

# **2018 Biennial Report of Developed Recreation Baseline within the Grizzly Bear Primary Conservation Area (PCA) Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem (NCDE)**

This document fulfills the biennial developed recreation monitoring of the Primary Conservation Area (PCA) for the Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem (NCDE). For each of the 23 Bear Management Units (BMU), the number and capacity of overnight developed recreation sites, and the number of day-use & administrative sites were compiled. Those BMUs with any updates, corrections or changes are discussed below the tables. The last page of this document has a map of the BMUs.

It was not possible to provide an adequate understandable all-in-one table showing 2018 and 2011 information. Therefore, a one-page table of all developed recreation sites with their current 2018 values is provided first. The next table displays only overnight developed recreation sites comparing the 2011 and 2018 values. The last table display the day-use sites, trailheads, and administrative sites comparing 2011 and 2018.

The baseline applies to overnight developed recreation sites. For each BMU, the number and capacity of overnight developed recreation sites is the 2011 value unless there has been a change as allowed by the NCDE Conservation Strategy as incorporated into the federal land management agency plans. For updated or corrected baseline values, the table cell has been bolded and highlighted in light tan. For changes that will not alter the baseline value, the table cell has been bolded and highlighted in blue.

For day-use sites, trailheads, and administrative sites, there is no baseline. For each BMU, the number of the sites by type is updated, or corrected. For any updated or corrected values, the table cell has been bolded and highlighted in light tan.

Under the Application Rules for overnight developed recreation sites on Federal Lands (NCDE Conservation Strategy Chapter 3, and incorporated into the various federal land management agency plans), there is a list of acceptable changes that may adjust baseline values. All the baseline value changes for 2018 followed these application rules. The list is included here for reference.

- agency obtains better information or updated information in its database(s);
- agency acquires land that contained developed recreation sites;
- agency increases the number or capacity of a developed recreation site in order to comply with Federal laws;
- agency maintains or modifies an existing overnight developed or dispersed recreation site in such a way that does not increase the number of capacity of the site;
- agency modifies an existing developed recreation site to enhance human safety;
- agency operates a developed recreation site to allow overnight use only during the denning season;
- agency makes a corresponding reduction in the number or capacity of overnight developed recreation sites in the same BMU through any of the following means: 1) equal reduction in capacity a another site; 2) closure of developed site; or 3) consolidation and/or elimination of

dispersed camping, when and where it can be enforced effectively and it is reasonably assured that new dispersed sites will not develop nearby.

Table 1. Habitat Baseline Monitoring 2018. Developed Sites in Each Bear Management Unit (BMU). Bold highlighting indicates an update or change.

BMU Name	Recreational Residences	Campgrounds		Other Sites with Overnight Use		Day-Use Trailheads	Other Day-Use Sites	Admin. Sites
		# of Campgrounds	# of Campsites	# of Sites	Type of Capacity			
Badger Two Medicine	-	1	17	-	-	12	1	2
Big Salmon	32	5	66	3	8 cabins; 9 rooms	7	5	11
Birch Teton	7	3	<b>27</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7 cabins; 1 room</b>	11	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>
Bunker	-	8	<b>59</b>	3	17 cabins; 2 rooms; 4 bunkhouses	27	5	4
Continental Divide	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Dearborn Elk	<b>1</b>	-	-	-	-	3	1	2
Hungry Horse	-	<b>19</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1 cabin</b>	39	22	4
Lower Middle Fork Flathead	10	12	32	-	-	16	<b>7</b>	12
Lower North Fork Flathead	<b>3</b>	17	545	10	<b>51 cabins; 185 rms; 2 bunkhouse; 1 residence; 362 employee beds</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>35</b>	23
Mission Range	1	1	25	1	1 cabin	17	5	
Monture Landers Fork	-	5	47	1	1 cabin	<b>41</b>	13	<b>7</b>
Murphy Lake	-	17	109	<b>5</b>	<b>5 cabins</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>25</b>	1
Northeast Glacier	-	27	<b>430</b>	<b>7</b>	27 cabins; 350 rooms; <b>322 employee beds</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>15</b>
North Fork Sun River	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Rattlesnake	-	1	3	1	1 cabin	<b>3</b>	-	1
Southeast Glacier	-	11	<b>146</b>	2	5 emp. beds	14	9	8
Sullivan	20	15	114	2	9 cabins; 1 room; 1 bunkhouse	32	12	10
Stillwater River	-	2	3	-	-	1	-	1
South Fork Sun Beaver Willow	74	7	72	5	<b>17 cabins; 2 rooms; 3 bunkhouses; 1 residence; 10 RV sites</b>	16	3	9
Teton Sun River	17	3	36	1	2 bunkhouses	<b>12</b>	2	6
Upper Middle Fork Flathead	-	2	21	2	2 cabins	14	1	5
Upper North Fork Flathead	-	24	<b>182</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9 cabins</b>	39	8	<b>19</b>
Upper South Fork Flathead	-	-	-	<b>1</b>	<b>1 cabin</b>	5	2	6

