UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT TO ESTABLISH THE INTERAGENCY GRIZZLY BEAR COMMITTEE

A. Need:

The grizzly bear is listed as a Threatened species in the 48 conterminous States under provisions of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. To achieve the recovery of the grizzly bear, it is necessary that all Federal and State agencies with responsibility for this species coordinate their management and research actions to the greatest extent possible to ensure the best utilization of available resources and prevent duplication of effort.

To attain the objectives established by the Grizzly Bear Recovery Plan, the Assistant Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment of the United States Department of Agriculture and the Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks of the United States Department of the Interior, find it in the best interest of the grizzly bear to establish the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee.

B. Organization:

Members

- 3 Regional Foresters, USDA Forest Service
- 1 Regional Director, National Park Service
- 1 Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- 1 State of Idaho Representative) Named by
- 1 State of Montana Representative) Appropriate
- 1 State of Wyoming Representative) Governor

Advisor

Grizzly Bear Coordinator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

<u>Invitees</u>

In addition to the members specified above, the following parties involved with grizzly bear management and research in the State of Washington may participate in the committee and attend committee meetings: Regional Forester, National Park Service Regional Director, Fish and Wildlife Service Regional Director, and a representative of the Washington State Government.

Subcommittees

Yellowstone Ecosystem National Park Superintendent (s) National Forest Supervisor (s)

State(s) Representative U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Representative

Northern Ecosystem

National Park Superintendent (s)
National Forest Supervisor (s)
State(s) Representative
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Representatives
Representative from each Indian Reservation having grizzly bears
BLM State Director, Montana

Research

National Park Superintendent (s)
National Forest Supervisor (s)
States of Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming Representative
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Representative (Chairman)
(Existing Interagency Grizzly Bear Study Team to continue under Research Subcommittee)

C. Operation:

- 1. Chairmanship of the Committee shall rotate between representatives of the Federal agencies, with the chairman serving a 2-year term, beginning with the representative of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The Chairmen of the Yellowstone and Northern Ecosystems Subcommittees will be appointed by the Committee.
- 2. Meet a minimum of twice per year, with additional meetings as needed and agreed to by majority of Committee.
- 3. The existing Grizzly Bear Steering Committee is abolished.

D. Committee Responsibilities:

- 1. Implement the Grizzly Bear Recovery Plan, and all management and research activities necessary to provide for recovery of the grizzly bear.
- 2. Direct research activities for the Research Subcommittees.
- 3. Make joint recommendations to Federal agency heads and Governors.
- 4. Review and approve or disapprove actions proposed by Subcommittees.
- 5. Make provisions for implementation of approved actions.

E. Northern Ecosystem and Yellowstone Ecosystem Subcommittee Responsibilities:

- 1. Propose management actions to Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee.
- 2. Implement approved management actions.
- 3. Establish necessary teams to implement approved actions (i.e., law enforcement, information and education, improvements).
- 4. Identify research needs and submit to Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee.

F. Research Subcommittee Responsibilities:

- 1. Identify and propose needed research programs to the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee as directed by the Grizzly Bear Recovery Plan.
- 2. Coordinate and direct needed research activities.

U.S. Department of the Interior

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