Selkirk and Cabinet-Yaak Grizzly Bear Monitoring

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- 2018 Research
 Captures
- CabinetMountainsAugmentation
- Recovery Plan Targets
- Population Trend
- Habitat and Food monitoring



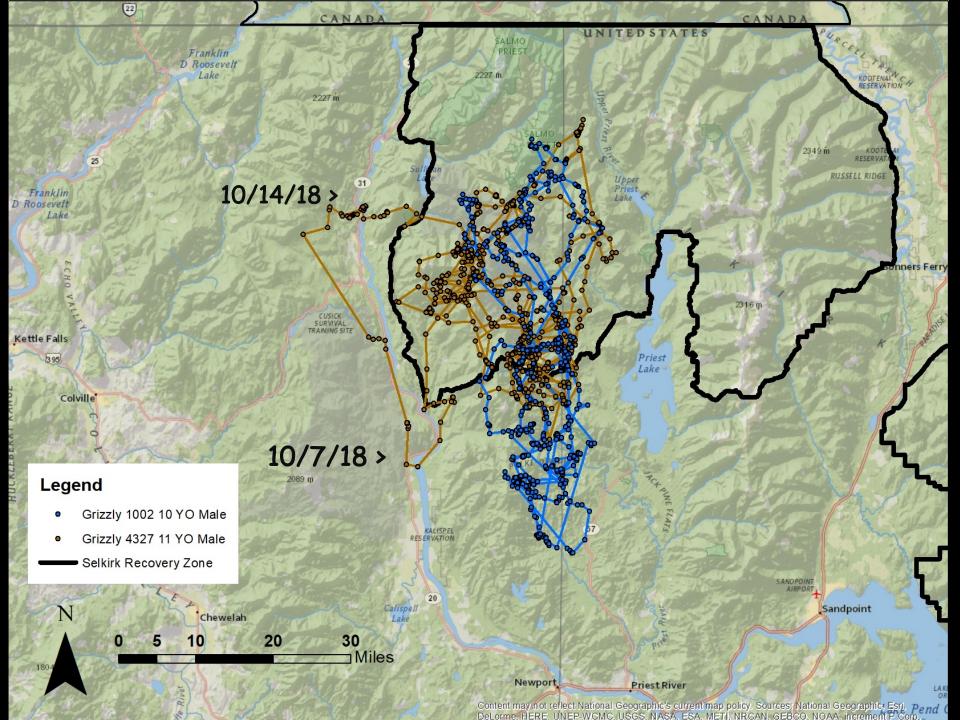
Research Captures

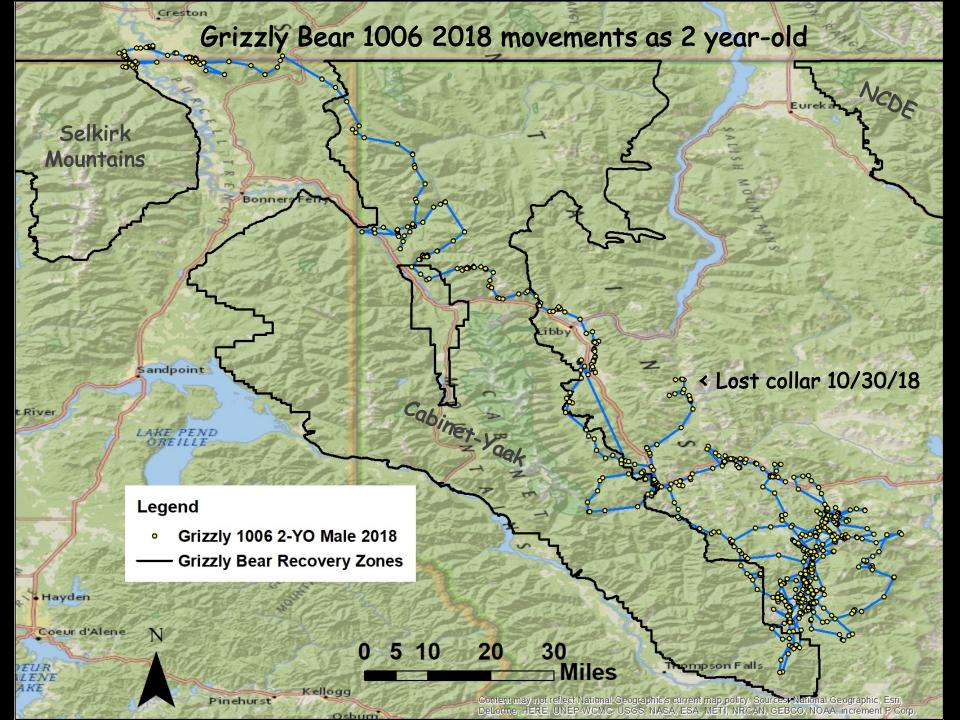
- Selkirks -2 Adult males both recaptures 1002 (6/21/18 - 10 year-old, WF LeClerc Cr) 4327 (6/26/18 - 11 year-old, WF LeClerc Cr)
- Cabinet-Yaak adult male 722 (9/23/18 - 19 year-old, Hellroaring Cr)







