Selkirk & Cabinet-Yaak Grizzly Bear Ecosystems Plan 2015-2017

Cabinet/Yaak Ecosystem

- Begin development of a Conservation Strategy(s), including accomplishment of...
 - Making a recommendation to the USFWS on strategy for one or both Ecosystems
 - o Development of a Framework
- Define tactics/prioritization of effort between Selkirk and Cabinet-Yaak Ecosystems by spring of 2016.
- Continue the Cabinet Mountains augmentation with at least one additional subadult female grizzly bear per year if available. Consider male augmentation as needed. Specifically:
 - o Develop enhanced public outreach and support for augmentation
 - Enhance and coordinate agency resources toward achieving augmentation goals
- Continue to seek enhanced support and resources for monitoring the grizzly bear population using various techniques (e.g. collaring, DNA/hair-snare, et cetera). This includes population trend monitoring (including recruitment and mortality), presence and distribution of females with cubs, and seasonal habitat selection.
- Continue to reduce grizzly bear mortality due to illegal kills, conflict kills and removals. Accomplish this
 through enhanced outreach and education and assistance to secure attractants at residences, businesses,
 waste transfer sites and public campgrounds.
- Expand monitoring efforts beyond the recovery zone boundaries to assess grizzly bear presence in these
 areas.
- Achieve an increasing population trend estimate of at least two percent per year until we reach the Cabinet-Yaak ecosystem recovery goal.
- Identify and work to secure locations of possible wildlife linkage areas across Hwy 2, Hwy 200 and Hwy 95.
- Achieve motorized access management standards in the remaining BMUs¹, i.e. Bull, St. Paul, Wanless, Grouse, Boulder, and Mt. Headley by 2019.
- Increase Information and Education efforts across the Ecosystem
 - o Increase coordination and communication between Selkirk and Cabinet-Yaak concerning information and education personnel, activities and financing.
 - Enhance cooperative efforts with local communities by working closely in partnership with local residents and county governments in each mountain valley to build local support and understanding about grizzly recovery and ecosystem health.
 - Create a localized grant program (managed by the S/C-Y Subcommittee of the IGBC) for both the Selkirk and Cabinet-Yaak Ecosystems so local projects can be more fully funded. This is supplemental to our annual requests to the parent IGBC.
 - Annually solicit Information and Education projects in order to target multiple funding opportunities.
 - o Increase contact between members of the Information and Education Subcommittee to discuss projects, funding, opportunities and efforts.

¹ Based on NEPA decisions affecting motorized access through April of 2015.

Selkirk & Cabinet-Yaak Grizzly Bear Ecosystems Plan 2015-2017

Selkirk Ecosystem

- Begin development of a Conservation Strategy(s), including accomplishment of...
 - Making a recommendation to USFWS on a strategy for one or both Ecosystems
 - Development of a Framework
- Define tactics/prioritization of effort between Selkirk and Cabinet-Yaak Ecosystems by spring 2016.
- Continue to seek enhanced support and resources for monitoring the grizzly bear population using various techniques (e.g. collaring, DNA/hair-snare, et cetera). This includes population trend monitoring (including recruitment and mortality), presence and distribution of females with cubs, and seasonal habitat selection.
- Continue to reduce grizzly bear mortality due to illegal kills, conflict kills and removals. Accomplish this through enhanced outreach and education and assistance to secure attractants at residences, businesses, waste transfer sites and public campgrounds.
- As possible, apply enhanced monitoring to assess the presence of grizzly bears along the international boundary of Washington and British Columbia between the Selkirks and the North Cascades.
- Achieve an increasing population trend estimate of at least two percent per year until we reach the Selkirk ecosystem recovery goal.
- Evaluate the options available in dealing with bear-human conflicts in the Selkirks and the relocation options
 for bears that may come into conflict in this ecosystem. Specifically, are there options to relocate such bears
 into other ecosystems in order to reduce the probability that they might rapidly return to the origin of the
 conflict and thereby reduce their own survival?
- Identify and work to secure locations of possible wildlife linkage areas across Hwy 3 and 3A (BC) and Hwy 95.
- Provide grizzly movement opportunities between the Selkirks and the Purcell Mountains by delivering conservation action to the Duck Lake area south of Kootenai Lake, British Columbia.
- Achieve motorized access management standards in the Blue Grass BMU by 2019.
- Increase Information and Education efforts across the Ecosystem
 - o Increase coordination and communication between Selkirk and Cabinet-Yaak concerning information and education personnel, activities and financing. Add emphasis in northeastern Washington.
 - Enhance cooperative efforts with local communities by working closely in partnership with local residents and county governments in each mountain valley to build local support and understanding about grizzly recovery and ecosystem health.
 - Create a localized grant program for both the Selkirk and Cabinet-Yaak Ecosystems (managed by the S/C-Y Subcommittee of the IGBC) so local projects can be more fully funded. This will be supplemental to the parent IGBC grant program.
 - Annually solicit Information and Education projects in order to target multiple funding opportunities.
 - Increase contact between members of the Information and Education Subcommittee to discuss projects, funding, opportunities and efforts.
 - o Increase Information and Education efforts with British Columbia to specifically help reduce mortality in the Canadian portion of the ecosystem.
 - Goal: Jointly host a subcommittee meeting in BC (e.g. Creston) in spring of 2016