

Grizzly Bear Conflict Management 2018 Update

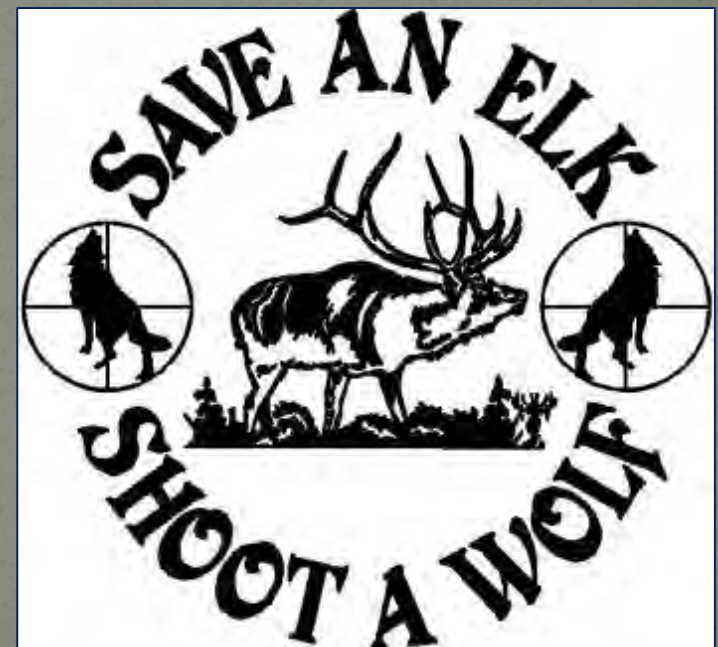


Wyoming Game and Fish Department
Large Carnivore Section



Large Carnivore Management

- WIDE SPECTRUM of viewpoints with large carnivores and their role on the landscape



Grizzly Bear Conflict Resolution

- **Essential** component of large carnivore conservation and management
- Provide a timely response by trained professionals to deal with all forms of conflicts between grizzly bears and people
 - Personnel adopt a continuum of management responses to deal with conflict



All Connected

- Nothing we do is mutually exclusive:
 - Monitoring and conflict resolution data used to better understand and manage the species
 - Proactive efforts and educational programs within Bear Wise Wyoming
 - State, local, national and global reach
 - **Team approach**, bolstered by public support

Human-Wildlife Conflicts

- Interactions between humans and wildlife that results in property damage, agriculture damage, or public safety issues (aggression, disease)
- Management of human-wildlife conflicts
 - Promotes conservation through tolerance
 - **Human safety is paramount**



Influences to Numbers of Conflicts



Biological Factors

Habitat quality and quantity

Behavior

Population

Social Tolerance/Intolerance

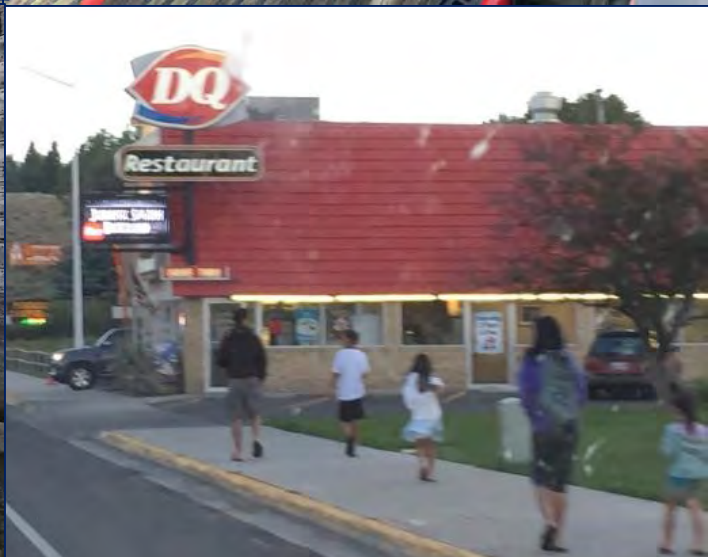
Human safety

Economic impacts

Impacts to lifestyles

Individuals/community values

The Reality of Recovery and Resurgence



Field Response Program

- Conflict Management/Prevention
 - Information and Education
 - Securing Attractants
- Management of Individual Animals
 - Aversive Conditioning
 - Deterrence and Protection
 - Relocation
 - Removal
- Compensation Programs

