



# GRIZZLY BEAR RECOVERY IN NORTH AMERICA

## **Gregg Losinski**

Regional Conservation Educator  
Upper Snake Region IDFG  
Chair of YES and IGBC  
I & E Subcommittees



## JOIN

Gregg Losinski of the  
Idaho Fish & Game Department  
and Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee



*Who will discuss:*

### GRIZZLY BEAR RECOVERY STATUS UPDATE

Monday, August 10th at 5:00 pm

at the

Grizzly & Wolf Discovery Center

201 South Canyon Street

West Yellowstone, MT

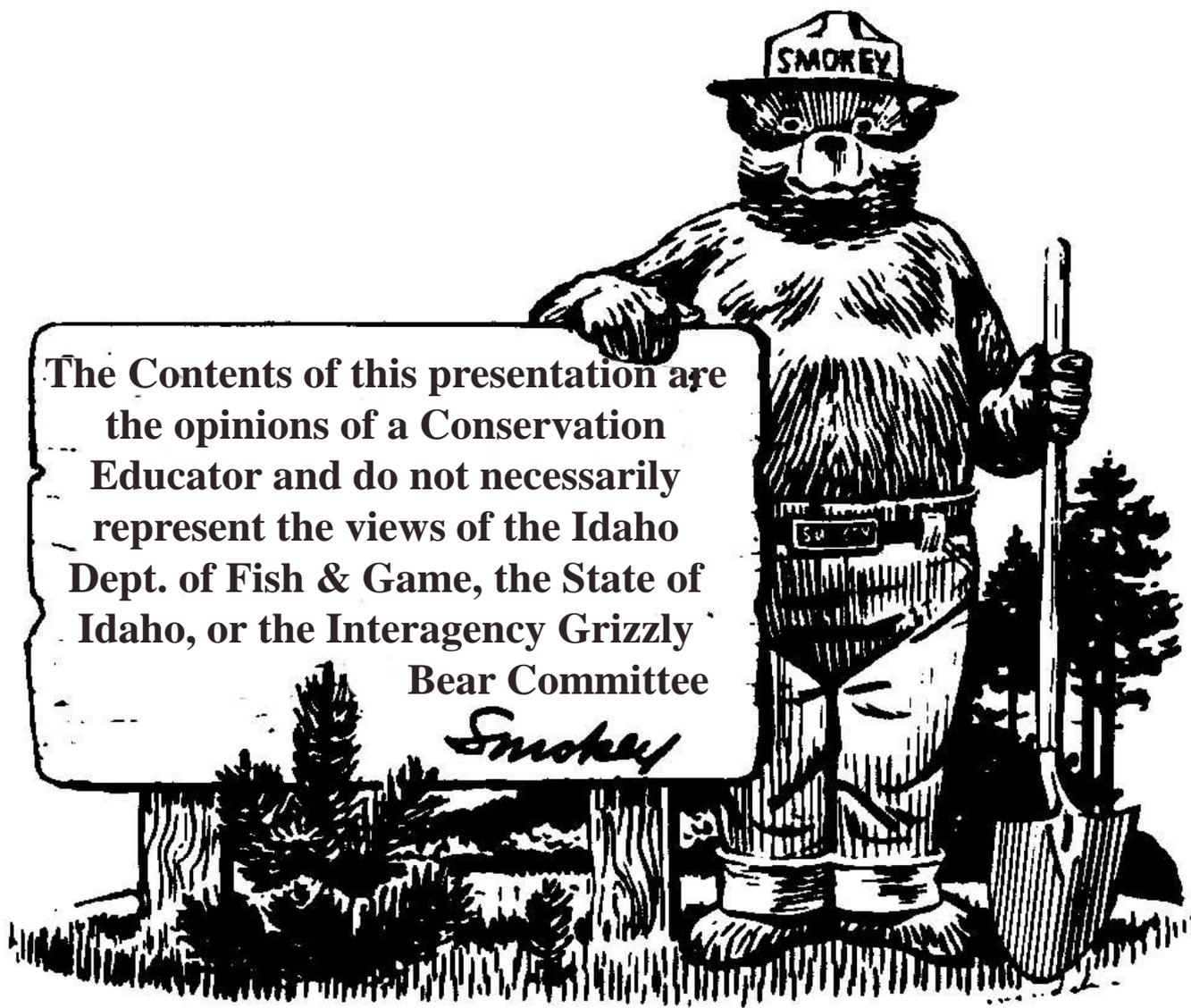
646-7001

## **Gregg Losinski**

Regional Conservation Educator

Idaho Department of Fish & Game

Chair of I & E Subcommittees for Yellowstone  
Ecosystem Subcommittee and Interagency Grizzly  
Bear Subcommittee



The Contents of this presentation are  
the opinions of a Conservation  
Educator and do not necessarily  
represent the views of the Idaho  
Dept. of Fish & Game, the State of  
Idaho, or the Interagency Grizzly  
Bear Committee  
*Smokey*



# ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT 40TH ANNIVERSARY

## Protecting Imperiled Species Since 1973

<http://www.epa.gov/endangeredspecies>

**#ESA40**

Get My Bear by Lewis & Clark Day

# ESA – Endangered Species Act

**Threatened:** A threatened species is an animal or plant species likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

**Endangered:** An endangered species is an animal or plant species in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

**Distinct Population Segment (DPS):** A distinct population segment (DPS) is a subdivision of a vertebrate species that is treated as a species for purposes of listing under the Endangered Species Act. To be so recognized, a potential distinct population segment must satisfy standards specified in a FWS or NOAA Fisheries policy statement (See the February 7, 1996, *Federal Register*, pages 4722-4725). The standards require it to be separable from the remainder of and significant to the species to which it belongs.



**Umbrella or Keystone Species**

# Iconic Charismatic Megafauna

- *Grizzly*
- *Wolf*
- *Bald eagle*



# NIGHT OF THE GRIZZLIES

"A breathtaking, thrilling,  
fascinating book... suspense  
that makes it impossible to  
put down." —*Chicago Tribune*



## JACK OLSEN

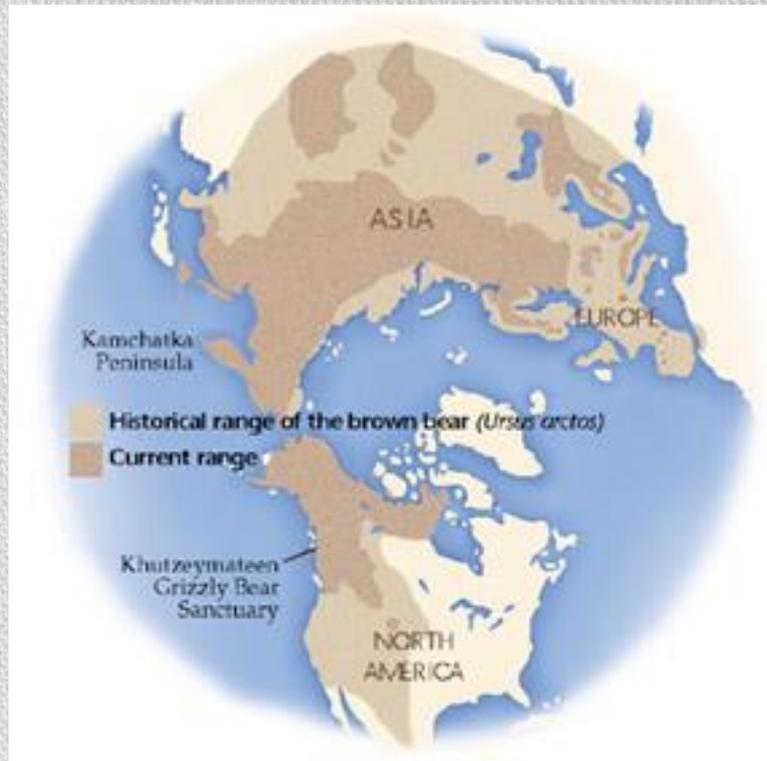


No. 145 FEEDING THE BEAR - YELLOWSTONE PARK.

HARKES PHOTO. © 1911

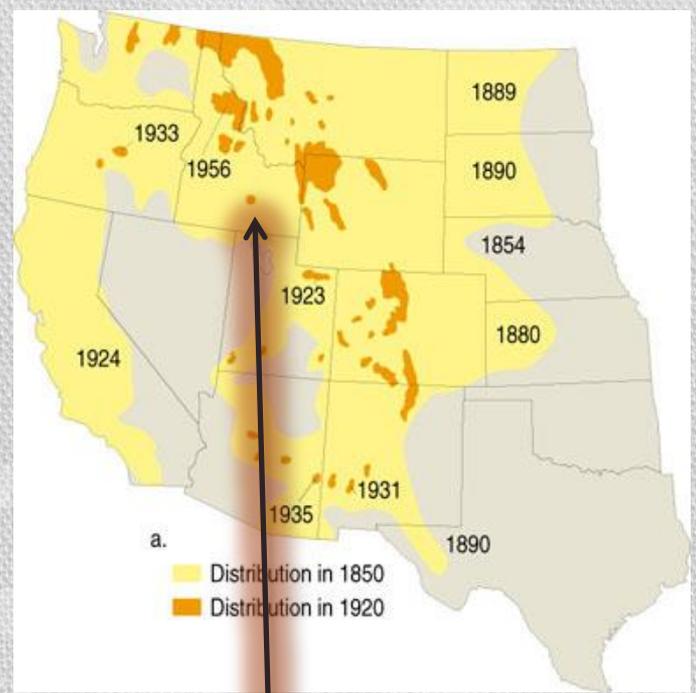
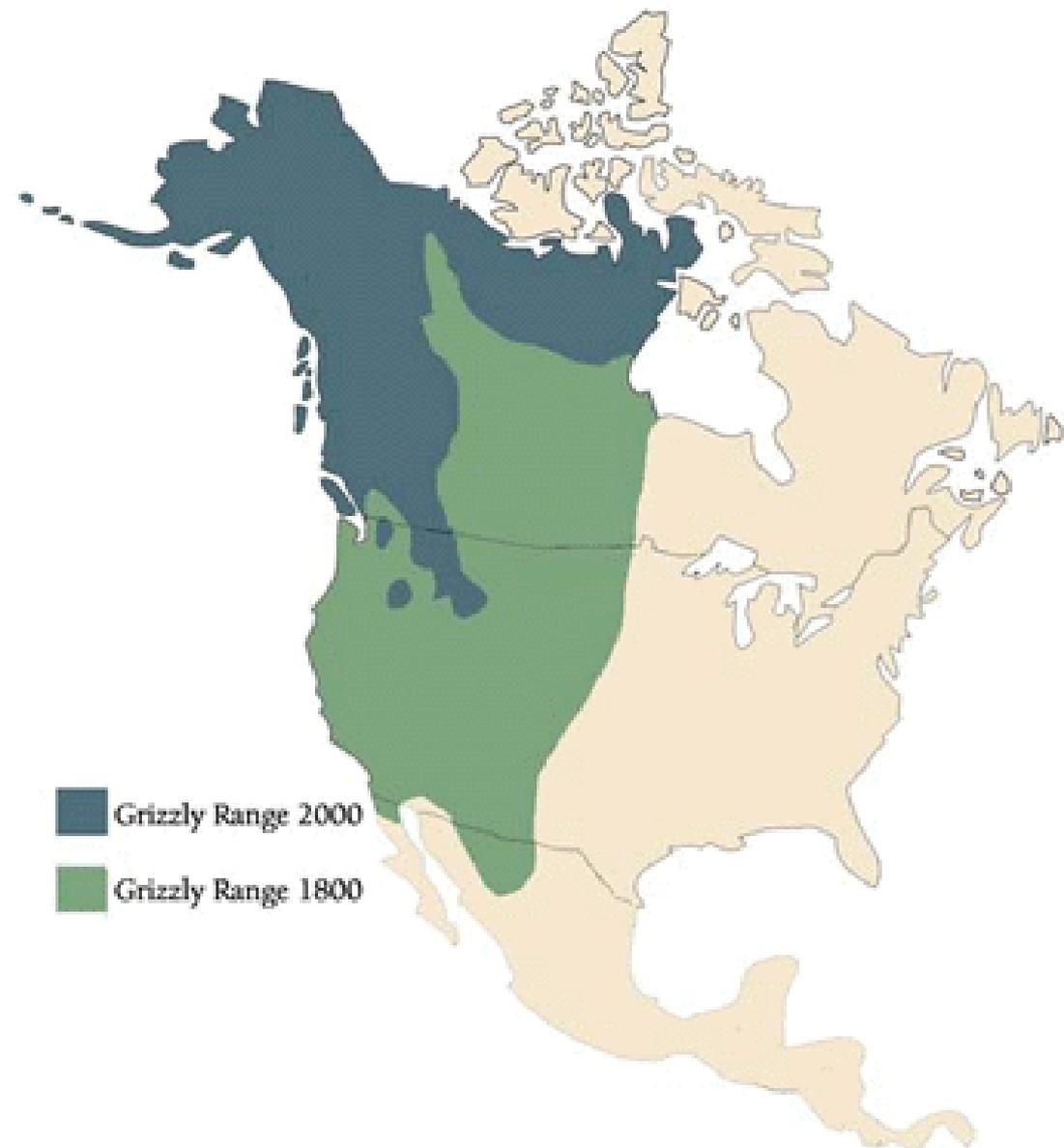


