

Selkirk and Cabinet-Yaak Subcommittee Report of 2022 Accomplishments to the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee

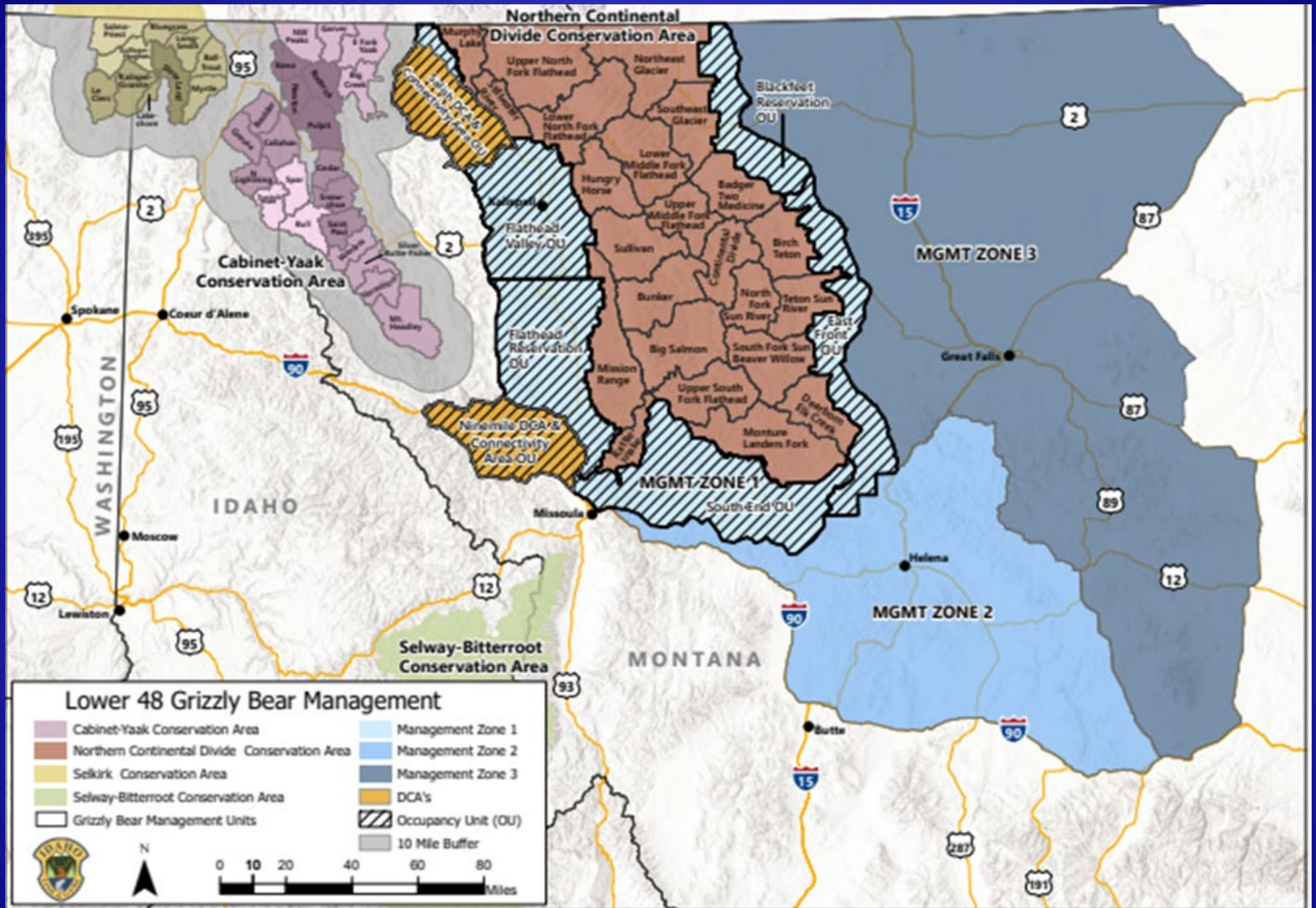
December 6-8, 2022

Bozeman, Montana

Ben Conard, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Montana Ecological Services Office, Outgoing Chair

