review of Biscuit research?

We are preparing a talk for JFS in early November. We will email the power point presentation to you.

looking forward to seeing you,
Joe
“

No response was received to Fontaine’s 9/28 email.

November

Donato presents results of postfire logging at annual Joint Fire Sciences Program meeting. Results are also presented at weekly departmental seminar in Forest Science.

December

Sensenig was again emailed an annual update and summary of study goals for 2006 on 12/2/2005 by Fontaine (CC’d to Donato and several others).

Sensenig visits Corvallis in December and meets with Donato and Fontaine. Donato and Fontaine show Sensenig presentation that was given at JFSP meeting. This presentation contains the data and analyses presented in Donato et al. 2006. Sensenig accepts results, comments on how unfortunate Fiddler timber sale was in terms of its intensity. Fontaine verbally summarizes progress on wildlife portion of the project, focusing mainly on small mammal results. Donato and Fontaine tell Sensenig that they are submitting a manuscript that contains the presented results. Sensenig has since indicated he did not understand the paper’s status at that point. It was not our intent to miscommunicate and Sensenig did, after expressing mild interest, ask for a copy once the paper was in print. Last, Fontaine inquires about collaboration on future JFSP grants investigating woody debris dynamics. Sensenig responds positively. We are confident that our current collaborative effort with BLM to clarify future expectations for consultation will help avoid further misunderstandings.