Recreational Residences. These are full-time or seasonal recreational residences on Federal lands. We have no authority to limit increases in capacity at these sites so it is not reported for these essentially private residences. However, any new recreational residences will have to follow the developed recreational site standard.

Other Sites with Overnight Use. Cabin rentals, guest lodges with or without rooms and/or cabins, camps, etc. Capacity is the number of cabins, rooms, bunkhouses, employee beds (Glacier NP) and RV sites.

Campgrounds. Campground development ranges from fully developed with all amenities to very minimal development and not much above a dispersed site. There are group sites included; however, the number accommodated at one group site is variable. Dispersed campsites are not counted here.

Day-Use Trailheads. Trailheads range from fully developed to a turn-out at a road closure.

Other Day-Use Sites. Site includes businesses, restaurants, river/lake access, picnic areas, points of interests, etc.

Admin. Sites. Administrative sites include ranger stations, work centers, guard stations, active fire lookouts, etc. While these sites are not subject to the Developed Site standards, increases in the number of administrative sites on Federal lands will be minimized so they are reported here to provide transparency and accountability.

Table 2. Comparison of 2011 and 2018 Overnight Sites (Recreational Residences, Campgrounds, and Other Sites with Overnight Use).

BMU Name	Recreational Residences		Campgrounds				Other Sites with Overnight Use			
	2011	2018	# of Cmpgnds		# of Sites		# of Sites		Capacity	
			2011	2018	2011	2018	2011	2018	2011	2018
Badger Two Medicine	---	---	1	1	17	17	---	---	---	---
Big Salmon	32	32	5	5	66	66	3	3	8 cabins; 9 rooms	8 cabins; 9 rooms
Birch Teton	7	7	3	3	23	27	1	2	6 cabins; 1 room	7 cabins; 1 room
Bunker	---	---	8	8	57	59	3	3	17 cabins; 2 rooms 4 bunkhouses	17 cabins; 2 rooms 4 bunkhouses
Continental Divide	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Dearborn Elk	1	0	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Hungry Horse	---	---	19	19	169	169	---	1	---	1 cabin
Lower Middle Fork Flathead	10	10	12	12	32	32	---	---	---	---
Lower North Fork Flathead	3	1	17	17	545	545	10	10	54 cabins; 186 rooms 2 bunkhouses; 362 employee beds	51 cabins; 185 rooms; 2 bunkhouses; 1 residence 362 employee beds
Mission Range	1	1	1	1	25	25	1	1	1 cabin	1 cabin
Monture Landers Fork	---	---	5	5	47	47	1	1	1 cabin	1 cabin
Murphy Lake	---	---	17	17	109	109	5	5	5 cabins	5 cabins
Northeast Glacier	---	---	27	27	428	430	6	7	27 cabins; 350 rooms; 316 employee beds	27 cabins; 350 rooms; 322 employee beds
North Fork Sun River	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Rattlesnake	---	---	1	1	3	3	1	1	1 cabin	1 cabin
Southeast Glacier	---	---	11	11	143	146	2	2	5 employee beds	5 employee beds
Sullivan	20	20	15	15	114	114	2	2	9 cabins; 1 room; 1 bunkhouse	9 cabins; 1 room; 1 bunkhouse
Stillwater River	---	---	2	2	3	3	---	---	---	---
South Fork Sun Beaver Willow	74	74	7	7	72	72	5	5	18 cabins; 2 rooms 3 bunkhouses; 10 RV sites	17 cabins; 2 rooms 3 bunkhouses; 1 residence; 10 RV sites
Teton Sun River	17	17	3	3	36	36	1	1	2 bunkhouses	2 bunkhouses
Upper Middle Fork Flathead	---	---	2	2	21	21	2	2	2 cabins	2 cabins
Upper North Fork Flathead	---	---	24	24	184	182	6	8	6 cabins	9 cabins
Upper South Fork Flathead	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	1	1 cabin	1 cabin

Blue (or darker) shading indicates there was an update, and the baseline value will remain the same, which allows for decision space.

