

**2014 Accomplishment Report
Selkirk/Cabinet-Yaak Subcommittee
of the
Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee**

Planned Actions	Priority	Accomplishments
<p>Reduce human caused grizzly bear mortalities, particularly in the front country. Continue implementing food storage orders and sanitation measures on public lands.</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>1 Mortality in CYE, and 1 in the Canadian Selkirks in 2014</p> <p>1 Food storage poles</p> <p>1 dumpster</p> <p>Most CGs and Recreation sites have bear info posted and employees contacting visitors at least weekly.</p> <p>Idaho Fish and Game posted a voluntary bear ID test for hunters</p> <p>WDFW implemented a voluntary bear identification test</p> <p>Montana FWP already has a bear ID test requirement for hunters</p> <p>Install up to 50 food storage containers on the IPNF</p>
<p>Continue improving sanitation conditions within all land ownerships, particularly on private lands. Use the results of mortality analysis to tailor public outreach/education and sanitation strategies via citizen's committee input (e.g. KVRI). Implement strategy as opportunity arises. Use results from public opinion poll to supplement and fine-tune existing public education programs.</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>Both MT and ID have bear mgmt. specialists working to prevent and respond to pvt land conflicts.</p> <p>Kim Annis is on call to handle conflicts in MT. Brian Johnson manages conflicts in Idaho.</p> <p>13 known conflicts with traps set, 5 captures</p> <p>20 bear resistant containers permanently loaned out, 10 remaining</p> <p>Defenders of wildlife electric fence subsidy used by many residents</p> <p>Work is ongoing with counties to improve waste transfer sites</p> <p>KNF conducted I&E efforts via meetings, booths at fairs, campground presentations, and disseminated information</p>

<i>Planned Actions</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Accomplishments</i>
		regarding living in bear country. Bear ranger assisted MFWP and Defenders of Wildlife in setting up an electric fence on private land in an area previously known for grizzly conflicts (Tobacco BORZ area).
Support the multi-year DNA study in the Cabinet-Yaak Ecosystem. Publication of Final Report expected by early 2015.	3	Final report to be completed early 2015
Develop an approach for integrating the Resource Selection Function (RSF), a habitat-based predictive model developed from Yaak ecosystem data, into access management. Progress report presentation of applications in the Selkirk/Cabinet-Yaak Ecosystems and adjacent areas for the spring IGBC meeting.	4	Accepted for publication in JWM, and will be published in the near future. Peer review complete. The RSF for entire Cabinet-Yaak and Selkirk Ecosystems is underway and anticipated in 2016.
Implement the I+E management actions strategy for the Cabinet-Yaak Ecosystem and further develop the details of the monitoring strategy.	5	Most actions in the I+E Management strategy were either accomplished or some level of progress was made (see item 1 above)
Support and participate in augmentation of acceptable grizzly bears in the Cabinet-Yaak Ecosystem.	6	2 females released in Cabinet Mountains (2 yr olds)
Continue participation in agency efforts to maintain funding for a full time bear management specialist for the State of Montana, as well as to return full-time positions to the State of Idaho where they currently are not fully funded to do bear management work.	On going	Some funding is currently available and other funds are being pursued through an NFWF grant and other means.
Continue systematic and opportunistic DNA data collection of grizzly bears in the Selkirk Recovery Zone (WA and ID) and adjacent areas.	On going	Collected 1,889 hair samples at 582 of the USGS sites. 82 hair snagging corrals were used plus additional camera sites
Continue trapping and monitoring efforts in the Cabinet-Yaak ecosystem, and reinstate efforts in the Selkirk ecosystem.	On going	30 grizzly bears being monitored, 13 in Cabinet-Yaak and 17 in the Selkirks
Participate in efforts to assess linkage opportunities within and between recovery zones and in British Columbia.	On going	Accepted for publication in JWM

<i>Planned Actions</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Accomplishments</i>
Complete annual recovery status report. Target date: May 15	On going	Report completed, spring 2014
Compile a record of administrative use on restricted roads for Bear Year 2013 and update condition of OMRD, TMRD and Core in each BMU. Report Date: April 15 th , 2014.	On going	Report completed
Continue to develop and implement a coordinated, long-term, sustainable funding strategy. Pursue funding for identified unfunded work priorities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cabinet-Yaak information and education ▪ Selkirk radio-telemetry monitoring ▪ Wildlife resistant dumpsters and food storage containers ▪ Distributing bear information in both ecosystems 	On going	These items were a part of a 2013 request for NFWF funding. No decision regarding the funding has been made.

