


IGBC Bear-Resistant Container Testing Program



Grizzly & Wolf Discovery Center

GRIZZLY & WOLF
DISCOVERY CENTER
A Not-for-Profit Wildlife Park

HOME VISIT EDUCATION ANIMALS ABOUT GIFT SHOP JOIN & SUPPORT PRODUCT TESTING MENU ITEM



GRIZZLY & WOLF DISCOVERY CENTER

West Yellowstone, Montana

[See Live Bears and Wolves!](#)

We are an AZA accredited Not-for-Profit, wildlife park and educational facility offering visitors to Yellowstone a chance to uniquely experience the world of grizzly bears and gray wolves. All the animals at the Center are unable to survive in the wild and serve as ambassadors for their wild counterparts.

THE BEARS AT THE CENTER DO NOT HIBERNATE

Watch these amazing animals INSIDE or OUT.
There are warm buildings located at each exhibit – visit anytime!

[The NEW River OTTER Exhibit is open!](#)



Program Background

- ▶ IGBC began providing guidance and direction relative to bear-resistant containers in the 1980s and has been the leader ever since.
- ▶ Designed to help ensure proper storage of attractants by people visiting grizzly bear habitat and thus minimize human/grizzly bear encounters on public lands.
- ▶ Focus was primarily on areas of grizzly habitat in ID, MT, WA and WY.
- ▶ The program's initial intent was to evaluate personal-use containers for use on public land.
- ▶ Testing program was developed to provide public with information on what types of products are considered bear-resistant.

Program Importance

- ▶ IGBC Five-Year Plan lists attractant storage as a key issue that must be successfully addressed in order to achieve grizzly bear recovery.
- ▶ Sanitation and the need to secure attractants are listed as high priorities on IGBC's list of needed I/E/O actions for each ecosystem.



Program Evolution

- ▶ Testing program is for commercially available products.
- ▶ Program has expanded and evolved to include garbage containers intended to reduce bear conflicts on private land.
- ▶ New types of products have been introduced to consumers and our program has largely accommodated them.
- ▶ IGBC Approved Product List is used well beyond grizzly bear range in the US.
- ▶ Bear-resistant products are a big business.

Program Importance

- ▶ Provides managers with options by which compliance with food storage orders on public lands and local garbage ordinances on private lands can be achieved.
- ▶ Provides the public with effective alternatives and information to consider when purchasing products advertised as “bear-proof.”



**Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee
Bear-Resistant Products
Testing Program**



*Photo courtesy of the Living with Wildlife Foundation
and the Grizzly & Wolf Discovery Center*