Yellow (or lighter) shading indicates there was an update & correction to the baseline, and the baseline value will be changed.

Table 3. Comparison of 2011 and 2018 Day-Use Sites and Administrative Sites.

BMU Name	Day-Use Trailheads		Other Day-Use Sites		Administrative Sites	
	2011	2018	2011	2018	2011	2018
Badger Two Medicine	12	12	1	1	2	2
Big Salmon	7	7	6	5	11	11
Birch Teton	11	11	---	---	1	0
Bunker	27	27	5	5	4	4
Continental Divide	---	---	---	---	4	4
Dearborn Elk	3	3	1	1	2	2
Hungry Horse	39	39	22	22	5	4
Lower Middle Fork Flathead	16	16	8	7	12	12
Lower North Fork Flathead	64	63	34	35	23	23
Mission Range	17	17	5	5	---	---
Monture Landers Fork	31	41	13	13	8	7
Murphy Lake	40	38	20	25	1	1
Northeast Glacier	28	30	16	18	15	15
North Fork Sun River	---	---	---	---	5	5
Rattlesnake	5	3	---	---	1	1
Southeast Glacier	14	14	9	9	8	8
Sullivan	32	32	12	12	10	10
Stillwater River	1	1	---	---	1	1
South Fork Sun Beaver Willow	16	16	3	3	9	9
Teton Sun River	11	12	2	2	6	6
Upper Middle Fork Flathead	14	14	1	1	5	5
Upper North Fork Flathead	39	39	8	8	21	19
Upper South Fork Flathead	5	5	2	2	6	6

Yellow (or lighter) shading indicates there has been an update.

Only those BMUs where a change or update occurred are listed below. For each BMU, there is an explanation of the update. For overnight sites (campgrounds, recreational residences, guest lodges, etc.), it will be noted whether the update is a change in the baseline or not. For day-use sites, it is an update.

Big Salmon BMU (Spotted Bear & Swan Lake RDs, Flathead NF).

- Number of Other Day-Use Sites decreased by 1 to a total of 5. River access in the wilderness is available everywhere, so the Salmon Forks river access site should not be distinguished. The updated value is 5.

Birch Teton BMU (Rocky Mtn. Front RD, HLC NF).

- Number of Campsites increased by 4 at one campground through a signed CE decision in February 2011. This brings the total of sites to 27. This is change in the baseline for the Number of Campsites. The baseline value is now 27 sites within 3 campgrounds.
- Number of Other Sites with Overnight Use increased by 1 cabin rental; and Administrative Sites decreased by 1. The West Fork Guard Station was a cabin rental in the winter and an administrative site in the summer. Through a signed CE decision in January 2005 the site became a year around cabin rental. This is a change in the baseline for the number of Other Sites with Overnight Use and the subsequent capacity. The baseline value for Other Sites with Overnight Use is now 2 sites with 7 cabins and 1 room. The updated value for Administrative Sites is zero.
- Number of Other Day-Use Sites increased by 1 to a total of 1. The day-use that occurs at the Teton Pass Ski Area was not acknowledged in the 2011 and is included here. The updated value is 1.

Bunker BMU (Spotted Bear & Swan Lake RDs, Flathead NF).

- Number of Campsites has a correction. The number of campground sites was and still is 59. It was incorrectly listed as 57. The baseline value for the Number of Campsites should have been and still is 59.

Dearborn Elk BMU (Rocky Mtn. Front RD, HLC NF).

- Number of Recreational Residences decreased by 1 to zero. The buildings were removed. ***This is NOT a change in the baseline for the number of Recreational Residences. The baseline value remains at 1 for this BMU, and allows this decision space.***

Hungry Horse BMU (Hungry Horse & Swan Lake RDs, Flathead NF).