Habitat Management

The ***Kootenai National Forest and Idaho Panhandle National Forests*** are nearing completion of Forest Plan Revision. Incorporating the latest scientific information on grizzly bear management was a high priority during revision. The objection process on the revised Forest Plans occurred in 2013-2014 and final decisions on the Plans are expected in early 2015.

The ***Kootenai National Forest*** is planning a project within a portion of BMU 10 that includes 181 acres of prescribed burning not associated with timber harvest. Of these, approximately 137 acres would occur within grizzly bear core habitat that would maintain and improve forage opportunities, including huckleberries, in some locations. The Three Rivers RD also has three other projects ready for or currently being implemented that would improve grizzly habitat. The Buckhorn project includes parts of BMU's 13 and 14 and would improve grizzly habitat and fall forage. A total of 11,623 acres of prescribed fire would be ignited within the project area. Of this, 10,067 acres would occur in core habitat and expected to maintain and improve forage opportunities including huckleberries. In BMU 11, a vegetation and transportation management project (Grizzly project) would increase core habitat by 2,700 acres, linking two existing core areas into one large core area of approximately 10,200 acres. Three wildlife burns are planned within core that would increase grizzly forage production on 470 acres. In BMUs 1 and 3, a vegetation and road stabilization project (Sparring Bulls project) would improve forage conditions and includes maintaining huckleberry fields through timber harvest and ecosystem burns. A total of 3,820 acres of prescribed fire would be ignited within the project area. Of this, 1,708 acres would occur in core habitat and would be allowed to burn up to approximately 5,637 acres to restore natural processes and promote wildlife forage. Pre-treatment monitoring of huckleberry presence in proposed harvest units continues in partnership with the Yaak Valley Forest Council.

The ***Kootenai and Idaho Panhandle NFs*** are nearing completion of Forest Plan Revision. Incorporating the latest scientific information on grizzly bear management was high priority

during revision. The revised Plans, final EISs, and draft decisions were released in September 2013. The final decision is anticipated in early 2015.

The **Idaho Panhandle National Forests** are planning a project to decommission roads in the Grouse Creek (Cabinet-Yaak) and Blue Grass (Selkirk) Bear Management Units (BMUs) to achieve motorized access standards. Field review of the project areas and the road system were conducted during the summer of 2014. A proposed action for the Grouse Creek BMU is slated for development in 2015, while a comprehensive roads analysis is anticipated for the Blue Grass project area.

Lolo National Forest's *Fishtrap* project should be completed in 2015. The project is a stewardship project including timber harvest for restoration and commodities, road closures, and hydrological improvements. The selected alternative is making improvements in core habitat and total motorized route density. No changes in road density occurred due to the project in 2014, although harvest and burning did occur and further road closures will occur in future years.

Travel Management NEPA to meet the Access Management EIS is scheduled to begin in 2016. One purpose of this EIS is to fully meet access management standards for the BMU.

In 2014 the **Colville National Forest** increased the effectiveness of road closures in the grizzly bear recovery area as displayed in the following table.

Motorized Route	Bear Mgt. Unit	Latitude / Longitude	Approx. miles	Treatment
3155206	Salmo - Priest	N 48 deg. 58' 25"	1.0	Removed gates and bermed the road entrances. Planted berms with conifers and alder. About 629 acres of core habitat for grizzly bears created.
3160315		W -117 deg. 11' 25"	1.8	
		N 48deg. 57' 41"		
		W -117deg. 18' 14"		
1935030	Sullivan-Hughes	N 48deg. 44' 59"	0.7	Repaired badly damaged gate.
		W -117deg. 12' 04"		

