

BITTERROOT ECOSYSTEM INTERAGENCY GRIZZLY BEAR COMMITTEE - IGBC
NOVEMBER 2, 2017

Present: Chuck Mark, Chair, Amy Baumer, Brandon Knapton, Jamie Jockel, Jennifer Bruins, Clay Hickey, Brian Hult, Hillary Koolee, Karey Barhingmill, Tod Mckay, Julie King, Colleen Matt, Ellen Davis

Opening Remarks – Chuck Mark - Chair
Introductions

Accomplishments and Planned Actions

Goal 1 - presence or absence of bears in the ecosystem

Hair snares - members of public and federal employees hair samples came in (Jamie Jockel) (from the Sapphires, from Fish Creek by Superior), will send in this winter for analysis

120 cameras IDFG not specific to bears. North Fork and Lochsa RD on Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest and will be out for two years of data. Clay Hickey. IDFG is doing hair samples.

Ideas: get something across regional and state boundaries - wilderness. For example, wolverine. In the Selway for fisher too. Try to tap into other efforts outside of what you are trying to work on. 2018 planned action to look at those two efforts in order to try and piggyback off those efforts already in place.

Opportunistic samples from ID can be sent to Jamie for sampling.

Is there a need to do something more? Reasonable to set a longer term goal.

Focus on linkage areas. Colleen and Jamie i.e. Lower Clark Fork and Ninemile area in MT. Jamie will frame a long term objective. Small scale.

Goal #2 - better connectivity

Lower Clark Fork area - education and outreach. Ninemile Valley - linkage zones.

IDFG has signage in areas where they think they may show up where there is a hunting season on black bear.

FPR Flathead and Lolo's amendments - take a look see. For the Beaverheads. PowerPoint for Chuck. Jamie will send.

Talk of habitat criteria for recovery in the Bitterroot? Not yet

Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest will ask the question on their Forest Plan Revision effort for Grizzly Bear

Court settlement agreement - base habitat criteria before delist for each ecosystem. 1998ish.

Landowner in lower in lower Ninemile to get a land purchase or conservation easement @ confluence of Ninemile and Lower Clark Fork River

Travel Decision for Great Burn Wilderness Area (recommended) - decision just signed. May contribute.

Jamie - routine approach - Lower Clark Fork - narrow band of private - work in progress. Huson to Missoula - tolerant doing good. Bitterroot is tough - like a big city. Bitterroot Disposal on bear resistant containers, they don't want to open that door.

Prevent human caused mortality. Sanitation and tolerance - MT Jamie
Bear spray - education events - mostly through the Be Bear Aware trailer
Bear proof containers for garbage but those has outlived their lives and are non-functional.

Bitterroot has a Bear Ranger.

ID - not much going on. Been resistance. Wild About Bears class/workshop at Harriman state park is a good class.

FY18 - doing anything different or approaching different communities user groups? No

Moving forward into 2018.

I-90 crossing points - intern or volunteers to set up ?? on those crossing points.

Summer Meeting in Choteau - notes - anything?
Charter - new charter - final but working on signatures. Will put draft up for now on website.

Signs for mtn biking - Ellen can people signs if they need them.

I&E 2017 Accomplishments

Bitterroot - Bear Ranger on both Forests. Both focused on face to face interaction for hunting camping on National Forest System lands. Targeted high use areas. Bear Aware Kits for hosts. Food Storage. Firefighters Community Events, School systems - 7th graders. (See report from Bitterroot).

Colleen Matt - wildlife management institute. Revise and reprint brochures. Goal at WMI to make messaging consistent. Bear Safety Brochure. Take in info all the time. Greater Yellowstone has a trailer with a bear that a charges you - given a can of inert spray and have to get it out before the bear charges. This thing breaks all the time. Going to try to do one with a remote. The chair for I&E for the whole committee is retiring so they are looking for a new chair.

\$36,000 I&E is available - due date tomorrow.

Ellen - give and Executive Committee IGBC

Winter IGBC meeting on 12th and 13th in Missoula at Holiday Inn. Winter always the second week in Dec and summer 3rd week in June.

5 year action plan - big topic for winter. Will be finalized, we will know what is going on for the next five years.

Matt Hogan will be new chair. Losing I&E chair. Co-chair - still need to be set.

Summer meeting is Bitterroots turn.

Field trip and location ideas to Chuck and he will work with Ellen to finalize. 75 people. 25 committee
50 public.

Round Robin

Brandon - nothing further; thanks

Jamie - nothing further; thanks

Jennifer - nothing further; thanks. Deadline to grants.

Clay - nothing further; thanks.

Brian - nothing further; thanks.

Hillary - Federal Register notices, habitat for NDEC - 2nd one - reg review for Yellowstone Ecosystem and
Great Lakes wolves. 30 days. Evaluate the NDEC for recovery.

Carey - glad to be here and touch base; thanks

Tod - Thanks for change in I&E and if tomorrow's deadline is looming contact Amy and she can work
with you.

Colleen - this year is a good time to update mail list; Human Bear Conflict in Gatlin, TN

Amy - thanks

Chuck - thank you and we'll set next meeting later on.