- Number of Campgrounds did not increase because one campground was added and one was removed. With a signed decision in 2011, one campground (Riverside) was opened in 2013 with 5 sites. Additionally, Abbot Bay campground with 5 sites was removed. Three (3) sites from Abbot Bay campground were eliminated to allow the increase of adding Anna Creek cabin rental (see next bullet statements). The remaining two (2) sites are available as decision space for the agency to add to another existing campground. Overall there is no increase in the number campgrounds. This is NOT a change in the baseline for the Number of Campgrounds. The baseline value for Number of Campgrounds remains at 19.
- Number of Campground Sites remains at 169. With the decision signed in 2011, one campground (Riverside) with 5 sites was added. Another campground (Abbot Bay) with 5 sites was removed, however, 3 of those sites at Abbot Bay were used for Anna Creek cabin rental, leaving 2 sites

available as decision space for the agency to increase sites at another campground with the BMU. ***This is NOT a change in the baseline for the Number of Campground Sites. The baseline value for number of Campground Sites remains at 169, and allows this decision space.***

- Number of Other Sites with Overnight Use is a correction in reporting. The 1 cabin rental had a signed decision in 2011 and therefore should not have been listed as existing, but planned. The cabin rental was not put into use until 2015 and was implemented by reducing the number of campground sites at a campground within the Hungry Horse BMU (see above bullet statements). This is NOT a change in the baseline for the number of Other Sites with Overnight Use. The baseline value remains at 1 for the BMU.
- Number of Other Day-Use Sites remains the same; however, there is a signed decision from 2011, waiting on funding, to build a boat launch.

Lower Middle Fork Flathead BMU (Hungry Horse RD, Flathead NF and Glacier NP).

- Number of Campgrounds and Number of Campsites. It should be noted that Glacier NP currently has one campground with 3 campsites closed as part of the mitigation for Sperry Park Chalet reconstruction. Campground should be open in the future. This is NOT a change to the baseline for the Number of Campgrounds and Number of Campsites. The baseline value remains at 12 campgrounds with 32 campsites.
- Number of Other Day-Use Sites has decreased from 8 to 7. The Paola river access site was double counted, once for Glacier NP and once for Hungry Horse RD. The updated value is now 7.

Lower North Fork Flathead BMU (Glacier View RD, Flathead NF and Glacier NP).

- Number of Recreational Residences was incorrectly reported as 82 in the 2011 baseline. Seventy-nine (79) residences were actually on private in-holding land in Glacier National Park and should not have been included. Three (3) recreational residences are owned by and on National Park Service land. Of those 3, two have been burned in recent fires. ***This is NOT a change in the baseline for the Number Recreational Residences. The baseline value should have been, and still is, 3 for this BMU, and allows this decision space.***
- The Type of Capacity for Other Sites with Overnight Use has a correction. On the Glacier NP side of the BMU, there are no changes. On the Flathead NF side, the type of capacity has been corrected from the 2011 baseline. For the entire BMU, baseline for the Type of Capacity should have been, and still is, 185 rooms; 51 cabins; 2 bunkhouses; 1 staff residence; and 362 employee beds.
- Number of Day-Use Trailheads had decreased by 1 from 64 to 63. Glacier NP has deleted one trailhead. The updated value is now 63.
- Number of Other Day-Use Sites has increased by 1 from 34 to 35. One site was mistakenly shown as on STATE land, but is actually on NFS land. The updated value is now 35.

Monture Landers Fork BMU (Lincoln RD, HLC NF and Seeley Lake RD, Lolo NF).

- Number of Day-Use Trailheads increased by 10 to 41 total. There were 11 day-use trailheads on the Lincoln RD that were missed in the 2011 baseline. The updated value is now 41.
- Number of Administrative Sites decreased by 1 to 7. One administrative site on the Seeley Lake RD was burnt in 2012. The updated value is now 7.

Murphy Lake BMU (Fortine RD, Kootenai NF).

- Number of Other Sites with Overnight Use decreased by 1 to 4 total. One cabin was burned in 2017. ***This is NOT a change in the baseline for the Number of Other Sites with Overnight Use. The baseline value remains at 5 with Type of Capacity at 5 cabins for this BMU, and allows this decision space.***

- Number of Day-Use Trailheads increased by 1 and decreased by 3 for a total of 38. There were 2 trailheads that should not have been listed in 2011 as they did not exist. Another trailhead was planned and is no longer tracked. The one increase was a trailhead proposed under the Galton project and has been added. The updated value is now 38.
- Number of Other Day-Use Sites increased by 5 to 25 total. In 2011, there were Interpretive Sites listed as planned under the Galton project. These sites are now existing. The baseline value is now 25. It should be noted that there is a planned pavilion day-use site at Big Therriault Lake under the Ten Lakes Travel proposal.

Northeast Glacier BMU (Glacier NP and Blackfeet IR).

