From:	Brent Esmoil
To:	jconnell@blm.gov
Cc:	jlchaffi@blm.gov; Jeff Berglund
Subject:	Updated Species List for RMPs
Date:	Monday, March 30, 2015 6:42:14 PM
Attachments:	20150330 MEM Bush_Connell - MT RMP EIS Updated Species List.pdf
Importance:	High

Hi Jamie:

Attached is an updated species list for several BLM Resource Management Plans in central and eastern Montana. My apologies for the delayed response; Jeff was prompt in his delivery, but I unfortunately misplaced it in my inbox. Please don't hesitate to contact our office if you or your staff have any questions.

Thank you.

Brent

Brent Esmoil
Deputy Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Montana ES Field Office
585 Shepard Way, Suite 1
Helena, Montana 59601
406-449-5225, ext. 215
www.fws.gov/montanafieldoffice

United States Department of the Interior

Fish and Wildlife Service

Ecological Services
Montana Field Office
585 Shepard Way, Suite 1
Helena, Montana 59601-6287
Phone: (406) 449-5225 Fax: (406) 449-5339

File: M02 BLM March 30, 2015

Memorandum

To: Jamie Connell, State Director, Bureau of Land Management, Montana/Dakotas State Office, Billings, Montana

From: *for* Jodi L. Bush, Field Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Montana Field Office, Helena, Montana

Subject: Updated List of Endangered, Threatened, Proposed, and Candidate Species

This is in response to your office's March 19, 2015 email request for updated information from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) regarding federally listed and proposed threatened and endangered species, candidate species, and critical habitat that may occur in the vicinity of the Lewistown, Billings and Pompey's Pillar National Monument, HiLine, and Miles City Field Office Resource Management Plan (RMP) Amendment / Revision and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) planning areas in central and eastern Montana.

We understand the planning areas to include portions of the following counties:

- Lewistown RMP - Chouteau, Fergus, Judith Basin, Meagher, and Petroleum;
- Billings and Pompey's Pillar National Monument RMP - Big Horn, Carbon, Golden Valley, Musselshell, Stillwater, Sweet Grass, Wheatland, and Yellowstone;
- HiLine RMP - Glacier, Toole, Liberty, Hill, Blaine, Phillips, Valley, and Choteau;
- Miles City RMP - Carter, Powder River, Fallon, Custer, Rosebud, Wibaux, Prairie, Garfield, McCone, Dawson, Richland, Roosevelt, Sheridan, Daniels, Treasure, Valley, and Big Horn.

Our comments are provided as a cooperating agency pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and 40 Code of Federal Regulations Part 1500-1508, 43 C.F.R. 46.230, and as requested per the March 2012 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between BLM, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) and the U.S. Forest Service (USFS). These comments are authorized under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et. seq.), and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.). In accordance with section 7(c) of the ESA, the Service has determined that the following listed species may be present in the subject planning area vicinities:

Species	Status[1]	Resource Management Plan Planning Areas			
		Billings and Pompey's Pillar National Monument	**HiLine**	**Lewistown**	**Miles City**
Black-footed Ferret (*Mustela nigripes*)	LE/XN	x	x	x	x
Whooping Crane (*Grus americana*)	LE		x		x
Least Tern (*Sterna antillarum*)	LE		x		x
Pallid Sturgeon (*Scaphirhynchus albus*)	LE		x	x	x
Grizzly Bear (*Ursus arctos horribilis*)	LT	x	x		
Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*)	LT CH		x		x
Canada Lynx (*Lynx Canadensis*)	LT CH	x		x	
Red Knot (*Calidris canutus rufa*)	LT	x	x		x
Northern Long-eared Bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*)	P				x
Greater sage-grouse (*Centrocercus urophasianus*)	C	x	x	x	x
Sprague's Pipit (*Anthus spragueii*)	C	x	x	x	x
Whitebark Pine (*Pinus albicaulis*)	C	x	x	x	

[1] LT = Listed Threatened; LE = Listed Endangered; P = Proposed Threatened or Endangered; CH = Critical Habitat; C = Candidate; XN = Experimental Non-Essential Population

The Service appreciates your efforts to incorporate fish and wildlife resource concerns, including threatened and endangered species, into your project planning. If you have questions or comments related to this issue, please contact Jeff Berglund at (406) 449-5225, extension 206.