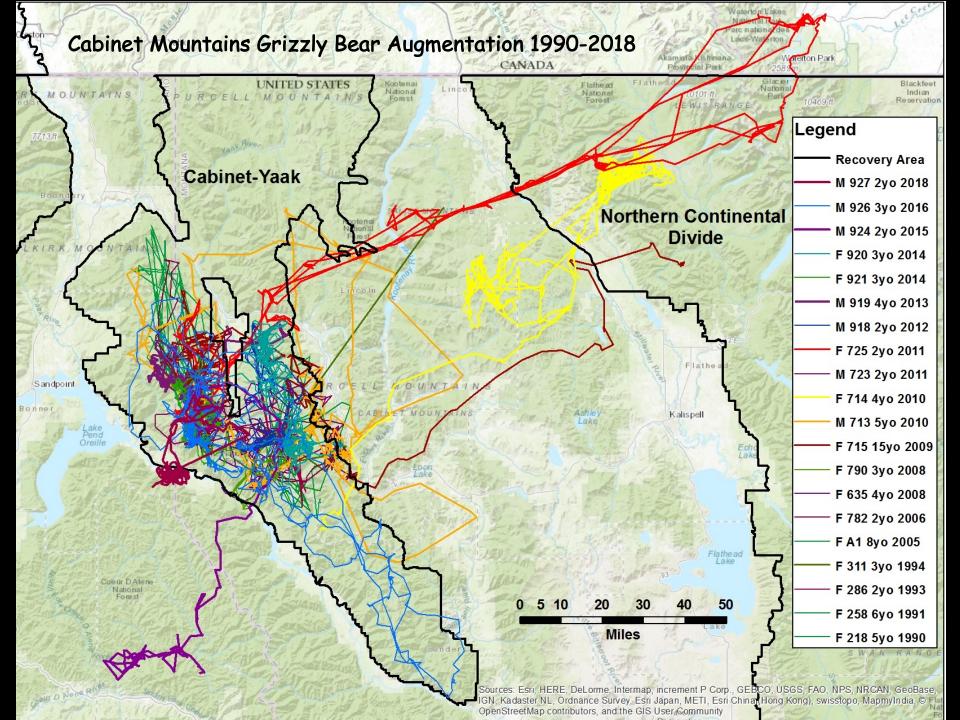




Cabinet Mountains Grizzly Bear Augmentation

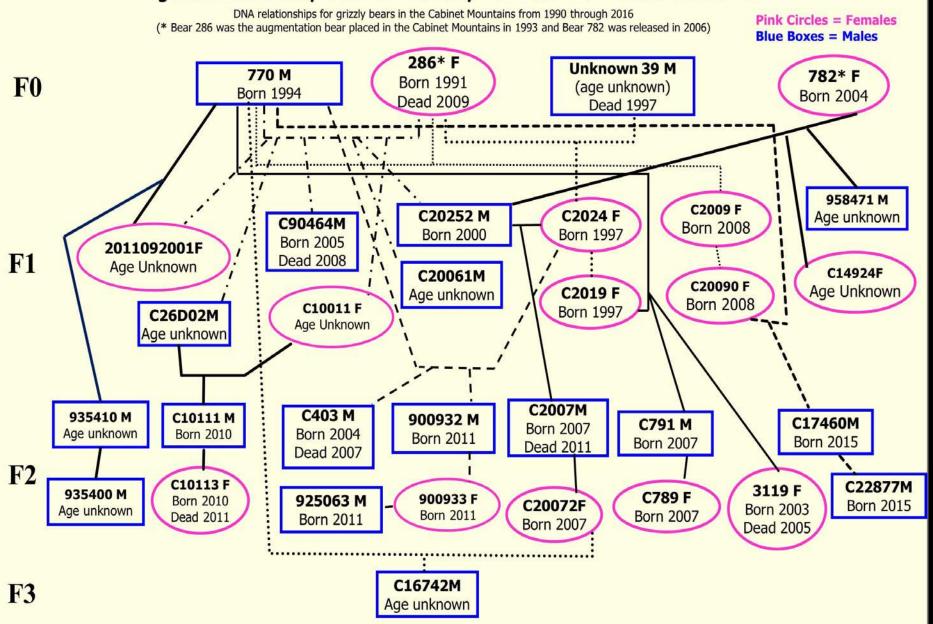
- 20 bears added since 1990
- 13 females and 7 males
- 5 bears left the target area, but one returned
- 6 bears are known dead
- 2 bears are known to have reproduced