Fladry near Jackson



Electric Fences



Securing Garbage



Disruptive Stimuli



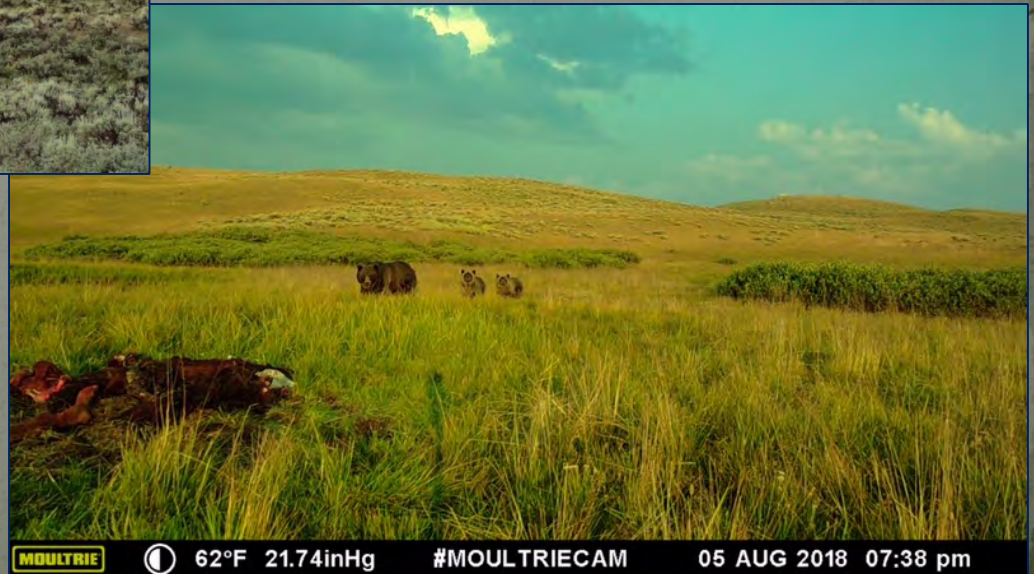
Scare Devices

- “Zon-guns”
- Screamers
- Cracker shells
- Bean bags
- Rubber bullets



Togwotee “roadside” bear after being hazed

Working with Producers



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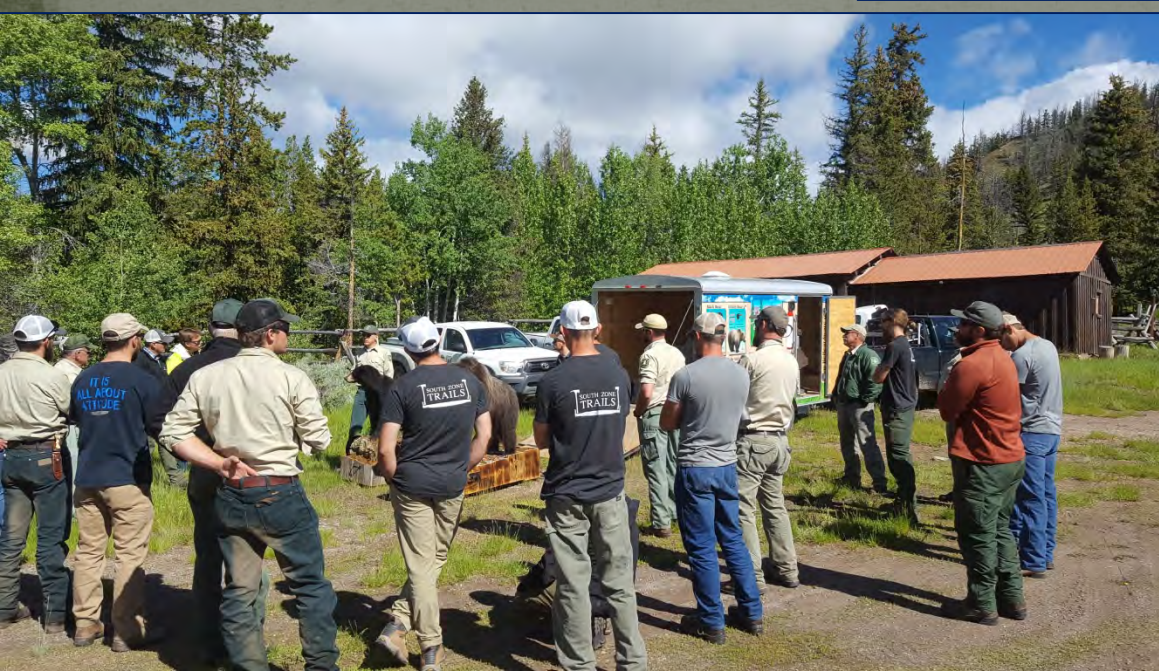


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Charging Bear



Training for
multi-agency
personnel

Habitat Conservation Programs/Land Use Planning

- Conserving key habitats through land use planning, easements and acquisitions will reduce the potential for conflicts
- Ranches and farms
- Planned development



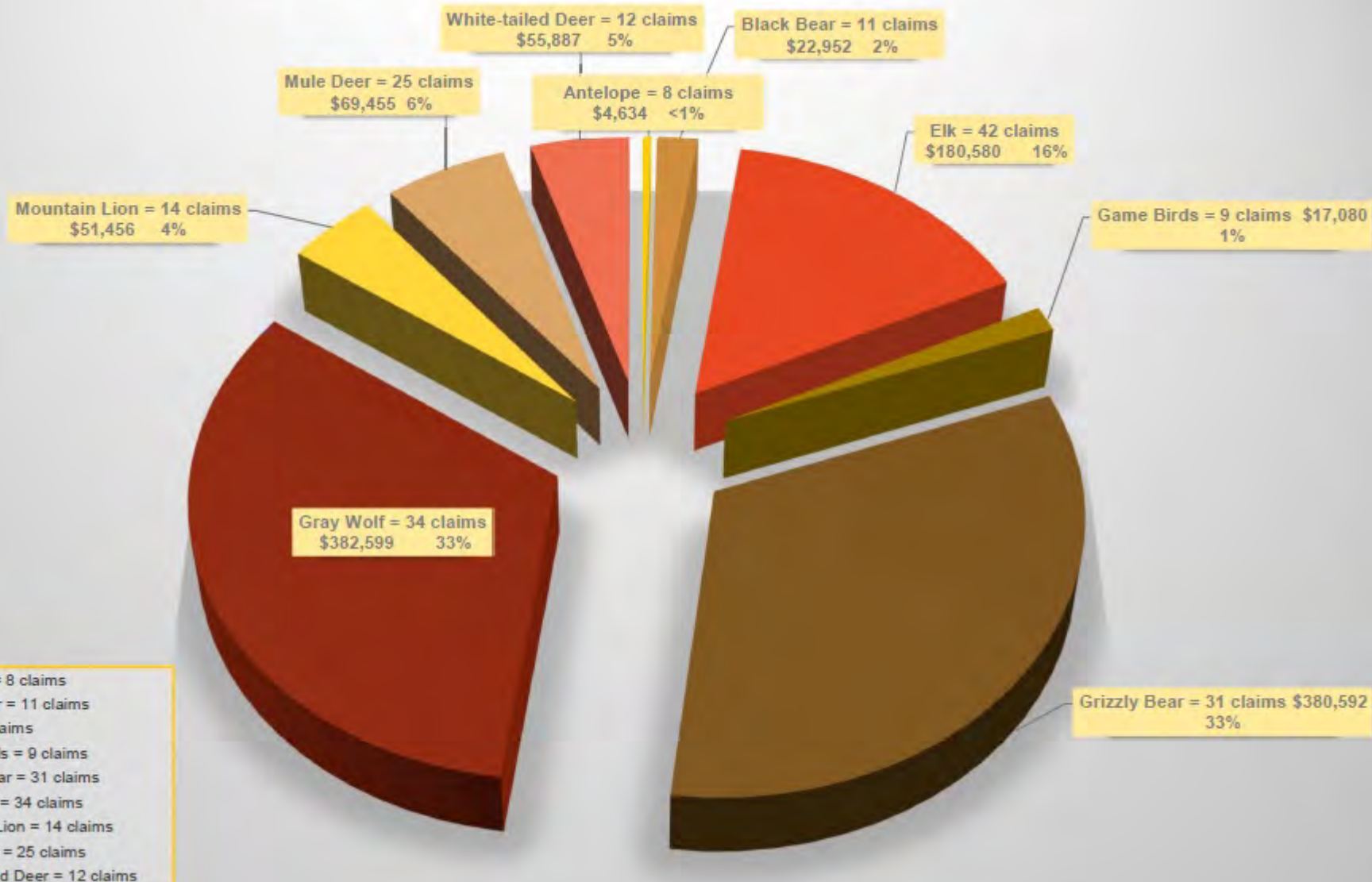
Damage Compensation Program (Livestock and Beehives)

