Yellowstone National Park Visitation - 2021

4.86 Million Visits (busiest year on record)
95% of visits occurred May – October
25,076 visits per day

Photo: N. Nichols
557,915 Overnight Stays in Roadside Campgrounds

43,298 Overnight Stays in Backcountry Campsites

Photo: N. Nichols
Yellowstone National Park

2.2 Million acres
<1% Paved or Developed
92% Proposed Wilderness
Pre-emptive Conflict Prevention - 2021

Photo: N. Nichols
YCC, MCC, GROUND WORK USA Youth Work Programs & YNP Bear Management Staff Installed 187 Bear-proof Food Storage Lockers in 2021

1,162 of 1,907 (61%) Campsites Now Have Bear Boxes
Food Storage Lockers are Installed by High School Age Youth Which helps Promote a Conservation Ethic In The Leaders Of The Future
300 Designated Backcountry Campsites
A Food Storage Device is Provided at all 300 Backcountry Campsites

Food Storage Pole ($n=260$)
Food Storage Locker ($n=40$)
Posted 18 areas with Bear Warnings due to Grizzly Activity in Visitor Use Areas
Posted 19 Area Closures Due to Grizzly Activity In Visitor Use Areas
Carcass Management

Moved 105 Large Mammal Carcasses From Visitor Use Areas in 2021
32 Elk
31 Bison
28 Mule Deer
5 Black Bear
4 Coyote
2 Pronghorn
1 Bighorn Sheep
1 Grizzly Bear
Management Hazing: 51 incidents

41 Off of Primary Roads
10 Out of Developments
Bear-jams Reported:

342 Grizzly Bear
479 Black Bear
4 Species Not Reported

Total: 825 Bear-jams
342 Grizzly Bear-jams

Park Staff Present at 221 (65%) Bear-jams
479 Black Bear-jams

Park Staff Present at 420 (88%)
Staff Hours Managing Grizzly Bear-jams

Grizzly: 964 hours  
Average: 4.4 Staff hours per jam  
Black Bear: 1,463 hours  
Average 3.5 staff hours per jam

Total Staff Hours  
Grizzly & Black Bears Combined : 2,427 staff hours
Need to Develop Better Ways to Promote Proper Bear Viewing Etiquette Among Park Visitors
Is Your Photo Worth Scaring a Cub?

Please Stand Back At Least 100 Yards!
Give Us Room To Live!
53 Reported Backcountry Human-Grizzly Bear Encounters
Grizzly Bears Responded by Charging: 9 (17%)

Bears Made Contact in 1 of 9 Charging Incidents
Bear Spray Deployment - 2021

- Bear Spray Deployed 4 Times on Grizzlies
- Grizzlies did not make contact in any of those 4 incidents
Bear Spray Surveys - 2021

Percent Carrying Bear Spray:

Backpackers: 53% of people
83% of groups

Day Hikers: 23% of people
52% of groups
Hiking Group Size Recommendation: 3 or more

Backpacker Most Common Group Size = 1 & 4
Day Hiker Most Common Group Size = 2
Human - Grizzly Bear Conflicts 2021

Property Damage No Food Reward: 2
Human Food Obtained: 1
Human Injury: 1

Total Conflicts: 4
Management Capture & Relocation: 0
Management Removals of Conflict Bears: 0
Grizzly Bear Management Actions

Bear Warnings Posted: 18
Temporary Closures: 19
Wildlife Carcass Removal: 105
Bear-jam Management: 221
Hazing: 51
Capture & Relocate: 0
Capture & Remove: 0

Total Management Actions: 414
Vehicle Strike Mortality: 1 adult male
Human-caused Grizzly Bear Mortality in YNP 2009 – 2021
(n = 13, average = 1 per year)

Management Removal - Backcountry Conflicts: 8 (62%)
Vehicle Strike Mortality: 4 (31%)
Management Removal from Developed Sites: 1 (8%)
Risk of Bear Attack 1979 - 2021

Front-country Recreation: 1 in 65.8 million visits

Camping in Roadside Campground: 1 in 28.2 million overnight stays

Camping in the Backcountry Campsite: 1 in 1.8 million overnight stays

Hiking in the Backcountry: 1 in 299,000 backcountry days

Backcountry Recreationalists: 1 attack per 91 backcountry encounters

Photo: B. Ertel
Grizzly Bear Inflicted Human Injuries Per 1 Million Visits Per Decade

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Decade</th>
<th>Injuries Per One Million Visits</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>1.9</td>
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YNP’s First Grizzly Bear Sighting of 2022: March 7th

Be Safe!
Be Alert
Hike in Groups >3
Carry Bear Spray

Be Safe!
The End

NPS Photo: D. Schneider