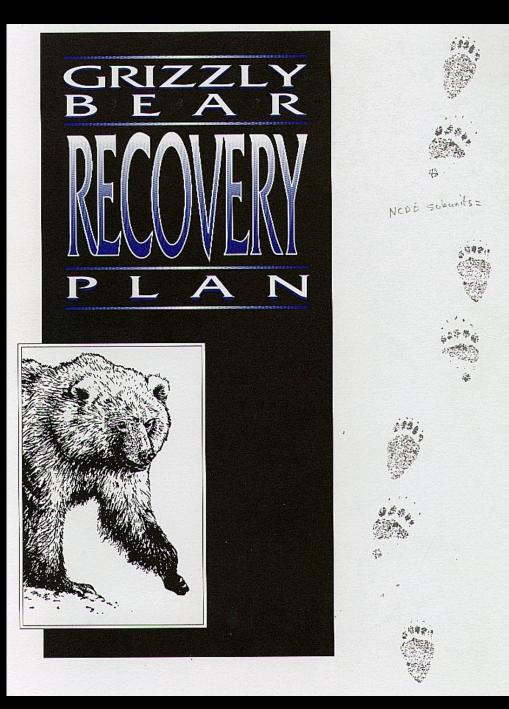






Augmentation Grizzly Bear DNA Family Tree for the Cabinet Mountains





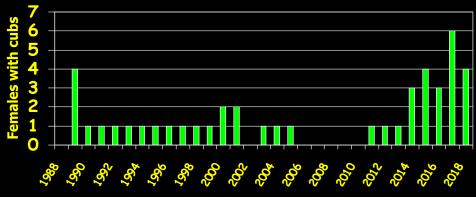
Cabinet-Yaak and Selkirk Recovery Targets

Population of about 90 -100 bears, judged by the Number and Distribution of Females with cubs, Human-caused Mortality limits. Populations need to be linked to other populations.



- 1. Females with cubs over a running 6 year average.
- 2. Number of BMUs occupied by females with young over 6 years.
- 3. Known human-caused mortality not to exceed 4% of calculated population (from females with cubs last 3 years).
 - 4. Female mortality should not exceed 30% of total mortality.



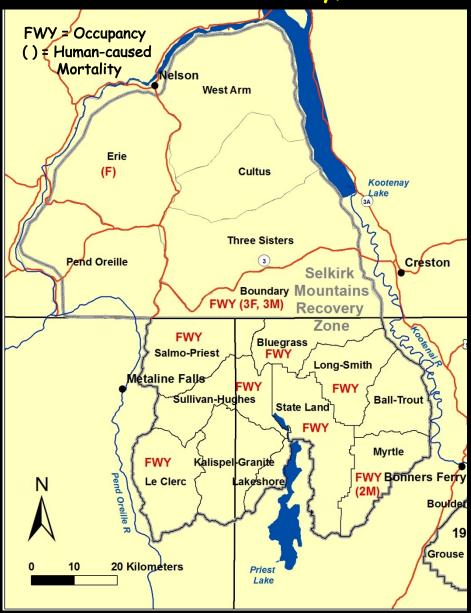


Females with cubs average 3.5 per year (Goal = 6.0)

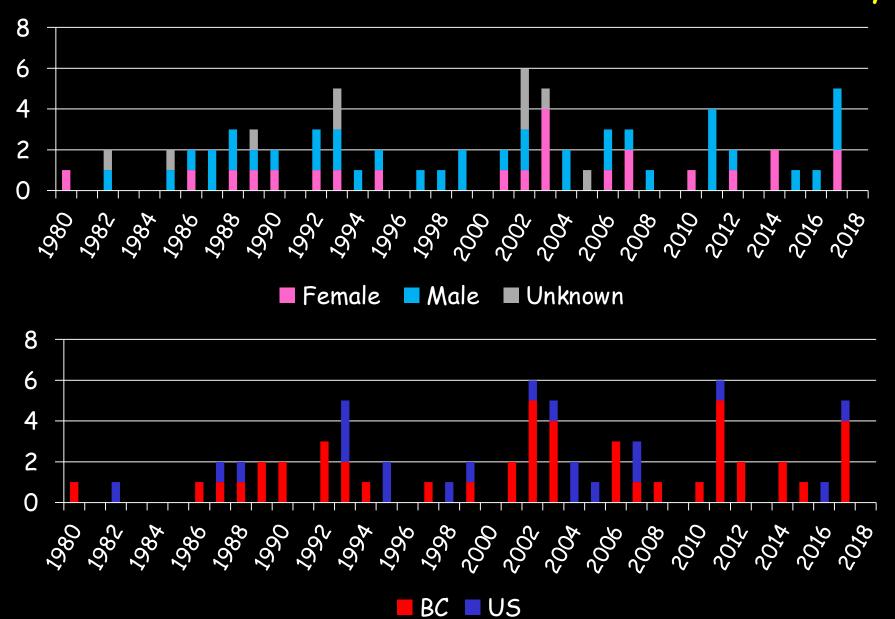
2013-18 = 9 Human Caused Mortalities (1.5 per year 2.4% mortality (Goal less than 4%) 4 of 9 Mortalities were female = 44% (Goal less than 30%)