# Brown Bears Have Circumpolar Distribution



IUCN – International Union for Conservation of Nature



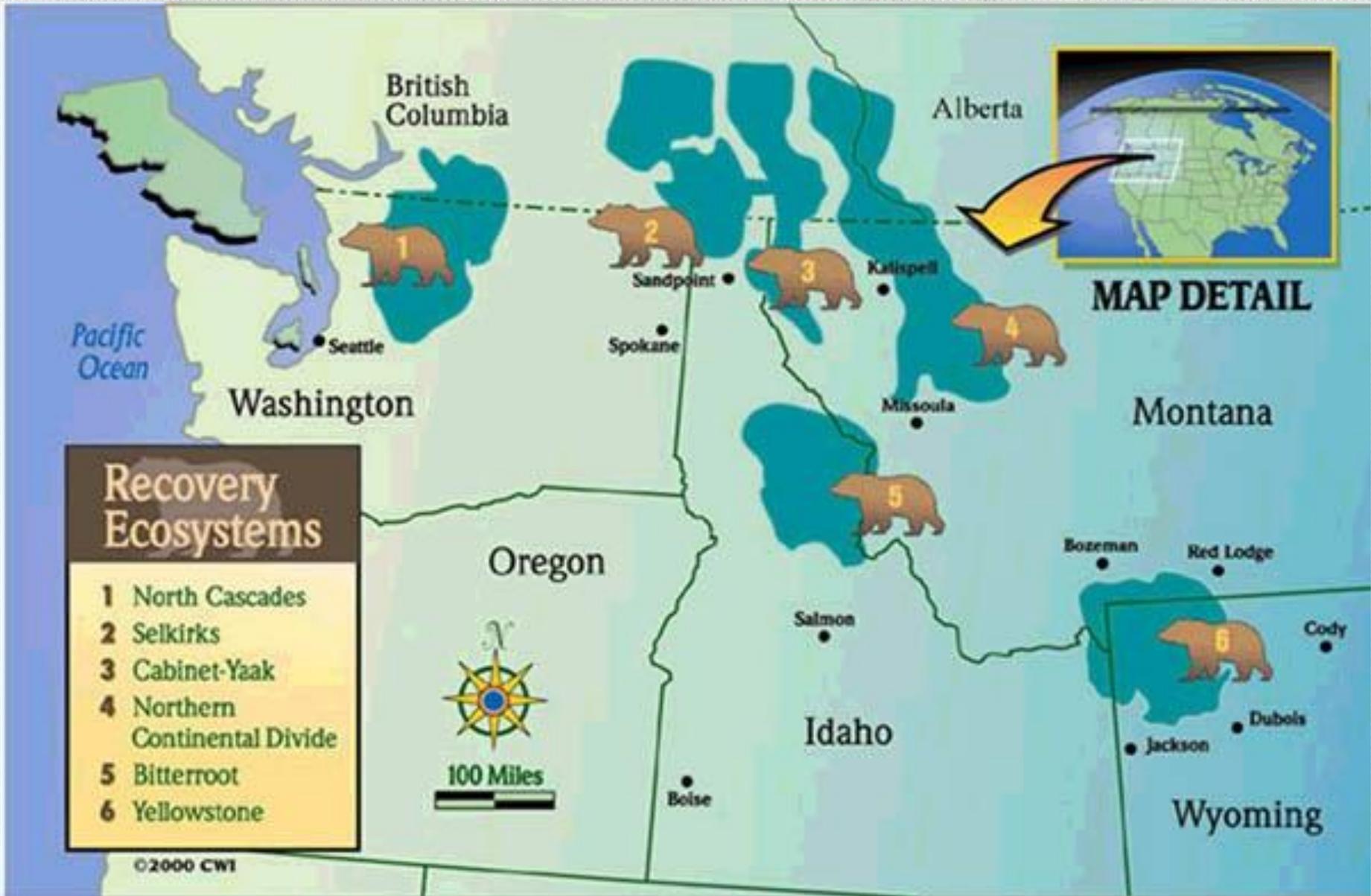


**50,000 + in Lower 48**



**BOB  
"2 GUN"  
LIMBERT**



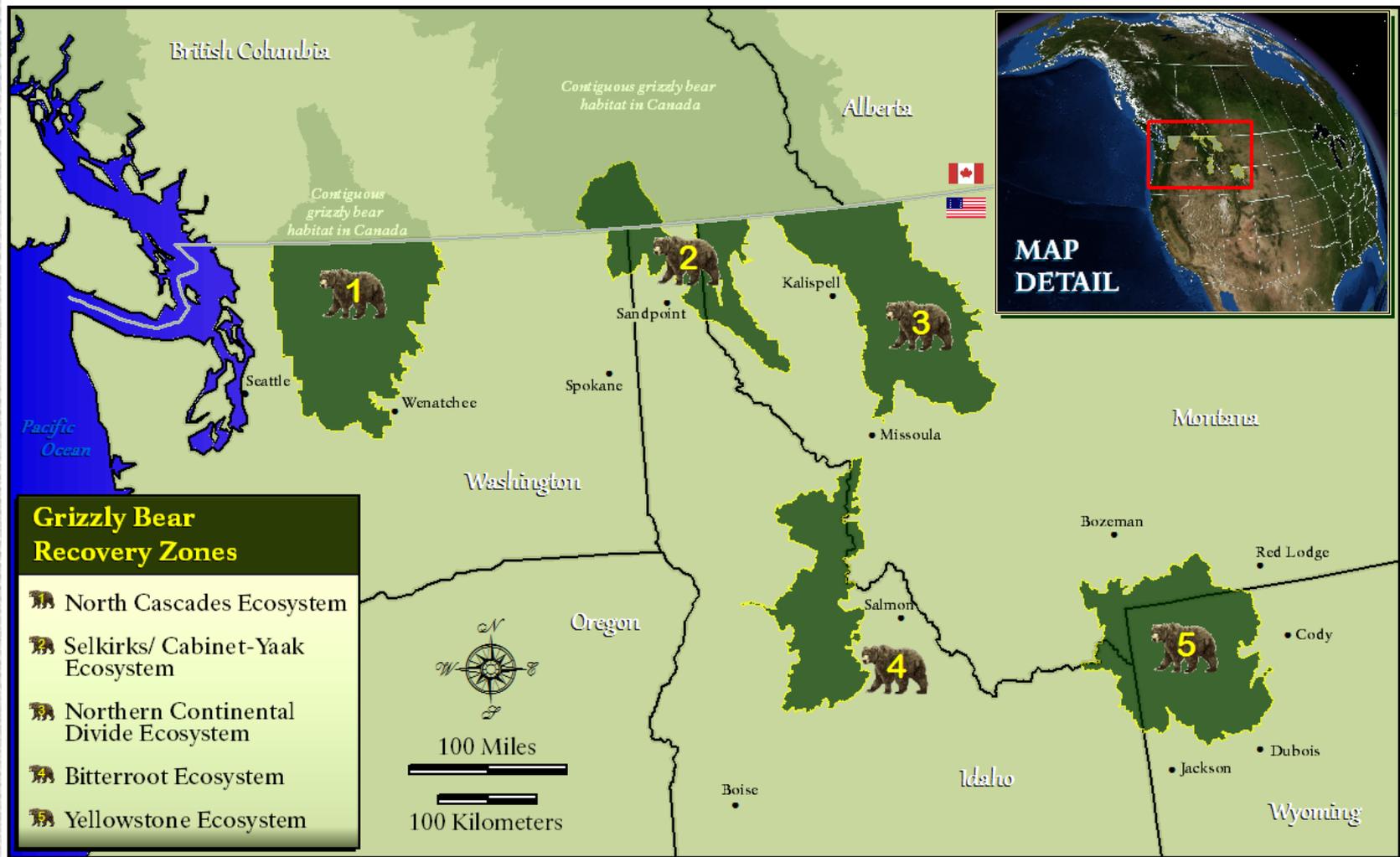


# Some Quick Grizzly Numbers For 2014:



- Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem –**about 930**
- Yellowstone Ecosystem – **Between 757 and 1150 \***
- Cabinet/Yaak Ecosystem – **about 50**
- Selkirks Ecosystem –**about 30**
- North Cascades Ecosystem– **less than 20**
- Bitterroot Ecosystem - **None Known**

# Grizzly Bear Recovery Zones



# History of Grizzly Bear Management in U.S.

- Interagency Grizzly Bear Study Team (1972)
- Grizzly Bear listed as Threatened Species (1975)
- Recovery Plan approved (1982)
- Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee (1983)
- Recovery Plan revised (1993)
- Distinct Yellowstone Population Segment delisted (2007)
- Grizzly bear killed in Bitterroot Ecosystem (2007)
- Yellowstone grizzly relisted (2009)
- Yellowstone grizzly re-delisted (?)
- Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem delisted ( ?)

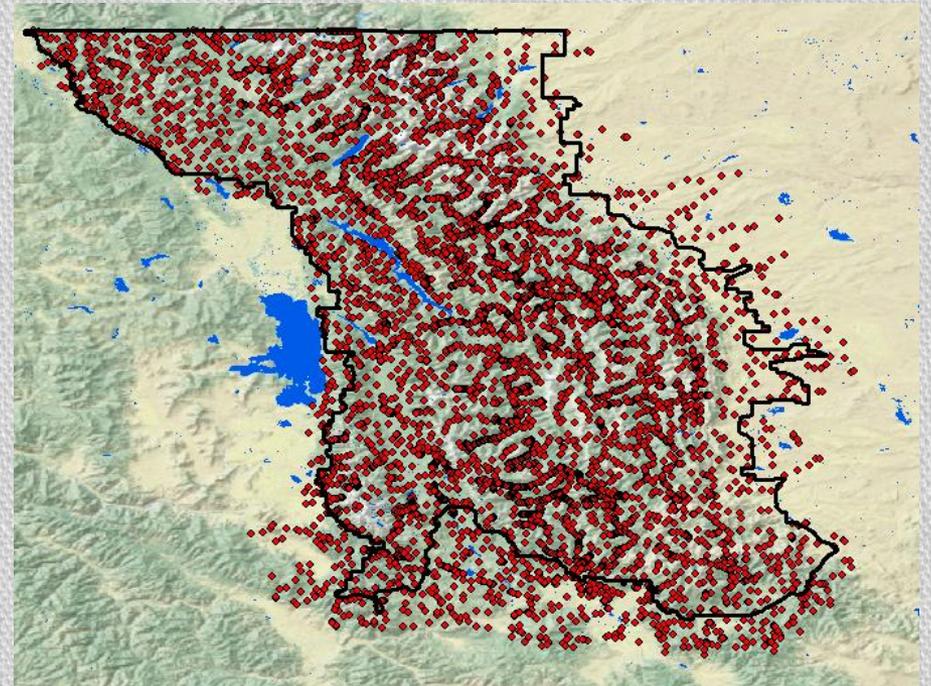
# *Distribution & Occupancy*

- **Goal: To manage a recovered grizzly bear population in eastern Idaho and to provide for a continuing expansion of that population into areas that are **biologically suitable** and **socially acceptable**. Social acceptance of grizzly bears will depend on how management issues are approached and how much faith people have in managers.**

# “Best Available Science”



# Big Brother is Watching!



# Some Useful Terms to Know

**Translocation:** capture and release of bear at a distance beyond its home range, if known, otherwise beyond the ordinary home range size of bears in the area. The intent of translocation is to force the bear to establish a new home range far removed from the conflict situation.

**Relocation:** capture and release of bear at a distance within its home range, if known, or a distance corresponding to the ordinary home range size of bears in the area (also see *translocation*). Often, but not always, the intent is to remove bear temporarily from a conflict situation.