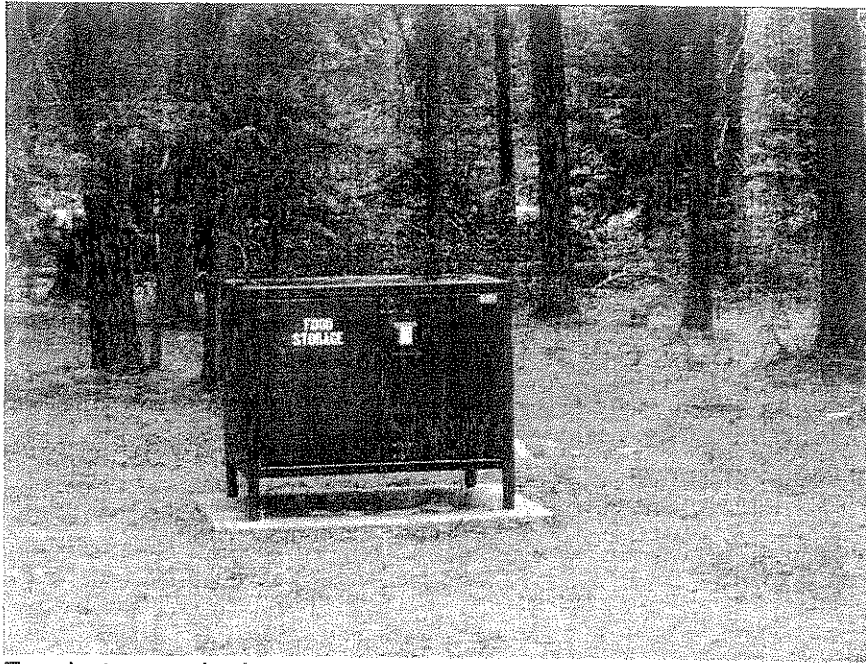
Just west of the Salmo-Priest BMU (west of State Highway 31), the CNF obliterated 5 roads and bermed 1 road entrance. We planted the ripped road prisms / berms with conifers and alder. The roads accessed inactive wells installed by Seattle City Light. This project was funded under a collection agreement with that utility.

All developed campgrounds on the Colville National Forest have animal resistant garbage cans. We continue to install metal food storage lockers at heavily-used recreation sites across the forest, particularly within or adjacent to the recovery area. These lockers are intended to provide campers with a secure place to store food, beverages, and other wildlife attractants when their camp is unoccupied, or when they are sleeping at night. The devices have been well-received and used by the public.

In 2014, we installed 3 lockers at dispersed campsites within the LeClerc Grizzly Bear Management Unit (BMU):

1 locker @ Hanlon Meadow: N 48 deg. 35' 56", W -117 deg. 16' 0"

2 lockers @ Middle Branch LeClerc Meadow: N 48deg. 35' 36", W -117 deg. 16' 0"



Food storage locker

Outside of the recovery area, we installed 5 lockers in Pioneer Park Campground, located about 2 miles north of the town of Newport. These structures were funded under a collection agreement with Pend Oreille County Public Utility District #1. We also installed 2 lockers at Swan Lake Campground in Ferry County.

The Colville National Forest also maintained 2 livestock exclosures that protect roughly 20 acres of wetlands and streamside riparian habitat in the LeClerc BMU.

Habitat Acquisition

None in 2014

Access Management

The ***Kootenai National Forest*** monitored and maintained closure devices on each district, including signing. Administrative use of restricted roads was closely monitored. The Forest decommissioned approximately 17 miles of closed road in BMU 11.

The ***Idaho Panhandle National Forests*** conducted effectiveness monitoring for approximately 125 gates on the Sandpoint, Bonners Ferry, and Priest Lake Ranger Districts. Monitoring was conducted in compliance with the Access Amendment using the closure device inspection and maintenance form. A total of 13 closure devices (i.e. gates, guard rails) that were considered ineffective in controlling motorized vehicles were repaired in 2014. This included four sites on

the Priest Lake Ranger District, five sites on the Sandpoint Ranger District and six sites on the Bonners Ferry Ranger District. In addition, new locks were purchased at a total cost of \$1,880.

Implementation of the Lightning Creek Watershed restoration project continued in 2014 resulting in the permanent decommissioning of two restricted roads. This resulted in a net increase of approximately 95 acres of core in the North Lightning BMU (Cabinet-Yaak ecosystem).

