



# IGBC Update, 6/13/24

David Diamond, IGBC

## Partner Agencies





# Washington State Bear Center Visit, 6/12





# IGBC Mission



The IGBC supports recovery and delisting, and ongoing conservation of grizzly bear populations and their habitats in areas of the western United States through interagency coordination of policy, planning, management, research and communication.

<https://igbconline.org/about-us/>

# IGBC Executive Committee

## 9/15/23 Strategic Meeting Statement

- Continued expansion of occupied areas
- Separate decision processes NCE/BE
- Other administrative / legal processes
- Refocus five-year plans to annual reporting, with exchange between Subcommittees and Executives
- Common understanding that successful grizzly bear recovery and conservation requires a shared responsibility with all parties





# 12/23 - IGBC 40<sup>th</sup>



# 1/24 - IGBC IEO Summit



# 2024 IGBC Committee Meetings




- Spring Subcommittee Meetings
- **6/12-14 Executive Committee, Moscow ID**
  - Ecosystem Subcommittee Updates
  - Larger Landscapes
    - Conflict Reduction
    - Information, Education, and Outreach
    - Science
- Fall Subcommittee Meetings
- **12/17-19, IGBC Executive, Bozeman, MT**
  - Winter Business Meeting




# IGBC News/Events




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APRIL 10, 2024




**Yellowstone Subcommittee Spring Meeting 2024 - Bozeman, MT**  
**April 24-25, 2024**  
The IGBC's Yellowstone Ecosystem Subcommittee is holding its Spring 2024 meeting April 24th and 25th at the Courtyard by Marriott, 2168 Boot Hill Ct, Bozeman, MT 59715.  
[READ MORE](#)  
Posted by **David Diamond** **YELLOWSTONE ECOSYSTEM SUBCOMMITTEE**

MARCH 31, 2024



**Bitterroot Subcommittee Spring 2024 Meeting - VIRTUAL**  
**April 11, 2024**  
The IGBC's Bitterroot Ecosystem Subcommittee is holding its 2024 Spring meeting on Thursday, April 11th from 9:00am-4:00pm MST  
[READ MORE](#)  
Posted by **David Diamond** **BITTERROOT ECOSYSTEM SUBCOMMITTEE**

NOVEMBER 21, 2023



**Interagency GRIZZLY BEAR Committee**

**2024 Save the Date:**  
4/11 Bitterroot, Virtual  
4/24-25 Yellowstone, Bozeman, MT  
5/8-9 Selkirk/Cabinet-Yaak, Kalispell, MT  
5/9-10 NCDE, Kalispell, MT  
5/29 North Cascades, North Bend, WA  
6/12-14 IGBC Executive Summer Meeting, Moscow, ID  
10/23 Bitterroot, Virtual  
11/13-14 Yellowstone, Cody, WY  
12/17-19, IGBC Executive Winter Meeting, Bozeman, MT

**Join Our Newsletter!**  
Email address:

Find agendas and logistics about specific meetings!



Save future meeting dates!



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<https://igbconline.org/news>

# Thank you!



David Diamond, Executive Coordinator

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# North Cascades Ecosystem

- The Subcommittee met 5/29/24 in North Bend, WA
- Approved Tech Team recommendations on habitat and siting.
- Next steps: The Subcommittee will be working on implementation planning.
- [EIS update: On April 25, 2024, USFWS and NPS announced a decision to restore grizzly bears to the North Cascades.]

# Bitterroot Ecosystem

- The Subcommittee met 4/11/24 virtually.
- Next steps: The Food Storage Working Group continues to work on a framework.
- [EIS update: Using comments received from the public, cooperating agencies, tribes, and other stakeholders, the USFWS will develop a draft EIS in March 2025, See [Spring 2024 Project Update.](#)]



# Selkirk/Cabinet-Yaak Ecosystem

- The Subcommittee met 5/8 in Kalispell, MT, and held a joint meeting with NCDE 5/9 in Kalispell, MT.
- Next Steps: The Subcommittee is working to schedule alternating Subcommittee and Tech team meetings each month to November to continue initial development of the SCYE Conservation Strategy starting with a vision for the conservation strategy.

# Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem

- The Subcommittee met 5/9-10 in Kalispell, MT.
- Next Steps: The NCDE Conservation Strategy 5 Year Review continues, the next Tech Team meeting is scheduled to meet in June on Chapter 3.



# Yellowstone Ecosystem

- The Subcommittee met 4/24-25 in Bozeman, MT.
- Approved a motion to send the updated Conservation Strategy to the IGBC Executives.

AUG 23 1982

WILSON GARD & CO.  
COMMERCIAL

MEMORANDUM - August 17, 1982

To: Members of the Interagency Grizzly Bear Steering Committee  
From: Chairman, Interagency Grizzly Bear Steering Committee *Bo Wauer*  
Subject: Status of Grizzly Bears within the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem

Issue: Evidence persists that the population of grizzly bears within the greater Yellowstone ecosystem has seriously declined in recent years. Unless some change occurs to reduce the grizzly's mortality rate soon, the probability of retaining this wildland species in Yellowstone National Park is minimal.

Background: The abundance and distribution of grizzly bears within the coterminous 48 states has declined in the past 280 years from 50,000 occupying the entire area west of the Mississippi River to fewer than 1,000 bears occurring in only six isolated places. By the 1960s, only two of those places had retained viable populations, the Yellowstone ecosystem and the northern continental divide ecosystem.

TL



# Recovery Planning (1983, 1993)

## Requirements for Recovery:

1. Meet Demographic & Habitat Recovery Criteria
2. Develop Interagency Conservation Strategy

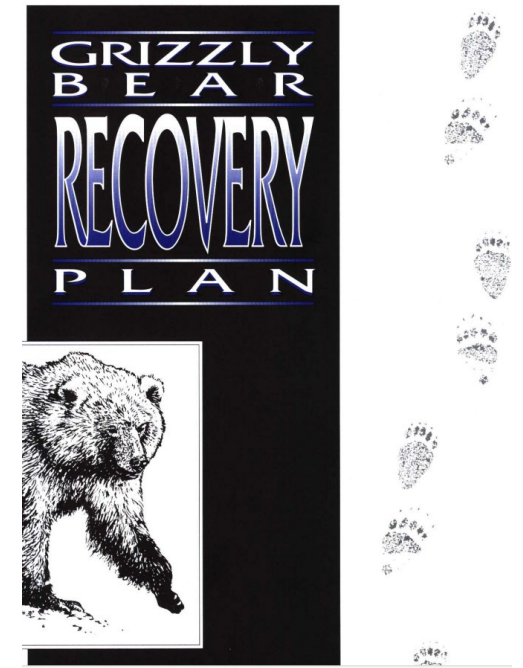
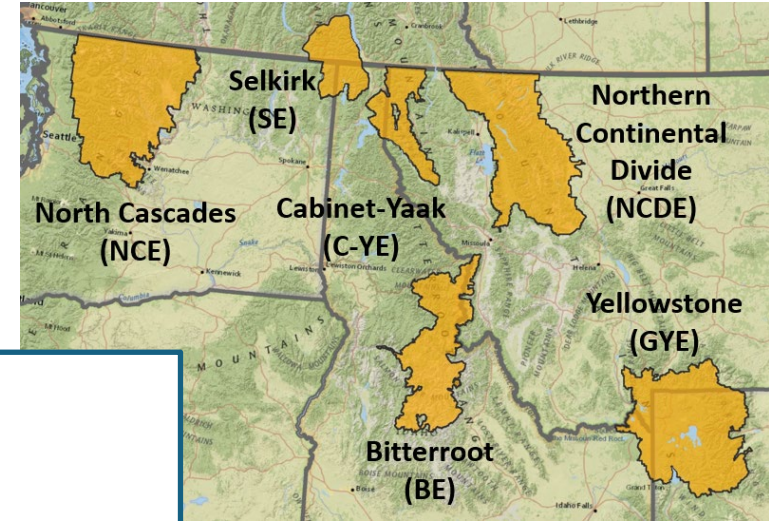
### 6 Recovery Zones