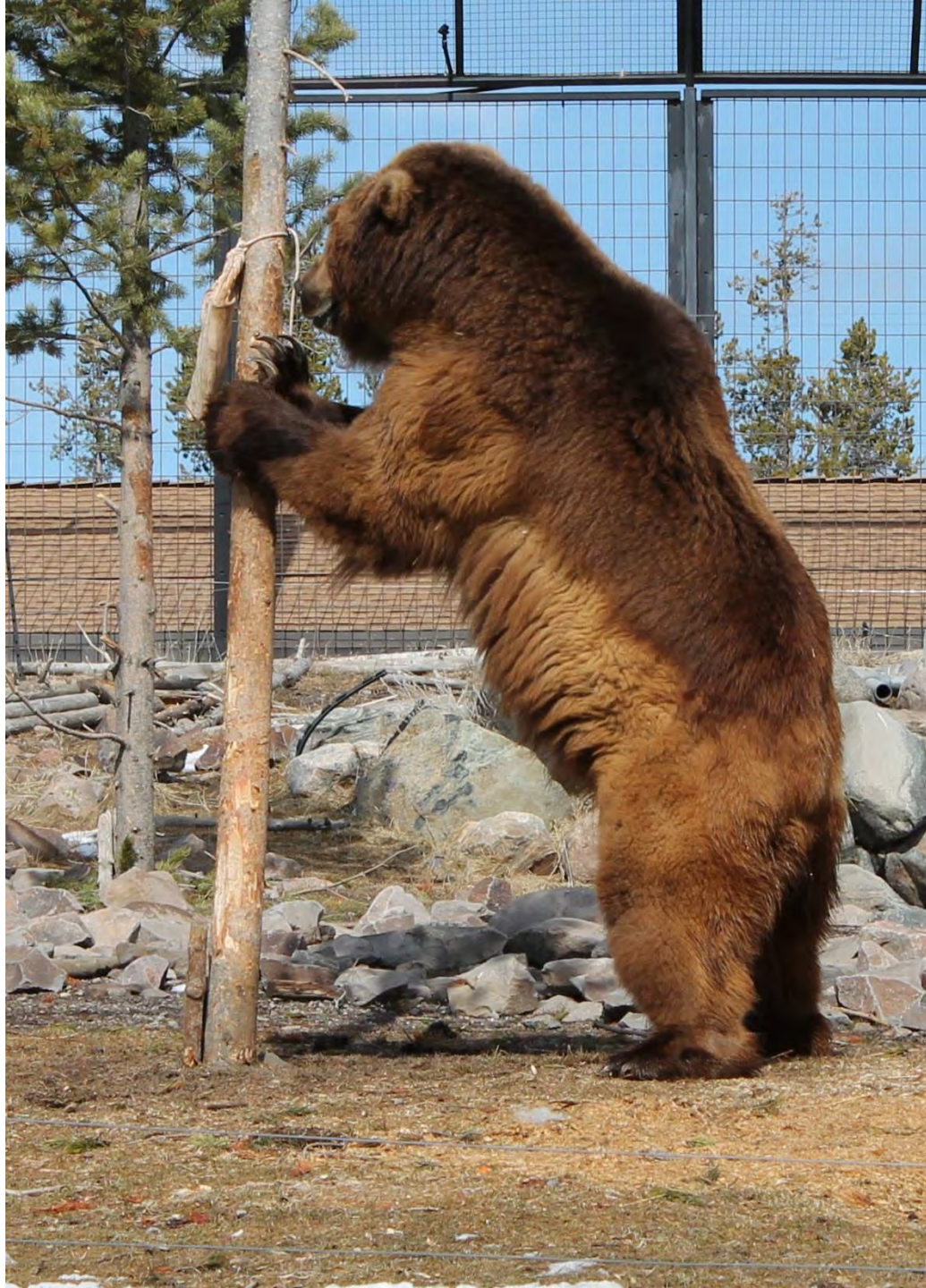
**Testing Protocol
For the 2019 Testing Season**



Types of Products Evaluated

- ▶ Backpacking Containers
- ▶ Small Storage Boxes and Drums
- ▶ Panniers
- ▶ Coolers
- ▶ Dry Boxes
- ▶ Food Storage Lockers
- ▶ Garbage Carts and Can Enclosures
- ▶ Dumpsters
- ▶ Recycling Units
- ▶ Misc.



















Garbage Can

Cooler



Backpacking
Canister



List of Approved Products

~500 products; 125 manufacturers

Last modified December 3, 2019



Bear-Resistant Products Testing Program

CERTIFIED BEAR-RESISTANT PRODUCTS

Methods for Complying with Food Storage Regulations on Public Lands

In order to keep attractants unavailable to bears and reduce human/bear conflicts, regulations pertaining to proper food and attractant storage are likely to be present on public lands within grizzly bear habitat. Use of IGBC-certified bear-resistant containers is one of the methods available to comply with many of these food storage regulations. Other methods for food storage order compliance may also be available; for instance electric fencing is authorized in some ecosystems and under certain conditions. Regardless of your public land location or destination, we recommend contacting local land management offices for more details on the use of electric fences or other products and methods that may be used to comply with applicable food storage regulations because requirements may vary by location.

The products listed below are those that have been approved by the IGBC as bear-resistant. This means these products meet IGBC bear-resistant design and structural standards, but it is not a guarantee that a grizzly bear cannot gain entry into these products. Nor does the IGBC guarantee that small amounts of the contents of the containers won't be able to leak or spill out. This official list of approved products will be updated as needed. Please note that some approved products may be marketed or sold under different brand names.

