

From: Lauren Schilling
To: Dan_Ashe@fws.gov
Subject: Please Meet With Tribes to Discuss Grizzly Protection
Date: Thursday, May 21, 2015 11:16:46 PM

Dear Director Ashe,

I'm writing in support of a letter from the Rocky Mountain Tribal Leaders Council urging you to delay any plans to remove federal protections from Yellowstone's grizzlies and instead attend a summit this summer, both to hear the tribes' opposition to stripping Endangered Species Act protection from grizzly bears and to show respect for their nations and cultures.

Tribes have a longstanding cultural connection with the region's grizzlies and deserve to be fully heard before any further steps are taken to strip away the bears' protections.

The request follows a Northern Cheyenne tribal representative being forcibly stopped from speaking by the state-federal grizzly bear committee when he attempted to announce the tribe's opposition to stripping protection from the species.

I'm just so disappointed in this administration~ when I voted for President Obama (both times) I actually believed he would be the best advocate for the environment, & to restore the U.S.'s reputation globally as a forward thinking & honorable country. That hasn't happened, in fact he's going to let Shell drill in the Arctic (I understand why, but there's always a way when there's a will. I thought he was more informed than he apparently is, & he has dropped the ball regarding the wars & invasions we're involved in, as well as with the environment. All over the world we are losing endangered species due to habitat encroachment, hunting (IE: ivory, etc) & looking for oil when we should be focusing on alternative energy. Years ago, like most people I thought agencies such as the US Fish & Wildlife, BLM, & others actually cared about our wildlife. Imagine my horror, anger, & disillusion when I found out that it was completely the opposite.

I'm urging you to put delisting plans on hold for Yellowstone's grizzlies and attend the tribal summit this summer as part of government-to-government consultation on this important issue.

Sincerely,

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