Monetary compensation to reimburse livestock owners

- Payment made at market value
 - Payment for killed, injured and missing livestock; guard dogs



FY 18 Amount and Percentage of Claims Paid per Species



Predator Attack Team (PAT)

- Trained personnel to provide a professional response for wildlife attacks of humans
- Team approach
- Communication and coordination vital

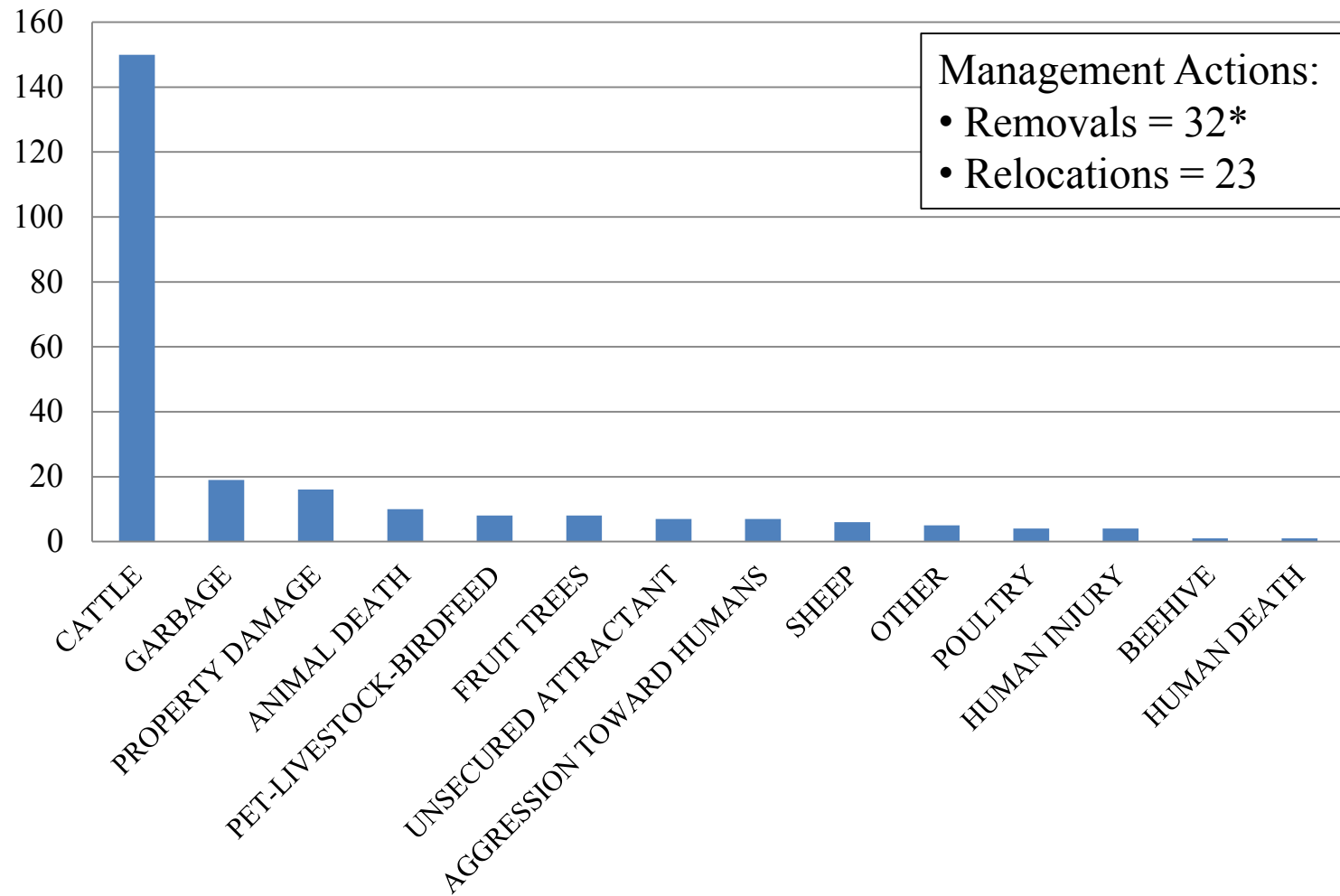


When Options are Exhausted

- We attempt capture if the situation warrants
- We relocate an animal if applicable
- Some animals have to be removed from the population

