



# IGBC Bear-Resistant Products Testing Program

IGBC Executive Committee  
December 13, 2023





# IGBC Bear-Resistant Products Testing Program

- Important for bear conservation
  - All grizzly bear ecosystems
  - Between grizzly bear ecosystems
  - Areas with only black bears
- Effective
- Visible
- Important partnerships
  - IGBC agencies
  - Public
  - Manufacturers
  - Waste Haulers





# Program Components

- Product testing
  - Record keeping/documentation
  - Administration
    - Website maintenance
    - Invoicing/fee collection
    - Scheduling
- Information requests
- Database management
- Monitor product status





# Proposal from 2022



- Increase capacity of IGBC testing program by adding another facility in 2023
  - Maintain testing at Grizzly & Wolf Discovery Center
  - Partner with an additional grizzly bear facility
    - Conservation mission
    - Non-profit
    - Accredited

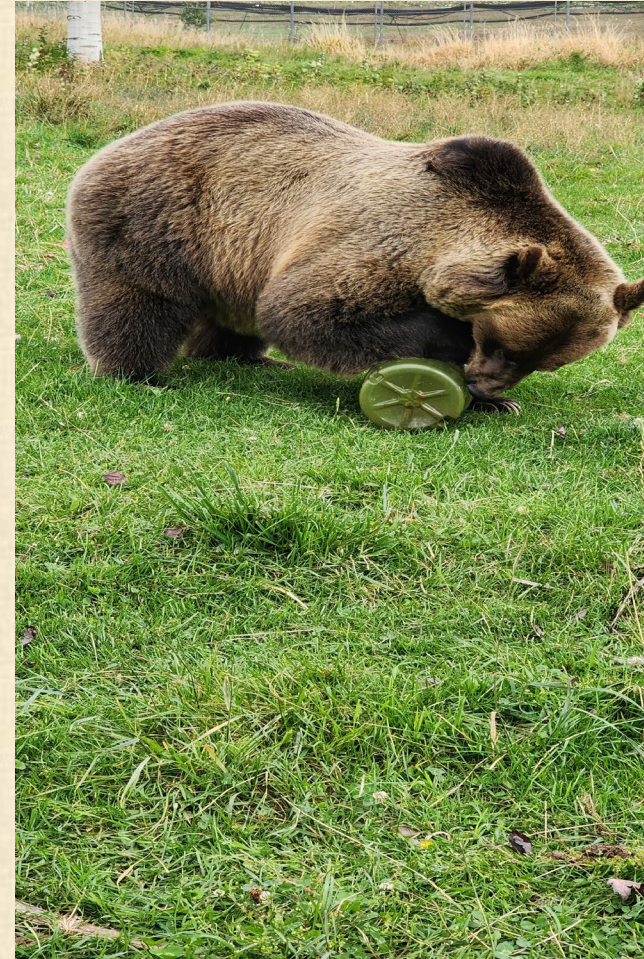


# Washington State University Bear Center





# WSU Product Testing





# 2023 Test Results

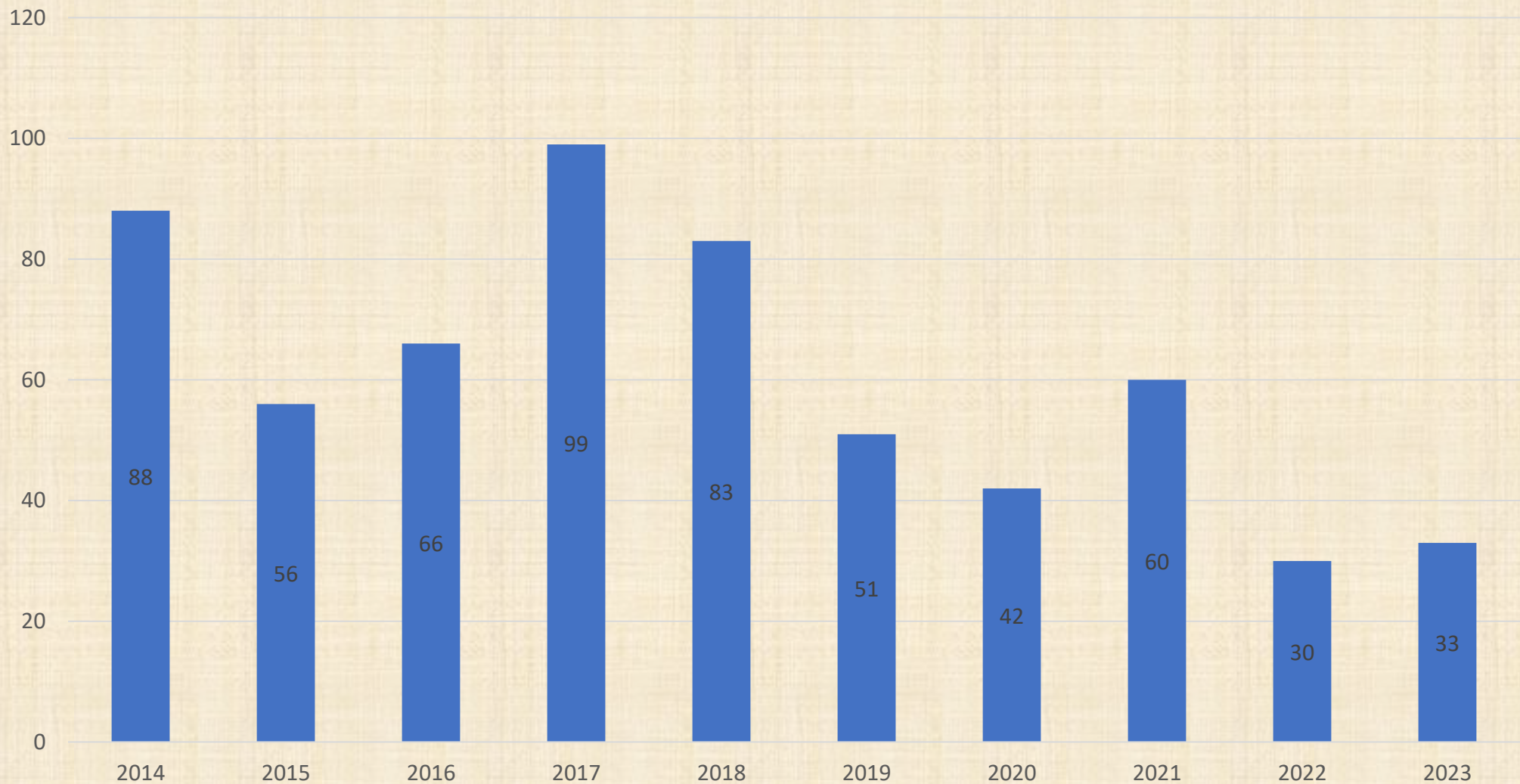


## 33 products tested

- 22 coolers (15 pass/7 fail)
- 4 canisters (1 pass/3 fail)
- 1 garbage cart (0 pass/1 fail)
- 3 metal boxes (1 pass/2 fail)
- 3 composters (0 pass/3 fail)
- 52% pass



# Products Evaluated Past 10 Years







# 2023 Funding

- \$21,250 our share of testing revenue
- \$10,983 administrative fees collected
- \$10,000 IGBC support
- **\$42,233 Total**
- Annual program costs (\$42,900) were covered



# Information Requests

- Public requests for information
- Agency requests for advice
- Manufacturer inquiries
  - Unusual products (conflict management)
    - Air horn
    - Odor eliminator
    - Power poles
    - Building materials (window screening, shed)
    - Chicken coops
    - Food hanging system
    - Repellent
    - Underground garbage vault
    - Cooler locks





# Program Advancement Efforts

- Development of interactive database
- Implementation of automated submission forms and testing forms





# Thank you!

Patti Sowka - Living with Wildlife Foundation (through WMI)

Randy Gravatt and John Heine

Grizzly & Wolf Discovery Center

Chelsea Davis and Charlie Robbins

Washington State University Bear Center

Chris Smith – Wildlife Management Institute

David Diamond - IGBC



Questions?