Some products on this list do not have assigned certification numbers. Certification numbers are added as new products are approved; however, some products on the list were approved prior to issuance of unique certification numbers. We anticipate assigning certification numbers to those products over time.

We have also begun adding product approval dates as new products are approved. This is intended to provide a general idea of when these products were approved and does not imply anything beyond that. Again, since this is a new practice, not all product approval dates are noted on the list but dates will be added as time and opportunities allow.

*This commercial products list and list of suppliers is for information only and does not imply any endorsement of one product or source over another. Products are generally arranged in alphabetical order.

**Products may be marketed or sold under different brand names.

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BACK PACKING & SMALL STORAGE CONTAINERS

The Bare Boxer, Gelf City Products

Contender, Model 101

Champ, Model 202

<http://www.bareboxer.com/>

BearVault

BV250 Solo

BV300

BV350 Solo

BV400

BV450 Solo

BV500

866-301-3442 <http://www.bearvault.com>

Craftsman Tech Composites

Wise Backpack (-3600 in³ capacity) - IGBC Certification No. 3349

626-448-4045

Counter Assault

Bear Keg

406-257-4740 or 800-695-3394

<http://www.counterassault.com>

Garcia Machine

Backpackers' Cache - Model 812

559-732-3785

<http://www.backpackerscache.com>

Lighter1 Bear Bins - Backpacker Cache

Big Daddy Model (2.29 lbs) - IGBC Certification No. 3350

1.1" Sami Model (1.34 lbs) - IGBC Certification No. 3351

<http://www.Lighter1.com>

Loctote Industrial Bag Company

Flak Sack - Model 21228 - IGBC Certification No. 5160 (approved 7-25-17)

Flak Sack Coalition - Model 21242 - IGBC Certification No. 5164 (approved 8-24-17)

614-582-6669 www.loctote.com

Missoula Technical Development Center

Modifications to 50 Caliber Ammo Box

Modifications to Military Medical Box, See Publ. # 9623-2325 MTTDC.

406-329-3900 <http://www.fs.fed.us/t-d/> username: t-d; password: t-d

Riley Stove Company

Grain Storage Container

Food Storage Container

Insulated Cooler

406-266-5525



Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee
Bear-Resistant Products Testing Program

2019 Fee Schedule

FOR PRODUCTS SUBJECTED TO LIVE-BEAR TESTING

Backpacking Containers / Small Storage Drums.....	\$575
Coolers.....	\$625
Residential Garbage Carts (Plastic).....	\$775
Panniers and Dry Boxes (Aluminum).....	\$675

FOR PRODUCTS SUBJECTED TO TECHNICAL EVALUATION

Dumpsters/Garbage Enclosures/Food Storage Lockers (Large Steel Products)

