

June 24, 2016

Wyoming Game and Fish Department
Wildlife Division, Attention: Regulations
3030 Energy Lane
Casper, WY 82604

Dear Director Talbott,

Subject: Jackson Hole Conservation Alliance comments on the Wyoming Grizzly Bear Chapter 67 Management Regulations

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Wyoming's Grizzly Bear Management Chapter 67 Regulations.

The Alliance represents over 2,000 constituents in Teton County, WY, and works to protect the wildlife, wild places, and community character of Jackson Hole. We envision healthy and sustainable wildlife populations with protected wildlife habitat. We strive to ensure that wildlife and their habitat are managed by our agency experts based on science, facts, and data without political interference. For grizzly bears, we envision a healthy, well-managed, and thriving population of bears in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (GYE), well connected to other grizzly populations in the continent and with minimal levels of human-bear conflict.

We provide some suggestions that we hope will improve these regulations.

We note that Wyoming state statute (23-1-703) states that a grizzly bear hunting license will be a once in a lifetime license. We request that this be explicitly captured in the chapter 67 regulations.

We request that the provision of suspending all discretionary mortality if population falls below 600 bears be clarified to better explain how Wyoming Game and Fish department intends to characterize "required to protect human safety."

We ask that you consider including a requirement for all hunters to carry bear spray.

Finally, we recognize that these regulations are a precursor to more detailed discussions about hunt areas, seasons and quotas. We request that you allow sufficient time and opportunity for us and the public to view and comment on those proposals, if and when they become necessary.

Overall, we hope that you will consider these comments as you finalize this draft regulations. Thank you for your efforts in conserving and managing grizzly bears in Wyoming.

Sincerely,



Siva Sundaresan
Conservation Director