Additional decommissioning of four roads in the Boulder and Grouse BMUs resulted in the closure of approximately 5.93 miles of roads in 2014. The decommissioning and storage of these roads increased core and security habitat and decreased total motorized route densities (TMRD) within these two Cabinet-Yaak ecosystem BMUs. The resulting acres of core created included a net increase of approximately 296 and 260 acres, respectively, in these two BMUs.

Currently the Bear Management Unit on the **Lolo National Forest** (Mount Headley - #22) has an open road density >1 mile/mile² on 38.0% of the unit. Total motorized route density >2 miles/mile² is decreasing from 36.7% to 33.8% as we work through closures with the Fishtrap Project. Core habitat is increasing from 51.4 to 53.7% as roads are closed with implementation of the Fishtrap Project. However, no progress was made in 2014 on the Fishtrap Road decommissioning.

Administrative use behind gates in the Bear Unit was within the allocated number of trips. In addition, some roads in the Fishtrap Project Area were considered as open because we anticipated high use during implementation and consulted with USFWS as if these roads were open.

The Plains Ranger District (Lolo NF) no longer manages any areas of Grizzly Bears Outside of the Recovery Zone.

The **Idaho Department of Lands** repaired two road closure gates in the Cabinet Ecosystem. The Department also installed boulders around four gates in the Selkirk Ecosystem to further prevent ATV access around these closures.

Other Habitat Improvements

None in 2014

Sanitation Management

The **Kootenai National Forest** conducted the following:

- Fortine and Rexford Ranger Districts - Installed 1 food storage pole for back-country food/attractant storage at Moose Lake.
- Cabinet Ranger District – installed a bear resistant trash can at the office.

A mandatory food storage order for **Idaho Panhandle National Forest** lands located north of the Clark Fork River, Pend Oreille Lake and the Pend Oreille River was signed on September 28, 2011. The IPNFs purchased 50 large food storage boxes (for \$43,600) in 2014 as part of an

ongoing effort to help visitors comply with the 2011 order. Installation is planned for spring of 2015.

The Lolo National Forest food storage strategy was implemented in April 2011. There is no garbage service within BMU 22, all facilities are pack in/ pack out. Three bear-resistant food storage containers exist at 3 separate campgrounds in BMU 22.

Human-Bear Conflicts

Three campgrounds on the Three Rivers Ranger District of the ***Kootenai National Forest*** had known bear activity this summer. In response, "Attention - Bear" signs were posted that documented the date of observation to warn campers of known bear activity in the area as well as remind campers to abide by the food storage order to reduce the potential for human-bear conflicts. See the example of the sign below in Figure 1. No conflicts resulted from this known bear activity.

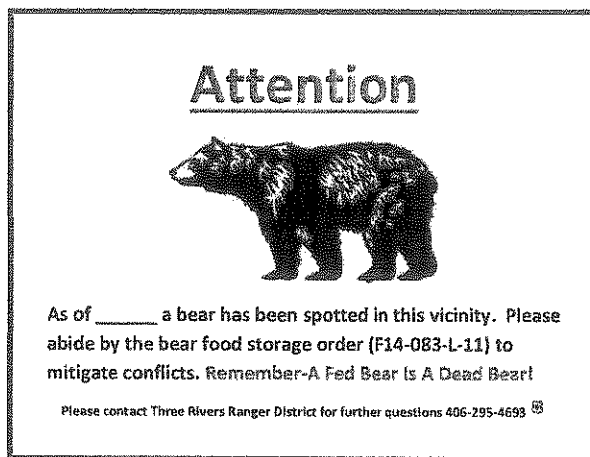


Figure 1. Example of the "Attention – Bear" sign used to warn campers of bear activity.

A black bear ripped open an unoccupied tent at a dispersed campsite along the Tobacco Plains Fishing Access near Koocanusa Reservoir on the ***Kootenai National Forest***. This led to a closure of the area for the weekend while MFWP personnel set traps. Signs were posted at nearby campgrounds and near this site. No bears were caught and no other problems were reported in this area.

One mortality was observed in the Cabinet-Yaak ecosystem in 2014 and one in the Canadian portion of the Selkirk Ecosystem.

Fire Management, Suppression and Recovery

The Three Rivers Ranger District on the ***Kootenai National Forest*** used prescribed burning on approximately 273 acres in the CYE. Rexford Ranger District burned 825 acres in the BORZ that would enhance forage.

