

The population has basically stabilized inside the DMA 2002–2014 (van Manen *et al.* 2015). The population goal for the DMA is the average population size over this 14-year period of population stabilization inside the DMA. The current method to estimate population size is the model-averaged Chao2 population estimate (using the Chao2 population estimate this average number is 674). This population stabilization over 13 years is strong evidence that the population is exhibiting density dependent population regulation inside the DMA (van Manen *et al.* 2015). The fact that the population inside the DMA has stabilized due to density dependent effects is strong support that the population has achieved recovery within the DMA. Thus, the selection of the average population size 2002-2014, when the population has been essentially stable, is biologically credible as a population goal for a recovered population at the carrying capacity of the suitable habitat in the GYE.

Table x. Application protocol for the Conservation Strategy population standards.

Scenario	Management response
1. If the population is less than 600 as measured with the model-averaged Chao2 method.	No discretionary mortality unless necessary to address human safety issues.
2. Exceeding independent female mortality limit at any time during the year.	Suspend grizzly hunting in the DMA upon exceeding the limit. The number exceeding the allowed mortality limit in any year will be subtracted from the next year's discretionary mortality for independent females.
3. Exceeding independent female mortality limit for 3 consecutive years.	Suspend grizzly hunting pending completion of an IGBST biology and monitoring review. FWS may implement a status review.
4. Exceeding independent male mortality limit for 3 consecutive years.	Suspend grizzly hunting inside the DMA pending completion of an IGBST biology and monitoring review. The number exceeding the allowed mortality limit in any year will be subtracted from the next year's discretionary mortality for independent males.
5. Exceeding dependent young mortality limit for 3 consecutive years.	No grizzly hunting inside the DMA pending completion of an IGBST biology and monitoring review. The number exceeding the allowed mortality limit in any year will be subtracted from the next year's discretionary mortality for dependent young.
6. Failure to meet distribution of reproductive females criterion.	IGBST biology and monitoring review.
7. Changes in Federal, State, or Tribal laws, rules, regulations, or management plans that depart significantly from the specifics in the Conservation Strategy.	FWS may initiate status review.