

YES Grizzly Bear/Human Conflict Reduction Workshop
Thursday, October 31, 2019, Cody WY

0. The Room



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1. backcountry recreation and hunting-related conflicts

- o Modernize Educational delivery
- o More targeted ed delivery
i.e. at purchase of hunting lic.
- o Promote increased bear spray accessibility + ed on use
i.e. Rentals
- o Standardize attractant storage requirements
- o Improve + increase infrastructure
- o Regs identify units in occupied GB habitat
- o Adversive conditioning
- o Expand ed on hunting practices
 - o Carcass in the open
 - o Flagging site

- Session #2
- o Education - changes
 - o More people when field dressing
 - o Modifying hunting practices
i.e. not hunting late afternoon
use of packstring
 - o Educate people on expanding bear range
- Define GB country
 - o Look at 2009 Yllush conflicts report + recommendations
 - o biting expanding - potential for conflict
 - o O + G required to use e-fence
 - o Sign placement - beyond trailhead
 - o Ed requirements for non-res hunters
 - o Connecting to non-hunting recreationists + those that start outside bear country
 - o More point of rentals for bear spray
 - o Ed on use of spray
 - o Prohibit baiting, DMA, occupied GB habitat
 - o Secure attrl funding to implement connecting - Chambers of commerce
 - o Finding new/better ways of getting info out
- Handwritten note: "tied into lic purchase"* with an arrow pointing to the "Ed requirements for non-res hunters" item.

- Session #1
- o Use of ^{the right} dogs
 - * Education
 - o Adversive Conditioning for learned behavior
 - o Bean bag gun loads, air horns, strobe lights
 - o Use of bear spray beyond aggressive behavior / charging
 - o Enticing a bear to bite a can of spray
 - o Additional training for O + G / professionals WHART infrastructure
 - o Hunting w/ a partner or guide infrastructure policy with carrying
 - o Field dressing techniques quick qtrcs trailhead
 - * o Flag hunting kill sites
 - * o Drag carcasses into the open
 - o Come into kill site w/ as many people as possible
 - o I + E - additional info on aggressive behavior
 - o More rigorous enforcement of food/attractant regs
 - o Availability of e-fences
 - o Bear baiting

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2. front county conflicts and community planning

0 FRONT COUNTRY NON-FEDERAL
(UNDERSTANDING COMPLEXITY) ORDINANCE & FEES, DEER SHAMING

- EDUCATION & ENFORCEMENT
 - ↳ CHANGING THE MESSAGE. HELP PUBLIC UNDERSTAND REPRISALS
- FOOD REWARD ISSUES W/ PUBLIC
- FEEL GOOD COMM. PRIDE
- ASSESSMENT FOR START-UP
- COMMUNITY CERT

BEAR-WISE BOTTOM-UP EDUCATION
(BEAR-WISE CERTIFICATION) 501C3? NON-PROFIT? COUNTY?

- * START W/ SMALL COMMUNITY
- PHOTOS [SHAMING + ED.]
 - BEAR RESISTANT CANS - INITIATE THROUGH SANITATION DEPT'S. USE CURRENT #S TO SEE AWARENESS
- HOW TO CHANGE HUMAN BEHAVIOUR? (FEEDING UNGLATES) TO "SAVE" THEM
- TACKLE STORIES SELLING WILDLIFE FEED. REMOVAL OF SOURCE?

②

6 CLEAR POLICY FOR BEAR RESISTANT CANISTERS TO ALLOW SANT. DEPT TO UTILIZE. DEAL W/ EQUIP. COMP. ISSUES

- UNINTENTIONAL CONSEQUENCE OF CARCASS REMOVAL - BEAR MOVEMENT TO FIND FOOD # : FOOD ≠ SUSTAINABLE
- FOOD STORAGE REGS CONSISTENT ACROSS AGENCIES (STATE/FED/COUNTY) etc.
- GRIZZ WORLD (CWE + STATES OUTSIDE)
- NON-PROFIT HIGH-LEVEL ADVOCACY FOR \$ & ASSISTANCE.
(ANY GROUP W/ CAPACITY TO LOBBY)

- PHONE ALERT ~~FOR~~ WHEN ENTERING BEAR COUNTRY, - MESSAGE PARK, ETC.
- TRUST/UNDERSTANDING PROCESS
 - 4 PUBLIC (RED SHIRT FEAR)
 - "MUSICAL BEARS" MESSAGING
- NO INCENTIVE TO CHANGE IND BEHAVIOUR (& REPRISALS)
- DIFFERENCE IN GENERATIONAL PERCEPTION OF MESSAGING. NEED DIRECTNESS.
- WAPITI COMM. EX/TEMPLATE DURAUGO TRASH CAN STUDY
- CONSISTANT MESSAGING
- IGBC HELP W/ MESSAGING, DEV. BEAR-WISE, INFRASTRUCTURE, PROCESS FOR MOVING FORWARD

- SOCIAL-MEDIA CHARACTER CREATION TO ENGAGE YOUNGER GENERATIONS & THROUGH INFLUENCE OTHER GENERATIONS
 - ↳ SMOKEY MESSAGING? CHANG
 - ↳ BENADETTE BEAR "DO YOUR PART, BE BEAR SMART"
 - ↳ BEAR METER (ACTIVITY GAUGE)
- POINT/COMMUNITY SPECIFIC HOTSPOTS
 - ↳ "PROJECTS" IN NEED OF ASSIS. OR FUNDING
 - ↳ COMMUNITY SUGGESTED NEED
- ASSESSMENT OF INCENTIVES
- EARLY REMOVAL OF PROBLEM BEARS

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3. efficacy of information and education efforts

Issue 1: What recommendations do you have to reduce future grizzly bear mortalities and to address grizzly bear/human conflicts?