**Augmentation** refers to adding animals to an existing grizzly bear population. For example, grizzly bear population augmentation has occurred in the Cabinet Mountains of Montana.

**Re-introduction:** refers to relocating grizzly bears into an area previously inhabited, but no longer occupied, by grizzly bears.

**Recovery:** process by which the decline of an endangered or threatened species is stopped or reversed, or threats to its survival neutralized so that its long-term survival in the wild can be ensured, and it can be removed from the list of threatened and endangered species.

# Bitterroot Ecosystem



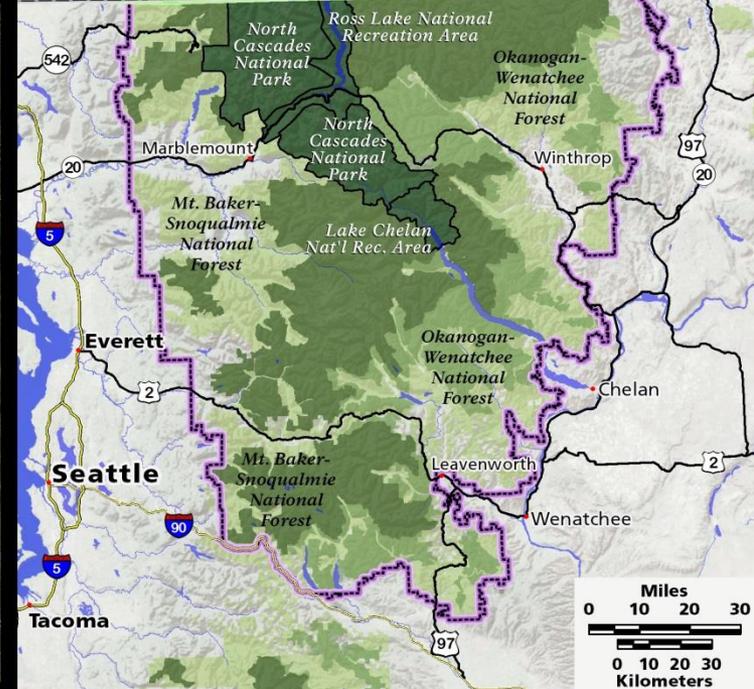
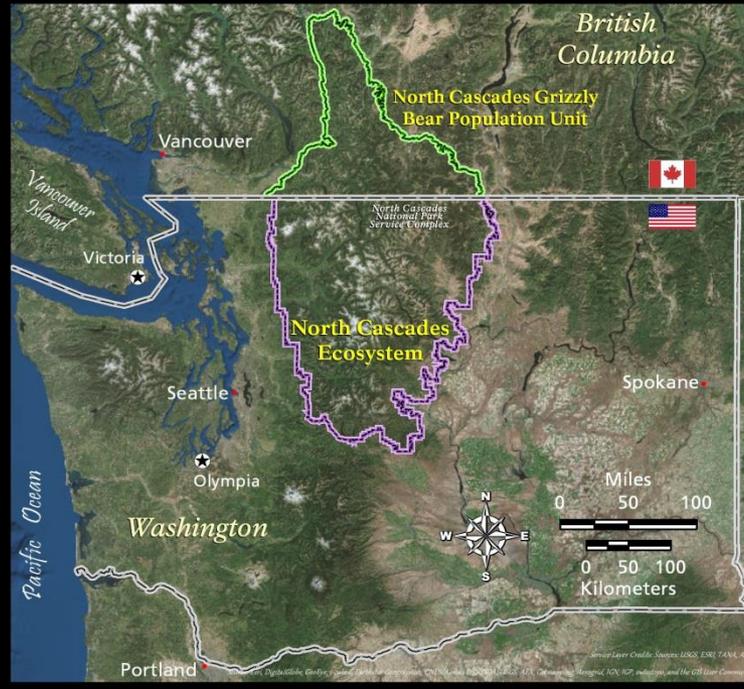
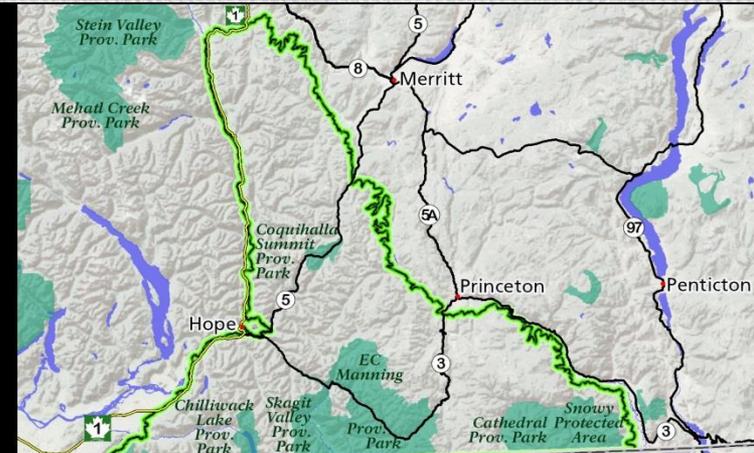
**No known grizzlies at this time. Last confirmed grizzly was shot accidentally by a black bear hunter in 2007.**

**Recovery Plan has been accepted by United States Fish & Wildlife Service, but has not been pursued by the states.**

# North Cascades Ecosystem Recovery Zone

## North Cascades Grizzly Bear Recovery Areas: North Cascades Ecosystem (USA) North Cascades Grizzly Bear Population Unit (Canada)

-  North Cascades Ecosystem
-  North Cascades Grizzly Bear Population Unit
-  North Cascades NPS Complex / Stephen Mather Wilderness
-  National Forests
-  USFS Wilderness areas
-  USFS Inventoried Roadless Areas (O-W NF)
-  British Columbia provincial parks



# Timeline

- 1975 – Grizzly bear listed as threatened species, lower 48 states under Endangered Species Act
- 1980 – Grizzly bear listed as an endangered species by State of Washington
- 1982 – National Grizzly Bear Recovery Plan approved by FWS; revised in 1993
- 1983 – Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee established
- 1991 – 9,800 square miles of North Cascades ecosystem in Washington State identified as adequate habitat for grizzly bears. Grizzly bears are confirmed in locations from just north of Interstate 90 to the international border
- 1991 – Decision made by Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee during winter 1991 meeting to recover grizzly bears in the North Cascades

# Timeline Continued

- 1993 – Detailed habitat evaluation of the North Cascades ecosystem published
- 1997 – North Cascades chapter added to National Grizzly Bear Recovery Plan
- 2004 – Grizzly bear recovery plan completed for the British Columbia portion of North Cascades ecosystem
- 2014 – NPS/FWS and cooperating agencies begin Environmental Impact Statement to determine how to restore grizzly bears in the North Cascades

## NCE EIS Schedule/Key Milestones:

- ✓ Notice of Intent and Public scoping - Spring 2015
- Development of Alternatives - Fall-Spring 2015/2016
- Notice of Availability of Draft EIS - Summer 2016
- Public Comment Period – Fall 2016
- Notice of Availability of Final EIS - Summer 2017
- Record of Decision - Fall 2017