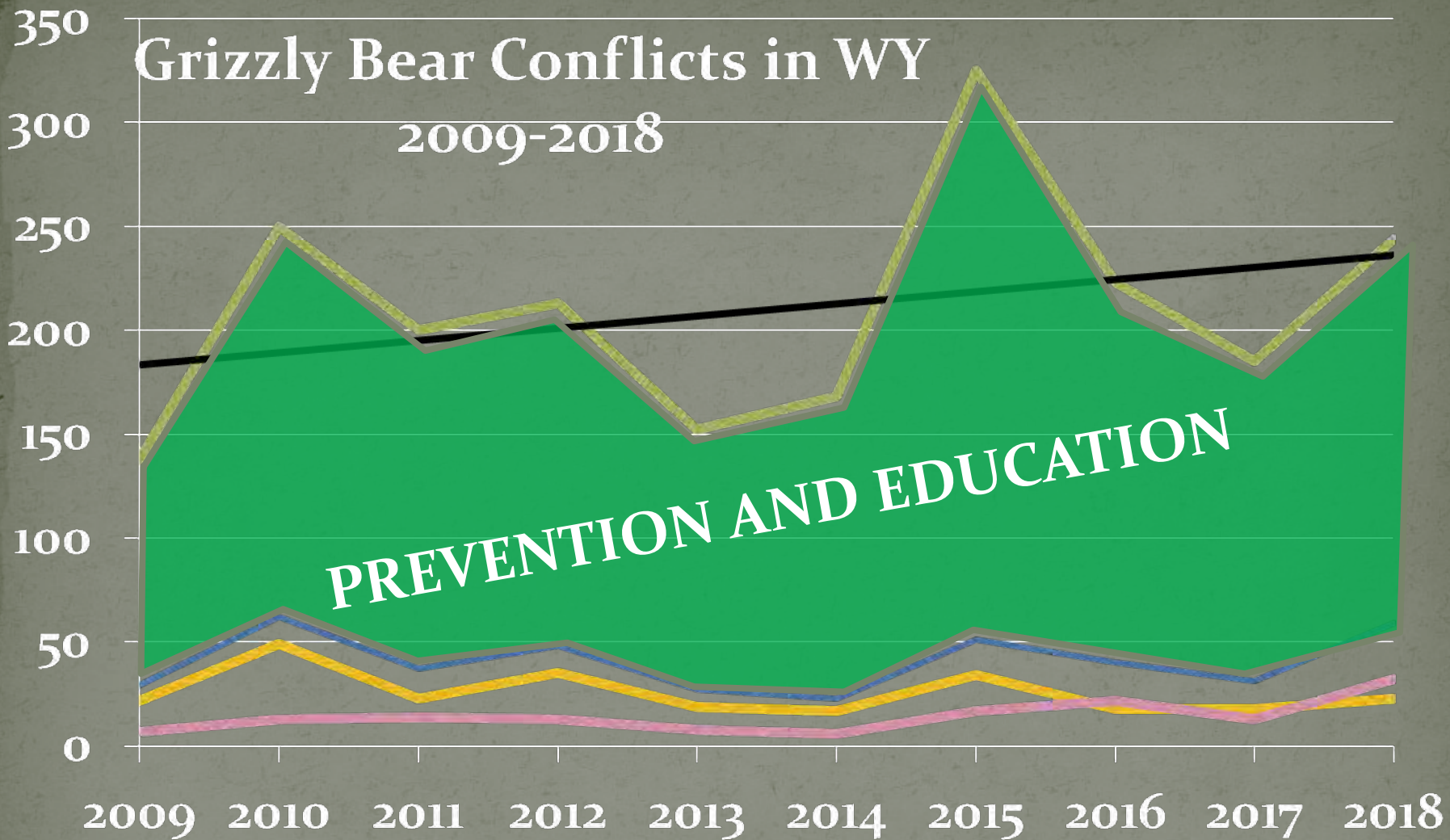


Grizzly Bear Conflicts; $n = 244$



Grizzly Bear Conflicts in WY 2009-2018

PREVENTION AND EDUCATION



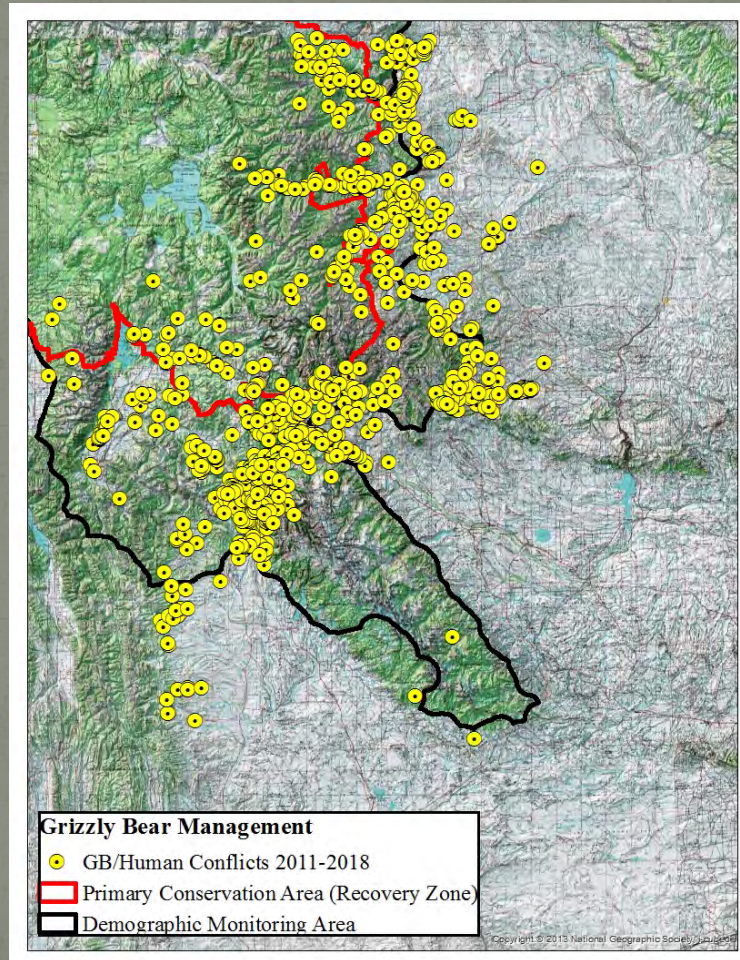
CONFLICTS

CAPTURES

REMOVALS

RELOCATIONS

Trends in Grizzly Bear Conflicts