Steve Pozzanghera, Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife, Incoming Chair for 2023-'24

Dave Wrobleski, USFS Lolo National Forest, 2023-'24 Vice-Chair



Map of Selkirk and Cabinet-Yaak Ecosystems Relative to NCDE

Goal 1: Increase the grizzly bear population size and distribution

Objective 1: Augment the population

- No bears moved to Cabinet Mountains in 2022.
- To review:
 - 22 bears added since 1990 (14 F and 8 M).
 - 5 of those (3 F : 2 M) are known to have produced offspring - resulting in: 15 first gen., 23 second gen., and 4 third gen. offspring to the Cabinet mountains.

Goal 1: Increase the grizzly bear population size and distribution

Objective 2: Limit human-caused mortality

- Extensive I&E resumed.
- Securing waste transfer sites.
- Hunter safety and bear ID.
- Securing attractants on public and private land.

See SCYE report spreadsheet for details.

Goal 1: Increase the grizzly bear population size and distribution

Objective 2: Limit human-caused mortality

- **3 human-caused mortalities in 2022**
 - 1 subadult female (mgmt. removal)
 - 1 adult female (highway collision)
 - 1 adult male (defense of property)
- **1 natural mortality, adult female**

Goal 1: Increase the grizzly bear population size and distribution

Objective 3: Document pop. growth rate and distribution

- 2021* rub trees and hair corral results: 37 individuals, 18 F: 19 M.
- Captured and collared 7 bears in Cabinet-Yaak.
- 1.9% growth rate for Cabinet-Yaak (1983-2021).
- 14 of 22 BMUs occupied by females with young (2016-2021).

Goal 2: Connectivity to achieve occupancy standards and linkage

- SCYE subcommittee letter of support for 24,865 ac. Upper Thompson Connectivity Project (a CE between MFWP, Green Diamond, Trust for Public Lands).
- Compliments extensive easements.
- USFWS monitoring bear movement and DNA data.

Goal 3: Apply results of research to habitat management

- Lolo NF achieved motorized access standards for BMU 22.
- Kootenai NF began NEPA for BMU 4 access standards.

Goal 4: Increase coordination with NCDE Subcommittee

- No explicit 2022 accomplishments.
- Both subcommittees acknowledge and intend to meet in 2023.

Selkirk Ecosystem

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Selkirk Ecosystem

Goal 1: Increase the grizzly bear population size and distribution

Objective 1: Limit human-caused mortality

- 3 human-caused mortalities in 2022
 - 1 subadult male (self defense)
 - 2 adult males (mgmt. removals)
 - No British Columbia reports yet

Selkirk Ecosystem

Goal 1: Increase the grizzly bear population size and distribution

Objective 2: Document pop. growth rate and distribution

- Rub trees, hair corrals, and camera traps continued in 2022.
- 2021* results: 39 individuals, 13 F: 26 M.
- Captured and collared 6 bears in the Selkirks
- Selkirk pop. rate of increase for 1983-2021 was 3.1%.
- 9 of 10 US Selkirk BMUs occupied by females with young.

Goal 2: Enhance transboundary cooperation and coordination of recovery

With assistance from SCYE partners...

- British Columbia (Proctor) preparing report from 2020-2021 genetic monitoring.
- Kootenai Tribe of Idaho working with sister tribes in Canada (conservation and trans-boundary issues).

SCYE Conservation Strategy

- IGBC tasked subcommittee to proceed with a Conservation Strategy, summer 2022.
- SCYE Subcommittee's Fall agenda included an overview of Conservation Strategies.
- SCYE Subcommittee approved developing one Conservation Strategy, with consideration for ecosystem and jurisdictional differences.
- Most members offered technical participants, others to reply soon.
- David Diamond agreed to help facilitate the effort.
- Notes and direction are in development (e.g., recap of task, proposed teams).
- Confirm commitments & convene teams winter 2023.