# Selkirk & Cabinet Yaak Recovery Area



**2013 - 42 Bears**



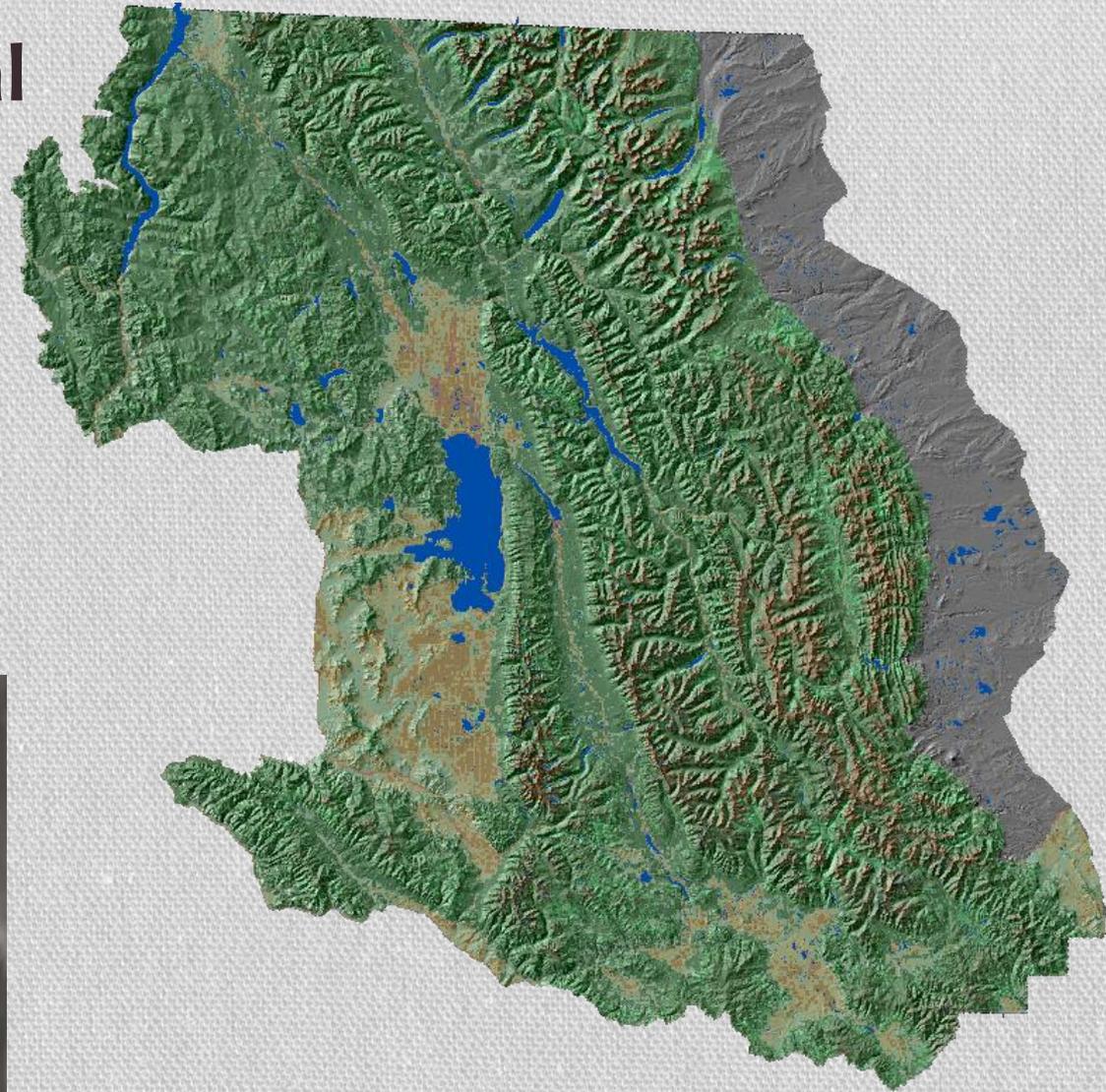




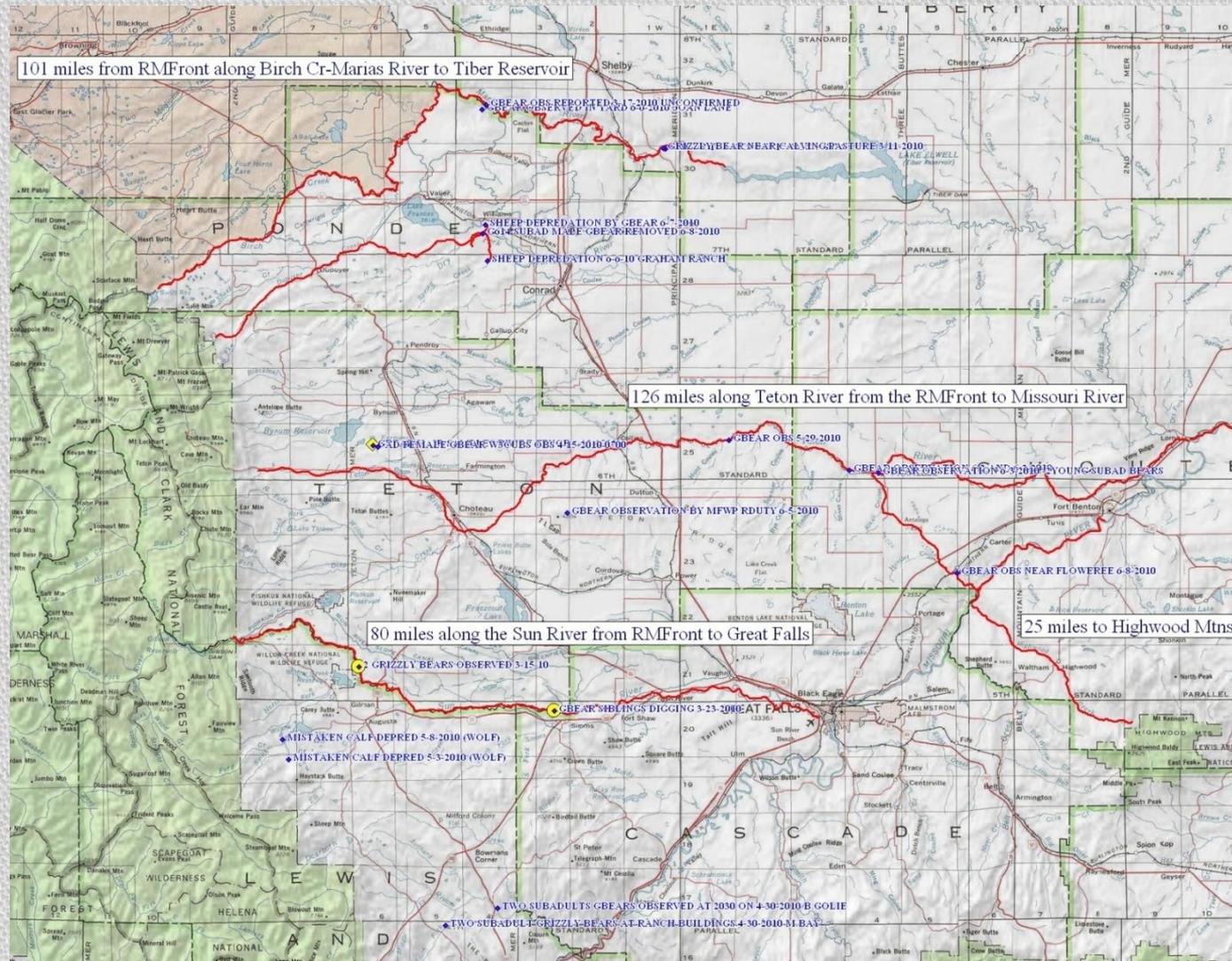
**NCDE**

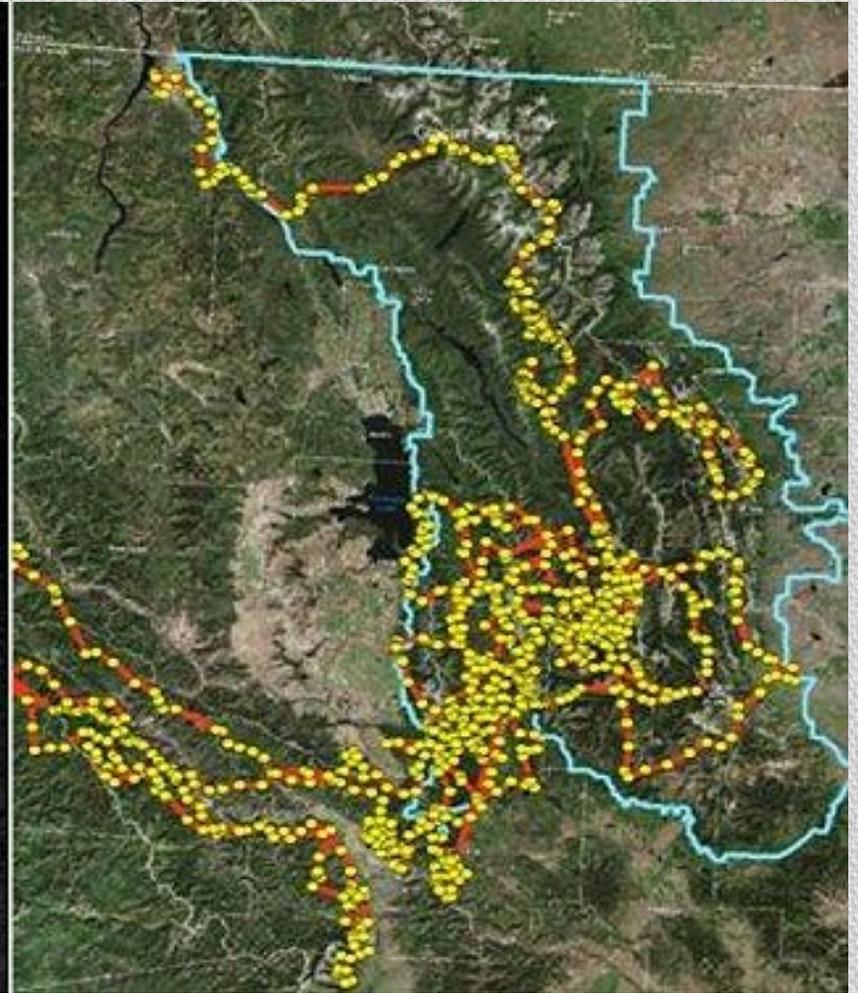
**Northern Continental  
Divide Ecosystem**

**2015**

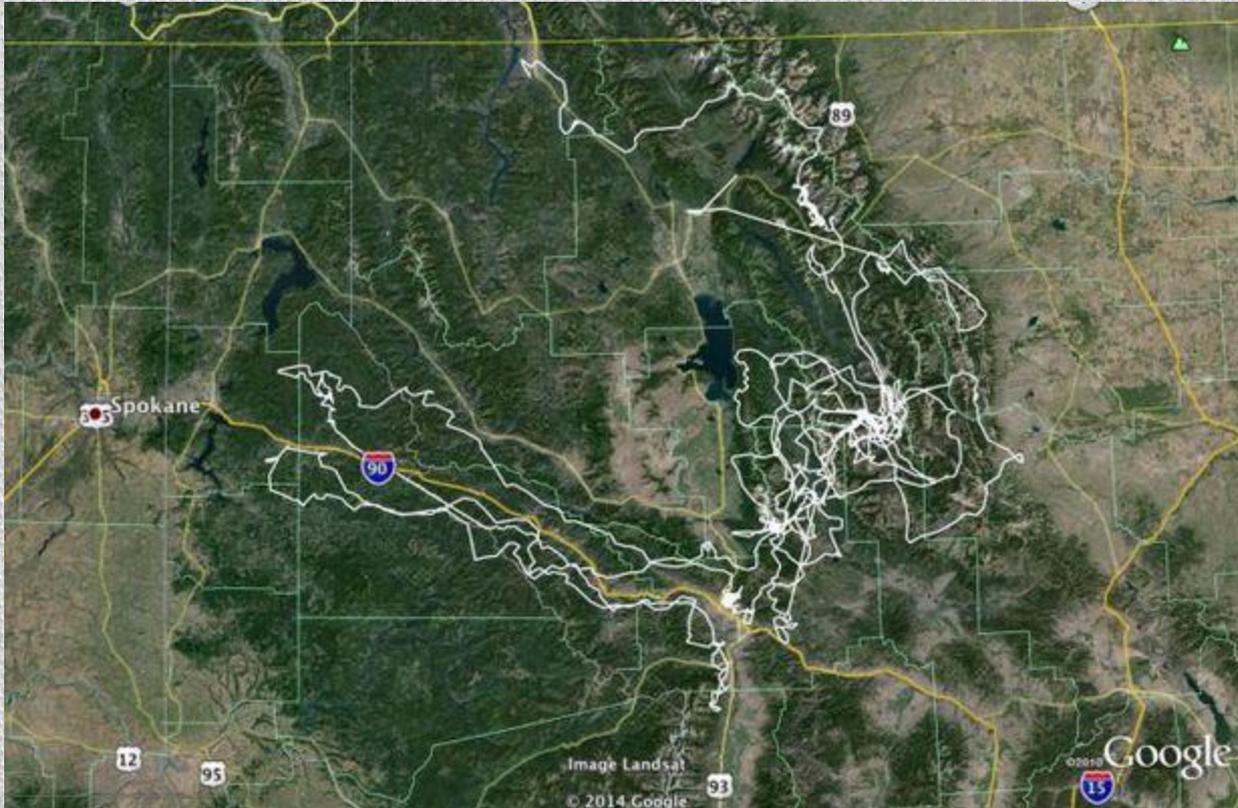


# Travel Routes and Habitat use on Prairie and Travel distances – potential I&E focus areas for Conflict Prevention Measures