Evaluating Conflict Management

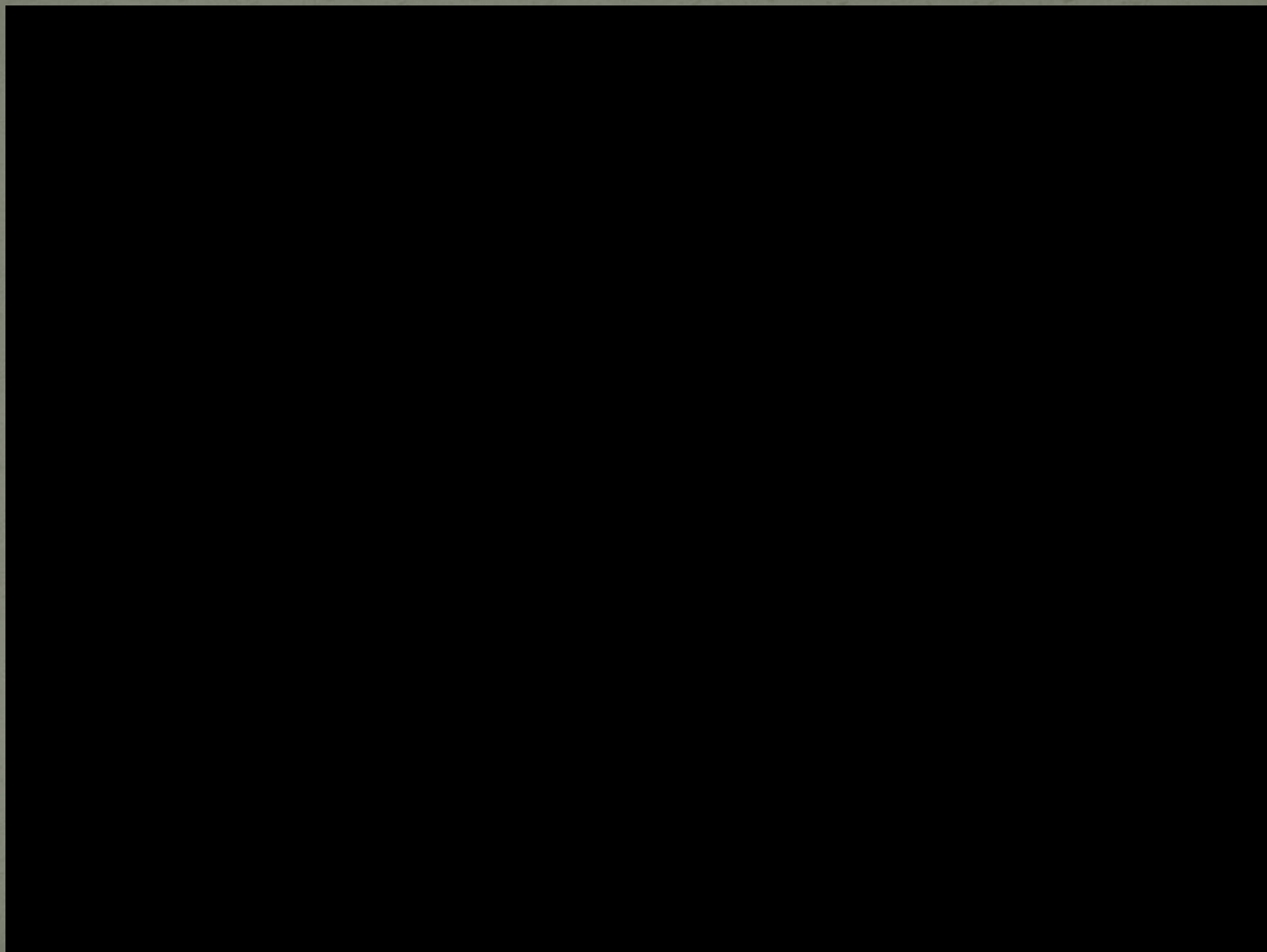
- Constantly evaluating the efficacy of the program and working on ways to improve efficiency and reduce conflicts as well as adding new tools
- Currently analyzing changes in relocation and recidivism