There were no major fires within the ***Idaho Panhandle National Forests*** portion of the Selkirk or Cabinet-Yaak Recovery Zones in 2014. In September, aerial ignition of the Buckhorn prescribed burn resulted in approximately 200 acres being burned in the Keno BMU (Cabinet-Yaak ecosystem).

Prescribed fire was applied to about 2,100 acres in the **Lolo National Forest** portion of the Recovery Zone in 2014 as a part of the Game Range project and the Lolo Forest Big Game Winter Range Project. Wildfires suppressed within the Recovery Zone during the year totaled 1,646 acres.

Research and Monitoring

The **Cabinet-Yaak Ecosystem-wide DNA sampling results** will be available in a Final Report in early 2015.

The Cabinet Ranger District on the **Kootenai National Forest** collected grizzly bear hair samples and remote camera photos and submitted them to USFWS. Districts also maintained bear rubs and/or notified USFWS if a bear rub needed maintenance.

The **Idaho Panhandle National Forest** biologists and volunteers worked cooperatively with Idaho Department of Fish Game personnel to continue a remote camera monitoring effort of grizzly bears in the Selkirk ecosystem. The purpose of the survey is to try and document females with cubs within in the ecosystem. IPNF wildlife personnel deployed DNA hair-snare corrals and cameras at 11 locations within the Selkirk ecosystem. This included sampling in seven BMUs and two Bears Outside Recovery Zones (BORZ).

In 2014, the IPNF spent \$39,000 (which included \$20,000 from a \$25,000 grant secured in 2013 from the state of Idaho Recovery fund) to assist with a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Idaho Department of Fish and Game radio-collaring effort of Selkirk grizzly bears. This was part of an on-going effort begun in 2012. One male grizzly bear was successfully in trapped in June as a result of their efforts.

The **Lolo National Forest** manages about 50 gates within BMU 22. Within the Lolo National Forest's Environmental Monitoring System, Engineering personnel on the Plains District are monitoring each gate approximately once each year.

The **Colville National Forest** maintains 58 gates on closed roads in our portion of the grizzly recovery area. We attempt to monitor each closed road several times a year, using appropriated dollars or sale area improvement monies (KV funds). We check for motorized use behind road closures and maintain gate locks and signs. We assess needs for future road closure effectiveness work such as removing gates and replacing them with boulders or earthen berms.

The east zone biologist interviewed 1 individual (CNF employee) who reported seeing a grizzly bear (un-collared) in the LeClerc BMU. This bear was in the general area where a radio-collared grizzly bear was photographed with a remote camera set a week or 2 earlier. The camera set was installed by Dana Base, Area Biologist with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW).

The Cooperative Selkirk Ecosystem Grizzly Bear Study is a multi-year (2012-2017) effort headed by Wayne Kasworm, Research Biologist with the USDI Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS). The objectives are to determine grizzly bear survival rates, population trend, and causes of death, as well as to develop habitat use models for the Selkirk Mountains Ecosystem. Partners in this effort include the FWS, Kalispel Tribe of Indians, Kootenai Tribe of Idaho, British

Columbia Ministry of Environment, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Idaho Department of Lands, Idaho Panhandle National Forests, CNF, and WDFW.

In 2014, the CNF contributed \$2,500 to assist with funding a 2-person, grizzly bear capture / collaring crew contracted by Wayne Kasworm. The CNF east zone biologist provided the crew with logistical support including maps, closed road use permits and gate keys, and local area knowledge.

The CNF installed and monitored a grizzly bear "hair snag corral" in the vicinity of Salmo Mountain in the Salmo-Priest BMU. Only black bears were photographed with the digital camera installed at this site. Black bear hair samples were collected from the barbed wire.