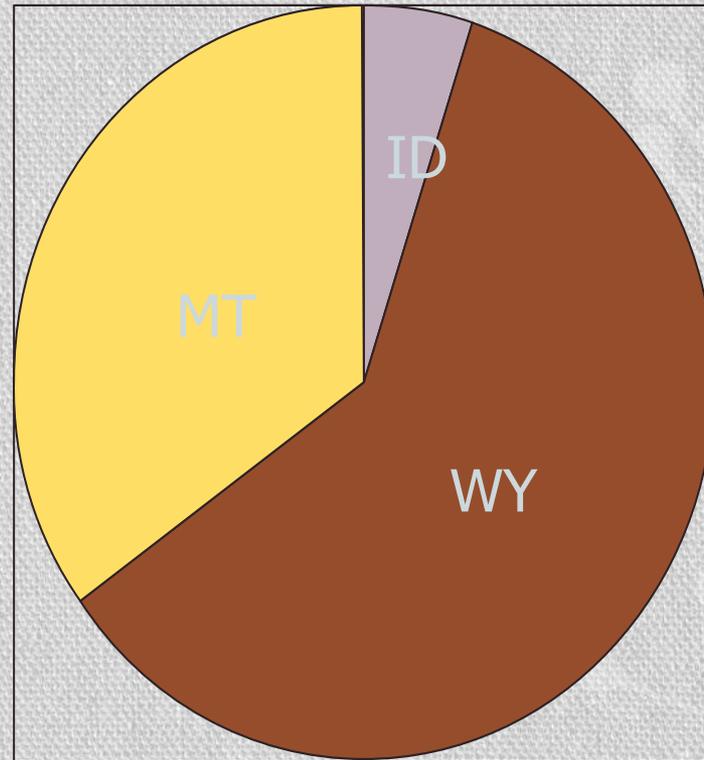




# Linkage & Ethyl- 2,800-5,000 miles in 3 years

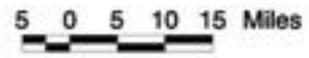


# Grizzly Bear Distribution in the Yellowstone Ecosystem

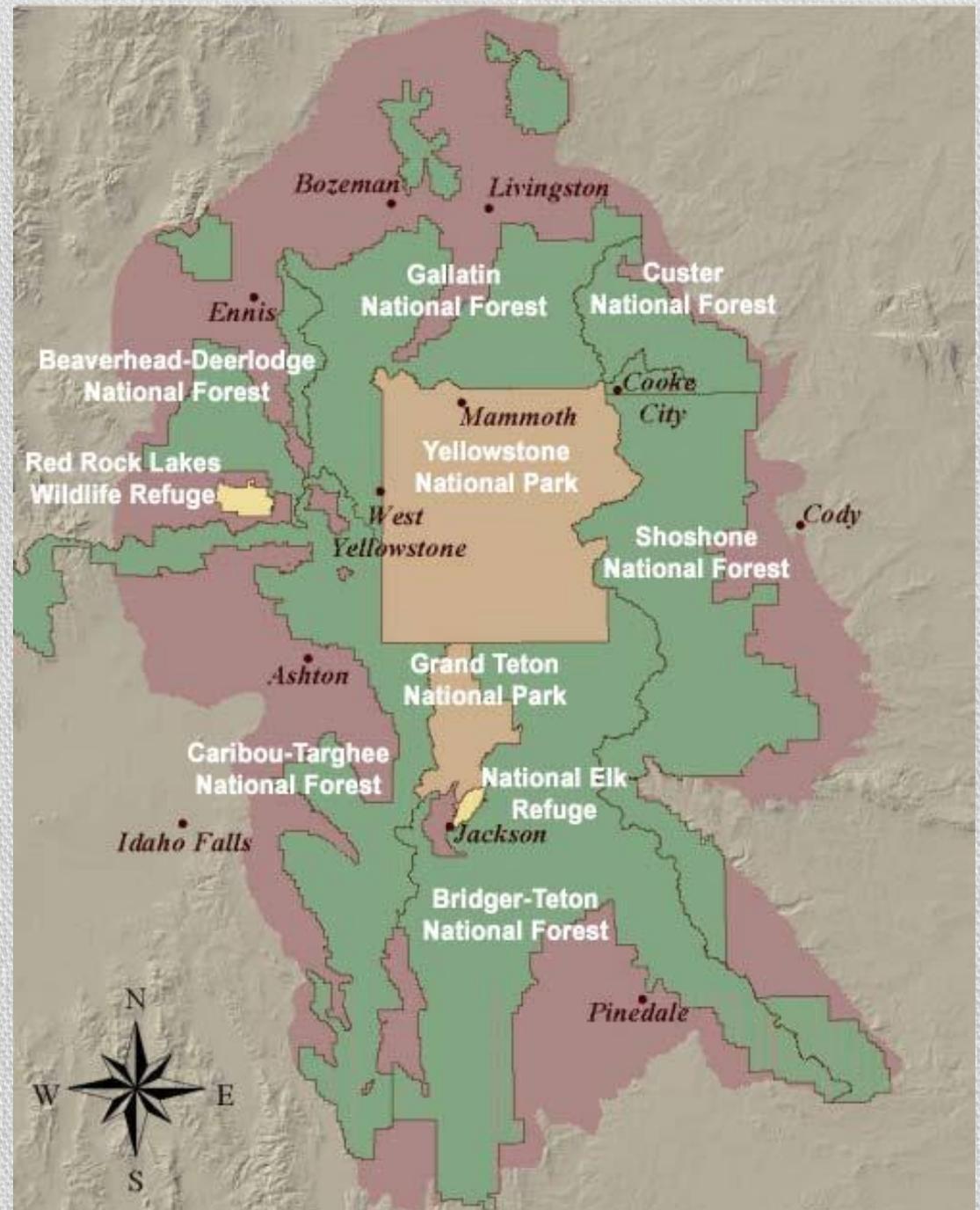




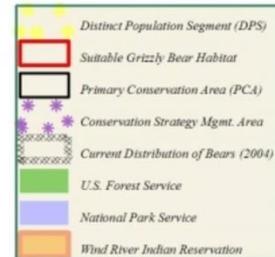
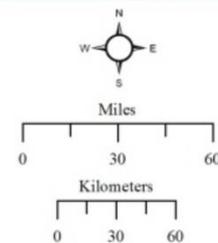
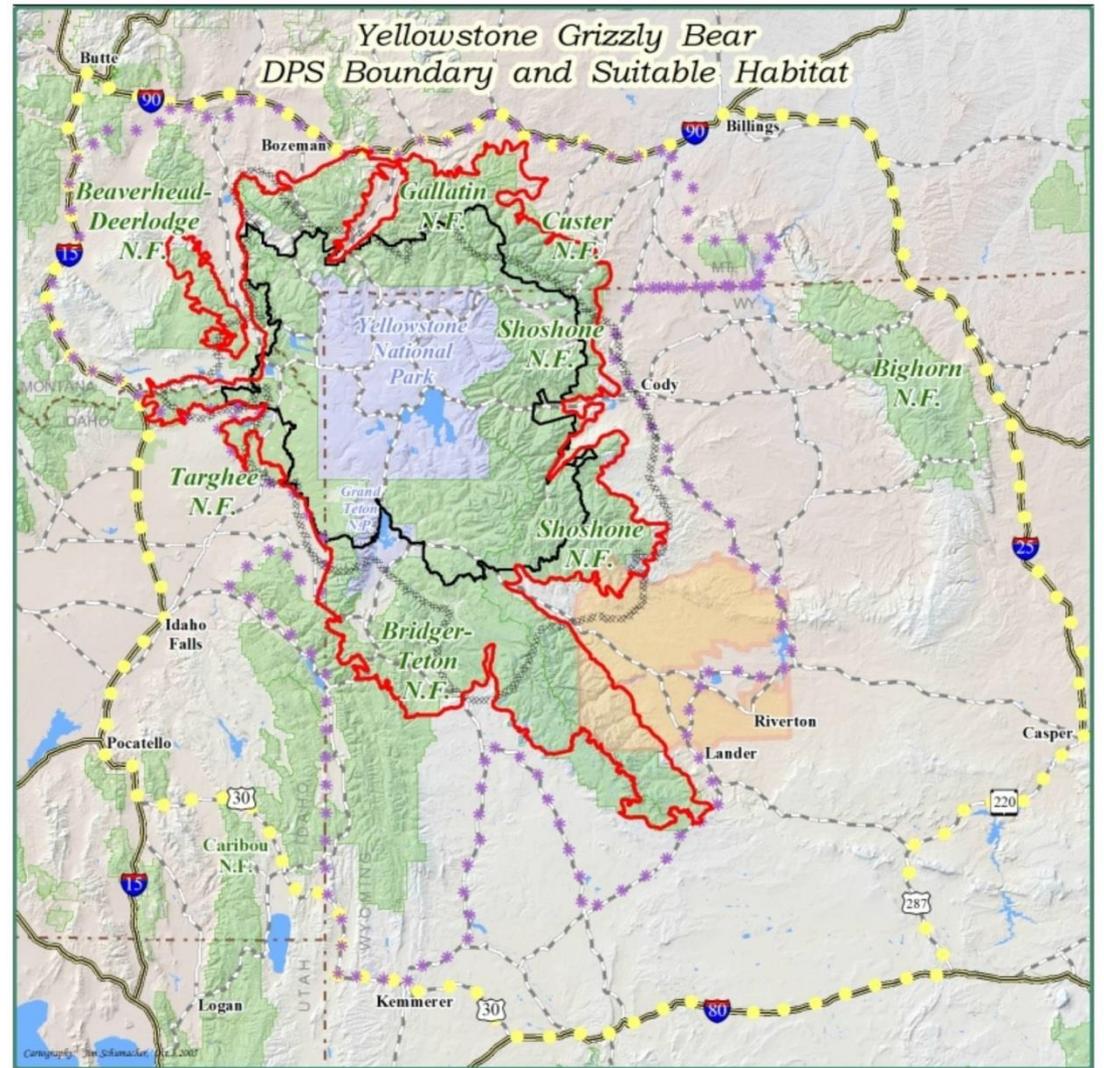
-  Large Lakes (> 1 square mile)
-  Bear management Unit Boundaries
-  Subunit Boundaries
-  Yellowstone National Park Boundary



- Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem



# Key Yellowstone Grizzly Bear Boundaries



Contact: Chris Servheen  
Grizzly Bear Recovery Coordinator  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
(406) 243-4903



