

# Grizzly Bear Conflict & Mortality Review GYE , NCDE, SE/CYE

Summarized from reports to the IGBC  
December 2019



# IGBC Mortality Review Tasks

- 1) Produce a preliminary list of priority issues for discussion (June 2019)
- 2) Develop a list of recommendations that address issues (Dec 2019)
- 3) Develop a final implementation strategy (June 2020)

# NCDE

- Interagency technical group participated in review
- Evaluated mortality data 2 periods: 1999-2008, 2009-2018

## Priority Topics:

1. Shooting-Related Mortalities
2. Railroad Collisions
3. Vehicle Collisions
4. Site-Related Conflict



# NCDE Recommendations

## 1. Shooting-Related Mortalities

- Targeted I&E at black bear hunters, bird hunters, rifle hunters, recreationists

## 2. Railroad Collisions

- Review mitigation strategies, livestock exclusion fencing, involve railroads

## 3. Vehicle Collisions

- Increase engagement with MDT, highway signs, coordination with NGOs

## 4. Site-Related Conflict

- Waste management, I&E related to small livestock, enforcement

# NCDE Recommendations

## Overarching Recommendations:

- Establish long-term working groups around each priority
- Consider representatives from external groups
- Coordinate strategies among ecosystems where trends overlap.



# GYE

- 2009 Conflict Report by IGBST
- Technical team conducted review of accomplishments since 2009
- Priority topics identified by YES members
- Recommendations developed by technical team plus public workshop (fall 2019)

## Priority topics:

1. Backcountry Recreation & Hunting-Related Mortalities (YES)
2. Front Country Conflicts and Community Planning (YES)
3. Livestock Conflicts and Producer Outreach (YES)
4. Efficacy of Information and Education Efforts (IGBC)
5. Targeted Community Outreach in Grizzly Bear Expansion Areas (IGBC)

# GYE Recommendations

1. Backcountry Recreation & Hunting-Related Mortalities (YES)
  - Targeted training, food & game storage, funding for outreach, standardize signs
2. Front Country Conflicts and Community Planning (YES)
  - Consistent conflict messaging (fed lands), roadside bear mgmt. strategies, NGO partnership funding, programs targeted at municipalities & counties
3. Livestock Conflicts and Producer Outreach (YES)
  - Proactive, engage producers, be practical, partnerships with producers as filter
4. Efficacy of Information and Education Efforts (IGBC)
  - Use social science experts to determine effective outreach, update material, standardize messaging, proactive funding
5. Targeted Community Outreach in Grizzly Bear Expansion Areas (IGBC)
  - Signing in expansion areas, USFS permittees in expansion areas, strategic/proactive, consistency among agencies, centralized leadership for efficiency

# Selkirk & Cabinet-Yaak

- Examined human-caused mortality from 2000-2018

## Top Mortality Sources:

1. Mistaken Identity
2. Defense of Life
3. Poaching
4. Train / Auto Collisions





# Selkirk & Cabinet-Yaak Recommendations

- Bear spray training
- Electric fencing seminars, cost share
- Bear resistant garbage can loaners
- Educational programs
- Increased enforcement (poaching, mistaken ID)
- Mandatory bear ID for black bear hunters (annual)
- Highway fencing, crossing structures, carcass pickup

# Ongoing Work

- Inter-ecosystem working group discussion on June 3
- June 24 Virtual Meeting – summary discussion
- July 24 Virtual Meeting – substantive discussion