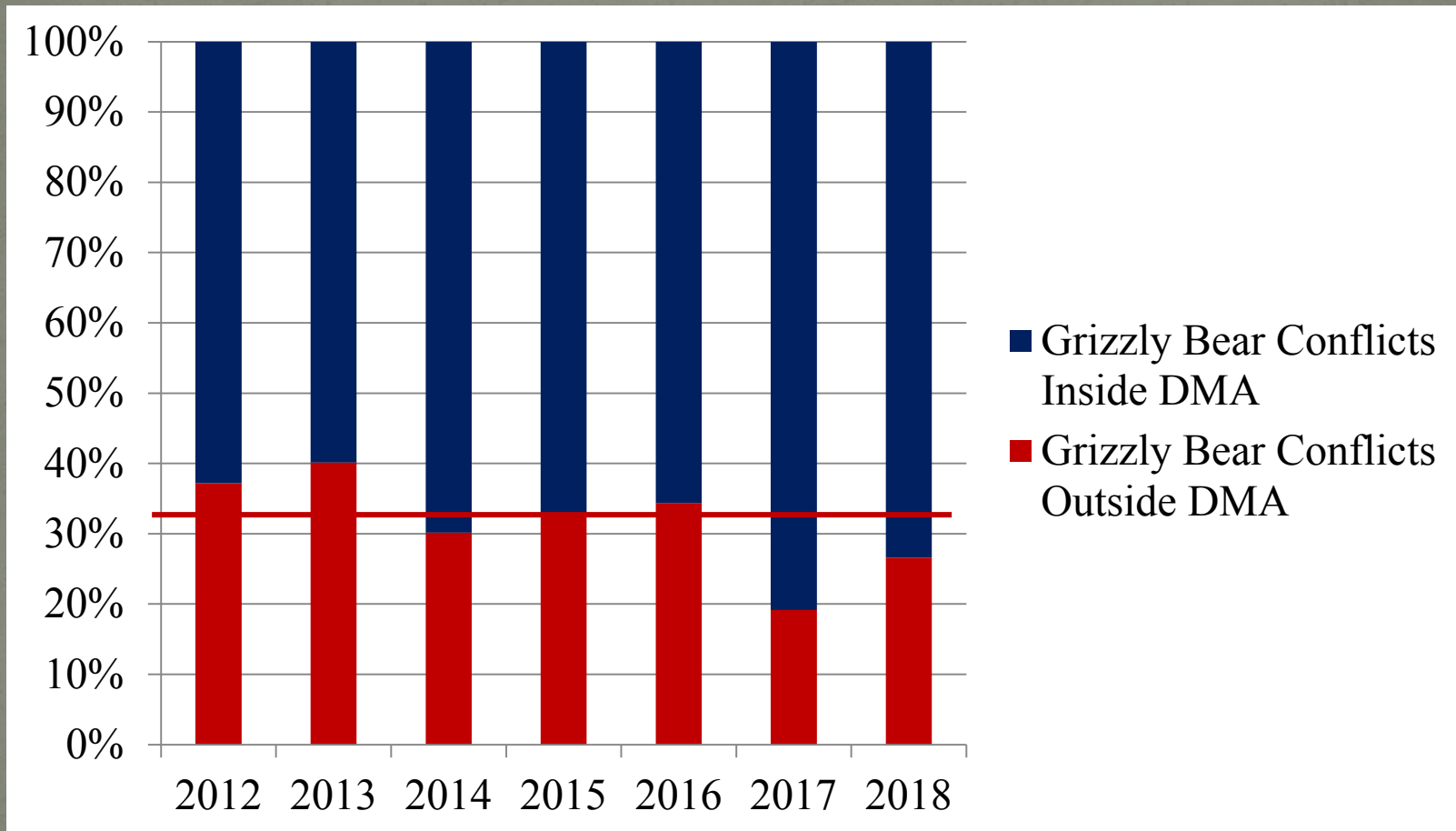
Expansion → Shift in Conflict Type

<u>Conflict Type (5 yr average)</u>	<u>2009-2013</u>	<u>2014-2018</u>
Property Damage	25	14
Livestock Conflict	97	143
Garbage	23	29
Grizzly Bear Deaths*	6	6
Human Injury/Death	3	3





Conflicts in Relation to DMA



Bear Wise Wyoming

- These proactive efforts and educational component serve as the foundation for grizzly bear management and maintaining large carnivores on the landscape



Bear Wise Wyoming



Teaming Up



2018 Highlights

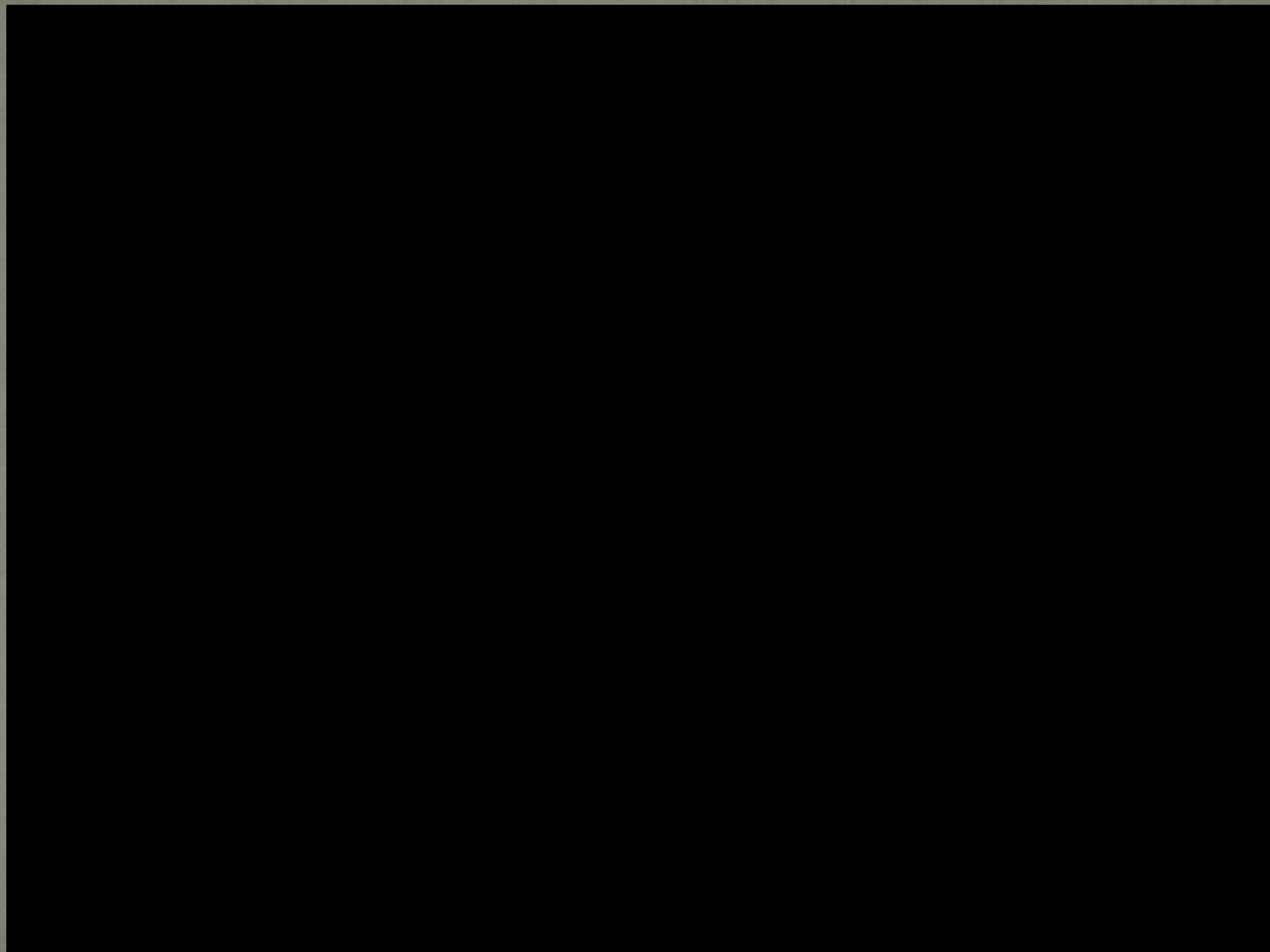
- Cody Landfill Fencing



2018 Highlights

- Bear Spray Giveaways





Bear Wise and Enjoying the Outdoors

HUNTING



GAME RETRIEVAL AND HANDLING

Introduction paragraph to this portion of the guide will go here. It will say a couple sentences about why this is important and reinforce something within the text blah.