- Consistent messaging is needed across the ecosystem.
- Increase awareness & education efforts:
 - Outreach to hunters during the license application process by including “pop-up” information about areas where bear safety measures need to be implemented (e.g., food storage, etc.). This could also be part of license packets that are mailed.
 - Messaging needs to be expanded to be available to both resource professionals and the community. Model the Bear Wise Program after the Fire Wise model and create a community certification program.
 - Tourists may often only come into contact with community members. Identify ways to reach the general public to help them have the tools to share the consistent message.
 - Consider working with press releases where bears are mentioned to have safety messages included.
 - Identify easily accessible and digestible media information: geotagging, QR code use, videos (e.g., attractants versus rewards, bear behavior).
 - Showcase real success stories – e.g., hikers who didn’t think they needed bear spray, brought it along, and the way it prepared them for a bear encounter.
 - Increase enforcement efforts – often I&E can be too lenient. Warnings may not always be best.
 - Youth advocacy groups
 - Implement a targeted approach outside the DMA in key areas such as where genetic connectivity is needed to sustain populations and cultivate recovery.

Issue 2: What actions are you or your organization already taking?

- Currently using a “shotgun” approach to I&E efforts.
- Annually educating folks inside the DMA.
- Info sharing/teaching at various events and venues.

Issue 3: Are there areas of interest for additional actions?

- Consistent messaging.
- Increase awareness efforts.
- Support Recommendations in Report: Need to include a social science component in order to understand and utilize proven methodologies for I&E.

Issue 4: What other partners are needed to take effective action?

- In order to create a consistent message the following are recommended:
 - Social Scientists that can complete a data-gap analysis, identify what other entities might already have for consistent bear messaging (e.g., British Columbia), & how to monitor for success
 - Need an expert in marketing to “sell” the message
 - House the consistent messaging in one location such as with the IGBC I&E chair.
 - All agencies have to come to agreement on the message.

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Recommendations -

- **Consistent messaging across the ecosystem**
 Reach out to other agencies, intl. org's or other areas + have focused efforts
- **Outreach to hunters during app process or with license materials** - electronic "pop-up" notifications
- **Annual educ. efforts outside the DWA**
- **Work with media releases to make sure bear safety messages are included** - example: news

Social Science Understanding (audience + specific messages)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↳ agencies ↳ state ↳ private universities ↳ comparative methodology analysis and gap 	} collaboration research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↳ how successful are
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- Professional, consistent messaging in the field + for the public
 ↳ 3x5 info cards
- education - educate base community + visitors
 ↳ expand bear wise program via 'fire wise' model - community

- Current Actions

Expects teaching a wide range of users (various users)

Annual educ. inside the DWA

- Additional Actions / Rel.

Education

- ↳ bear behavior - update video (series)
 ↳ digestible chunks
- ↳ geotagging + QR code
- ↳ understanding attractant vs reward
- ↳ youth advocacy groups I + E
- ↳ showcasing success stories - proper bear count preparation
- ↳ enforcement of camp management, food storage - and / or cease and desist vs. a warning

money \$\$\$

↳ education, enforcement, infrastructure

- What else? who else?

Coordination among agencies (for messaging)

Clearinghouse for messages: I+E Chair (IGBC)

Social scientists involved in message formulation + assessment of I+E efforts, monitoring for success

Marketing expertise + Nat. Res. interpretation

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4. livestock conflicts and livestock producer outreach

Recommendations you have:

- Do a better job communicating what worked / what didn't (lesson-sharing) learn from other communities
 - breakdown in communication producers / user resources / land management agencies
- Difficult to avoid conflicts
 - * Things that work
- Roads + human presence seem to minimize conflicts
- Like carcass management program
 - export pick-up area in Park Co
- G+F address cattle killing bears, which helps producers
 - bears are inconsistent w/ killing behavior
- Create an event that "balanced" participants-wise
 - Livestock growers meeting - could we have a session there

Already doing: Ruby killing stock alone → producer initiated, locally driven (Mt)

Need to find carcasses quickly, have human resources close to respond quickly

Situations - eg hobby chickens to too many dogs
Livestock conflicts, group 1, page 2

