Grizzly Bear Conflicts in the Idaho Portion of the GYE

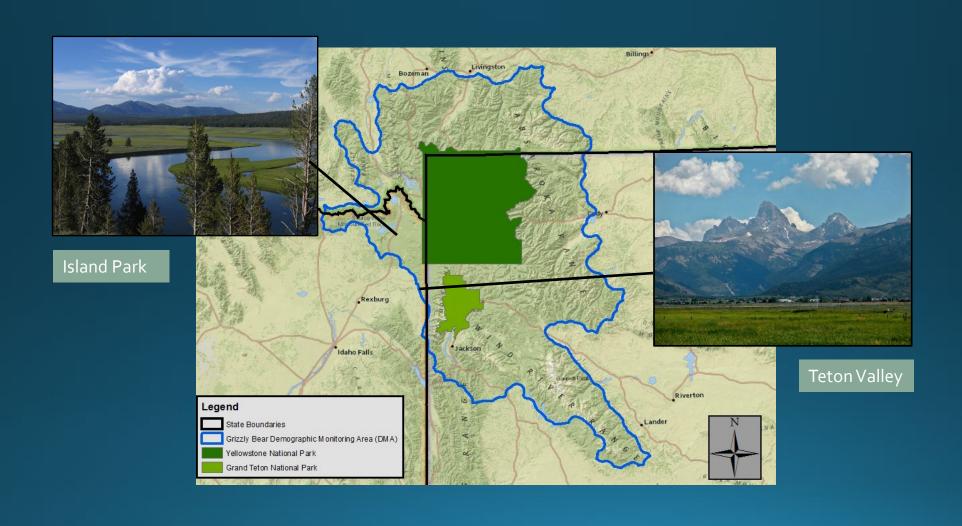




Cade Bowlin Wildlife Biologist Idaho Department of Fish and Game



Bear Conflicts in Southeast Idaho



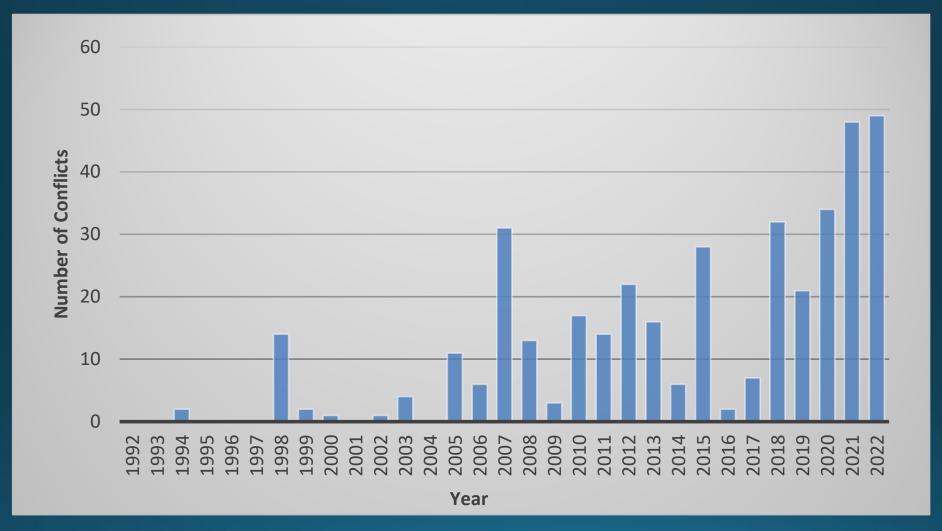


Figure 1. Documented human-grizzly bear conflicts in Idaho portion of Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (GYE), 1992-2022.

Conflict Type	Number of Conflicts
Public safety threat (habituated, near developed site, etc.)	24
Anthropogenic foods	13
Livestock depredation	6
Encounter situations	3
Property damage-without food reward	2
Human-caused mortality	1
Human injury	0
Total	49

Table 1. Documented human-grizzly bear conflicts in Idaho portion of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (GYE), 2022.