- Yellowstone Ecosystem Grizzlies Are Doing Well

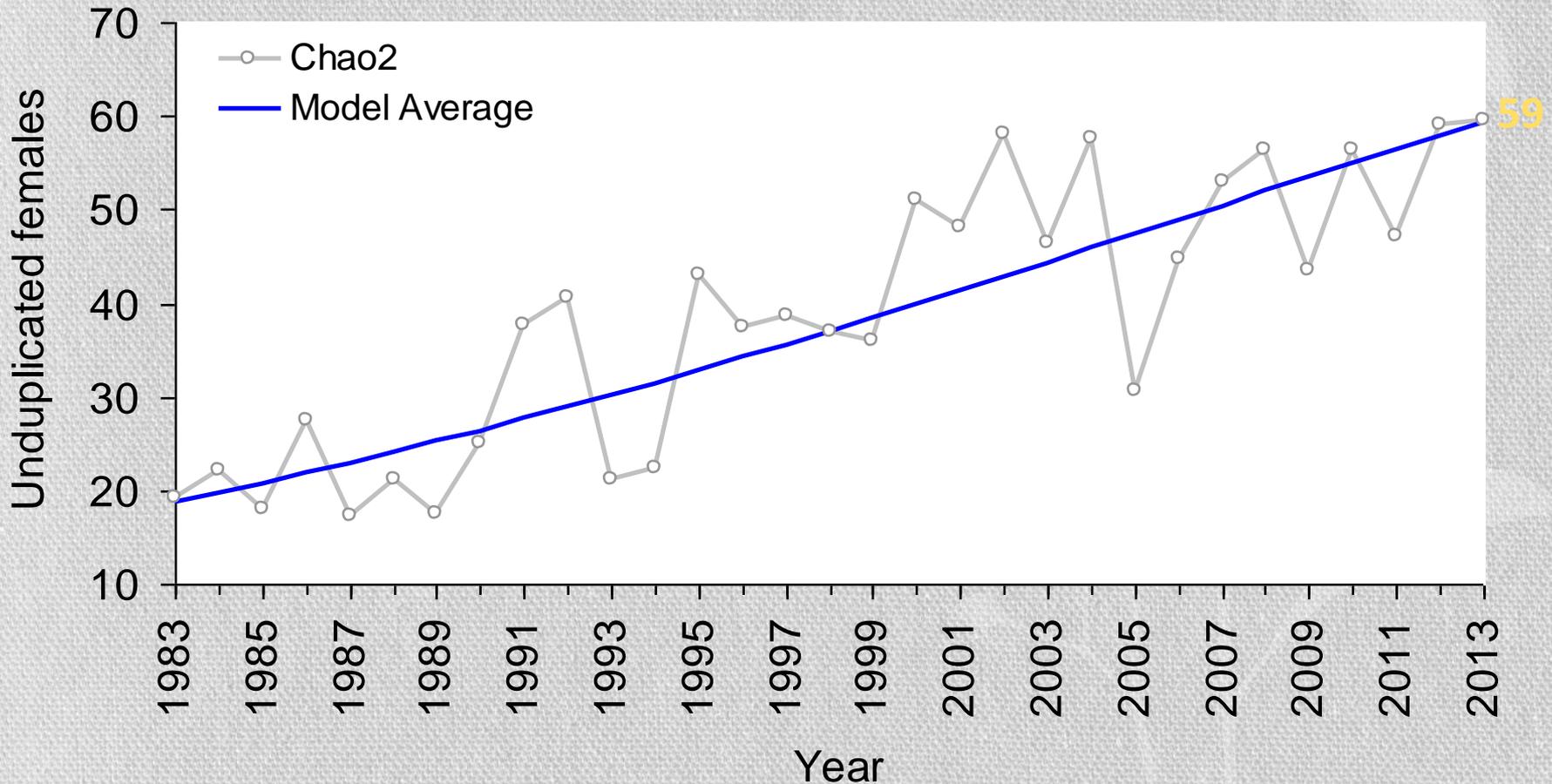
Pre 1970

~300 Bears

2014

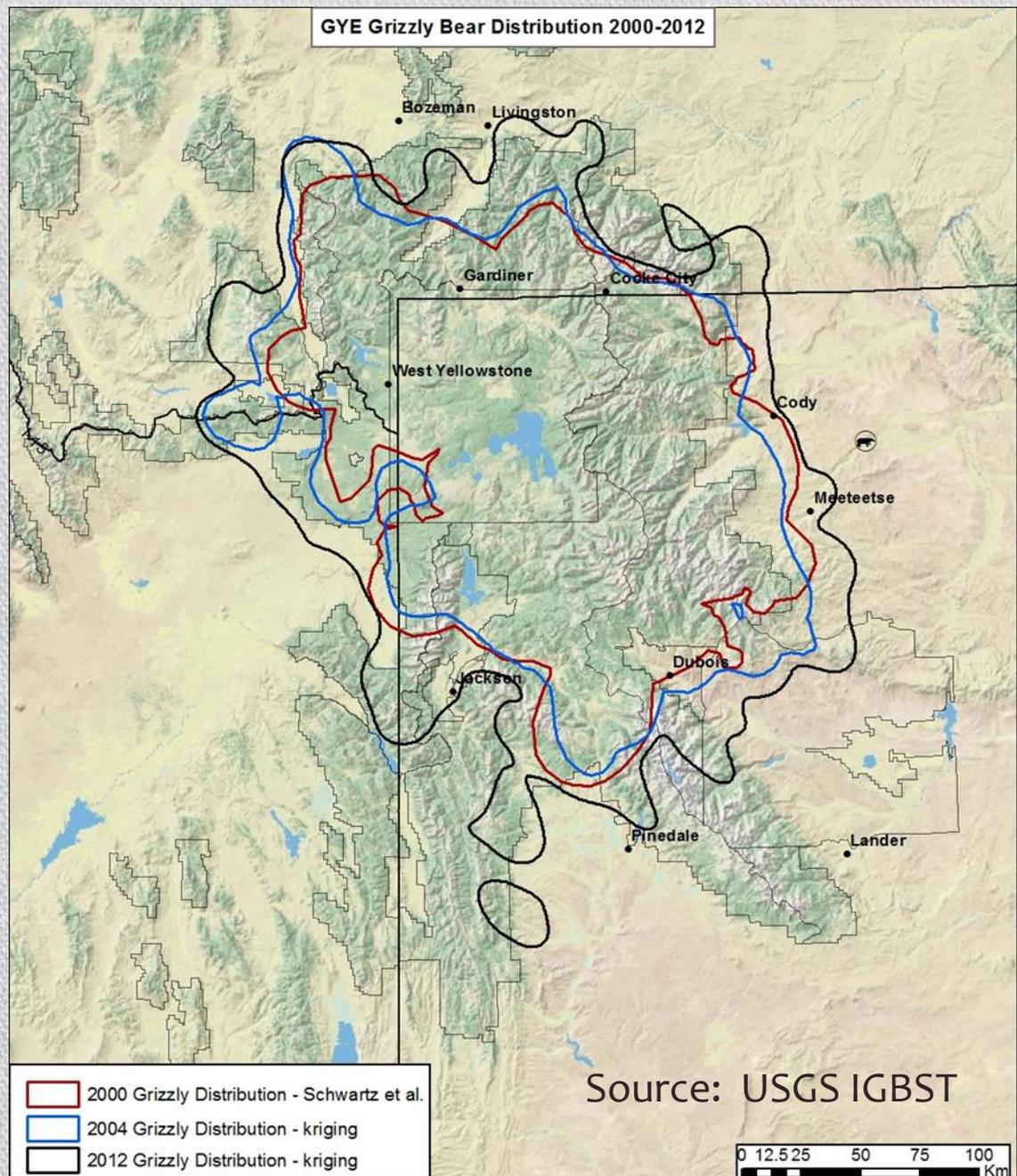
757 /1150 Bears

# Population Estimate using Sightings of Females with Cubs-of-the-Year

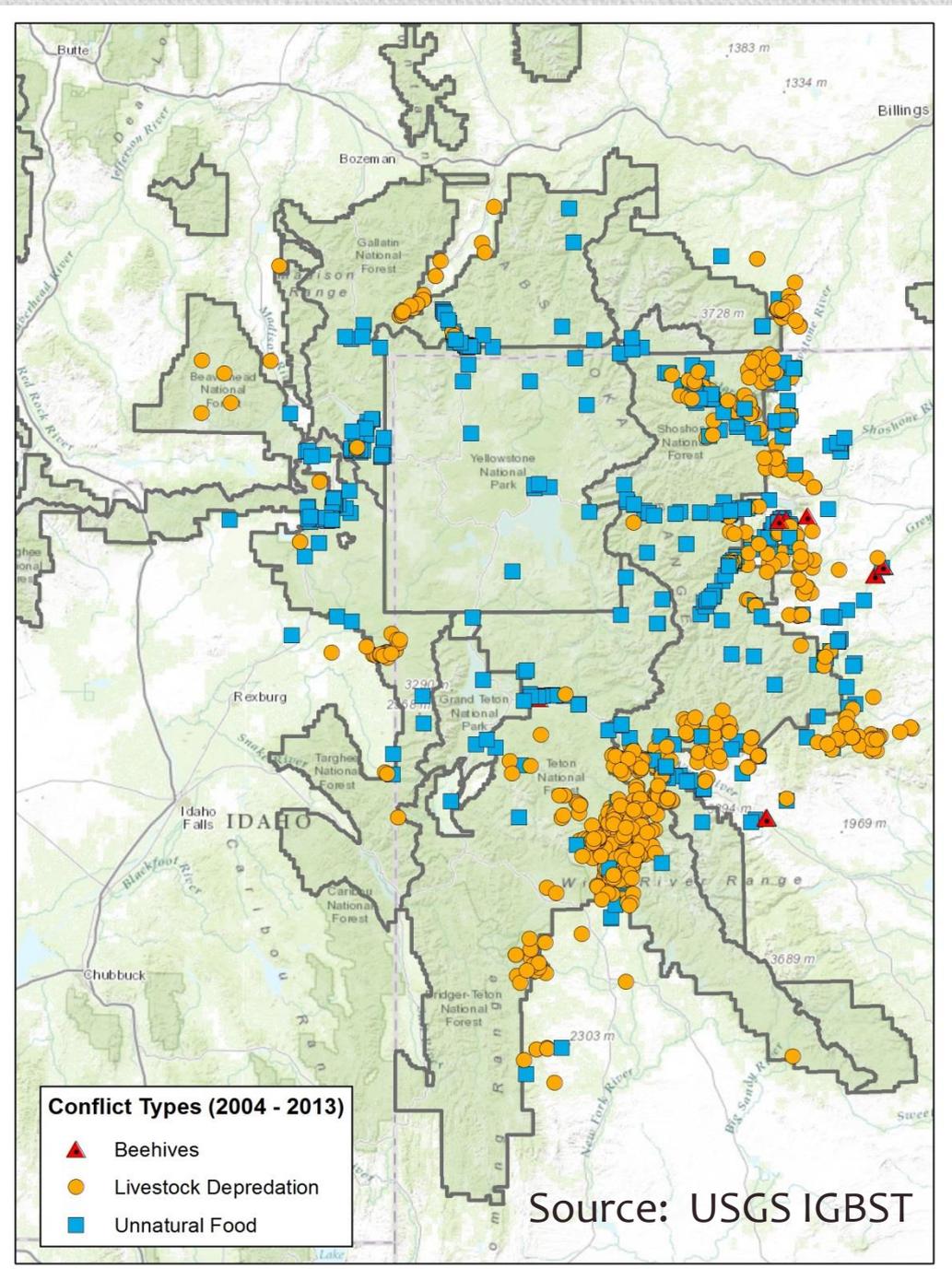


Source: USGS IGBST

- Yellowstone Ecosystem Grizzlies are expanding their range



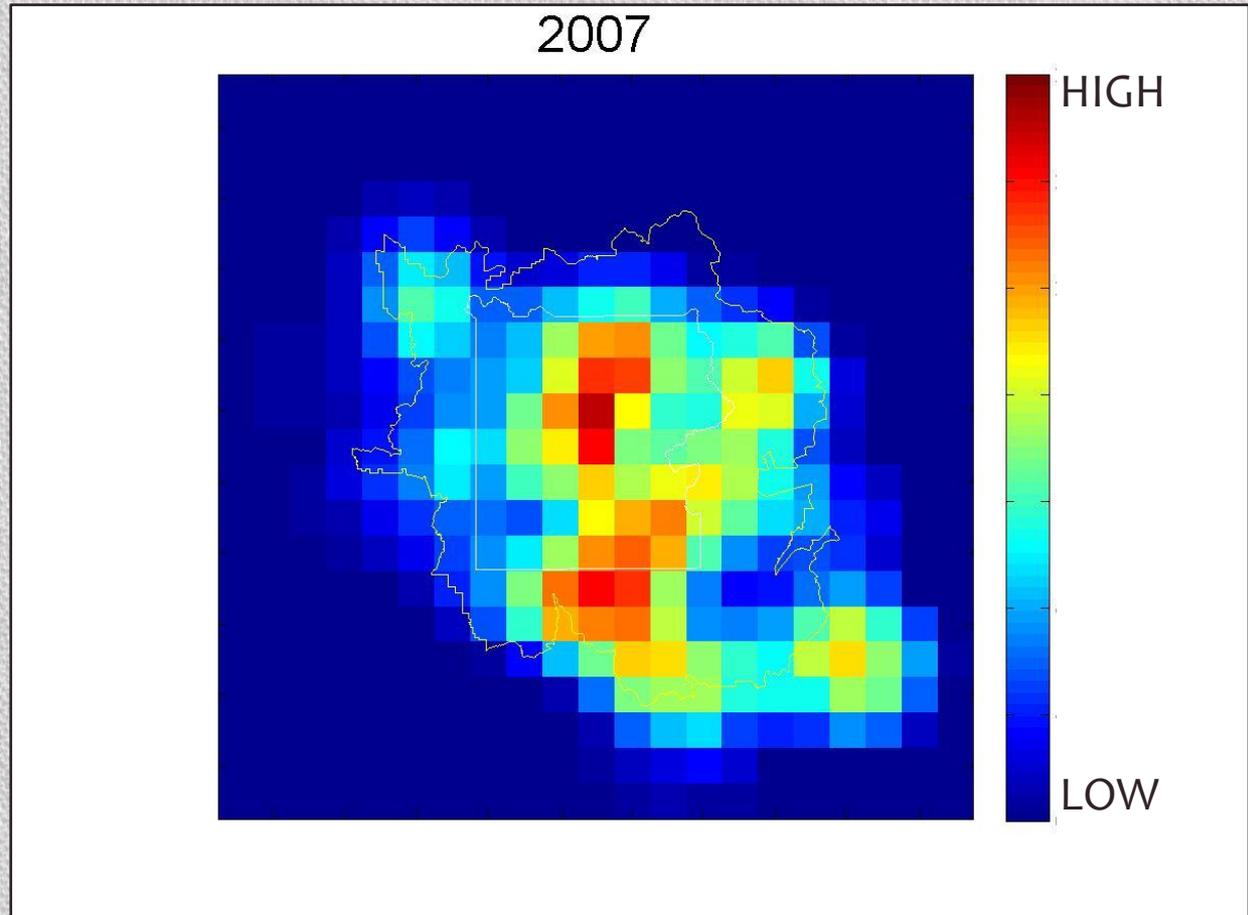
# Grizzly Bear Conflicts Are On The Rise



# DENSITY INDEX

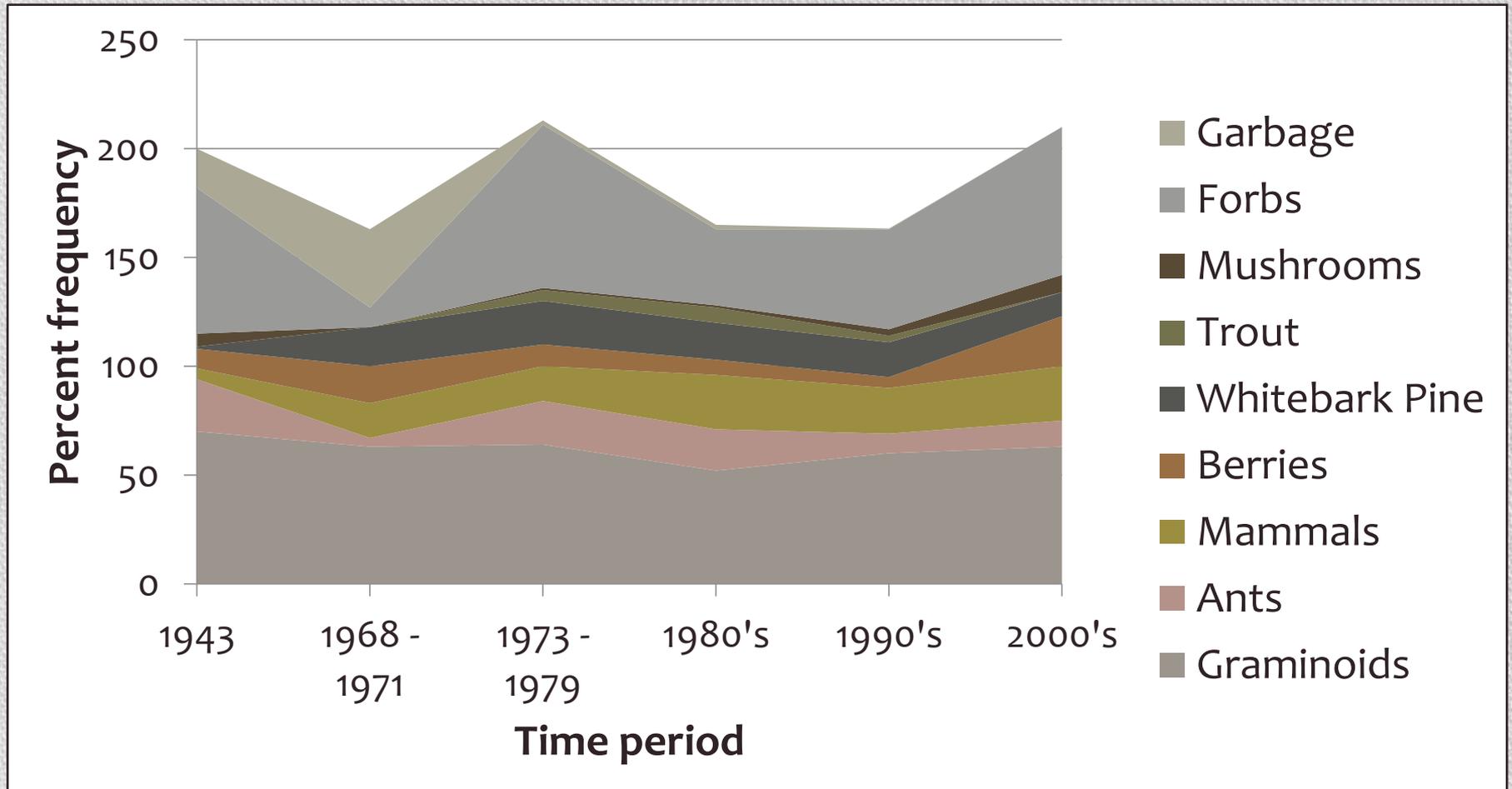
Density  
Dependence

Density Index 1983-2007 (200-km<sup>2</sup> grid cells)



