



North Cascades Ecosystem Grizzly Bear Restoration

October 2024



Announced April 25:

- Decision to actively restore grizzly bears to the ecosystem through translocation from other ecosystems
- Several bears per year for 5-10 years to reach initial population of 25 bears
- “10(j)” designation from FWS, which provides additional tools for management



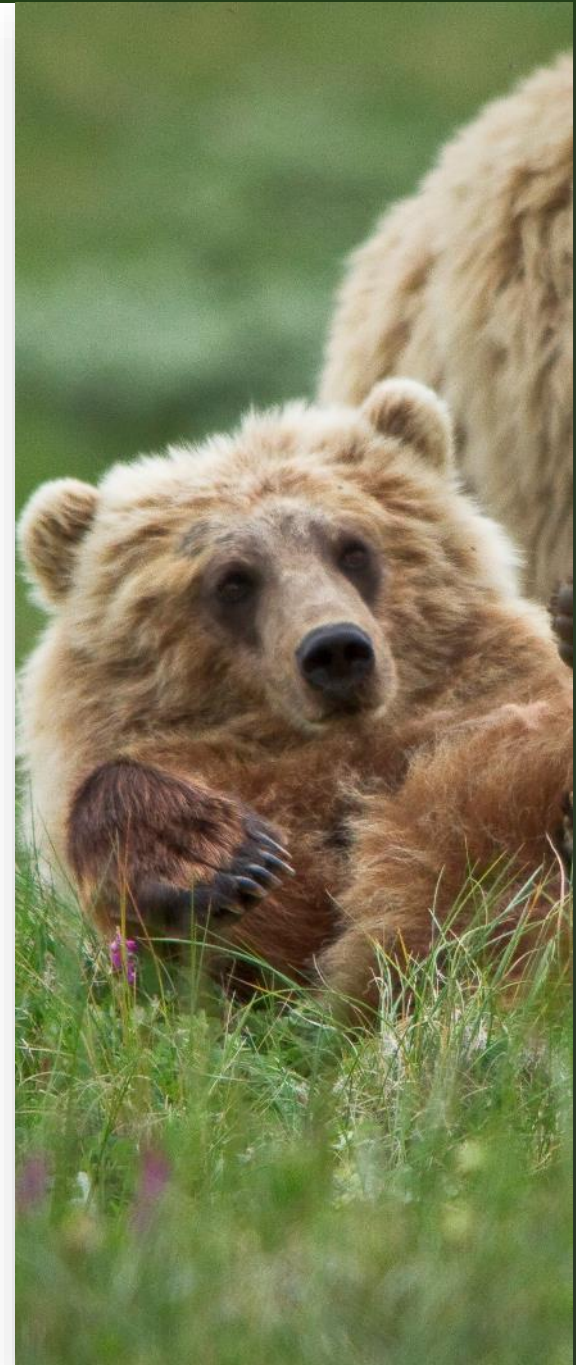
Announced April 25:

- Population of 200 bears expected within 60 to 100 years
- Source populations from similar food economies
 - Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem
 - Interior British Columbia
 - Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem



