

**The States of Idaho, Montana and Wyoming will:**

1. Employ best science and adaptive management approaches to collectively manage grizzly bears within the GYA.
2. Achieve population standards to support a recovered GYA grizzly bear population:
  - a. Ensure that 16 of 18 Bear Management Units are occupied by at least one female with cubs over a six-year period, with no two adjacent Bear Management Units unoccupied over a six-year period.
  - b. Ensure that annual agreed upon mortality rates are not exceeded within the 19,279 mi<sup>2</sup> Demographic Monitoring Area (DMA) for independent males, independent females and dependent young, as outlined below and consistent with the following objective:

**OBJECTIVE:** Manage the GYA grizzly bear population within the DMA to at least at the 2002-2014 Chao2 average point estimate of 674 with 95% confidence intervals (600-747). To meet this objective, the states of MT, ID, and WY agree to the following:

- Maximum mortality limits within the DMA will be managed using the following sliding scale:

|                                                      |       |      |         |      |
|------------------------------------------------------|-------|------|---------|------|
| <b>Mortality limit for % of independent FEMALES.</b> | <674  | 674  | 675-747 | >747 |
|                                                      | <7.6% | 7.6% | 9%      | 10%  |
| <b>Mortality limit for % of independent MALES.</b>   | <674  | 674  | 675-747 | >747 |
|                                                      | <15%  | 15%  | 20%     | 22%  |
| <b>Mortality limit for % of dependent young.</b>     | <674  | 674  | 675-747 | >747 |
|                                                      | <7.6% | 7.6% | 9%      | 10%  |

- Manage the GYA population above the lower 95% confidence interval of the 2002-2014 Chao2 average point estimate (600). Below the lower 95% CI (600), no discretionary mortality would be allowed unless necessary to address human safety issues.
- At or below the 2002-2014 Chao2 average point estimate (674), mortality limits will not exceed 7.6% for adult females, and will not exceed 15% for adult males.
- Above the 2002-2014 Chao2 average point estimate and up to the upper 95% CI (675-747), female mortality limits will not exceed 9% and male mortality will not exceed 20%.
- Above the upper 95% CI of the 2002-2014 Chao2 average point estimate (747), female mortality limits will not exceed 10% and male mortality will not exceed 22%.
- Allocation of discretionary mortality will be determined among the 3 states each year based on population monitoring and total mortality the previous year within the DMA. Any hunting mortality desired by the Wind River Reservation will be negotiated between the

**State of Wyoming and the Wind River Reservation**, and would be included in the total allowable annual mortality.

- If the total allowable annual mortality is exceeded in one year, the number exceeding the allowed mortality will be subtracted from the next year's discretionary mortality.
- Any mortality in National Park System Lands in one year will be subtracted from discretionary mortality the following year
- Taking of females accompanied by young will be prohibited by hunting regulation
- The States agree to the following adaptive management framework in response to departures from the above criteria (Table 2):

**Table 2. Proposed adaptive management framework .**

| Scenarios                                                                                                                   | States Agree To:                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. If the population <600                                                                                                   | No discretionary mortality would be allowed unless necessary to address human safety issues.                                                                                                                                      |
| If the population is <674, and a state exceeds its allocated mortality limit of independent females at any time of the year | Halt grizzly bear hunting in portions(s) of the DMA exceeding the limit.[CS3]                                                                                                                                                     |
| <u>At any population level &gt;600[CS4], if total allowable independent male or female mortality is exceeded.</u>           | <u>If the total allowable annual independent male or female mortality is exceeded in one year, the number exceeding the allowed mortality will be subtracted from the next year's discretionary mortality for that gender.</u>    |
| 2. If the population is <674, exceeding independent female mortality limit for 3 consecutive years                          | IGBST biology and monitoring review[CS5]. <del>If the total allowable annual mortality is exceeded in one year, the number exceeding the allowed mortality will be subtracted from the next year's discretionary mortality.</del> |
| 3. If the population is <674, exceeding independent male mortality limit for 3 consecutive years.                           | IGBST biology and monitoring review. <del>If the total allowable annual mortality is exceeded in one year, the number exceeding the allowed mortality will be subtracted from the next year's discretionary mortality.</del>      |
| 4. If the population is <674, exceeding dependent young mortality limit for 3 consecutive years.                            | IGBST biology and monitoring review.                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 5. Failure to meet distribution of reproductive females criterion.                                                          | IGBST biology and monitoring review.                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 6. Failure to meet habitat standards in forest plans.                                                                       | IGBST biology and monitoring review.                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 7. Total population less than 500 bears, with 400 necessary for genetic health.                                             | No grizzly hunting inside the DMA the following year. FWS may initiate a status review.                                                                                                                                           |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 8. Changes in Federal, State, or Tribal laws, rules, regulations, or management plans during the 5-year post delisting period <sup>[cs6]</sup> that depart significantly from the specifics in the Conservation Strategy. | FWS may initiate a status review |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|

3. The States will enter into a tri-state Memorandum of Agreement committing to the above post-delisting management points, as well as to an annual process for reviewing and allocating mortality to ensure coordination of management to maintain recovery of grizzly bears in the GYA. The annual coordination process will involve other signatory parties to the Conservation Strategy. Post delisting management may include regulated hunting. Any proposed hunting season must be approved by the State's Fish and Wildlife Commission, and will include license requirements (within and outside the DMA), female harvest limits, mandatory harvest reporting, season closures when limits are reached, and prohibition of taking females accompanied by young, similar to existing harvest management programs for other species like mountain lions and black bears<sup>[cs7]</sup>. The States will also work with USFWS and other members of the Conservation Strategy Team to incorporate these points as appropriate into a revision of the Conservation Strategy for the grizzly bears in the GYA.