



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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In Reply Refer To:
1610 (930)

SEP 08 2015

The Honorable Matthew Mead
Governor of Wyoming
State Capitol
200 West 24th Street
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002-0010

Dear Governor Mead:

Thank you for your July 29, 2015, Governor's Consistency Review of the Wyoming Sage-Grouse Amendment Proposed Resource Management Plan, Bighorn Basin Proposed Resource Management Plan and Buffalo Proposed Resource Management Plan (collectively referred to hereafter as PRMPs). I greatly appreciate the State of Wyoming's continued participation in the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) land use planning process. As a follow-up to my letter of August 6, 2015 I am including more detailed responses to your comments regarding consistency with Executive Order 2015-4 including clarification language discussed with the representatives of the State. Several of the items identified will be updated in the Approved RMPs (ARMPs) to ensure consistency with EO 2015-4. The BLM will address your recommendations pertaining to consistency issues as explained in more detail in the attached tables.

As indicated in our August 6 response to your July 29 letter and further discussions, we have developed clarifying language to be included in the individual ARMP(A)s and Record of Decision. These items include—

- 1 - Net Conservation Gain Standard and clarifications on the applicability;
- 2 - Clarification on the WAFWA Management Zone Greater Sage-grouse Conservation Team;
- 3 - Livestock Grazing Management; and
- 4 - A definition of energy and mining facility.

Please note that management action (record) numbers may change in the ARMPs due to format differences between the ARMPs and PRMPs. Please contact me if you have any questions concerning this BLM response to your consistency review.

Thank you for your thorough, comprehensive and thoughtful consistency review. I also appreciate the hard work your staff and the various state agencies and local Governments have contributed to the consistency review and RMP processes. I look forward to continuing a productive and collaborative working relationship as we move forward in implementing the RMPs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mary Jo Rugwell".

Mary Jo Rugwell
Acting State Director

Attachments

- 1- Table of responses common to all plans
- 2- Table of responses to Wyoming Sage-grouse RMP Amendment
- 3- Table of responses to Bighorn Basin RMP Revision
- 4- Table of responses to Buffalo Field Office RMP Revision
- 5- Oil and Gas Lease Stipulations for Sage-grouse Protections.