Information & Education

Kootenai National Forest

- Districts conducted bear spray training for employees. At district orientations, Districts also presented information on working safely in bear country and the food storage order.
- Cabinet Ranger District had a booth at the Huckleberry Festival in Trout Creek and talked with visitors about bear safety and food storage. The District also gave a presentation at the Trout Creek Farmer's Market and discussed grizzly bear safety. The video "Staying Safe in Bear Country" was shown at a district meeting.
- The Three Rivers Ranger District presented bear identification, attractant, and bear spray use information to 5th and 6th graders at an annual field day for the school.
- Rexford and Fortine Ranger Districts received IGBC grant via NCDE and SCYE (\$5,400) to fund the bear ranger position. Some of the accomplishments of the bear ranger includes:
 - Organized the 2nd annual public meeting for West Kootenai residents co-hosted by MFWP personnel. This meeting focused on properly securing bear attractants in the back-country as well as on private land. This meeting disseminated information to an area that is often overlooked and was well-received by the approximate 30 residents that attended.
 - Bear ranger added an article to the West Kootenai Fire Department's Fall Quarterly Newsletter discussing attractants on private land (such as apple trees, bird feeders) that cause conflicts. It followed up with options such as electric fencing that can prevent such conflicts.
 - Lincoln County Fair booth- informal presentations to kids and adults on bear biology/bear safety/attractants on public land, as well as general wildlife topics. Made contacts with over 800 adults and kids over a 3 day period.
 - Presented bear safety, food storage and bear spray education (4 presentations) to approximately 25 teenagers participating in back-packing trips authorized under FS Special Use permits (Chrysalis private girls school).

Other Information and Education:

Kootenai National Forest

- Disseminated "Be Bear Aware" and "Living in Bear Country" brochures via front desks and kiosks at Ranger Stations and campgrounds to emphasize the importance of proper bear identification, as well as how residents and recreationists should properly store their food, garbage and other bear attractants while in bear country.
- Districts posted or replaced grizzly bear information signs (e.g., Hunters Know Your Bears, Proper Food Storage, This is Grizzly Bear Habitat, Be Bear Aware) at trailheads, at access points, dispersed sites and campgrounds.
- In support of the mandatory food storage order signed in 2011, "Food Storage Required" signs were posted, as well as information related to the food storage order, at recreation sites.
- Campground hosts are trained in food storage and have cards they hand out to campers.
- All special use permittees have the food storage order in their permits (e.g. outfitter guides, recreations permits) and are aware of requirements.
- Fortine and Rexford Ranger Districts - Weekly visits to campgrounds helping campground hosts educate campers on the food storage order (informal discussions, brochure dissemination, posting signs on reader boards).
- Installed another informational bear sign for the Eureka Rails to Trails which follows the Tobacco River. The signs describe the do's and don'ts of recreating in bear habitat such as carrying bear spray, leashing dogs, making noise, keeping children within eyesight, not littering, and not feeding wildlife. The signs have been erected at main parking lots and trail junctions to reach as many recreationists as possible.
- Additional communication and sign placement occurred along the Rails to Trails/Tobacco river area late this summer when sightings of both black and grizzly bears were reported. The Tobacco River runs through the town of Eureka flowing into the reservoir. Spawning salmon and ripe chokecherries bring bears into close proximity with fishermen and other recreationists this time of year. This will continue to be an area where information/education efforts will be concentrated.

The **Idaho Panhandle National Forests** disseminated "Be Bear Aware" and "Living in Bear Country" via front desks, brochures and kiosks at Ranger Stations and campgrounds to emphasize the importance of proper bear identification, as well as how residents and recreationists should properly store their food, garbage and other bear attractants while in bear country.

Conducted trainings during District employee orientations regarding proper bear identification, food/garbage storage and how to avoid and react to bear encounters during field work. This included formal training on the appropriate use of bear spray for 56 employees.

Districts posted or replaced grizzly bear information signs (i.e., Hunters Know Your Bears, Proper Food Storage) at trailheads, at access points, dispersed sites and campgrounds.

The IPNF provided \$7,000 in support of an Idaho Fish and Game conservation officer who conducted informational talks concerning grizzly bears and assisted in checking gates in 2014.

Within the **Lolo National Forest** portion of the Ecosystem, two large "This is grizzly habitat" signs remain in the BMU (the 3rd was stolen and has not been replaced). A "Be Bear Aware, Food Storage Required" sign exists near the mouth of the Thompson River. Throughout the year small bear food storage signs were placed and maintained in all dispersed and developed recreation sites across the Ranger District.

