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Skyland area and grizzly bear emergence

May 6, 2014 8:00 AM

Keith

I wanted to follow-up with you directly. You may have heard or seen some of the public releases that the Forest did, as a result of the verification of the grizzly bear emerging from a den with evidence of a cub or cubs in an area that was open to late spring snowmobiling.

In accordance with A24 the forest conferred with USFWS on the situation. Several options were discussed and considered acceptable. We chose to put an order in place that closed the Skyland/Challenge area at the Skyland road and Hwy 2.

The Forest is continuing to implement A24. We are also actively working with the Lewis and Clark National Forest on the issue of use in a closed area. We will continue to have more dialog with USFWS and FWP biologists as appropriate. Chip

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