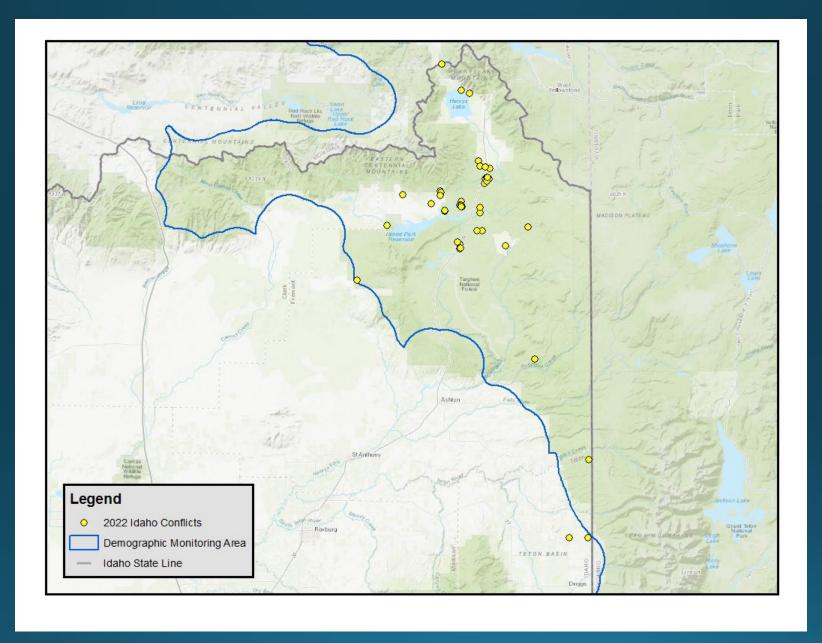


Figure 2. Locations of documented human-grizzly bear conflicts in Idaho portion of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (GYE), 2022.

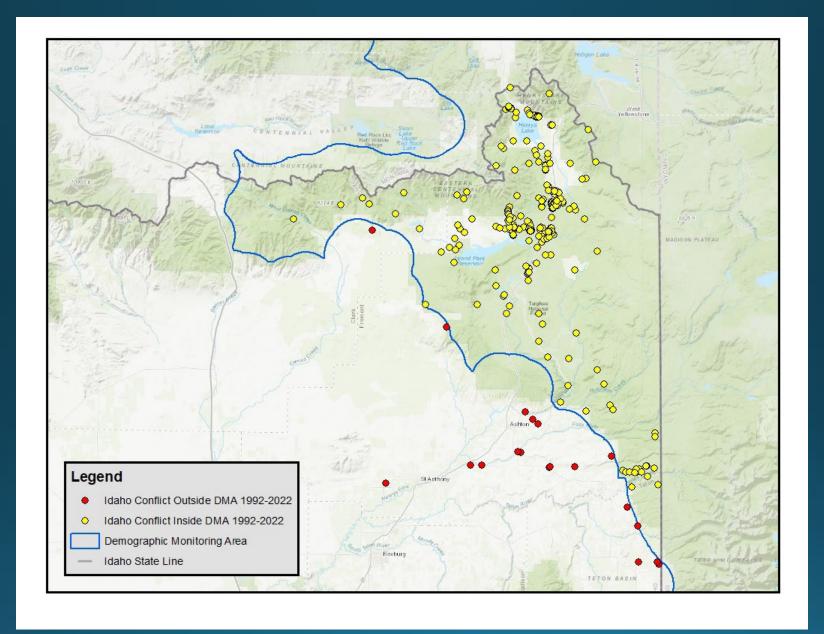


Figure 3. Locations of documented human-grizzly bear conflicts in Idaho portion of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (GYE), 1992-2022.

Known Grizzly Bear Mortalities

Mortality Type	Individuals
Management Removal	8
Intraspecific Mortality	1
Human-caused mortality	1
Total	10

Table 2. Documented grizzly bear mortalities in Idaho portion of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (GYE), 2022.