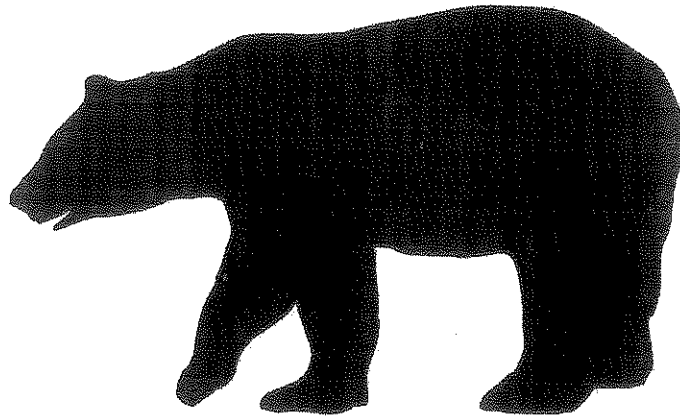
Within the **Colville National Forest**, about 20 informational boards on roads / dispersed campsites in recovery habitat and 18 boards in formal campgrounds directly adjacent to recovery habitat were maintained. These boards display posters / signs dealing with grizzly bears, including food storage requirements.

Nan Berger, our district recreation specialist, developed a new food storage sign for campground entrances and major access roads into the recovery area. The Forest began installation of these 20 x 28 inch metal signs in 2014.



As a tie-in with the metal signs, the East Zone of the Colville NF developed a new 11 x 17 inch polyethylene sign that will be posted on info boards. Campground hosts will distribute paper versions to campers (see the following page).

Food Storage Required



Store all foods, beverages and other attractants properly. Make them unavailable to wildlife at night and when unattended during the day.

Wildlife attractants include:

- Food
- Beverages
- Pet and livestock food
- Garbage
- Animal carcasses and parts
- Scented items like soap, candles, deodorant, and toothpaste

Unavailable means:

- Stored in a hard-sided vehicle or animal-resistant container. Coolers are not animal-resistant.
- Hung at least 10 feet high and 4 feet from any vertical support.

Compliance with this **FOOD STORAGE ORDER** (36 CFR 261.58 (cc)) is **MANDATORY**. Please follow it to protect yourself, other forest visitors, and native wildlife.

The CNF east zone biologist provided training on proper food storage / large carnivore safety to 22 campground hosts and 20 ranger district employees. He gave a presentation on grizzly bear management on the forest to about 32 Intertribal Youth Camp participants and staff (Kalispel, Nez Perce, Spokane and Coeur D'Alene tribes).

The CNF completed approximately 20 visitor contact patrols within their portion of the grizzly recovery area. These patrols are conducted by CNF employees who have completed a 40 hour, Level 2 Law Enforcement training course and are now active Forest Protection Officers. Patrols occurred mostly over the summer holiday weekends and weekends during the hunting seasons. Participants in these patrols inform / educate forest visitors about camping and hunting safely in grizzly bear occupied habitat. The Forest distributes informational brochures, discusses bear identification with hunters, and provide other information as requested. These patrols provide an agency "presence" in the recovery area on high-visitation weekends when the potential for human / bear conflict is greatest. Patrollers are in uniform and drive recognizable agency trucks. Officer discretion is exercised in issuing warnings / citations for violations of regulations pertaining to food storage, off-highway vehicle use, road closures, etc. We also provide the local state game agent with information pertaining to suspected fish and game violations.

Law Enforcement

On the ***Kootenai National Forest***, LEO activities included monitoring of campgrounds, dispersed sites, and more remote recreational sites for bear food storage compliance. In general, the LEOs have noticed that it is common to find coolers sitting outside unattended and, therefore, regularly spend time educating the users of the site about bears and attractants and the Forest's food storage order. Where the food storage boxes have been installed, it appeared that the boxes were being used properly.

The Three Rivers Ranger District currently does not have a full time LEO and portions of the district are being covered as available/needed by the adjacent three districts. This year there were multiple documented instances of sanitation violations that resulted in a cleanup effort by Forest Service employees. Also, ongoing vehicle/ATV trespass is being documented, including 26 incident reports and 1 violation notice for multiple given reasons such as out for a joy ride, firewood, and "did not know." An LEO also attended the Troy High School Career Day where Forest Service employees provided students with information about careers with the agency.