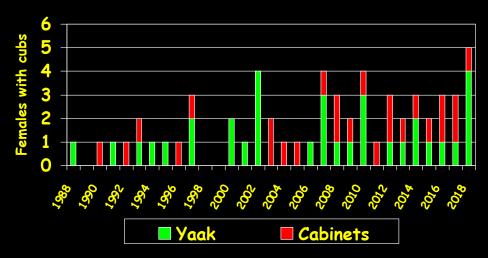
7 of 10 BMUs occupied (Goal 7 of 10)

Female with young BMU occupancy and Human-caused Mortality, 2013-18



Selkirk Mountains Known Human Caused Mortality



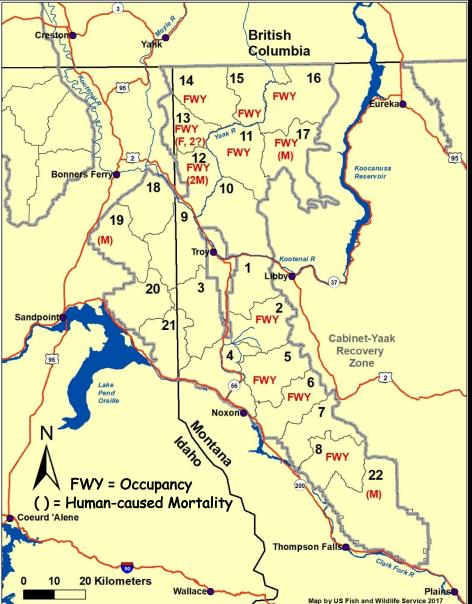


Females with cubs average 3.0 per year (Goal = 6.0)

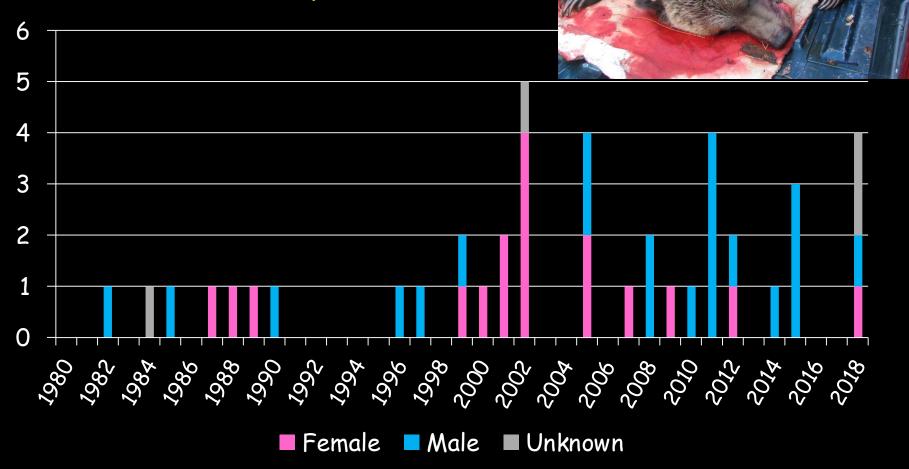
2013-18 = 8 Human Caused Mortalities (1.2 per year 2.3% mortality (Goal less than 4%) 1 of 8 Mortalities were female = 12% (Goal less than 30%)

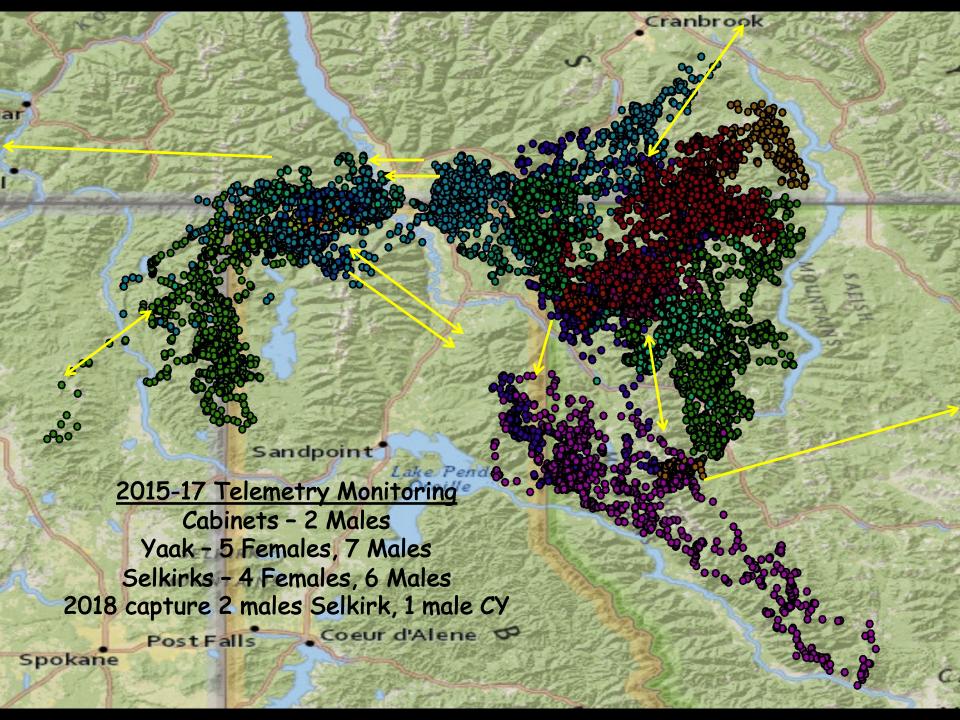
11 of 22 BMUs occupied (Goal 18 of 22)