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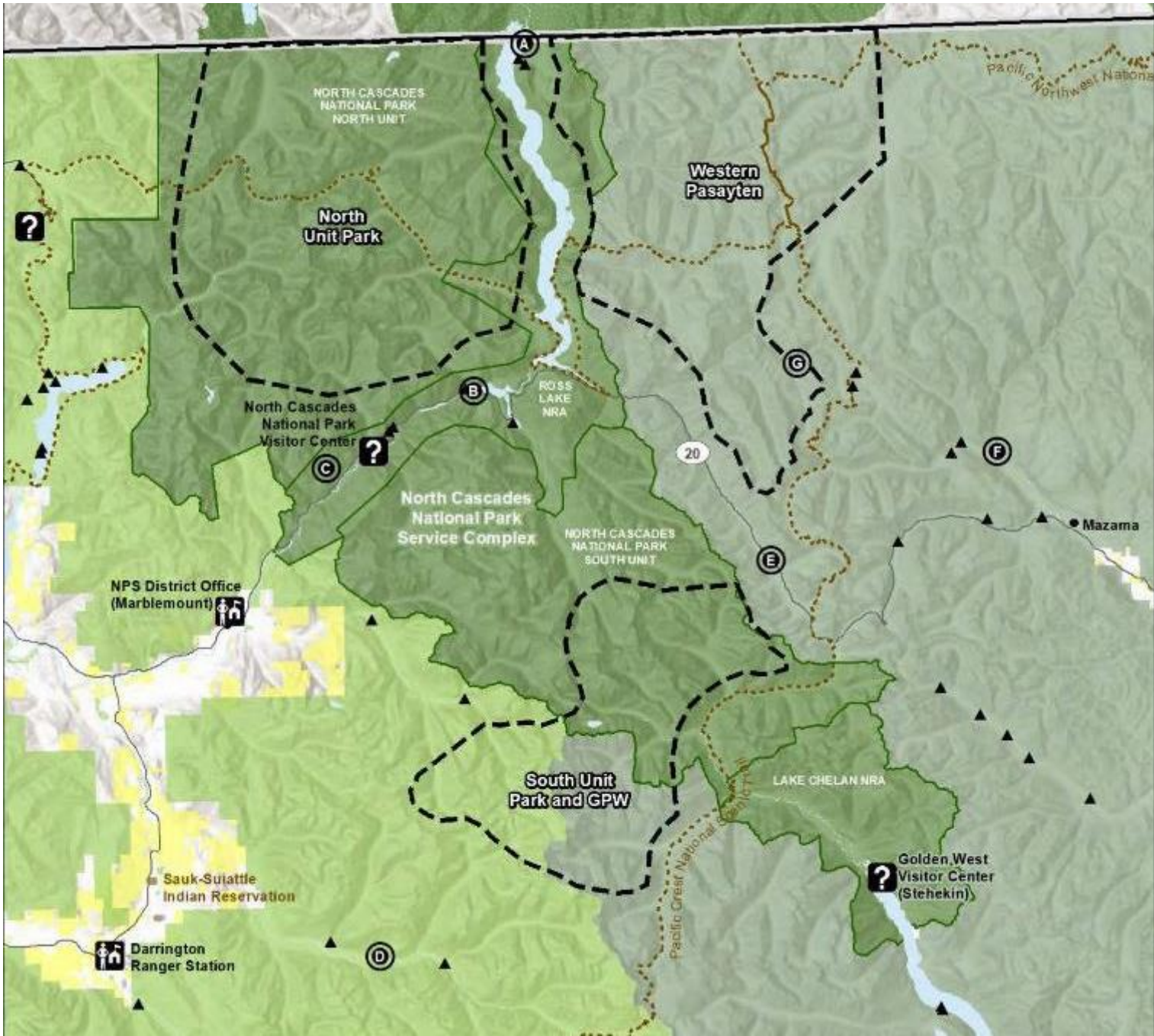
- Subadult bears, 2-5 years old
- Without a history of conflict
- All bears involved in the translocation will be radio collared



Release Sites

- Would be transported to the region in ground transport, then brought to remote release sites via helicopter
- Wilderness areas on NPS or USFS lands, including areas within the Stephen Mather, Pasayten, and Glacier Peak wilderness areas