Managing Human-Bear Conflicts

- Removal/securing attractants
- Outreach and education



Removing/Securing Attractants





- Multiple instances of bears breaking chicken coops and trash cans
- Bear-resistant containers
- Electricity and automated noisemakers

Carcass Removal

- Large carcasses are readily available in form of road-kill and winter-kill ungulates
- In and around human use areas
- Threat to both human and bear safety
- 40 carcasses were removed



Apple Removal

- Bears walking streets of Ashton
- Five truckloads of apples removed in 2022
- Apples donated to Grizzly and Wolf Discovery Center in West Yellowstone and Idaho Falls Zoo



Outreach and Education



- Public outreach events
- Education in campgrounds and neighborhoods
- Social media

Event	Location	Individuals Reached
Pioneer Day fair	Harriman State Park	80
Pioneer Day fair	Harriman State Park	250
Henrys Fork Wildlife Alliance wildlife festival	Meadow Vue Ranch	115
HOA meeting to inform residential bear safety	Stonegate Community	70
Speaker Series	Harriman State Park	50
Forest Service education and bear spray training	Salmon	55
Young Boys Group	Firth	50
Bear Spray Event	Driggs	125
IDFG Youth Outdoor Skills	Rexburg	300
Education Event	Sun Valley	40
Camper Outreach	Henrys Lake Campground	45
Sheep herder education and bear spray training	Sheep Experiment Station, Dubois	20
Field trip booth and fair for grade school	St. Anthony	100
Field trip presentation for grade school	Beaver Dick Park	100
Island Park campground host bear safety orientation	St. Anthony	40
New employee bear spray and safety orientation	Harriman State Park	30
Employee safety event	Idaho National Library	200
Bear safety and biology presentation	Forest Service Campground	50
Smokey the bear program with Forest Service	Buffalo Campground	150
EMS safety bear spray and charger event	Driggs	50
Total		1,920

Table 3. Idaho Department of Fish and Game grizzly bear education and outreach events in southeast Idaho, 2022.

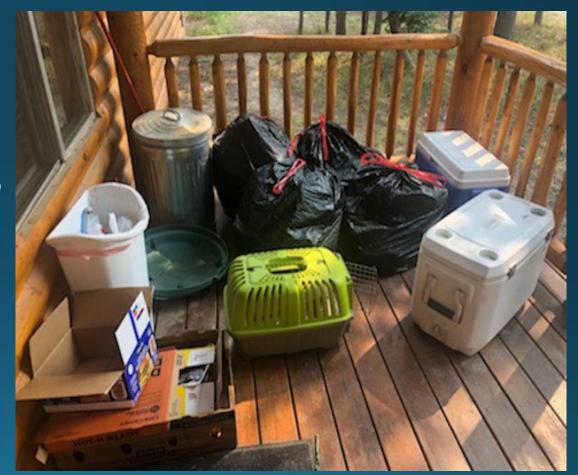
Bear Spray Giveaway



- Two bear spray events in 2022
- 700 people in attendance
- 545 cans of bear spray

Education

- Conduct site visits to identify potential conflict situations
- Focused on times of day and week to maximize encounters with public
- 600 individuals in neighborhoods
- 900 individuals in developed campgrounds and dispersed campsites



Rental Property Signs

- Rental properties continue to be source of unsecured attractants
- Signage provided to rental property owners
- Over 200 signs given to homeowners and property managers

GUESTS, YOU ARE IN BEAR COUNTRY

Idaho is home to Grizzly and Black Bears

Please make ALL bear attractants inaccessible.

If it smells, it smells good to a bear.

- · Store garbage indoors or in bear-resistant garbage cans.
- Do not leave food, grease, garbage, recycling, coolers, or pet food accessible to bears.
- When you leave, please store garbage or other attractants in a secure location or take it with you.
- Never intentionally feed bears. A fed bear is likely to be euthanized and may become a public safety threat.

To report a bear sighting or learn more about living in bear country please contact:

Idaho Department of Fish and Game 208-528-7290



Social Media



- Spring release-Living in bear country and recreating in bear country
- Bears and bear activity throughout summer

Acknowledgments













QUESTIONS





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