#### Demographic Recovery Criteria

- Minimum Population Size
- Distribution of Females with Young
- Human-Caused Mortality

#### Habitat-Based Recovery Criteria

- Secure Core Habitat
- Developed Recreation Sites
- Livestock Allotments



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT  
OF THE INTERIOR AND STATES OF IDAHO, MONTANA, WYOMING, AND WASHINGTON  
MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT TO REVISE AND EXPAND THE  
INTERAGENCY GRIZZLY BEAR COMMITTEE

A. Need:

The grizzly bear is listed as a threatened species in the 48 conterminous States under provisions of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. To achieve the recovery of the grizzly bear, it is necessary that all Federal and State agencies with responsibilities for this species coordinate their management and research actions to the greatest extent possible to insure the best utilization of available resources and prevent duplication of effort.

To attain the objectives established by the Grizzly Bear Recovery Plan, the United States Department of Agriculture (U.S. Forest Service), the United States Department of the Interior (Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs), and the States of Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, and Washington find it in the best interest of the grizzly bear to revise and expand the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee (IGBC) established in April 1983).

# IGBC Purpose



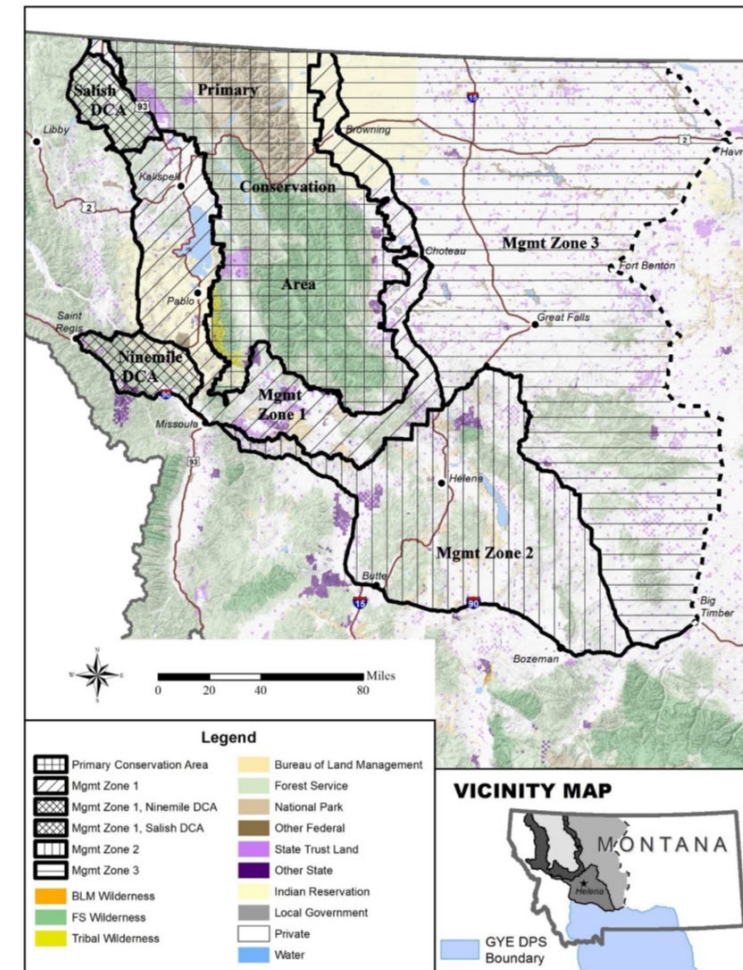
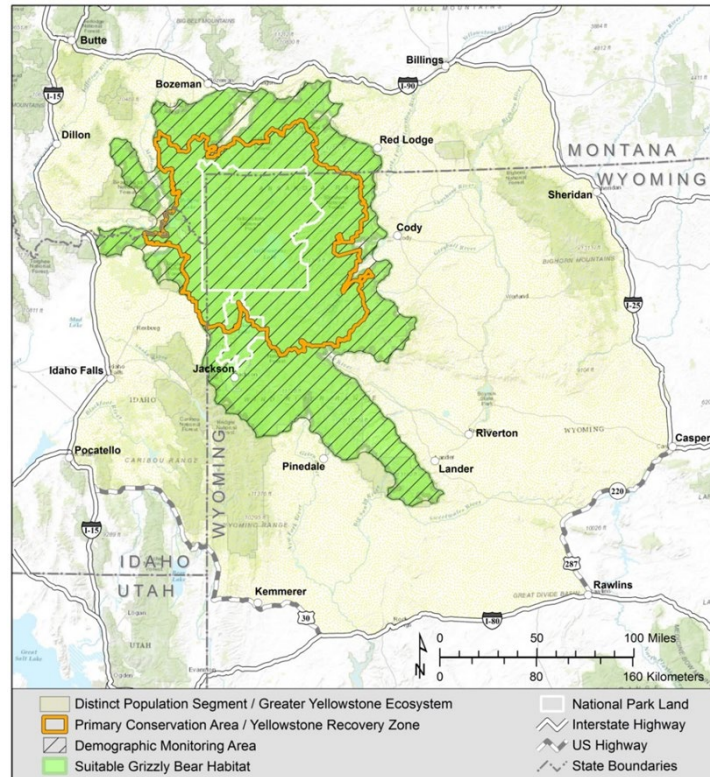
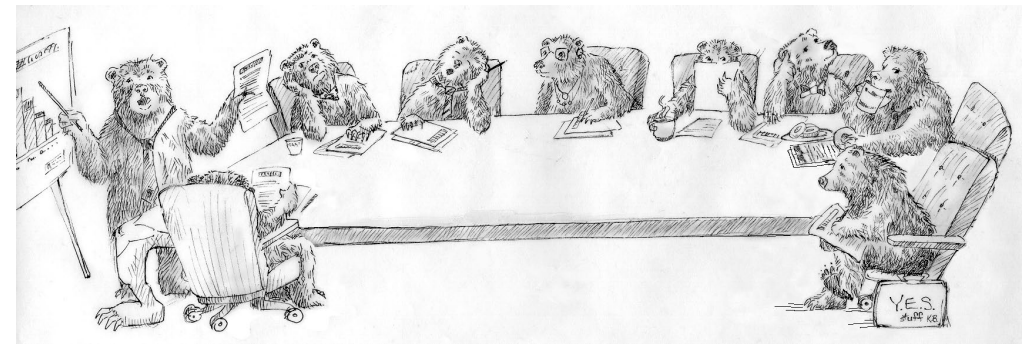
- “Evergreen”
