

From: [Kaczor, Nick](#)
To: [Armitage, Stacy A](#); [Gilles, Benjamin M](#); [Fox, Trevor T](#)
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] FW: Letter from Blackfeet Chairman to Grizzly Ridge Bison Ranch
Date: Monday, August 21, 2023 8:59:01 AM
Attachments: [Outlook-r1gubynd.png](#)
[Outlook-dgggarob.png](#)
[Blackfeet Nation to Grizzly Ridge 20230803.pdf](#)
[Outlook-xcq3hdd3.png](#)

Agreed as well. We can only control within our jurisdiction.

Also, I converted those pictures to a pdf to make it easier to view/read.

Nick Kaczor

Acting Refuge Supervisor
Mountain Zone (CO, MT, UT, & WY)

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Mountain-Prairie Region
134 Union Blvd., Suite 300
Lakewood, CO 80228
303-345-4299
nick_kaczor@fws.gov



From: Armitage, Stacy A <stacy_armitage@fws.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2023 8:52 AM
To: Gilles, Benjamin M <benjamin_gilles@fws.gov>; Fox, Trevor T <trevor_fox@fws.gov>; Kaczor, Nick <Nick_Kaczor@fws.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] FW: Letter from Blackfeet Chairman to Grizzly Ridge Bison Ranch

Totally agree and I will push for that when I meet w/ Hogan.

Stacy A Armitage

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service | National Wildlife Refuge System
Assistant Regional Director
Mountain Prairie Region
Cell: (720) 440-4824
Pronouns: She/Her



From: Gilles, Benjamin M <benjamin_gilles@fws.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2023 8:51 AM
To: Armitage, Stacy A <stacy_armitage@fws.gov>; Fox, Trevor T <trevor_fox@fws.gov>; Kaczor, Nick

<Nick_Kaczor@fws.gov>

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] FW: Letter from Blackfeet Chairman to Grizzly Ridge Bison Ranch

Morning Stacy, thanks for sending that.

Since the ranch and the Tribe are going to be working together on this going forward, this seems like a natural time to separate ourselves especially since the ranch is in compliance with the easement.

Ben Gilles
Project Leader
Western Montana NWR Complex
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

922 Bootlegger Trail
Great Falls, MT 59404
Cell: 406-217-2287

From: Armitage, Stacy A <stacy_armitage@fws.gov>

Sent: Monday, August 21, 2023 8:38

To: Fox, Trevor T <trevor_fox@fws.gov>; Gilles, Benjamin M <benjamin_gilles@fws.gov>; Kaczor, Nick <Nick_Kaczor@fws.gov>

Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] FW: Letter from Blackfeet Chairman to Grizzly Ridge Bison Ranch

Email 2 of 2.

Stacy A Armitage

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service | National Wildlife Refuge System
Assistant Regional Director
Mountain Prairie Region
Cell: (720) 440-4824
Pronouns: She/Her



From: Hogan, Matt <Matt_Hogan@fws.gov>

Sent: Monday, August 21, 2023 5:36 AM

To: Armitage, Stacy A <stacy_armitage@fws.gov>

Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] FW: Letter from Blackfeet Chairman to Grizzly Ridge Bison Ranch

Let's set up 15-30 minutes this week to discuss. Thanks.

From: Jonathan M. Harding <jharding_consultant@hugollc.com>

Sent: Friday, August 18, 2023 10:14 AM

To: Hogan, Matt <Matt_Hogan@fws.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] FW: Letter from Blackfeet Chairman to Grizzly Ridge Bison Ranch

This email has been received from outside of DOI - Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

FYI – I will keep you posted as to response.

From: Chad Bullinger <cbullinger@goldenbison.com>

Sent: Friday, August 18, 2023 11:42 AM

To: dkline@blackfeetnation.com

Cc: Jonathan M. Harding <jharding_consultant@hugollc.com>

Subject: RE: Letter from Blackfeet Chairman to Grizzly Ridge Bison Ranch

Good morning, Derek

Attached is our response to the August 3, 2023 letter from the Blackfeet Chairman.