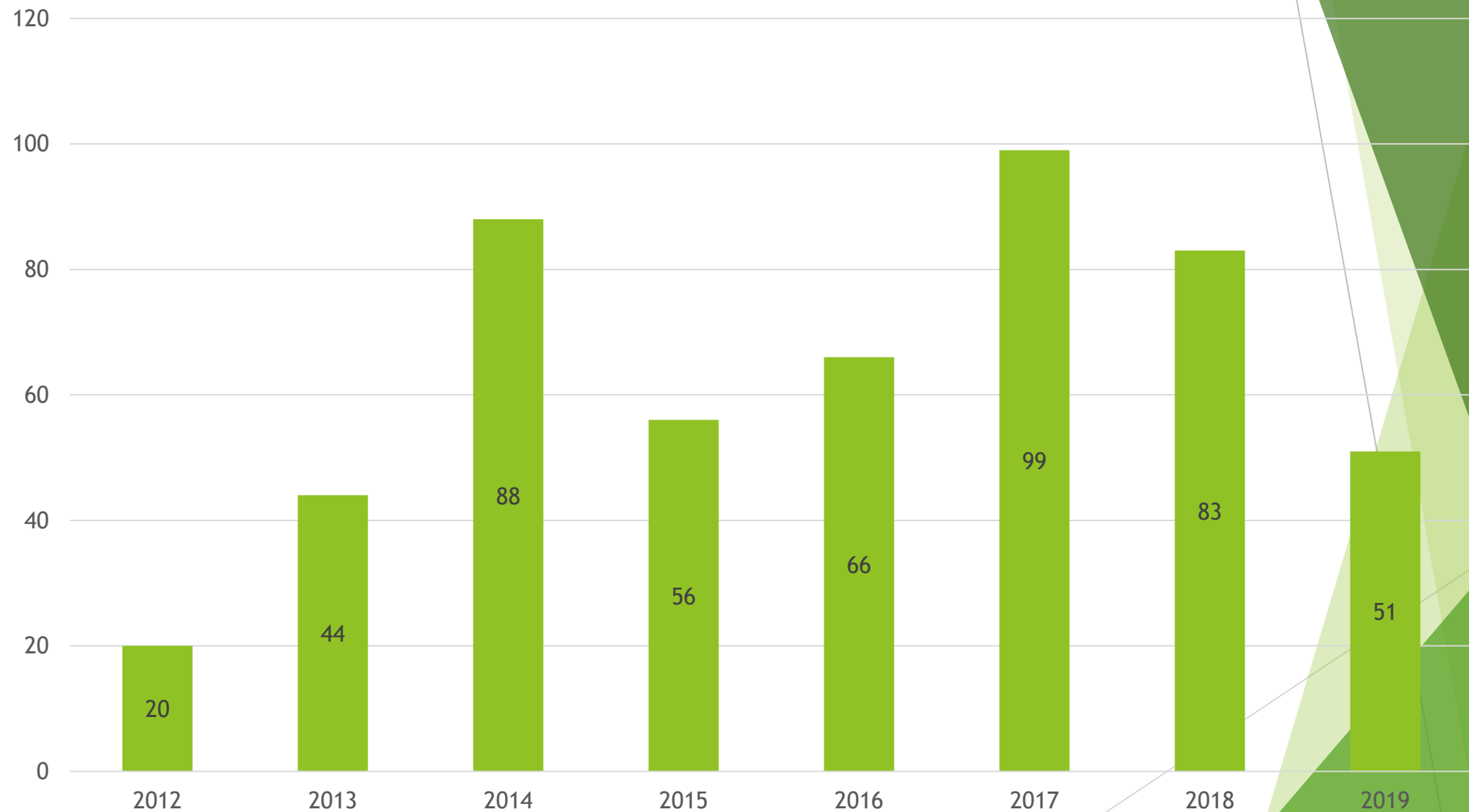
- Staff Evaluation only (See Testing Protocol for more information).....\$475
- Live-Bear Test (if required).....\$875

OTHER FEES

(Please fill out applicable portions on Product Submission Form)

Testing Video (SD card)	\$ 70
Priority Mail Service – SD Card (United States Delivery) 1-3 Business Days	\$ 10
Priority Mail Service – SD Card (Delivery to Canada) 6-10 Business Days	\$ 25
Priority Mail Service – SD Card (Delivery to All Other Countries) 6-10 Business Days	\$ 35

Products Evaluated



New Challenges

- ▶ Annual number of products tested is unpredictable, as is revenue generated.
- ▶ Fee revenue has recently declined.
 - ▶ 2017 ~ \$56,000
 - ▶ 2018 ~ \$49,000
 - ▶ 2019 ~ \$24,000



