

June 9, 2016



Ms. Noreen Walsh

Regional Director
US Fish & Wildlife Service
Mountain-Prairie Region
134 Union Boulevard
Lakewood, CO 80228

SUBJECT: Project: Scientific Peer Review for Greater Yellowstone Grizzly Bears

Dear Ms. Walsh,

In accordance with the Statement of Work dated March 28, 2016, Amec Foster Wheeler Environment & Infrastructure, Inc. (Amec Foster Wheeler) is pleased to submit the completed *Peer Review (without attribution) of the Scientific Findings in U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Proposed Rule Removing the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem Population of Grizzly Bears From the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife; Availability of Draft Recovery Plan Supplement: Revised Demographic Criteria and a Draft 2016 Conservation Strategy for this Population.*

The three documents (Proposed Rule, Revised Demographic Criteria, and Draft 2016 Conservation Strategy) were provided to five reviewers on April 14, 2016. Each reviewer independently evaluated the documents and prepared their individual responses to the questions included in the Statement of Work. After receipt of each individual review, I assigned a random number to each review, proofread them, ensured all reviews were in the same format, and coordinated with the reviewer for any clarifications and approval of typographical edits. Individual reviews were received between May 19, 2016 and June 9, 2016.

The five reviewers, all of whom are bear biologists, included:

- Jerrold (Jerry) Belant, PhD, from Mississippi State University
- Mark Boyce, PhD, from the University of Alberta
- John Cox, PhD, from the University of Kentucky
- Andrew Derocher, PhD, from the University of Alberta
- Dwayne Etter, PhD, from Michigan Department of Natural Resources

Continued...

Enclosed with this letter are the five reviews with randomly assigned numbers, along with the resume for each reviewer. The administrative record will be provided after completion of the question and answer (Q&A) period. Please contact Dawn Johnson at (805) 252-4370 if you have any questions or need clarification on the process or for any of the reviews.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dawn L. Johnson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dawn L. Johnson, PhD
Project Manager, Senior Biologist

Enclosures: Individual Reviews and Resumes