



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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In Reply Refer To:
1610 (LLWYD01) P
Adaptive Management Proposal #1

ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT FINAL RECCOMENDATION

Memo

Date: 01/06/11

To: Shane DeForest, Pinedale Field Manager

From: Adaptive Management Review Team (Mark Thonhoff, Josh Hemenway, Theresa Gulbrandson, Therese Hartman, and Kellie Roadifer)

Subject: Mule deer matrix threshold changes

As part of the adaptive management process the adaptive management review team has reviewed the comments received from the public for proposed mule deer matrix mitigation threshold changes. In light of the comments received, the review team concurs with BLM and WYGFD response to the UW COOP review, that the mule deer "avoidance distance" criteria be removed from the Wildlife Monitoring and Mitigation Matrix as shown below. Changes in avoidance do not trigger any mitigation action by itself, only when changes in population have been documented to exceed 15%. Mule deer distribution across the PAPA would continue to be monitored from a sample of GPS collared adult females and modeled annually using Resource Selection Function analyses. This analysis would be consistent with past monitoring efforts.

The proposed mule deer matrix threshold changes are as follows:

Criteria: "Avoidance Distance"

Proposed action: Withdraw this criteria and delete this cell from the Matrix

Changes that Will Be Monitored: "Average of any 2-year avoidance distance from well pads and roads, and a concurrent change in deer numbers compared to average of 05/06 numbers (2856 deer)"

Propose Action: Withdraw this criteria and delete this cell from the Matrix

Specific Change Requiring Mitigation: "Average of 0.5 Km change per year over 2 years, and a concurrent 15% decline in deer numbers in any year, compared to reference area (Sublette mule deer herd unit [average 05/06 herd unit population is 27,254], or other mutually agreeable area."

Proposed Action: Withdraw this criteria and delete this cell from the Matrix

Mitigation Responses: "Select mitigation response sequentially as listed below, implement most useful and feasible and monitor results over sufficiently adequate time for the level of impact described by current monitoring"

Proposed Action: Withdraw this criteria and delete this cell from the Matrix

Authorized Official: 
Field Manager

Date: 1-11-11