- **Immediately remove** carcasses from the field. The longer game is in the field, at camp, or in a vehicle, the more likely it is to be discovered.
- Separate the carcass from the gut pile with **as much distance as possible** if you must leave meat in the field for any time.
- Ideally leave the gut pile in the field **far away** from camps, roads, trails.
- If an animal is harvested by a camp, road or trail, move the gut pile or parts **1/2 mile away** or to a landfill.
- **Quarter and hang** the carcass in a tree or game pole **10 to 15 feet** from the ground and **4 feet** from the tree trunk or supporting branches.
- If you must leave the carcass on the ground, **place it in plain view** so you can see if a bear is present or if it has been disturbed when you return. Placing large items such as branches or a jacket on the carcass so you can tell from a safe distance if a bear has disturbed your carcass.
- When returning to a carcass **stop and view** the area from a distance with binoculars. Approach the carcass from **upwind and make sufficient noise** to alert any bears of your presence. Just because you don't see a bear doesn't mean there isn't one in the area.



As hunters we have a higher risk of encountering a bear at close range. We silently stalk animals at dusk and dawn, mask our scent and use game calls. Also, we are often focused on pursuing game and handling carcasses. To reduce possible conflicts with bears follow the suggestions in this guide.

CAMPING

Camping in Bear Country When you are camping, keeping a clean camp is the key to human safety and is required on most U.S. Forest Service lands in northwest Wyoming. Bears have a highly evolved sense of smell and are strongly attracted to human food, garbage, livestock feed, and game meat. When a bear gains access to attractants in a camp, it is likely to become food-conditioned. Food-conditioned bears are less likely to avoid humans and can become destructive and even dangerous in their attempts to obtain human foods. A bear that has received a food reward from a camp will likely return or stay in the area, and may become a problem for other people.

HOW TO PREPARE YOUR CAMPS

Introduction paragraph to this portion of the guide will go here. It will say a couple sentences about why this is important and reinforce something within the text blah.

Trailheads and corrals

- Store all attractants inside a **hard sided vehicle** or enclosed trailer. Truck toppers must fit tightly on the truck bed.
- **Coolers without locks** must be stored inside.
- All vehicle windows must be **rolled all the way up** if attractants are stored inside.
- All leftover livestock feed **must be cleaned out** of corrals.
- Carcasses or animal parts **may only be stored inside a hard sided vehicle** and must be at least 100 yards from a trail.

Backcountry camps

- Store all attractants in **bear canister or bear box** or **hang 10 feet high, 4 feet out** from pole or tree and branches.
- **Lock and hang** coolers as well.
- Your sleeping area must be **at least 100 yards** from carcass or animal storage. Your food storage should also be **at least 100 yards** from your sleeping area.
- **Pack out all garbage** and leave camp cleaner than you found it.
- Reduce livestock spillage or oats and pellets by feeding from buckets, nose bags, or other containers. **Don't leave leftover feed out overnight.**

Front country camps

- All attractants must be stored inside a **hard sided vehicle**, bear box, or hung from a game pole at **least 10 feet above ground** and 4 feet from the vertical pole.
- Carcasses or animal parts may not be stored inside bear boxes and **must be stored at least 100 yards outside** of any campground. (Refer to carcass storage and disposal section).
- All cooking areas should be kept **free of grease** and food residue.
- All garbage **needs to be stored** as an attractant and packed out when leaving.

