



# IGBC UPDATE

David Diamond, Executive Coordinator

5/23/23

# Grizzly Bear IE&O Summit

- January or February 2024
- Idaho, looking at Coeur d'Alene
- Topics/Priorities



# Bear Smart Community Framework



- Post the IGBC Bear Smart Communities framework and working group materials.
- Continue with a standing IGBC Bear Smart Communities Working Group (including representatives from MTFWP, IDFG, WYGF, and WDFW, and USFWS).
- Utilize USFWS staffing to assist with coordination and implementation as directed by the IGBC Bear Smart Communities Working Group, and in coordination with state agencies.
- Each State will decide how to handle specific engagement with communities and state specific desired outcomes.
- The IGBC Bear Smart Working group will develop and recommend a potential recognition (not certification) option for communities that successfully participate in the Bear Smart Communities program.

# BEAR SMART COMMUNITIES

Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee → Programs → Bear Smart Communities



Proactive approaches can help reduce the potential for future conflicts. There has been a substantial amount of research on bear behavior and human-bear conflicts over the last several decades and this information can be used to develop effective human-bear conflict mitigation strategies that help communities and bears more effectively share the landscape.

The IGBC supports collaborative community-led strategies that benefit both people and bears by reducing conflicts and improving human safety in areas where people and bears share the landscape. At the December 2022 meeting, the IGBC Executive Committee adopted the IGBC Bear Smart Community framework. The framework may be useful for communities that are voluntarily interested in establishing their own Bear Smart Committees, completing a Bear Smart Community Assessment, and developing and implementing a Bear Smart Community Plan. The framework is intended to be flexible enough so that it can be adapted by individual communities to fit their needs.

- **IGBC Bear Smart Community Framework (12/2022)**
- **IGBC Bear Smart Community Manual (5/2023)**
- **IGBC Bear Smart Community References (5/2023)**
- **IGBC Bear Smart Community Presentation (5/2023)**

# Bear Smart Community Technical Working Group



- WY: Rick King, Dan Thompson
- WA: Seth Thompson
- ID: Toby Boudreau, Barb Moore
- MT: Lori Roberts, Kim Annis, Jeremiah Smith, Bruce Montgomery, Jamie Jonkel
- FWS: Amber Kornak, Rory Trimbo, Ben Jimenez
- IGBC: David Diamond