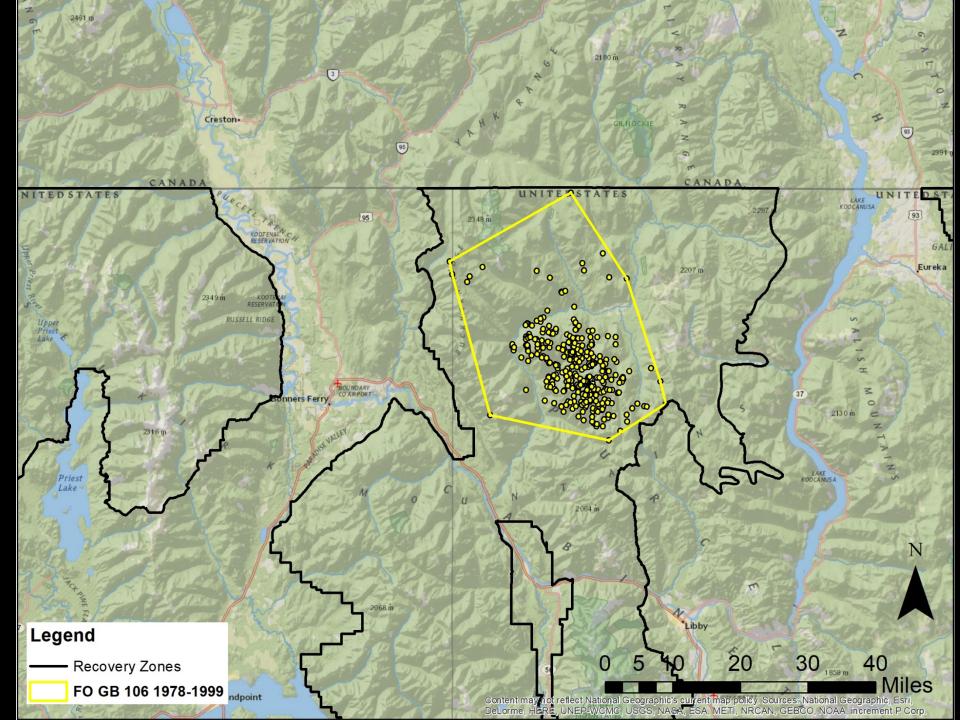
Female with young BMU occupancy and Human-caused Mortality, 2013-18