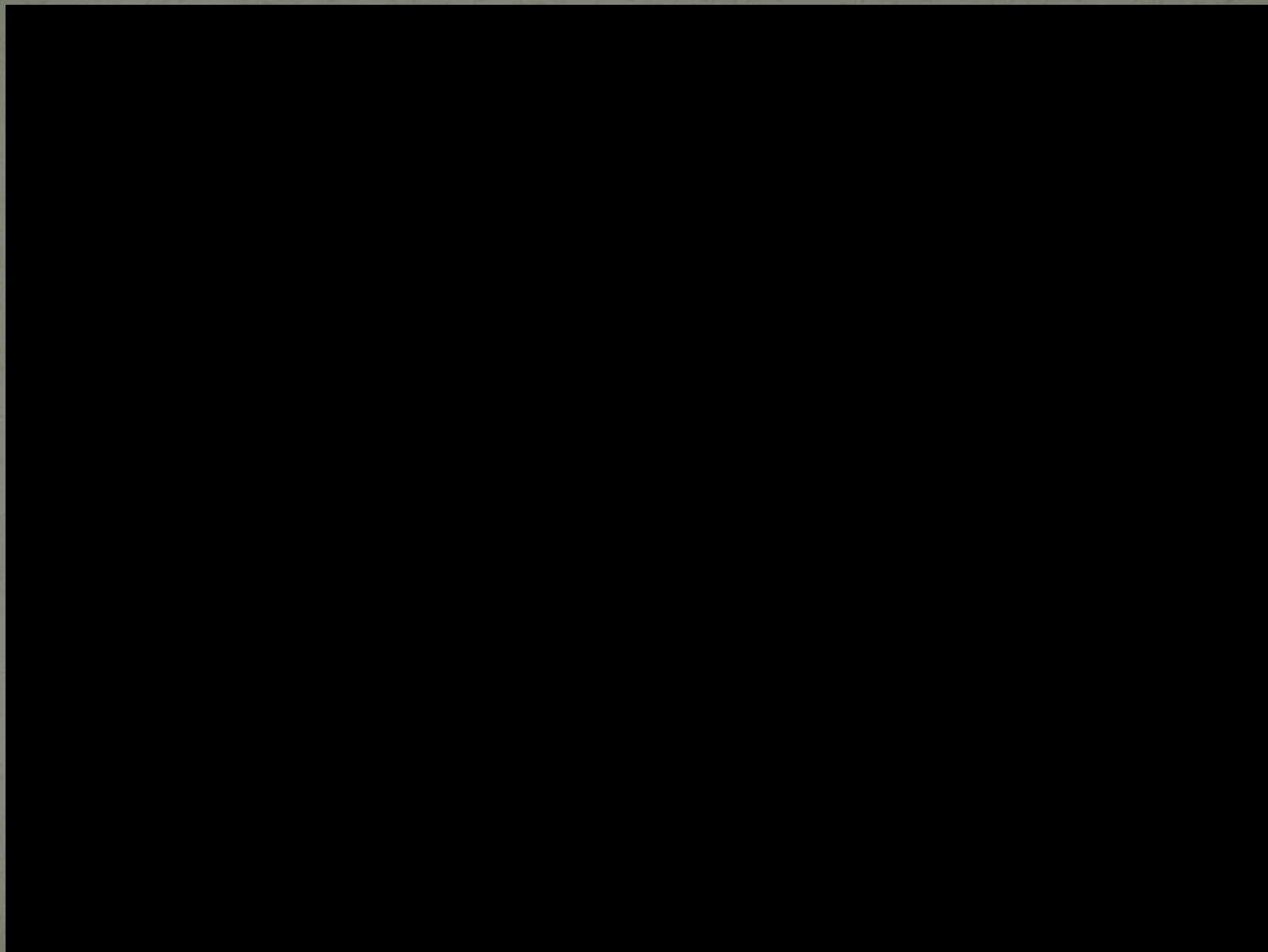


What are attractants?

- When not in immediate use, all attractants must be stored **inaccessible** to bears. The following items are considered attractants:
 - Any food – including canned goods
 - Beverages and beverage containers – including unopened aluminum cans and plastic bottles
 - Coolers and Ice Chests
 - Game or Fish – any part of a carcass including gut pile, capes and skulls
 - Cosmetics and Toiletries (toothpaste, lotion, etc.)
 - Pet food and pet food bowls
 - Processed livestock feed
 - Any item with a food odor – including empty beer and soda cans, wrappers, bottles, etc.)
 - Trash

Updated Website – More Interactive





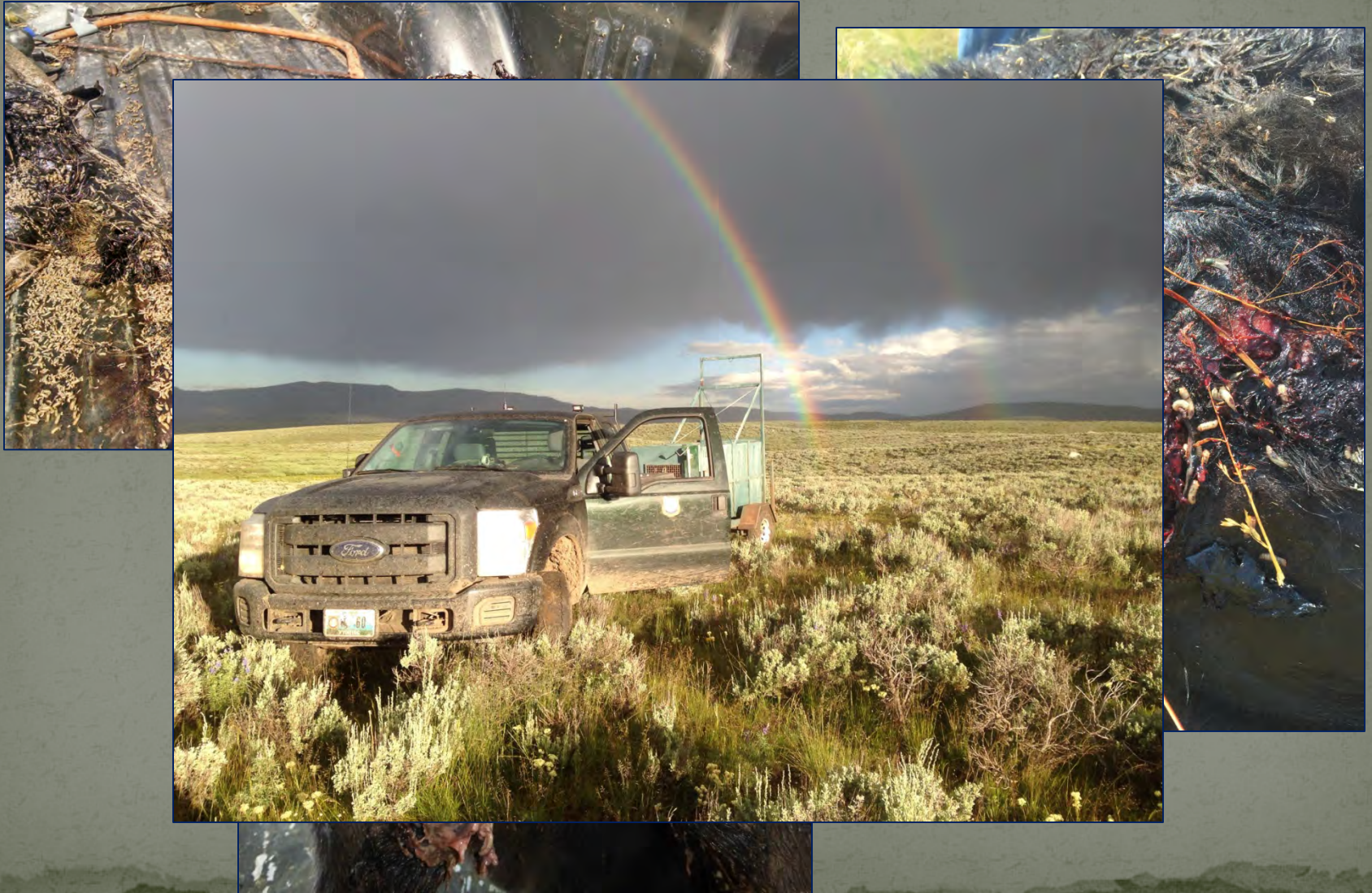
In the End

“Learn how to see. Realize that everything connects to everything else.”

-Leonardo Da Vinci

- The collective efforts and experience of all of our actions inform our decisions in the field and on the ground to manage grizzly bears and all large carnivores for their viability and the greater good of people and wildlife in Wyoming

It's Not all Rainbows and Puppy Dogs



Conclusions and Future

- Game and Fish is committed to maintaining and managing grizzly bears on the landscape
 - Multi-layered approach to the ever-changing dynamics of large carnivores in Wyoming
- Maintaining a vigilant conflict resolution, monitoring and education program is vital to grizzly bear conservation and human tolerance
- We will continue to answer the questions that are being asked to better understand large carnivores resulting in more effective management strategies

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