

Comparison between the 2007 delisting rule and the planning 2015 delisting rule

Criterion	2007 delisting rule	2015 delisting rule
Area within which mortality limits apply	36,776 square miles	19,279 square miles
Mortality limits	To allow the population to be at least stable and to increase 95% of the time. “...simulations have shown that this level of adult female mortality rate allows a stable to increasing population 95% of the time.”	To stabilize the population and allow zero net growth. “Recommend a change in management objective from one of population growth for recovery to maintenance of a stable grizzly bear population, which was deemed biologically logical and desirable given the status of the population.”
Population goal	Increasing	Stable
States agreed not to institute a hunt immediately after delisting	Yes	No
Mortality limit for % of independent females	9%	7.6% (see table below for expected numbers using mark-resight and Chao2 estimators)
Mortality limit for % of independent males	15%	15% (see table below for expected numbers using mark-resight and Chao2 estimators)
Mortality limit for % of dependent young	9%	7.6% (see table below for expected numbers using mark-resight and Chao2 estimators)
Allocation process for managed mortalities	Not addressed	Allocation by % of each state inside the monitoring area and outside NPS lands

Population estimate in 2014	Total population of ~1200 using mark/resight method (the method expected to be used post-delisting)	Total population of 757 using Chao2 method (the method presently used)
Mortality limits	Inside the DMA to maintain a stable population in 2014	Inside the DMA to maintain a stable population in 2014
Independent females	25 (17) ¹	16 (17)
Independent males	49 (21) ¹	31 (21)
Dependent young (cubs and yearlings with their mothers not subject to hunting)	22	14
Average mortality/year from all sources over last 4 years (2011-2014)	38	38
Remaining potential independent grizzly bears “available” for hunting or other management purposes 25 + 49 = 74 – 38 = 36	36	9

¹ The numbers in parentheses are the 4-year average (2011 to 2014) of known + unknown deaths for independent females and males in the Yellowstone ecosystem.

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