

From: [Matt Hogan](#)
To: ["Hagener, Jeff"](#)
Subject: RE: GYE Grizzly Bear delisting - connectivity issue
Date: Friday, September 25, 2015 1:08:00 PM

Jeff,

Really wish you would pick up the phone on issues rather than send emails. I have never thrown you under the bus in an email let alone an email to a group of people. Really not appreciated and trying to work together is a two way street. Stuff like this really doesn't help.

From: Hagener, Jeff [mailto:JHagener@mt.gov]
Sent: Friday, September 25, 2015 12:58 PM
To: Moore, Virgil; scott.talbott@wyo.gov; Matt Hogan
Cc: McDonald, Ken; Dockter, Rebecca
Subject: GYE Grizzly Bear delisting - connectivity issue

Gentlemen,

There is a rumor floating around that Montana FWP (I) has committed to a no hunting zone between the GYE and the NCDE and a recent email from Matt may be the source. This is not the case and I am sending this email to clearly state our position.

As you all aware, this connectivity issue has come up several times over the past couple years discussion and MT has steadfastly said no to this concept. We have continuously referred back to the language in the 2007 rule that clearly states that connectivity is not an issue. Therefore, we stand firm that the 2007 language should be carried forth into the new rule – there should be no reference to how MT (or ID and WY for that matter) will handle hunting in the rule.

What I have expressed to Matt is that (during the 5 year monitoring post-delisting) it is unlikely that MT would have general hunting for grizzly bears in that area anyway. Historically we did not allow hunting in areas outside of where we had established grizzly bear populations. In the spirit of compromise, MT FWP is willing to commit (during the 5 year monitoring post-delisting) to managing grizzly bear hunting opportunities through a limited zone between the GYE and the NCDE to be compatible with grizzly bear occupancy (and in Matt's term of "minimizing discretionary mortality"). MT will retain the authority/ability to address depredation and human conflicts with grizzly bears in that area and perhaps utilize directed sport hunting to remove problem bear(s). This would be in a similar matter as was done in MT during the late 80's before sport hunting of grizzly bears was prohibited by court action. I would also like to point to our track record on wolf management since delisting – we have not significantly impacted the population through our regulated hunting and other associated management actions. There is no basis for an opinion that grizzly bear management will be any different.

MT will retain complete authority to hunt grizzly bears within the designated DMA (in accordance with the MOU between the 3 states regarding allowable mortality) and in those areas outside the DMA that also fall outside the limited discretionary mortality area.

Jeff

M. Jeff Hagener, Director
MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks
1420 East 6th Avenue
P.O. Box 200701
Helena, MT 59620-0701
406-444-3186 office
406-444-4952 fax

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