



NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBE

ADMINISTRATION

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September 12, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is in support of the GOAL Tribal Coalition. The Northern Cheyenne Tribe opposes the federal government's proposed removal of the Yellowstone grizzly bear from Endangered Species Act protections through the US Fish and Wildlife Service and we believe the federal government's determination to remove the grizzly bear from Endangered Species Act protection contravenes the American Indian Religious Freedom Act (AIRFA. PUBLIC LAW 95-341--AUG. 11, 1978).

As one of the twenty-six federally recognized tribes the federal government acknowledges has an ancestral connection to the region now known as Yellowstone National Park and the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem the US Fish and Wildlife Service is thus required to consult with the Northern Cheyenne Tribe, yet the US Fish and Wildlife Service has refused to release the data it has based its conclusions on for independent scientific review, that data being the basis for the federal government's proposal to remove the grizzly bear from Endangered Species Act protections.

The grizzly bear holds a unique position in the traditional cultures and ceremonial life-ways of the traditional spiritual practitioners of tribes identified by the federal

LITTLE WOLF AND MORNING STAR - Out of defeat and exile they led us back to Montana and won our Cheyenne homeland that we will keep forever.

government as possessing centuries old, and in some instances, millennia-long connections to the lands where the grizzly now survives.

Clearly cultural imperatives and the preservation of sovereignty require a repudiation of the federal government's desire to delist the grizzly bear from Endangered Species Act protections; and the legislative resolve to deny the states' determination to see trophy hunting of grizzlies on reservations and the extirpation of the grizzly bear from swathes of reservation and ancestral homelands.

We the Cheyenne Nation stand in support of the grizzly bear, and the right of Native peoples to religious freedom

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Llevando Fisher".

Llevando Fisher

President of the Northern Cheyenne Nation