- Number of Campgrounds remains the same at 17, but Number of Campground Sites increased from 428 to 430. The 2011 baseline was incorrectly listed as 428, when it should have been 429 due to a math error in counting up the number of campground sites. There were 5 campgrounds that had the incorrect number of sites in the 2011 baseline, and these have been corrected. Using the correct total of 429, 3 campgrounds increased by 1 site within each campground and two campgrounds decreased by 1 site within each campground for an overall increase of one site. The baseline value is now 17 campgrounds with 430 sites.
- Number of Sites with Overnight Use increased from 6 to 7. The 2011 baseline was missing 6 employee beds for the boat launch near Rising Sun. The baseline value is now 7 sites with 350 rooms, 27 cabins, and 322 employee beds.
- Number of Day-Use Trailheads increased from 28 to 30. There were 2 trailheads missing from the 2011 baseline. The updated value is now 30.
- Number of Other Day-Use Sites increased from 16 to 18. There were 2 concession boat launches missing from the 2011 baseline. The updated value is now 18.
- Number of Administrative Sites remains the same at 15; however, there are updates. There were two sites missing from the 2011 baseline; one site was incorrectly included in the 2011 baseline; and one site burned in 2016. The value remains at 15.

Rattlesnake BMU (Missoula & Seeley Lake RDs, Lolo NF).

- Number of Day-Use Trailheads decreased from 5 to 3. Two of the trailheads in the 2011 baseline did not exist. The updated value is now 3.

Southeast Glacier BMU (Glacier NP and Blackfeet IR).

- Number Campgrounds remains the same at 11, but Number of Campground Sites increased from 143 to 146. Two of the sites are considered administrative sites at a Backcountry campground, and were originally not included. The 3<sup>rd</sup> site is a correction to the number of sites at a developed campground. This is change in the baseline for the Number of Campsites. The baseline value is now 146 sites within 11 campgrounds.

South Fork Sun Beaver Willow BMU (Rocky Mtn. Front RD, HLC NF).

- While the Number of Other Sites with Overnight Use remained the same at 5, the capacity of the sites as reported in 2011 did not accurately reflect the type of capacity. One “owner residence” was listed as a cabin, and it corrected to list 1 residence in the 2018 report. The baseline value is now 5 sites with 17 cabins, 2 rooms, 1 residence, 3 bunkhouses, and 10 RV sites.

Teton Sun River BMU (Rocky Mtn. Front RD, HLC NF).



- Number of Day-Use Trailheads increased by 1 from 11 to 12. The increase is due to one trailhead that was missed in the 2011 baseline. The updated value is now 12.

Upper North Fork Flathead BMU (Glacier View RD, Flathead NF and Glacier NP).

- Number of Recreational Residences was incorrectly reported as 7 in the 2011 baseline. Seven (7) residences were actually on private in-holding land in Glacier National Park and should not have been included. The baseline value is now zero recreational residences.
- While the Number of Campgrounds has remained the same at 24 campgrounds, the Number of Campsites has decreased from 184 to 182. Glacier NP had a correction to the number of campsites at a backcountry campground. The baseline value is now 24 campgrounds with 182 campsites.
- Number of Other Sites with Overnight Use has increased by 2 from 6 to 8. And the Type of Capacity is a correction. Two administrative sites on the Flathead NF were incorrectly labeled as administrative sites, when they have always been free-use cabins, available for overnight use. Additionally, in 2011 one Other Site with Overnight Use had 2 cabins at the site and the 2<sup>nd</sup> cabin was not included in the count. Overall, the baseline value for Other Sites with Overnight Use is now 8 and the Type of Capacity is now 9 cabins.
- Number of Administrative Sites decreased from 21 to 19 as a result of the two administrative sites currently being considered as free overnight cabins. The updated value is now 19.

Upper South Fork Flathead BMU (Spotted Bear RD, Flathead NF and Seeley Lake RD, Lolo NF).

- Number of Other Sites with Overnight Use decreased from 1 to zero; and the Type of Capacity has decreased from 1 cabin to zero cabins. The change is due to one cabin that was torn down and subsequently burned in recent fires. ***This is NOT a change in the baseline for the Number of Other Sites with Overnight Use and the Type of Capacity. The baseline value remains at 1 site with Type of Capacity at 1 cabin for this BMU, and allows this decision space.***

Monitoring report completed by:

Kathy Ake  
GIS Specialist  
Flathead NF & NCDE  
[kathy.ake@usda.gov](mailto:kathy.ake@usda.gov)  
406-758-5358

Figure 1. Map of Bear Management Units (BMU) for the Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem.