# Gunther et al. (2014)

## Broad Dietary Shifts 1943-2009



**GPS movement paths and range extents for 16 individual grizzly bears that had locations in Idaho during 2000-2009.**

**Mark A. Haroldson  
USGS Northern Rocky Mountain Science Center  
Interagency Grizzly Bear Study Team**

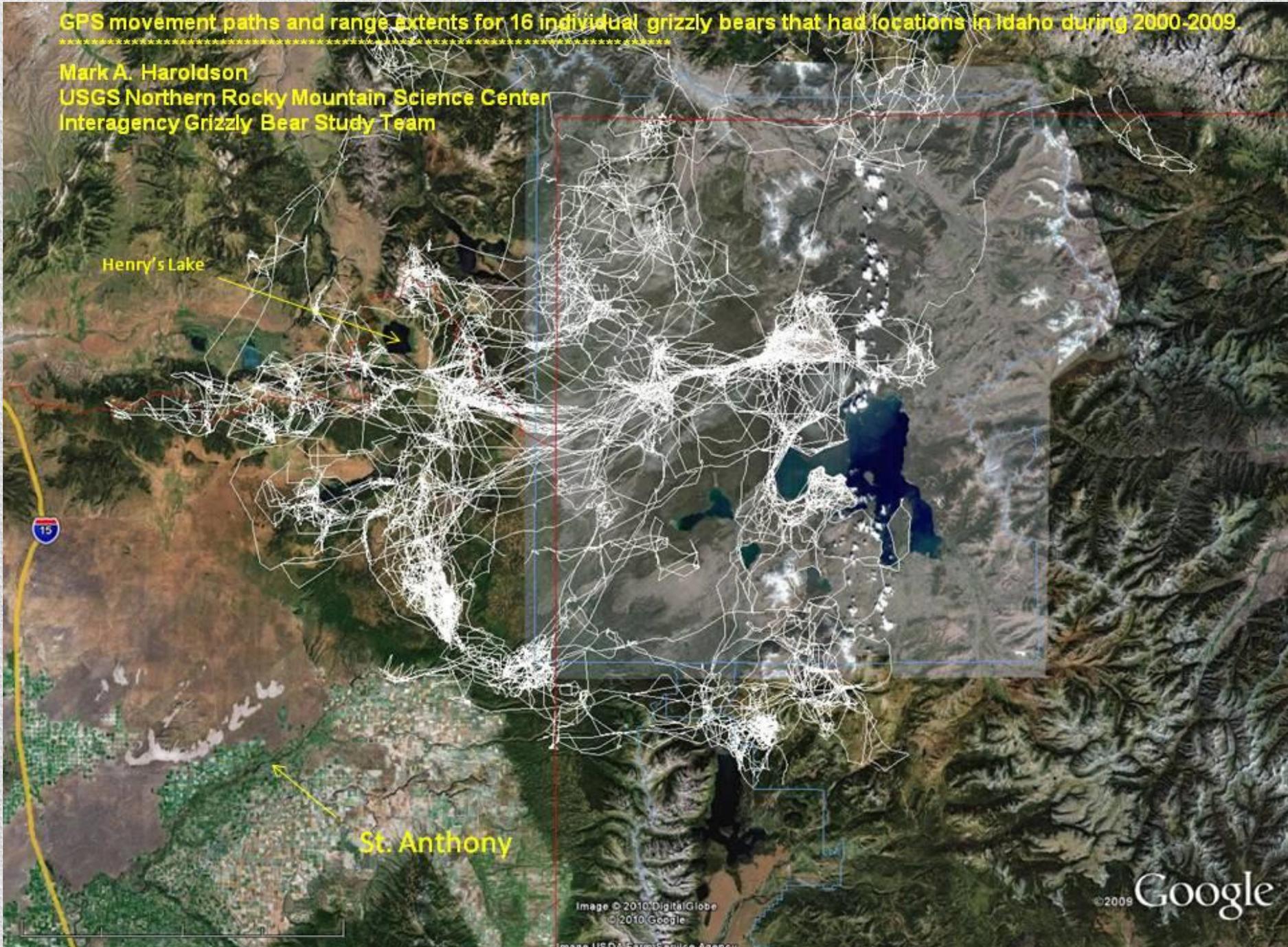
Henry's Lake

St. Anthony

Image © 2010 DigitalGlobe  
© 2010 Google

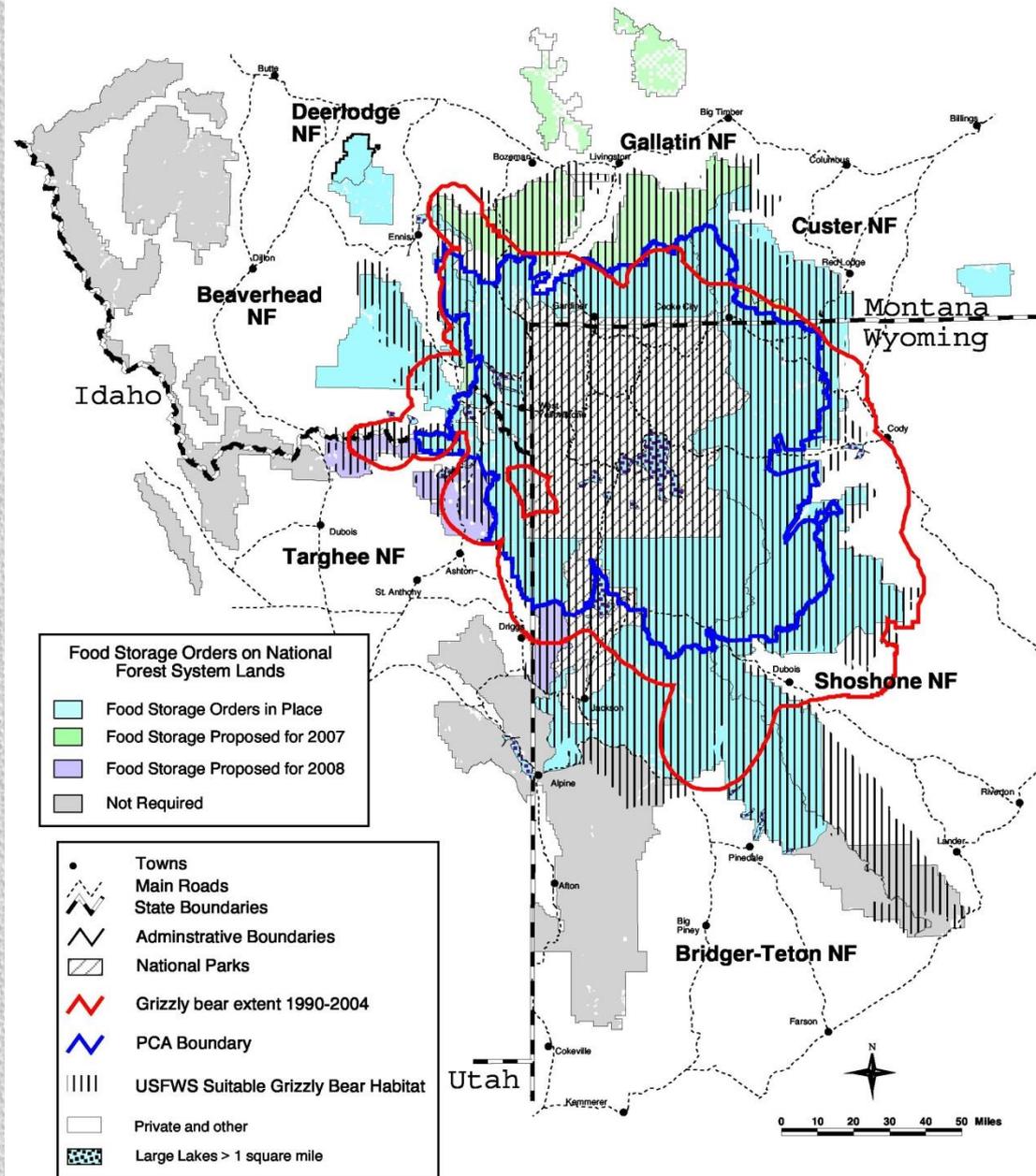
Image USDA Farm Service Agency

© 2009 Google



# Greater Yellowstone Area Food Storage Orders

## Food Storage Orders National Forest System Lands GYA



# From Virgil Moore – IDFG Director

- **Greater Yellowstone Grizzly population** - We have an agreement with FWS to move forward with the delisting rule by the end of this year.
- US Fish and Wildlife Service has committed to updating the Grizzly Bear Recovery Plan Supplement, Conservation Strategy, and publishing a proposed delisting rule by the end of the calendar year with final by this time in 2016.
- Idaho, Montana and Wyoming will draft the necessary changes to the recovery plan and conservation strategy so those documents reflect the tri-state management framework that has been communicated to the Service over the past 6 months.
- States will initiate the editing of both documents and have a draft submitted to the Service by September 30.
- Idaho will update the MOU, some modifications will be considered based on recent discussions.
- The Service will further refine the documents in October with input from members of study team. We will fully brief the Commission at the November Commission meeting.
- The published draft rule-comment period will conclude in April/May, 2016 (public and peer review), Service prepares responses to those comments and publishes a final rule (September ?, 2016).
- The Directors of ID, MT & WY will meet with USFWS Director Dan Ashe next week in Tucson at the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA) annual meeting.



Island Park News shared a link.

10 mins ·



## Archery hunter survives grizzly bear attack

An archery hunter was taken to Madison Memorial Hospital in Rexburg Monday morning after he was attacked by a grizzly bear.

LOCALNEWS8.COM | BY KIFI

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# Hiker Killed by Grizzly Bear in Yellowstone National Park

Aug 8, 2015, 5:46 PM ET

By EMILY SHAPIRO via **GOOD MORNING AMERICA**

2.6k

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17

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322 Comments



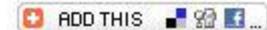
Fog is seen among the mountains and evergreens in Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming.

Getty Images

An experienced hiker was found dead in **Yellowstone National Park** after he was likely attacked by a grizzly bear, the park said.

Tuesday, September 1, 2015

## IDFG Investigating Scene of Incident Involving Archery Hunter and Grizzly Bear in Island Park



ISLAND PARK – An archery hunter was attacked by a sow grizzly bear while hunting in the Caribou-Targhee National Forest in the vicinity of Yale Creek near Sawtell Peak Monday morning August 31. The archer sustained injuries to his hand and wrist, but hiked out under his own power and was transported by ambulance to Madison County Hospital in Rexburg.

The hunter reportedly was carrying bear spray but apparently couldn't access it when the attack occurred. He tried to shoot the bear several times with a .44 magnum revolver pistol at point-blank range. Idaho Department of Fish & Game (IDFG) personnel are heading to the area of the incident to access the situation and try and determine the condition of the grizzly, who the hunter says had three cubs with her.

In the case of such incidents involving attacks on humans by wildlife, IDFG has a special cadre of professionals called the WHART Team (Wildlife Human Attack Response Team) trained and equipped to rapidly respond to such situations.

Further information regarding the incident will be released as information becomes available.

# Bear activity normal this year, but we're not done yet

POSTED: 03:24 PM MDT Sep 14, 2015  
UPDATED: 06:21 PM MDT Sep 14, 2015

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*Bear activity normal this year, but we're not done yet*











# YELLOWSTONE

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We strive to do everything possible to make your stay enjoyable. If for any reason this room or cabin needs the attention of our Maintenance or Housekeeping departments we'd like to know, so we can work towards correcting it.

Please complete this form and leave it in the room.  
*For issues requiring more immediate attention, please contact the Front Desk and report the issue.*  
Thank you for your time.