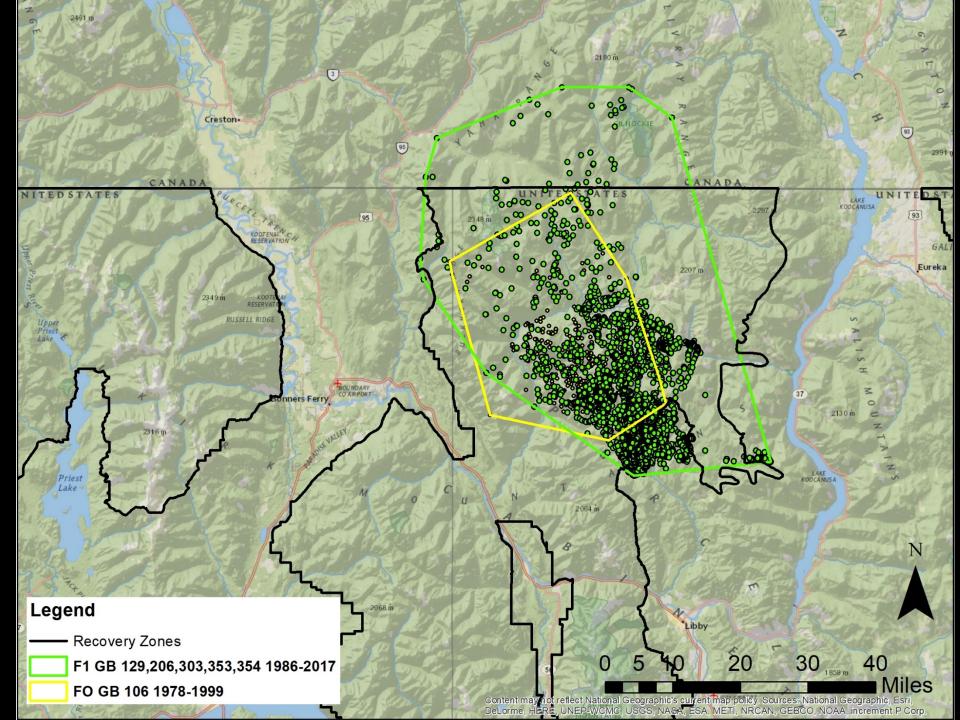


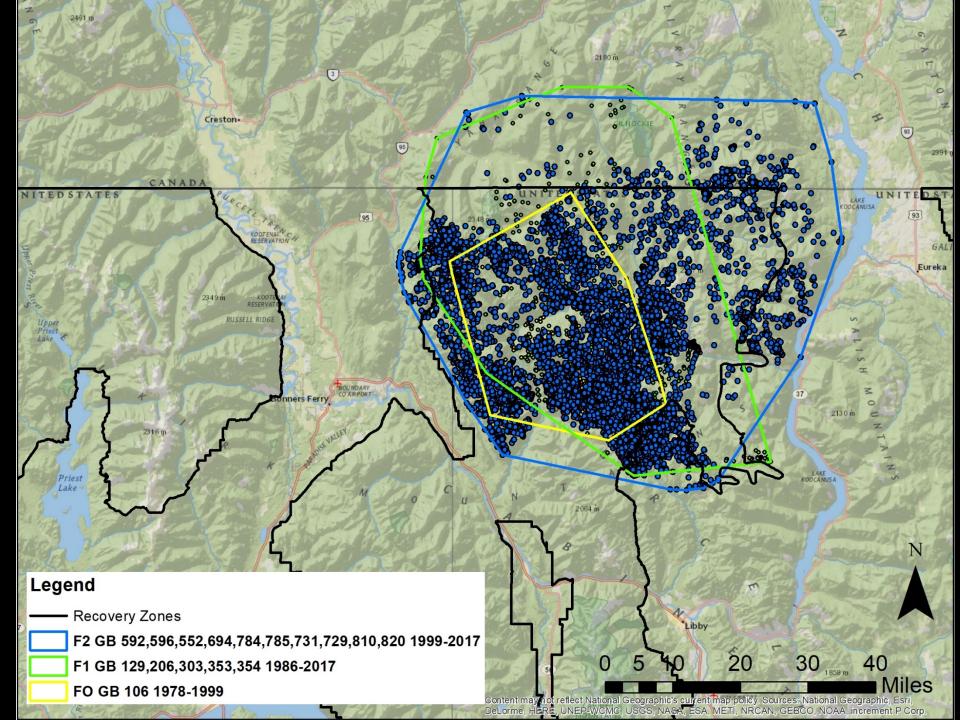
Cabinet Yaak Known Human Caused Mortality

