



# United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
134 Union Blvd  
Lakewood, Colorado 80228



In Reply Refer to:  
FWS/IR05/IR07: DCN: 075055

June 24, 2021

Calvin Haverfield  
1612 Gold Road  
Russell Springs, Kansas 67764

Jay Haverfield  
1165 Wheatridge Road  
Colby, Kansas 67701

Dear Mr. Calvin Haverfield and Mr. Jay Haverfield,

Thank you for your letter dated May 21, 2021. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) appreciates your willingness to engage in black-footed ferret recovery efforts. We are deeply appreciative of the leadership role you have taken in black-footed ferret conservation and we look forward to continuing a partnership towards recovery with you. Your continued efforts are a testament to the conservation legacy of Larry and Bette Haverfield and Gordon Barnhardt.

We regret to hear that you have endured hardships on one of your parcels and we appreciate the courage you have shown in being a leader in conservation of this species. The purpose of the Black-footed ferret Programmatic Safe Harbor Agreement is to facilitate range-wide recovery efforts in a way that supports the needs of the species as well as your objectives as landowners. We note that non-participating interests do not always recognize or understand our long-term recovery objectives.

In your letter you posed three questions. First, you asked if the Smoky Hill Safe Harbor Agreement executed on November 7, 2019 is in effect. Yes, it is a standing agreement and remains in effect as written. The agreement has the potential to play a major biological role alongside the Butte Creek Safe Harbor Agreement. We recommend that you review the terms of the Smoky Hill Safe Harbor Agreement regarding its obligations, protections, and limitations. Please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Jason Luginbill with any questions; Mr. Luginbill will be happy to discuss the terms of the agreement with you.

Second, you asked about reimbursements for financial costs incurred because of the county's prairie dog control on your private property. I cannot provide a firm answer to your question at this time. However, I have directed my staff to explore this question with our attorneys in response to your request. We will get back to you with an answer as soon as possible.

INTERIOR REGION 5  
MISSOURI BASIN

KANSAS, MONTANA\*, NEBRASKA, NORTH DAKOTA,  
SOUTH DAKOTA

\*PARTIAL

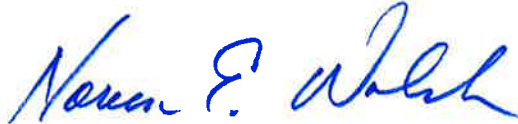
INTERIOR REGION 7  
UPPER COLORADO RIVER BASIN

COLORADO, NEW MEXICO, UTAH, WYOMING

Lastly, you asked for a statement to Logan County that you, as the participating landowner, are operating in good faith under the legal terms of the Smoky Hill Safe Harbor Agreement. We can provide such assurances in a letter to Logan County, if desired. Mr. Luginbill will reach out to you immediately to further discuss the contents of such a letter.

Thank you both for your efforts in recovery of the black-footed ferret in Kanas. If you need further information, please contact Stephen Small, Assistant Regional Director for Ecological Services in the Mountain-Prairie Region, at (303) 236-4210.

Respectfully,



Noreen Walsh  
Regional Director