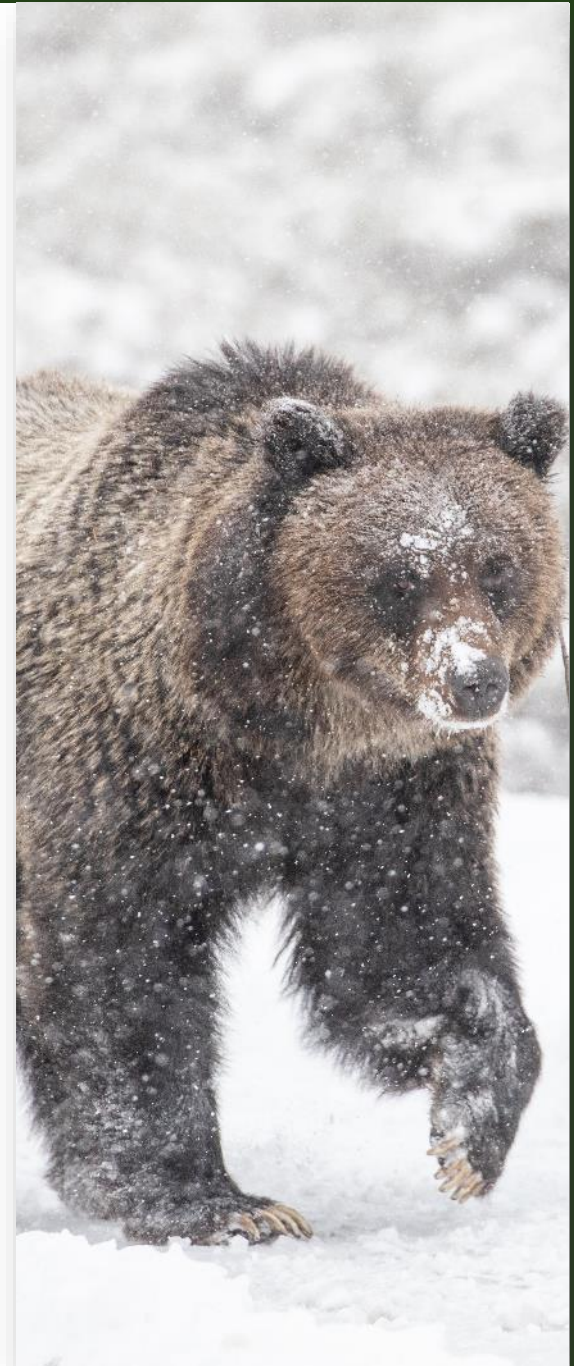
Release Sites

- **Criteria for acceptable release sites would include the following:**
 - The area would largely consist of high-quality seasonal habitat.
 - The area would be largely roadless.
 - An adequate distance from points of high visitor use.
 - The area would have a suitable helicopter landing site.



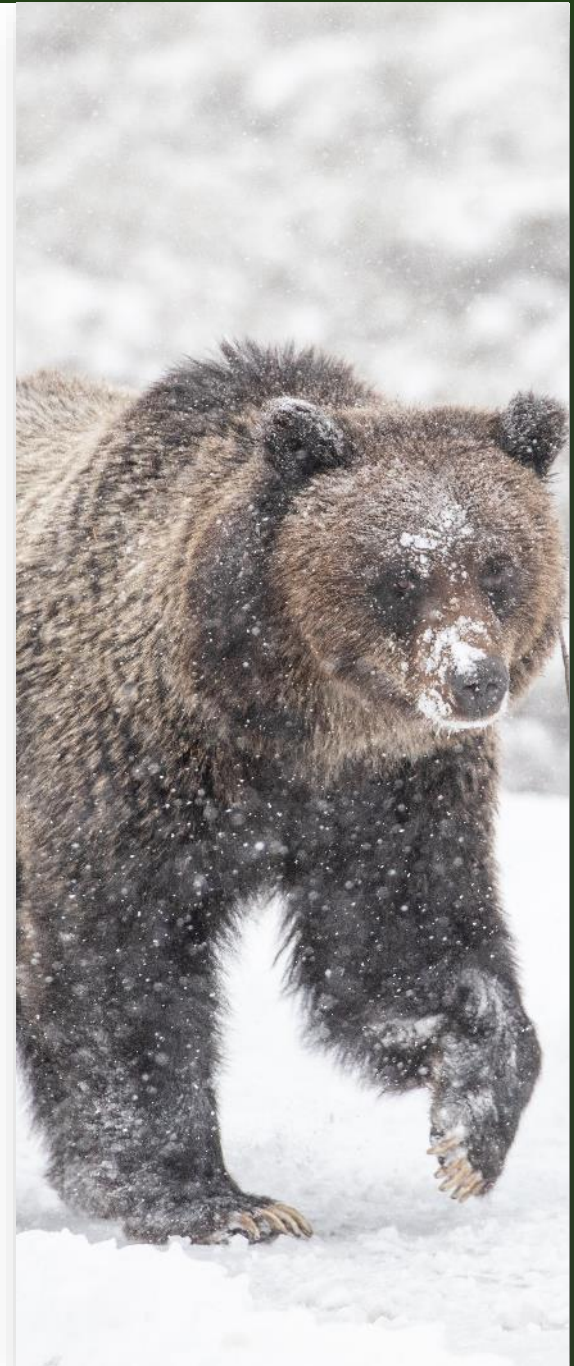
10(j) Rule

- FWS may designate an "experimental population" before reestablishing a federally listed species
- Allows for customized measures to reduce impacts to stakeholders while providing for the conservation of the species
- Different management flexibilities than in other ecosystems



10(j) Rule

- “Larger toolbox” that can be deployed earlier
- Aims to provide for the maximum management flexibility on non-federal lands



Next Steps

- As of October 2024, there is no set timeline for when translocations will begin.
- NPS will publish updates on the park website and notify partners and the public of implementation plans as they develop.

www.nps.gov/noca/grizzly.htm



Next Steps

- Coordination with partners, including the development of MOUs formalizing management responsibilities
- FWS has hired a temporary detail position, Rickey Jones, to work on these MOUs and coordinate implementation



Next Steps

- Education & outreach, including outreach events, news releases, enhanced web content, and signage.
 - FWS and NPS are available to speak to community groups and organizations throughout the process.
 - FWS and NPS will continue to support outreach efforts spearheaded by NGOs when possible.



Resources

- FAQs and info on grizzly restoration:
www.nps.gov/noca/grizzly.htm
- FAQs on 10(j) rule:
<https://www.fws.gov/question-answer/north-cascades-grizzly-final-10j-rule-faqs>





Questions?