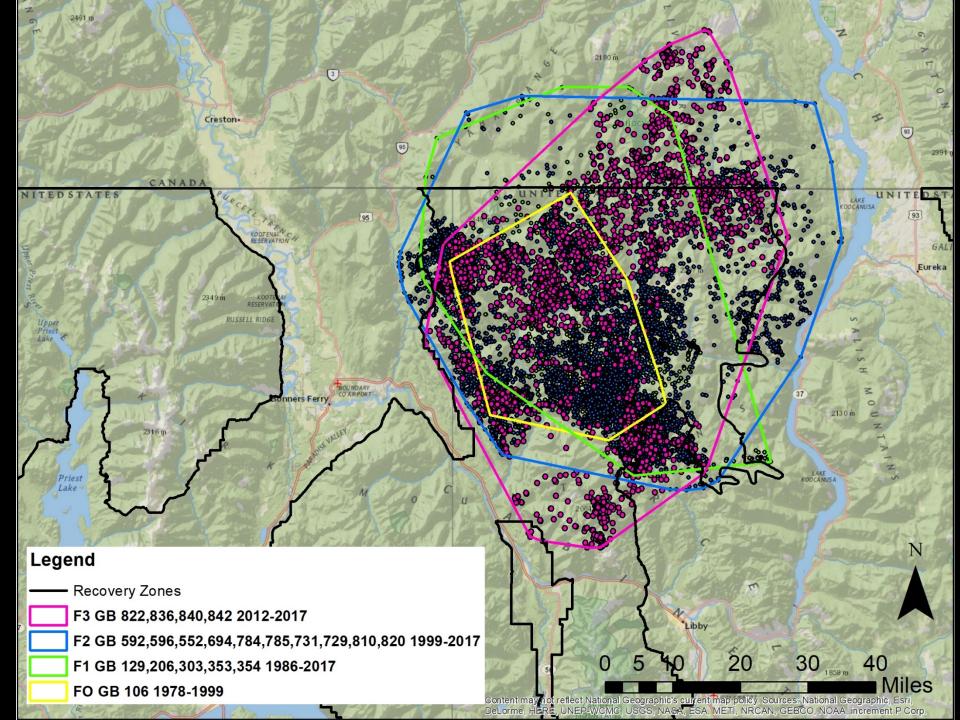


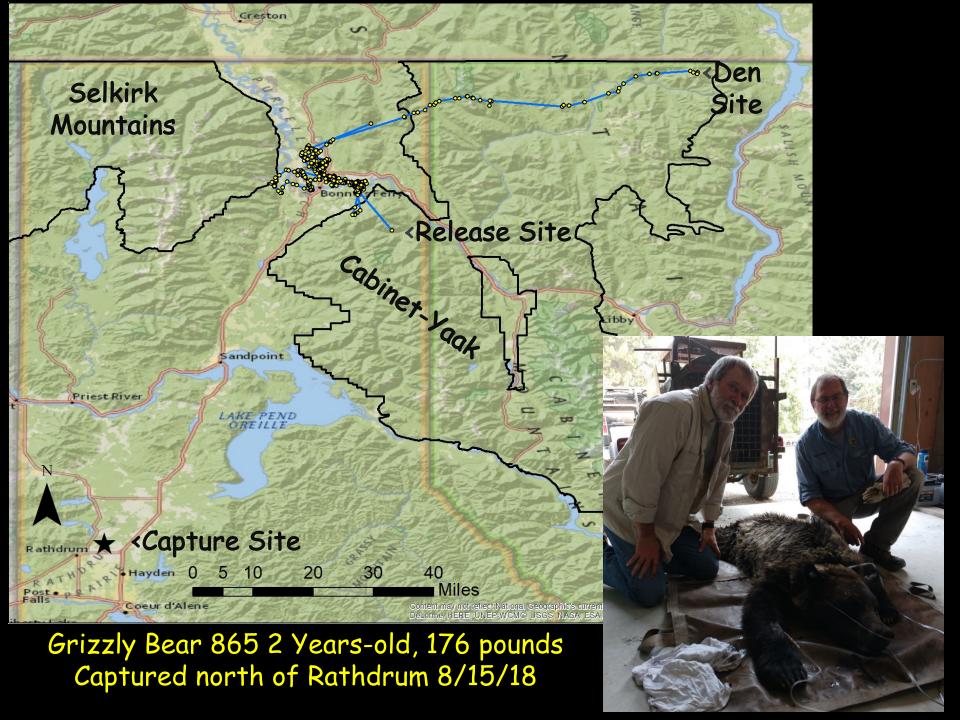












Radio collared bears are the basis for determining population trend

- Survival information based on time wearing collar alive
- Mortality cause information
- Reproduction data
- Survival of young
- Calculations compare reproductive rates with survival/mortality rates to determine if population growing





Selkirk and Cabinet-Yaak Population Trend

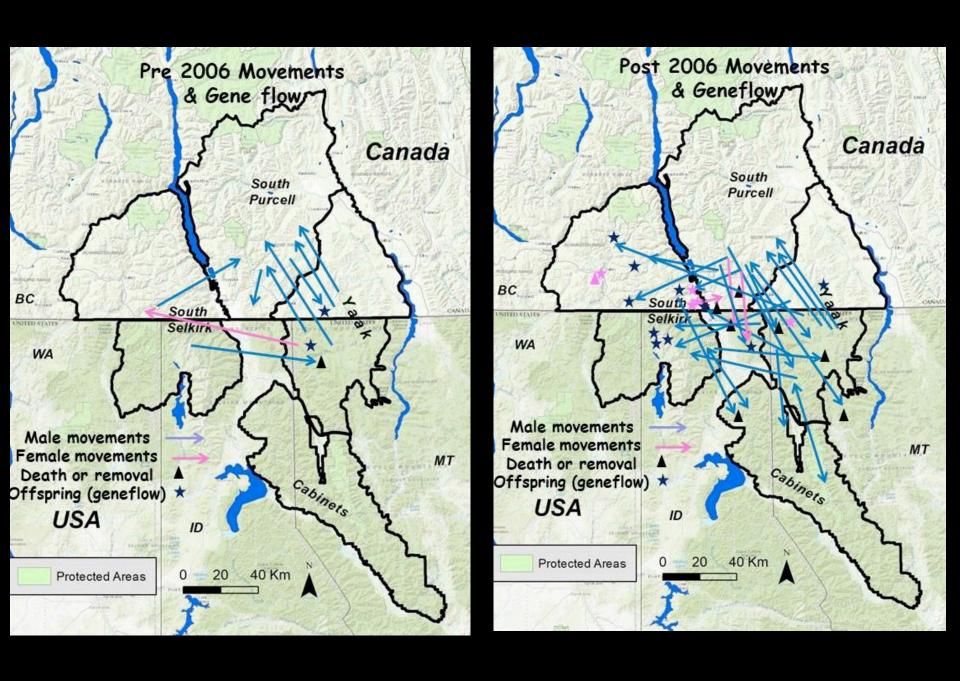
- Selkirk = 1.8% annual growth rate in 2002
- Cabinet-Yaak = 2.1% annual growth rate as of 2017
- CY Population
 2012 = 48-50
- 2013-2017 Add
 5 augmentation
 bears but 2
 known dead
- Current Population?



