



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE Mountain Prairie Region



IN REPLY REFER TO
EA/60160

MAILING ADDRESS:
Post Office Box 25486
Denver, Federal Center
Denver, Colorado 80225-0486

STREET LOCATION:
134 Union Blvd.
Lakewood, Colorado 80228-1807

Dear Tribal Leader:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has received five independent peer reviews on the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (GYE) grizzly bear population proposed delisting rule. The peer reviewers were selected by an outside, third-party contractor based on their technical grizzly bear expertise. We have also received the necessary protective measures finalized by the States of Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming to manage human-caused mortality of grizzly bears in the ecosystem post-delisting.

In light of this new information, the Service is fulfilling its commitment to public participation, transparency, and the best-available science by reopening the comment period for 30 days to seek public input on the proposed delisting rule. The proposed rule, peer reviews and state protective measures are posted online at <https://www.fws.gov/mountain-prairie/es/grizzlyBear.php>.

If you would like to comment on the peer reviews and state protective measures, you will be able to submit comments electronically, by mail, or by hand-delivery. Comments only need to be submitted once via any of the following methods:

- (1) *Electronically*: Comments may be submitted at the Federal eRulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>. Once on that site, enter the docket number for the proposed rule, which is FWS-R6-ES-2016-0042, in the search box. Then click on the Search button. On the resulting page, you may submit a comment by clicking on "Comment Now!" Please ensure you have found the correct document before submitting your comments. If your comments will fit in the provided comment box, please use that feature, as it is most compatible with our comment review procedures. If you attach your comments as a separate document, our preferred file format is Microsoft Word. If you attach multiple comments (such as form letters or a petition), our preferred format is a spreadsheet in Microsoft Excel. Alternatively, comments can be submitted electronically via email to Ivy Allen, Native American Liaison, Mountain-Prairie Region, at: ivy_allen@fws.gov.
- (2) *Hard copy*: Comments can be submitted by U.S. mail or hand-delivery by either sending to: Native American Liaison, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 134 Union Blvd., Lakewood, CO 80228, or to Public Comments Processing, Attn: FWS-R6-ES-2016-0042; Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; MS: BPHC, 5275 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041-3803.

Alternatively, Tribal comments can be submitted electronically via email to Ivy Allen, Native American Liaison, Mountain-Prairie Region, at ivy_allen@fws.gov. The Service will post all information received on <http://www.regulations.gov>. Please note that this generally means that we will post any personal information that is provided.

We ask that you not resubmit remarks made during the initial delisting period, as those original comments are already being considered in the determination process. However, we welcome the opportunity to have an ongoing dialogue with you regarding the peer reviews and state regulations, so please do not hesitate to contact us to have those discussions.

We look forward to consulting with you and discussing your comments and concerns regarding the proposed delisting of the GYE grizzly bear population. If you have any questions regarding this re-opening of the comment period or the proposal as a whole, please contact Ivy Allen, Native American Liaison, at [insert phone] or at ivy_allen@fws.gov

Sincerely,

Regional Director