THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY
ALASKA CHAPTER

The Alaska Chapter of The Wildlife Society strives to enhance the ability of wildlife professionals to conserve biological diversity, sustain productivity, and ensure responsible use of wildlife resources in Alaska for the benefit of society.

June 9, 2021

Ms. Chel Ethun, Project Manager
Central Yukon Field Office
Bureau of Land Management
222 University Avenue
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709

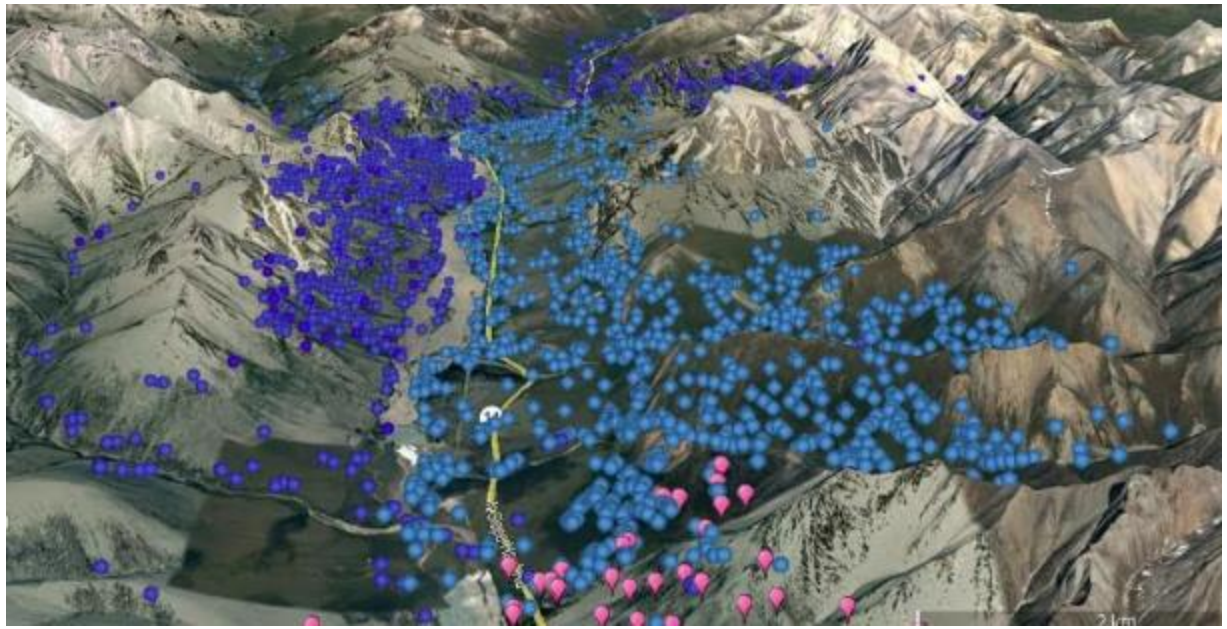
Dear Ms. Ethun,

The Alaska Chapter of The Wildlife Society is pleased to provide this addendum to our formal comments on the Draft Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (RMP/DEIS) for the Central Yukon planning area (CYRMP).

Since we submitted our comments on March 7, 2021, we have become aware of some preliminary research findings regarding the use of riparian habitat corridors by Canada Lynx (*Felis canadensis*) in the planning area. The attached graphic is a small representation of a large study and depicts the home ranges of five male and one female lynx marked with GPS collars over a multi-year period. We recommend you contact the principal investigator, Dr. Knut Kielland at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, to obtain more details. We ask that you consider this additional information regarding an important furbearer species. We believe these lynx represent a habitat use pattern illustrating how essential connectivity corridors can be to overall ecosystem health. We contend that they are an important aspect that you should consider in the land planning and realty decisions that you will finalize in the FEIS/RMP for Central Yukon. Our original statements strongly supporting wildlife habitat connectivity corridors, described on pages 15-18 in our March 7 letter, remain unchanged. Please contact me if there are questions about these comments, or if our membership can otherwise assist with the FEIS.

Sincerely,

Kim Jochum, Ph.D.
President
Alaska Chapter, The Wildlife Society



Preliminary research findings: Canada Lynx use of riparian corridors in the CYRMP area, summarized by Dr K. Kielland, Univ Ak, Fairbanks