



Selkirk/Cabinet-Yaak Subcommittee

Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee

(Highlighted = Present)

S/C-Y CHAIR

Randy Hojem

Lolo National Forest

S/C-Y VICE-CHAIR

Mary Farnsworth

Idaho Panhandle NFs

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Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

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Kim Annis

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

John Gubel

Kootenai National Forest

SCIENCE ADVISORS

Wayne Kasworm

US Fish & Wildlife Service

Wayne Wakkinen

Idaho Dept. of Fish & Game

AGENDA

Kootenai National Forest Supervisor's Office

Libby, MT

10:00 am (MST), 9:00 am (PST) December 3, 2014

10:00- 10:15

Welcome/Introductions

Randy Hojem

10:15-11:00

Research Update – Both Ecosystems

Wayne Kasworm/Wayne Wakkinen

See Attached - Wayne covered research for 2014 and has taken over the ID portion of the area as well. See enclosed presentation. Two more bear released (augment) in 2014. Captured and collared bears throughout both ecosystems. 2014 – most collared grizzlies that Wayne has known of (30). Wayne noticing bears using some different areas that have been unused in the past. 2014 – 1 mortality (male, Thompson River, 10/24). Collared in BC ca. 2007, recapt. in 2014 near Eureka, MT. Moved to north Flathead, lost from there. Bear met a hunter, hunter shot bear in self defense. 2014 highest huck prod in last 25 years.

11:00-11:15

Break

Wayne Kasworm received an award from the Kootenai NF for his continued support, research, and excellent work over the years.

11:15-11:45

Bear Management Updates

Kim Annis/Brian Johnson

See Kim's presentation - Huckleberry production helped reduce conflict. Very low conflict year. Kim needs more garbage containers to loan out. Several questions about the Thompson River bear mortality. Need a more functional I+E Group. Randy asked the IPNF, CNF, and WFW to provide a person to serve – these agencies agreed to do so. Brian Holt (USFWS), Norm Merz (KTI) will participate on the Group. WMI can help fundraise to support I+E efforts.

11:45-12:15

Information and Education

Kim Annis/Colleen Matt

Under agreement with IGBC, they are assisting with funding I+E work. WMI is coordinating with pvt and state organizations to pull together funds for god idea for I+E things. Helping with bear rangers, media items, bear rangers. Assisted with creating a few training videos about bear spray. Also creating a collection of video clips to make it so managers can put together purpose-built videos for the public.

12:15-12:30

Update on recovery and delisting in NCDE and Yellowstone *Chris Servheen*

Both NCDE and YE recovery status reviewed. YE is a bit ahead. NCDE has released a draft conservation strategy to show that "adequate regulatory mechanisms" are in place before delisting. Question about NCDE with or without CYE and SE, the plan is to delist NCDE first, develop and linkage zone to improve the situation in the CYE and SE – eventually they would be connected, but right now they aren't. Chris S. urges Moving toward delisting in NCDE via the conservation strategy. Especially improving connection between SCYE and NCDE. Focus on connectivity. Ethel the bear – capt 2006, east of Kalispell, moved to SF Flathead, returned to same area, 2012, back again. Moved to GNP. Began a lot of moving. Bob Marshall, GNP, etc. Dennd N of Missoula, headed along I90, dennd near Kellogg ID. Headed back along MT stateline drainages to Missoula. Then returned to ID. Then to flathead, lost collar in Eureka.

12:30-1:30

Lunch

1:30-2:00

2014 Accomplishments

Subcommittee

See accomplishments and program of work document

Dan D not comfortable taking option of delisting CYE with NCDE off the table. Wants to have delisting NCDE address delisting CYE with it within the delisting documents. Mary F. Are we working closely enough with NCDE to be effective. Which and where in the documents is the amount of connectivity specified to get to delisting? Several of subcommittee members are also on NCDE. People want to see a light at the end of the tunnel – delisting when?? How to provide linkage in concert with private lands values. What exactly is connectivity? And what does it look like in a matrix of private lands. Chris will put together some language to show what connectivity is. The geographic distances are very small to bears, and the bears are moving, why we need to tie up private lands. Connectivity needs: numbers of animals, we have some movement data and more research is underway. Potential for subcommittee to define connectivity and how it would apply to IGBC. Should committee write letter to NCDE about what our needs are in relation to their recovery. Part of the subcommittee seems to be uncomfortable with delisting NCDE without some recognition of the connectivity and potential of delisting the CYE because if we're already connected we should be delisted now (or soon). Chris Servheen seems to be saying that SCY comm should support conservation of linkage zones to help bears move into the SCYE so that recovery can move forward.

2:00-2:30

2015 Program of Work & New Chairperson

Subcommittee

2:30-3:00

Public Comments/Questions

All

Kootenai National Forest Supervisor's Office is located on Highway 2, west of Libby.

Next Meeting – May 13, 2015, Coeur d'Alene, ID 0900 PDT, USFS Forest Supervisors Office.