On the Libby Ranger District, the LEO assisted the local game warden in an investigation of a human-bear incident in the wilderness area accessed via the Cedar Creek Trail. The two hikers involved were from out of state and unprepared to be in the wilderness (i.e., no backpacks, survival gear, or bear spray, etc.) but did have a cell phone and called for assistance upon encountering a bear along the trail. The bear moved along without conflict and the scared hikers were met by the LEO and game warden along the trail who escorted them back to the trailhead.

A male grizzly bear was killed in fall of 2014 near the Thompson River on the **Lolo National Forest**. The investigation is ongoing.

No other noteworthy Law Enforcement actions related to grizzly bears occurred.

Coordination

Chris Savage is the new Forest Supervisor of the **Kootenai National Forest** and is now a member of the S/C-Y Subcommittee. Jeremy Anderson, Forest Wildlife Biologist, attends IGBC subcommittee meetings and responds to information requests from IGBC and the subcommittee.

Mary Farnsworth, Forest Supervisor of the **Idaho Panhandle National Forest**, was the co-chair of the S/C-Y Subcommittee in 2013.

Randy Hojem, **Lolo National Forest** District Ranger at the Plains/Thompson Falls Ranger District is the current Chair of the Cabinet-Yaak subcommittee.

Laura Jo West, Forest Supervisor on the Colville NF also serves on the SCY Subcommittee.

Contributors

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2015 Planned Activities
Selkirk/Cabinet-Yaak Subcommittee
of the
Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee

<i>Planned Actions</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Accomplishments</i>
Reduce human caused grizzly bear mortalities, particularly in the front country. Continue implementing food storage orders and sanitation measures on public lands.	1	
Continue improving sanitation conditions within all land ownerships, particularly on private lands (increase bear-resistant garbage container program). Use the results of mortality analysis to tailor public outreach/education and sanitation strategies via citizen's committee input (e.g. KVRI). Implement strategy as opportunity arises. Use results from public opinion poll to supplement and fine-tune existing public education programs.	2	
Increase understanding among subcommittee members of the recovery plan goals and connectivity issues. Increase awareness and pace on the process for recovery and delisting. Actively engage in discussions with other recovery zones, and encourage positive population growth and minimal mortality in the northwest portion of the NCDE, to maximize the potential for dispersal into the Cabinet-Yaak and Selkirk Ecosystems.	3	
Develop an approach for integrating the Resource Selection Function (RSF), a habitat-based predictive model developed from Yaak ecosystem data, into access management.	4	
Implement the I+E management actions strategy for the Cabinet-Yaak Ecosystem and further develop the details of the monitoring strategy. Reinvigorate I+E management for both ecosystems and increase participation from all agencies. -Get a BC representative to help with BC mortality issues	5	
Support and participate in augmentation of acceptable grizzly bears in the Cabinet-Yaak Ecosystem.	6	

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Continue participation in agency efforts to maintain funding for a full time bear management specialist for the State of Montana, as well as to return full-time positions to the State of Idaho where they currently are not fully funded to do bear management work.	On going	
Continue systematic and opportunistic DNA data collection of grizzly bears in the Selkirk Recovery Zone (WA and ID) and adjacent areas.	On going	
Continue trapping and monitoring efforts in the Cabinet-Yaak ecosystem, and reinstate efforts in the Selkirk ecosystem.	On going	
Participate in efforts to assess linkage opportunities within and between recovery zones and in British Columbia.	On going	
Complete annual recovery status report. Target date: May 15	On going	
Compile a record of administrative use on restricted roads for Bear Year 2013 and update condition of OMRD, TMRD and Core in each BMU. Report Date: April 15 th , 2014.	On going	
<p>Continue to develop and implement a coordinated, long-term, sustainable funding strategy.</p> <p>Pursue funding for identified unfunded work priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cabinet-Yaak information and education ▪ Selkirk radio-telemetry monitoring ▪ Wildlife resistant dumpsters and food storage containers ▪ Distributing bear information in both ecosystems 	On going	These items were a part of a 2013 request for NFWF funding. No decision regarding the funding has been made.
Track Habitat Management activities that provide beneficial outputs for grizzly bears.	On going	