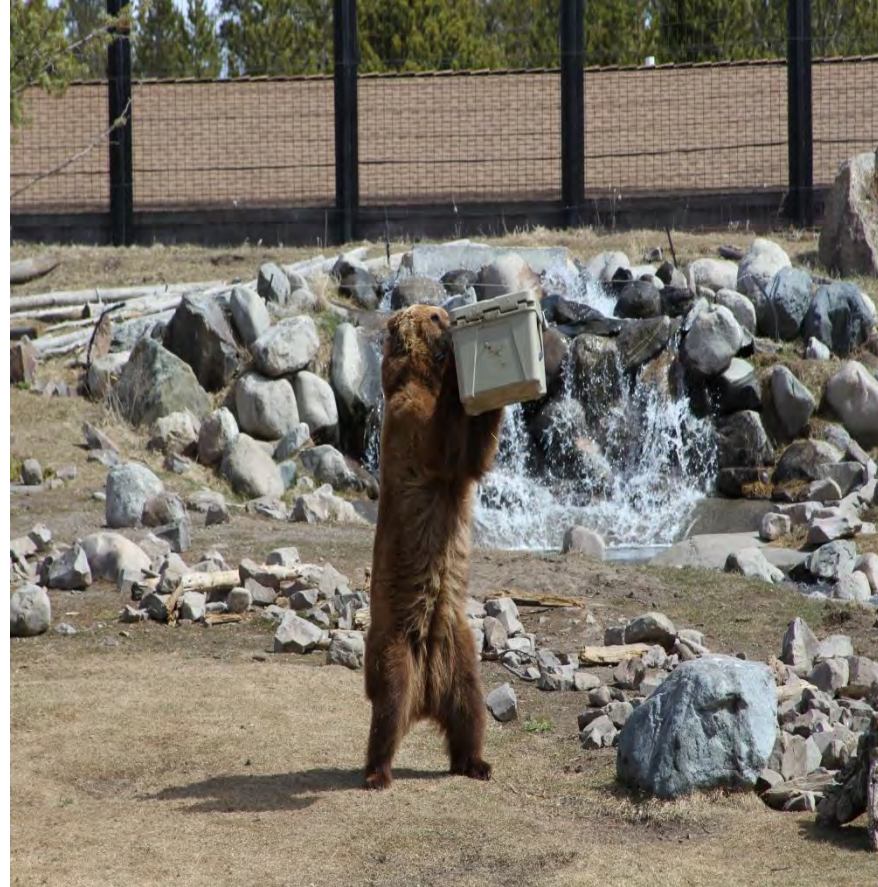
New Challenges

- ▶ Concurrently, the time required to conduct the I/E/O components of the program is increasing.
 - ▶ Business changes
 - ▶ Field failures
 - ▶ Product competition
 - ▶ Expanded geography
 - ▶ Public and management inquiries
 - ▶ IGBC credibility
- ▶ These aspects of the program do not generate revenue.



2019 Funding Situation

- ▶ Annual cost of the program is \$42,900
 - ▶ Utilizing I/E/O agreement with WMI
 - ▶ Program Assistant
- ▶ Annual IGBC contribution is \$11,400
 - ▶ \$12,300 testing revenue in 2019
- ▶ Shortfall of almost \$20,000 in 2019



2019 Funding Situation

- ▶ To compensate for the 2019 shortfall, other I/E/O funds within IGBC's agreement with WMI were utilized.
- ▶ Trade-offs



2020 Adjustments

- ▶ Renegotiated revenue split between WMI and GWDC
 - ▶ Annual testing revenue has recently averaged \$42,600
 - ▶ Split will be 75:25 starting in 2020 (\$31,950)
 - ▶ IGBC funding remains \$11,400
- ▶ Should meet \$42,900 program cost
- ▶ Additional steps
 - ▶ Raising testing fees for 2020 season
 - ▶ Requested GWDC assistance with targeted donation requests, grant applications, etc.

Executive Committee Guidance

- ▶ We have taken steps that we believe will reduce the chance of a funding shortfall. However, if future testing fee revenue is insufficient to cover the cost of program implementation, what action does the Executive Committee recommend?
- ▶ Is it acceptable to utilize other IGBC funds within existing I/E/O agreement?
- ▶ What are other reasonable options?
- ▶ What are potential trade-offs?

Thank you for your support!

Questions?

(www.igbconline.org)





IGBC Bear-Resistant Products Testing Program







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