- Could we use electric fence to prevent bears from being attracted?
- How do we deal w/ livestock lost to long-term → carcasses
 - Move pastures
 - Losing tools in rangeland management "tool box"
- Mt does not have ~~multiple~~ multiple, Mt is paying for some guard dog loss (prevention) (ie → changing from reactive to proactive)
- * Large group of cattle seem to have less depredation
 - flexible penning (the ability to be flexible is important)
 - compile grazing strategies vs depredation information

Other partners → need people who are actually on the ground w/ the problem

- Its so variable. What works for one, doesn't work for another
- No one-size fit solution
- Difficult to find riders, ID direction of ride, what they are out to do
 - some people use drones

Livestock Conflicts - Recommendations Group 2 page 1

- * Recognize diversity of livestock conflict situations - eg hobby chickens to too many dogs ranches - affects what is feasible/effective
- * Managers/ranchers/producers need authority to address problem situations - ranches can't sustain current/growing levels of losses
 - most difficult - inaccessible backcountry, often not there in time to address
 - Taking out problem bears early is most effective
- Need for broader access to/use of Farm Bill Equippe funding - to help w/ electric fencing
- Explore/implement differential compensation rates for producers who invest in conflict management programs - not existent in all States

Group 2 page 2

- * Invest in real data about the efficacy of different conflict management tools/practices - Range Riders / "flaggers" / alternative grazing strategies
- * Identify Priority Areas / Hot Areas for conflict investments - eg Gravelleys - to focus partner/agency investments
- * Investigate other grazing practices for sheep grazing (Spoke + Wheel)
- * Transition away from sheep where feasible

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Set up broader clearinghouse
of conflict tools/science/
funding, etc. -
eg Western Lands Alliance brochure

* Funding ↑ for Wildlife Service
non-lethal work

* Allow producers more flexibility
within grazing permits to
address conflicts

Livestock
Group 2
pg 3

Group 3, pg 1
Livestock

- Carcass management program
 - Some like it, some don't
 - Likes the idea of "not carrying beef as food source"
- How to deal w/ carcasses we cannot access?
 - not possible to get them all
 - can use explosives, sign ones, guards, doghouses, etc.
- Presence is huge (to minimize conflicts)
 - riders - difficult if no guards
 - guard dogs
- Is there a breed of livestock that's better?
 - Fine line between home safety & property damage (manageable cow)
 - Ditch those ones certain breed
- When you have a group that stays together & more that
stay of colors, you are more successful.
 - Select for cows that keep color w/ them, grow w/ ~~color~~
- How do we know what works? How do we share?
Knowledge

* Flexible grazing management systems could help
- variable lbs & periods, it's a natural system

- Allotments are unique, difficult to find solutions

Group 3, page 2
Livestock

✓ How to share knowledge:

- Western Landowners Alliance is a good example
 - have developed a publication
- Who convenes?
- Partnering w/ Stock Growers Association would be good place to start

NGOs are a willing partner, figure out network of NGOs can help
(what they offer)

Relationships key between FS and permit holder for grazing allotments
(trust)

Electric fence has been effective 3 strand - has to have right system

- can be difficult to maintain
- WLA has come up w/ funding to maintain electric fence

How do we achieve this flexibility?

Group 3, page 3 (Livestock)

How do we share knowledge, BMP's, observations, and so on?

Various intl. examples of livestock ops & predators. When it's working.

- * Capability & capacity of the network of non-profits & other entities that may be able to help
- * Administrative flexibility/options w/in the SUP

Flexibility acknowledging the natural systems not the dates on the calendar

Documenting & explaining observations, decisions, or at field level when adjustments are made.

Relationships are essential & critical for success. Communication & trust.

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5. targeted community outreach in grizzly expansion area

5)

- 1) Subsidy for Bear-proof infrastructure
~~fresh can for residency areas~~
- ~~\$\$~~ - realize reality + accountability
- 2) Carcass removal programs in place ahead of time
- 3) Signage consistency
- 4) Expert education + discussions with public in expansion areas
- Biology/Behavior → Reduce conflict potential
- Bear training academy
- 5) Understanding uniqueness of locality of expansion

Carass Removal Programs/Initiatives

7) Use success stories to educate
(Tom Miner Basin)
(North Fork Bear Wise Community Program)
(WLA) - Ownership → subdivisions

8) Accountability

Partners

- Western Landowner Alliance
- Outfitter/Guides
- Landowners/Ranchers
- Resorts, Dude Ranches
- HOA, Landowners Association
- Youth Advocacy Programs - Counties
- Builders
- Realtors

Sanitation / Dumps

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- Understanding your audience + how to reach everyone -
 - Social Media, Tick-Tock, Myspace
- Go to "their turf"
- Consistency among systems
 - Public training academy
 - County Commissioners, local government
- IGBC prioritize + identify high priority areas to outreach
- Reality of where bear are / where bears "should be" -
- Montana Governor's Wyoming Public Outreach Information → Inform

- Homeowner accountability for conflict
- Incentivize and/or punish
 - Peer pressure
- Phone tree, text chain
- Incentivize permanent infrastructure
- Partners + Organizations that reach larger audiences + non local
- Timing + "fencing initiatives"
- chick week