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Ravalli County Commissioners

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Jeff Burrows
Ravalli County Commissioner
215 S. 4th Street, Suite A
Hamilton, MT 59840

Dear Mr. Burrows:

I'm the Bitterroot Ecosystem Subcommittee Chairman of the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee (IGBC). The mission of the IGBC is to achieve recovery and delisting, and to support ongoing conservation of grizzly bear populations and their habitats in areas of the western United States through interagency coordination of policy, planning, management, research and communication. The IGBC subcommittees' primary role is to implement the Grizzly Bear Recovery Plan and other policy direction established by the Executive Committee within a given ecosystem. Accordingly, most decision-making by subcommittees will involve establishing responsibility for tasks and allocation of resources in the field.

Responsibilities of the ecosystem subcommittee include:

- Develop an annual work plan, consistent with the IGBC 5-year plan to implement Executive Committee direction for their ecosystem for review and approval by the Executive Committee
- Coordinate implementation of the approved annual work plan by member agencies
- Establish necessary teams to implement approved actions (i.e. technical issues, law enforcement, information and education, access management, etc.)
- Report to the Executive Committee at each winter meeting on the progress of action items in the annual work plan and 5-year plan
- Recommend revisions to the 5-year plan based on the best available science and management action necessary to achieve recovery
- Identify funding or other resource needs to carry out the tasks assigned in the IGBC-approved annual work plan and 5-year plan and request support from the Executive Committee to meet resource needs
- If directed by the Executive Committee, develop a proposed conservation strategy for the ecosystem to be implemented upon delisting

The current Bitterroot Ecosystem Subcommittee consists of the following members:

- **Chuck Mark (Chair)**, Forest Supervisor, *Salmon/Challis National Forest*
- **Matt Anderson**, Forest Supervisor, *Bitterroot National Forest*
- **Jeanne Higgins**, Forest Supervisor, *Idaho Panhandle National Forest*
- **Carolyn Upton**, Forest Supervisor, *Lolo National Forest*



- **Jodi Bush**, *US Fish and Wildlife Service* (Montana)
- **Tawnya Brummett (Acting)**, Forest Supervisor, *Payette National Forest*
- **Jim DeMaagd**, Forest Supervisor, *Sawtooth National Forest*
- **Curt Mack**, Biologist, *Nez Perce Tribe*
- **Jamie Jonkel**, Biologist, *Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks*

Technical Advisors to the Bitterroot Ecosystem Subcommittee are:

- **Hilary Cooley**, Grizzly Bear Recovery Coordinator, *U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service*
- **Scott Jackson**, National Carnivore Program Leader, *U.S. Forest Service*

I'm seeking additional membership to the committee with representation from Ravalli County in Montana, Lemhi County in Idaho, Idaho Department of Fish & Game, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (Idaho) and the Shoshone-Bannock tribes. I believe this additional membership is necessary for the Bitterroot Ecosystem Subcommittee to successfully carry out its role and responsibility to implement the Grizzly Bear Recovery Plan and policy direction established by the IGBC Executive Committee. If you could please indicate whether your organization can participate on the committee and who that person would be, I would greatly appreciate your efforts.

Sincerely,



CHARLES A. MARK
Forest Supervisor