

- **ISSUE Population Trajectory:**

Current language:

From 1983 to 2001, the Yellowstone grizzly bear population grew at approximately 4 to 7% or more per year (Eberhardt et al. 1994, Boyce 1995, Knight and Blanchard 1995, Boyce et al. 2001b, Schwartz et al. 2006b). Although population growth has slowed, it is still stable to slightly increasing at 0.3 to 2.2% from 2002 to 2011 (IGBST 2012).

IGBST proposed language, including key background information:

From 1983 to 2001, population projections based on vital rate data show the Yellowstone grizzly bear population grew at approximately 4.2 to 7.6% or more per year (Eberhardt et al. 1994, Boyce 1995, Knight and Blanchard 1995, Boyce et al. 2001b, SchwartzHarris, et al. 20062006b); - data from 2002 to 2011 indicate Although population growth has slowed, it is still stable to slightly increasing at to 0.3 to 2.2% from 2002 to 2011 (IGBST 2012). The population trajectory that includes the most recent data is based on the Chao2 estimator and indicates no statistical trend (i.e., relatively constant population size) within the DMA for the period 2002 to 2014 (IGBST, unpublished data).

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Comment [FTvM1]: This is the most proper reference for these estimates.

Comment [FTvM2]: NOTE: the confidence intervals of these estimates bounded a Lambda of 1.0 so there was less evidence of positive growth compared with 1983-2001.

Comment [FTvM3]: NOTE: we provided more detailed language regarding population trend based on Chao2 in one of our previous responses.

Comment [FTvM4]: This can be changed to 2015 if you want the most updated data; we just matched it to the time period used in the PR and CS. In both instances there is no evidence of a trend.