New Projects Genetics

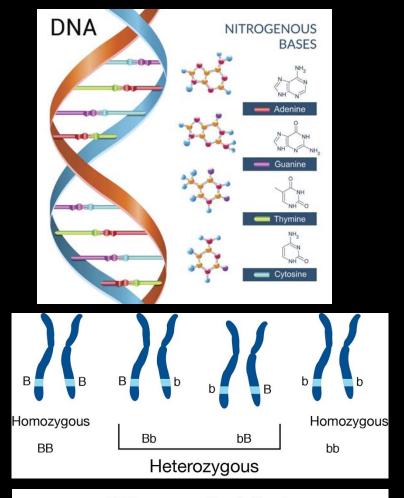
- Hair samples from captures, rub trees and corrals with cameras
- We get species, sex, individual genotype, and parentage
- Propose to evaluate changes in genetic diversity over time.
 Document gene flow and effective linkage in support of eventual delisting for both Selkirks and Cabinet Yaak





Genetic Analysis Heterozygosity (He)

- 2004 NCDE He = 0.67
- 2007 YE He = 0.57
- 2005 Cabinets He = 0.62
- 2005 Yaak He = 0.63
- 2005 Selkirk He = 0.54
- 2017 Selkirk He = 0.57
- 13 of 15 loci tested show an increase in He
- 13 of 15 loci had new alleles

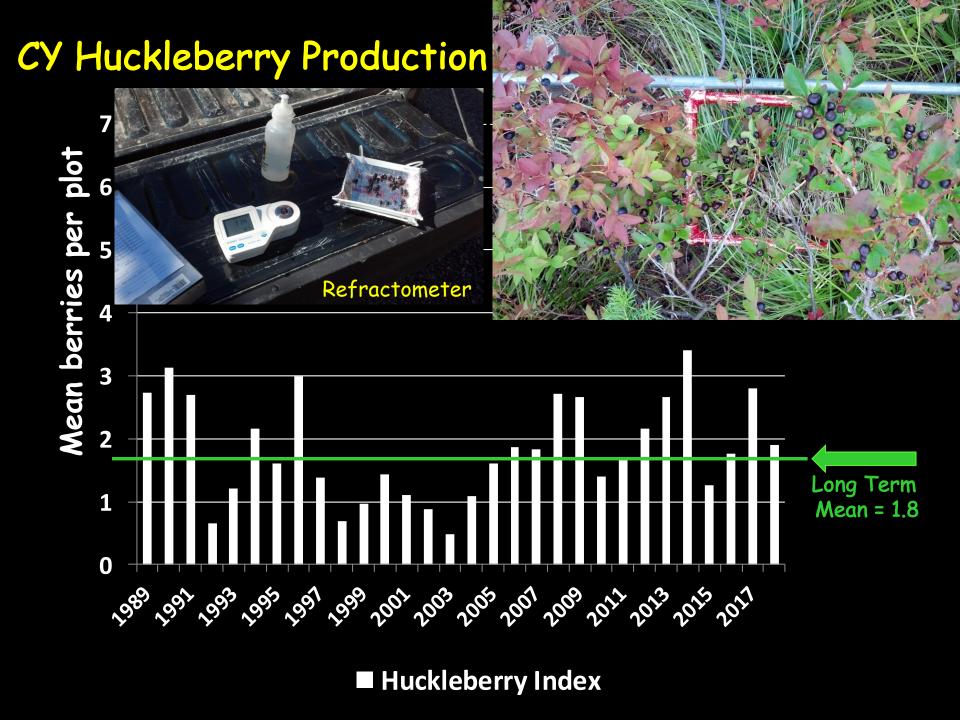


Heterozygosity defined

H = % heterozygous genotypes for a particular locus

- = % heterozygous individuals for a particular locus
- = probability that a given individual randomly selected from the population will be heterozygous at a given locus

H estimated = % heterozygous loci those examined



New Projects: Huckleberry contribution to Grizzly Bear diets

- Hair, tissue and blood samples are used in isotope analysis to determine diet fractions of terrestrial meat, vegetation, fish
- Developing a method to determine fraction of berries in diet from isotope analysis
- Preliminary results suggest berries are about 20% of annual calories consumed
- Huckleberries contain 10-20% sugar which is converted readily to fat
- Females require at least 20% fat level at denning to produce cubs



New Projects Huckleberry research in US through Graduate Student

- Companion study to BC effort by M. Proctor
- Utilize a Graduate Student for most analysis through University of Montana (Alex Welander)
- Identify US sampling sites based on July-September telemetry
- Began field effort in 2018 to visit sites heavily used by bears and characterize sites during August
- Utilize US data layers to develop a predictive model if possible
- Provide history of productive berry sites (fire, timber harvest, etc.)





Amber Kornak was injured in a Grizzly Bear attack in the Cabinet Mountains on May 17, 2018 She used bear spray to end the attack and walked out two miles to her truck. Amber suffered a fractured skull., but returned to work on limited duty for this project in September. Amber is now working for Idaho Fish and Game and hopes to return to this project next year.



QUESTIONS?

Reports found at: https://www.fws.gov/mountain-prairie/es/grizzlyBear.php

We wish to extend a special thanks to the citizens of the province of British Columbia for allowing us to remove grizzly bears from the Flathead River drainage to augment populations in the Cabinet Mountains.

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