  - Coordination to ensure best use of resources and prevent duplication
  - Enhance information sharing
  - Support ongoing conservation of grizzly bears and their habitat after delisting
- Tied to USFWS Recovery Plan
  - Coordinate implementation of the recovery plan
  - Support revisions to the recovery plan
  - **Support development of conservation strategies**
  - Support actions by FWS to delist populations upon achievement of recovered status
  - Support revisions to CSs as warranted by new info

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# Conservation Strategies

- Five Factor Review required for any consideration of status review (ESA Section 4(a)(1))
  - Adequacy of existing regulatory mechanisms
- Post-Delisting Management Plan



# Timeline: NCDE

- 2009 Appointment of technical team to draft CS
- 2013 Draft CS released for public comment
- 2017 Reassembly of tech team to revise CS
- 2018 CS completed
- 2020 Updated CS released with editorial changes
- 2023 Reconvene tech team, 5 year review
- 2024 Chapter 3 discussions (ongoing)

# Timeline: GYE

- 2000 Draft CS released for public comment
- 2003 CS Completed
- 2007 Delisted; Final CS
- 2009 District Court Vacates Delisting; Relisted
- 2010 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Ruling; Remain listed
- 2016 Draft CS public comment, and Final CS
- 2017 Delisted
- 2018 District Court Vacates Delisting; Relisted
- 2020 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Ruling; Remain listed
- 2022 Approve CS Chpt 3 revisions; Start Chpt. 2
- 2024 Updated CS approved by YES, to IGBC in June