Please confirm receipt of this response and pass on to Chairman Kipp.

Regards,

Chad Bullinger

From: Jonathan M. Harding <jharding_consultant@hugollc.com>

Sent: Monday, August 7, 2023 2:58 PM

To: dkline@blackfeetnation.com

Cc: Chad Bullinger <cbullinger@goldenbison.com>; Marc deManigold <mdemanigold@DOUBLETBISONRANCH.COM>; Steve Christensen <schristensen@goldenbison.com>

Subject: Letter from Blackfeet Chairman to Grizzly Ridge Bison Ranch

Derek,

We are in receipt of the letter from the Blackfeet Chairman. We will respond promptly subject to vacation schedules. You should anticipate a reply next week.

Be well,

Jonathan



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R E F U G E S Y S T E M



NATIONAL
WILDLIFE
REFUGE SYSTEM



BLACKFEET NATION

P.O. BOX 850 BROWNING, MONTANA 59417
Telephone (406) 338-7521 Fax: (406) 338-7530

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August 3, 2023

Via Email and U.S. Mail

Grizzly Ridge Bison Creek Ranch, LLC
1395 S. Platte River Dr.
Denver, CO 80223

To whom it may concern:

It has come to the attention of the Blackfeet Tribal Business Council (BTBC) that Grizzly Ridge Bison Ranch, LLC (Grizzly Ridge) is interested in addressing the impacts of its impermeable fences upon big game movements and migration patterns within the exterior boundaries of the Blackfeet Reservation, as these structures are currently impeding wildlife.

First and foremost, the BTBC is pleased to hear that Grizzly Ridge is willing to modify their existing fences to allow elk, moose, deer, antelope, and other tribal wildlife to move naturally across the Reservation landscape, without being impeded by the structures Grizzly Ridge currently has in place. To further establish a collaborative working relationship and to insure the fence structures and associated modifications do not impede wildlife, the BTBC requests that Grizzly Ridge work closely with the Blackfeet Fish and Wildlife Department (BFWD) to (1) identify the best locations for the fence modifications, (2) design the most suitable fence modifications for various species of wildlife, and (3) install cameras at strategic locations to evaluate the effectiveness of the fence modifications.

In this regard, the BTBC respectfully requests that Grizzly Ridge do the following:

1. Collaborate with Mr. Gerald Cobell, BFWD Director, and Brandon Kittson, BFWD Wildlife Biologist, to identify the best locations for fence modification based upon data from our ongoing elk and moose migration studies.
2. Support BFWD installing surveillance cameras to evaluate the effectiveness of fence modifications to insure they do not impede wildlife.
3. Refrain from contacting Mr. David Spotted Eagle, Jr. regarding this matter because he does not work for BFWD.
4. If Grizzly Ridge's fence structures trap big game wildlife, it promptly contact BFWD and have Mr. Mark DeManigold be the contact person who will promptly assist BFWD game wardens in removing and relocating trapped big game animals; and if Mr. DeManigold is

unavailable, Grizzly Ridge will support BFWD game wardens removing and relocating such trapped wildlife.

5. Allow access to the Blackfeet Nation's land appraiser to complete an appraisal of Grizzly Ridge's property, which is a required step in the potential sale of this property to the Blackfeet Nation, so the Blackfeet Nation can continue to entertain your offer.
6. Work cooperatively with the Blackfeet Nation to develop a written agreement that establishes a good working relationship in regard to big game movements, monitoring efforts and other issues of mutual concern.

Thank you for your attention to this very important matter. The BTBC welcomes meeting with Morgan Fischer, Mark DeManigold or any other persons designated by Mr. Joe Ricketts to further discuss this matter. And we remain open to the possible acquisition of the Grizzly Ridge Bison Ranch.

Please contact BFWD Gerald Cobell at your earliest convenience at (406) 338-2430 so we can promptly proceed with addressing the matters discussed herein.

Sincerely,



Iliff "Scott" Kipp, Chairman



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