



Janet Milek <janet.milek@wyo.gov>

Fwd: Comments Regarding Elk Feedgrounds

1 message

WGF Contact <wgf-contact@wyo.gov>

Mon, Aug 28, 2023 at 1:02 PM

To: Janet Milek <janet.milek@wyo.gov>



Wyoming Game and Fish Department

Conserving wildlife, serving people

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From: **Angela Sell** (groovemistress76@gmail.com) Sent You a Personal Message
<kwautomail@phone2action.com>

Date: Sun, Aug 27, 2023 at 9:05 AM

Subject: Comments Regarding Elk Feedgrounds

To: <wgf-contact@wyo.gov>

Dear WY Game and Fish,

I appreciate the abundant wildlife of the Greater Yellowstone Ecoregion, including elk, and the more I hear about chronic wasting disease, the more concerned I am by its rapid spread, especially in Wyoming. I fear for the future of elk herds in northwestern Wyoming if chronic wasting disease gets established and quickly spreads through elk herds on winter feedgrounds. The only way to prevent this disastrous outcome is to stop artificially feeding elk in winter. I strongly urge the WGFD to include immediate phase-out of these feedlots in your elk feedground management plan.

While I'm most concerned about the threat of a chronic wasting disease epidemic, ending artificial feeding will also help reduce brucellosis and other terrible diseases that afflict elk on feedgrounds, benefitting both elk and cattle ranchers. I strongly believe elk

feedgrounds should not play a role in elk management in the future.

I am very concerned about the risk that declining elk herds and consequent disruption to all other wildlife in the region poses to regional tourism, wildlife watching, outdoor recreation, and hunting economies.

Effective strategies currently exist to minimize conflicts between wildlife and livestock. Wyoming should investigate responsible alternatives and adopt strategies that surrounding western states (Colorado, Montana, Idaho, Utah) use to deal with these issues without resorting to winter feeding.

I urge you to include solid plans for rapid phase-out of artificial winter feeding as an essential part of the solution to control the spread of chronic wasting disease, before it's too late.

Sincerely,

Angela Sell
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(970) 403-2486

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