



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
334 Parsley Boulevard
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82007



In Reply Refer to:
FWS/R6/ES/2026-0081312

Chad Hudson, Forest Supervisor
U.S. Forest Service
Bridger-Teton National Forest
340 North Cache Street
Jackson, Wyoming 83001

Dear Mr. Hudson:

This correspondence transmits the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) administrative review of the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) proposed two-year rest on the Upper Green River area grazing allotments impacted by the Dollar Lake Fire in Sublette County, Wyoming. On May 16, 2025, the Service finalized a biological opinion on impacts to the grizzly bear from the Upper Green River Area Rangeland Project (BO; 2025-0012592). In the fall of 2025, the Dollar Lake wildfire burned approximately 14,787 acres in two of the Upper Green River area allotments. The Bridger-Teton National Forest (Forest) is proposing to rest grazing on the allotments impacted by the fire and graze the adjacent Elk Ridge Complex allotments, instead, for up to two years.

Information regarding the proposed change in the project footprint within the action area was received from the Forest on May 6, 2026. After careful consideration of the new information provided, re-evaluation of project-related effects and the associated analysis and conclusions in the BO, the Service finds that the effects on the grizzly bear from the temporary change in grazing allotment use by livestock within the action area are within the scope of the BO analysis. The Service anticipates no change in the level or scope of effects, nor any change to the final conclusions in the BO. The decision file, including details of the complete analysis of the proposed change, is available upon request at the Wyoming Ecological Services Field Office.

In accordance with 50 CFR 402.16, reinitiation of consultation is required where discretionary federal agency involvement or control over the action has been retained (or is authorized by law) and if: 1) the amount or extent of incidental take is exceeded, 2) new information reveals effects of the agency action that may affect listed species or critical habitat in a manner or to an extent not considered in this opinion, 3) the agency action is subsequently modified in a manner that causes an effect to the listed species or critical habitat not considered in this biological opinion or written concurrence, or 4) a new species is listed or critical habitat designated that may be affected by the action. In instances where the amount or extent of incidental take is exceeded, any operations causing such take must cease pending reinitiation.

We appreciate your efforts to ensure the conservation of endangered, threatened, proposed and candidate species. Please refer to the consultation number (2026-0081312) in future correspondence concerning this administrative review. Should you require further assistance or if you have any questions, please contact Jenny Hill via email at jenny_hill@fws.gov, or by phone at (307) 204-9044.

Sincerely,

Tyler A. Abbott
Field Supervisor
Wyoming Field Office

cc: Bridger-Teton National Forest, Ecosystem Staff Officer, U.S. Forest Service (R. Griebel)
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