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September 11, 2018  
Grizzly Bear ARM – Wildlife Division  
Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks,  
P.O. Box 200701  
Helena, Montana, 59620-0701

Dear Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks,

Flathead Audubon Society represents about 400 members from northwest Montana. Our mission is to conserve birds, wildlife habitat and ecosystem diversity; promote awareness and appreciation of the natural world through education and advocacy; work with diverse groups and agencies to achieve sound decisions on natural resource issues; provide community services such as school programs, work projects, and field trips.

We have reviewed the proposed NEW RULE I GRIZZLY BEAR DEMOGRAPHIC OBJECTIVES FOR THE NORTHERN CONTINENTAL DIVIDE ECOSYSTEM and submit the following comments.

We support adoption of the proposed rule. Adoption of the rule will formalize the Department's intent to manage for grizzly bears in a manner that will support an adequately sized, well distributed population over time. Adoption of the NCDE Grizzly Bear Conservation Strategy is included in the proposed rule (MAR Notice No. 12-505, pages 1641, 1642) and the Strategy is designed for long-term maintenance of the grizzly bear population.

Thank you for the opportunity to support this proposal.

Sincerely,

Kay Mitchell, President  
Flathead Audubon Society