Location \_\_\_\_\_ Room/Cabin # \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_

Concern:

Our Visit was wonderful  
but we never saw any Bears.  
Please Train your bears to be where  
Guests can see them. This was  
an expensive trip to not get to  
see Bears -



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*Jim Peco/NPS*

Rangers keep an eye on people at this bear jam in Yellowstone National Park near Sheepeater Cliff. A survey of visitors shows they would be willing to pay \$41 more to ensure roadside grizzlies remain an attraction in the world's first national park.

SHARE THIS STORY    [PRINT](#)

 **Like** 2 people like this. Be the first of your friends.

## Yellowstone Roadside Grizzlies Worth Rangers' Hassle





## Code Enforcement

### Common Complaints

Phone: (307) 733-3959  
Fax: (307) 733-4451

Teton County Administration  
Building, top floor  
200 South Willow Street  
8 AM - 5 PM, Monday through  
Friday

### Bear Resistant Trash Containers

Refuse and recycle containers and dumpsters are required to be bear resistant in areas designated as Conflict Area 1. To find out if your property is within this designated area, go to the Geographic Information System (GIS) under Agencies & Services. Areas within the Town of Jackson, Melody Ranches or Rafter J subdivision are not required to have bear resistant containers. For more information, [Click here](#) for Article IV and go to SECTION 49230 REFUSE AND RECYCLING FACILITIES

Common questions include:

#### How did Teton County identify and map bear conflict areas?

Conflict areas were identified as those areas that overlap with, lay adjacent to, or are in close proximity to known bear-use areas, as documented by empirical research or wildlife management actions and observations. The County obtained this data from the Wyoming Game & Fish Department.

#### What is a bear resistant container or dumpster?

Certified bear resistant containers or dumpsters meet the "minimum structural design standards" published by the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee (IGBC) in 1989 or has successfully passed the testing program and protocols recited in the *Bear Resistant Products Testing Program* (October 2005).

#### How do I obtain a certified bear resistant container?

Local sanitation companies and property management companies have started replacing current trash containers with certified containers. Please contact your sanitation company or property management company to find out if they intend to replace your trash container. Certified bear resistant containers can be purchased locally at Ace Hardware.

### Announcements

For more information on any Code topics or other zoning issues, please stop by our offices at 200 South Willow Street in Jackson or call (307) 733-3959.

To report a violation, please call the Code Compliance Officer at (307) 733-3959.







# Endangered earth Online



No. 753, Dec. 18, 2014



## It's Time to Return Grizzlies to Central Idaho, Western Montana

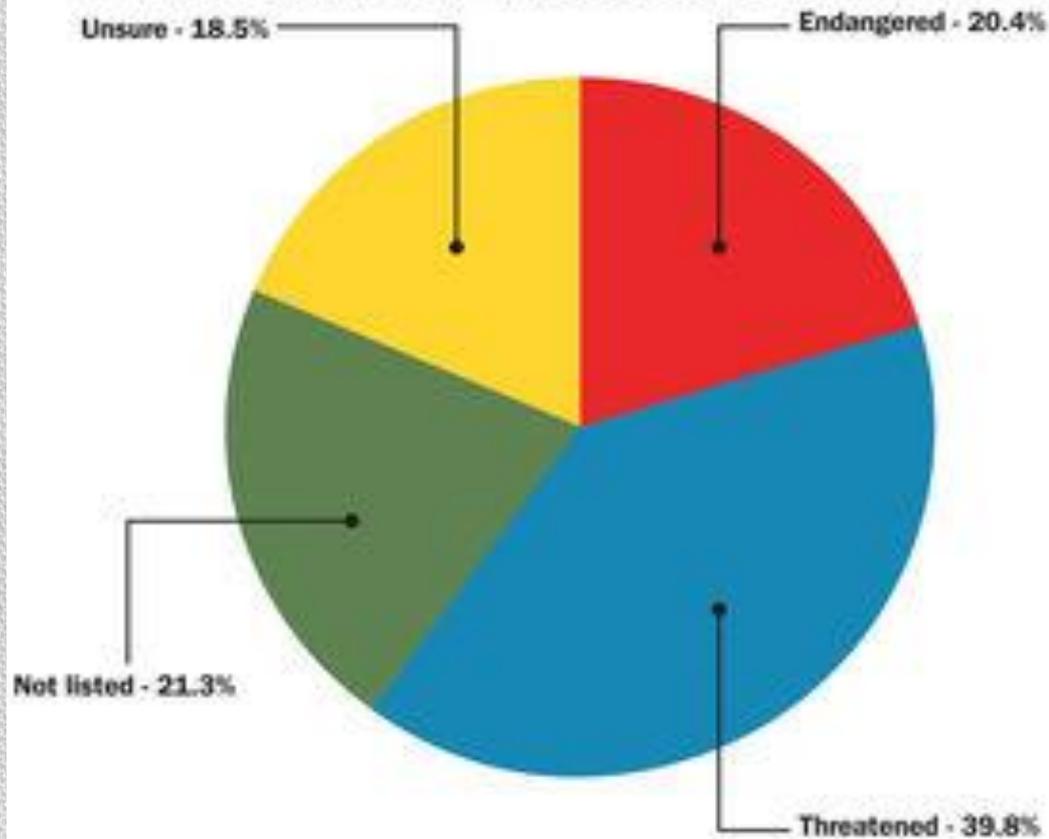
Back in 2000 the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service finalized a plan to return grizzly bears to the Selway-Bitterroot ecosystem in central Idaho and western Montana. But that plan was scrapped shortly after President George W. Bush took office. So this morning the Center for Biological Diversity filed a legal petition to finally put that plan into action.

Scientists say the 26-million-acre ecosystem -- the largest contiguous area of suitable habitat for grizzlies in the western United States -- could support 300 to 600 bears and help curb genetic isolation for those living in and around Yellowstone National Park. Today's petition follows a Center report in June that identified 110,000 square miles of potential grizzly habitat in the West and called on the Obama administration to expand its grizzly recovery work.



"Grizzly bears live in less than 4 percent of their historic range and need to be reintroduced into the Selway-Bitterroot to have any shot at real recovery," said Center attorney Andrea Santarsiere, who lives in Idaho. "The Service has repeatedly committed to reestablishing a grizzly bear population in this region. We're just asking them to move forward with that commitment."

## HOW DO THE EXPERTS THINK YELLOWSTONE GRIZZLIES SHOULD BE MANAGED?



Source: THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY / HARMONY SZAREK

KATHRYN HOLLOWAY / NEWSGUIDE

# Grizzly Delisting Rejected by Tribes

Posted: Apr 30, 2015 10:32 PM MDT

Updated: Apr 30, 2015 10:54 PM MDT

By Penny Preston [CONNECT](#)



CODY, WYOMING - Northern Indian tribes are protesting pending delisting of the grizzly bear. Tribal representatives challenged the U.S. government at a meeting in Cody. They claim the government is required by two presidential orders to consult them.





# Hey Bear - GOAL Tribal Coalition Community

Timeline

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## ABOUT >

Grizzly Bears are sacred endangered animals and GOAL is a coalition of 35 tribes (and counting) dedicated to stopping delisting & senseless trophy hunting.

<http://www.goaltribal.org/>

Post Photo / Video

Write something...

Post



### Hey Bear - GOAL Tribal Coalition

June 18 at 9:13pm

TO ALL GOAL SUPPORTERS -- THE DIRTY TRICKS HAVE STARTED!  
We have evidence of this in several areas by the feds and states, but the post we just deleted about Obama is the most visible. We did not post anything about Obama - we were hacked!

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# GREATER YELLOWSTONE COALITION

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## GYC News

### Grizzly Managers Look Toward Bear Hunts In Rockies

With grizzly population rebounding, managers look toward trophy bear hunts in Northern Rockies

**December 05, 2012**

Matthew Brown | Associated Press

**Editor's note: As our Chris Colligan notes lower in the story, it's far too early to begin talking about hunting of the Yellowstone grizzly bear when mortality rates are still so high.**

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP) -- Trophy grizzly bear hunts are under consideration for the Northern Rockies in the surest sign yet that more than 30 years of federal protection for the fearsome animal is nearing an end across much of the region.

An estimated 1,600 bears inhabit the landscape around Yellowstone and Glacier national parks, and for now, they're protected as a threatened species.

But federal officials are working on plans to lift those protections as soon as 2014 for bears in the Yellowstone area. Bears around Glacier would follow.

To read the entire story, [click here](#).

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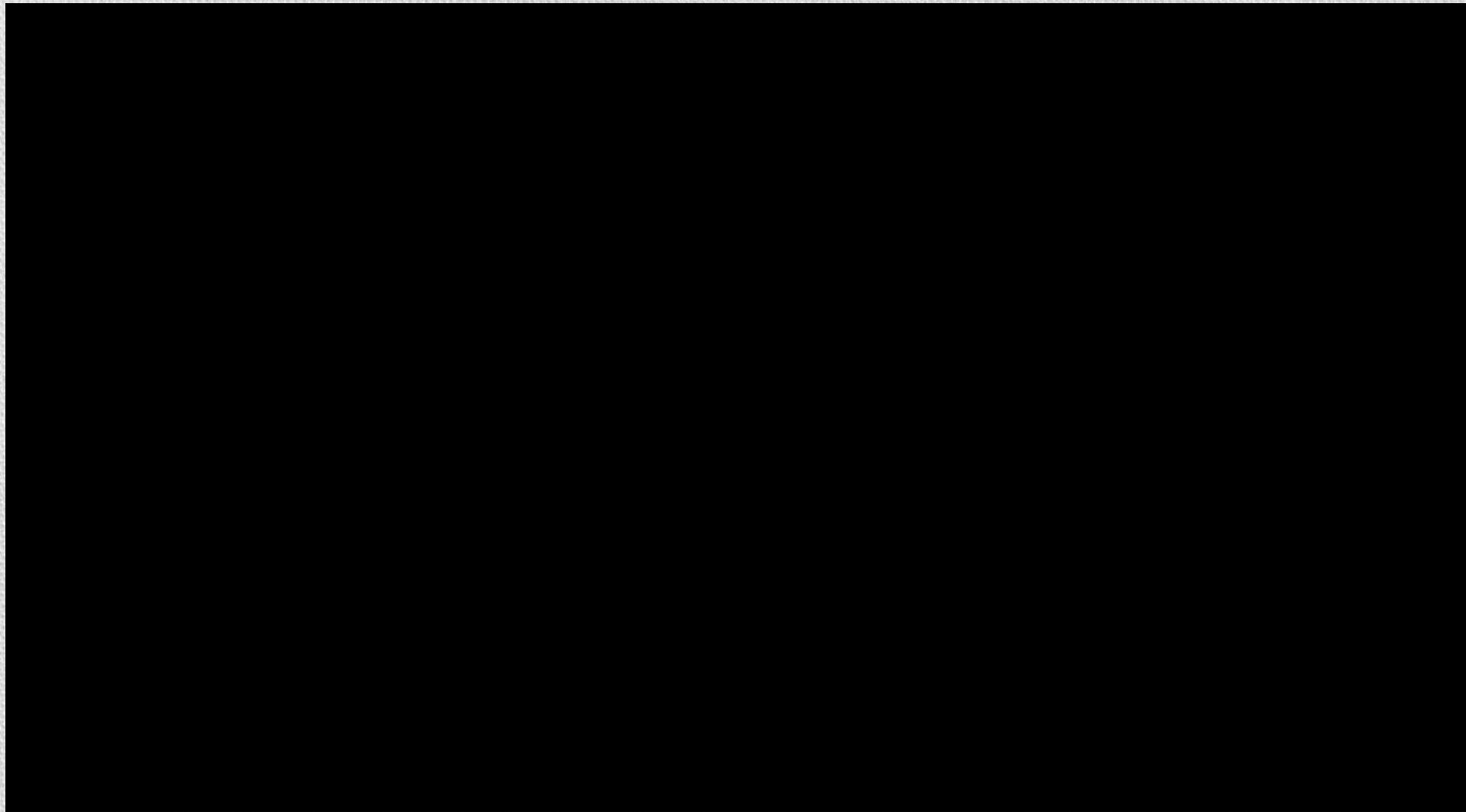
2009



**The Daily Show with Jon Stewart** aired this segment which featured

GYC as well as phosphate mining, selenium poisoning and two-headed trout. Be sure to sign up for our E-News to learn more about this issue and how you can help.

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**Sometimes  
It's hard to be  
smarter  
than the  
average bear.**