
RURAL RESIDENT OUTREACH PACKETS

Selkirk – Cabinet-Yaak Ecosystem
Information, Education, & Outreach
Subcommittee



Design by: Traci Manley

TARGET AUDIENCE

- Rural residents with attractants in bear country
- Potential conflict sites (resorts, breweries, etc.)
- Neighbors of actual or potential conflict sites

SUBCOMMITTEE GOALS

- Provide consistent messaging and resources
- Clear, easy, and accurate
- Use existing resources
- Leverage social science resources/principles



Photo courtesy of: IDFG

PACKETS INCLUDE

Folder with BUSINESS CARD
insert for local conflict
management specialist
Bear Resources guide
Electric Fence guide
Local bear safety brochure
and/or WWO brochure
&...

List of Bear Resources for Livestock Producers and Rural Residents North Idaho, Northwest Montana, and Northeast Washington 2024

The below is a collection of resources that are available to support landowners living in bear country. One of the biggest human-bear conflict issues is having things that attract bears to private property. Items such as bird feeders, pet food left outside, unsecured gardens, and livestock can all attract a bear to private property. This website has more information about bear attractants (igbconline.org). The below list of resources is not exhaustive and there may be other resources and/or products available to support your individual property protection needs (e.g., “unwelcome mats”, guard dogs, and more). We recommend reaching out to your local state bear management specialist to best evaluate your needs.

1. General Bear Information

- a. Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee (IGBC) – general information about grizzly bears and includes information and links for residents, recreationists, visitors, and food storage orders. [Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee \(IGBC\) - ID, MT, WY, WA \(igbconline.org\)](https://www.igbconline.org)
- b. For residents in Idaho: Idaho Fish and Game <https://idfg.idaho.gov/conservation/grizzly-bears>
 - i. For residents of Boundary County: Kootenai Valley Resource Initiative <https://www.kvricollaborative.com/grizzly>
- c. For residents in Montana: Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks <https://fwp.mt.gov/conservation/wildlife-management/bear/management>
- d. For residents in Washington: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife <https://wdfw.wa.gov/species/habitat/conservation-center>

ELECTRIC FENCES

A properly constructed electric fence is safe for people and pets and has proven to be effective at deterring bears from attractants. There is an abundant variety of applications and effective fencing designs for deterring bears. Design, construction and proper maintenance will determine the effectiveness of your electric fence. Call Idaho Fish and Game or the Kootenai Tribe for more information or technical assistance.
Learn more*:




Fencible Bear Attractants

-Fruit trees	-Backcountry hunting camps
-Gardens	-Garbage
-Livestock	-Carcass pits / Boneyards
-Beehives	-Livestock/pet feed
-Hanging game	-Restaurant grease containers
-Chicken Coops	-Food waste compost



STAYING INFORMED

Nixle Alerts

From weather to bears, Nixle is a Community Information Service that can be gotten via the website - or through text on your phone by:

- Step 1: Select the Messages icon.
- Step 2: Create a new Text Message.
- Step 3: Enter 888777 in the "To" field.
- Step 4: Enter zip code in the "Message" field.
- Step 5: Press "Send".

Resources and Additional Information

When reporting a bear sighting and/or depredation contact:
Idaho Dept. of Fish & Game: (208) 769-1414
Bonner County Dispatch: (208) 265-5525
Boundary County Dispatch: (208) 267-3151

Visit the links below for additional bear information:
Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee: <https://www.igbconline.org/>
Living with Wildlife Foundation: <http://www.lwwf.org/>
Center for Wildlife Information: <http://www.centerforwildlifeinformation.org/index.html>
Kootenai Valley Resource Initiative (KVRI): <http://www.kvricollaborative.com>
KVRI Grizzly Bear Subcommittee: <https://www.kvricollaborative.com/grizzly>

*Links to QR codes in the brochure:
<https://www.igbconline.org/>
<https://www.lwwf.org/>
<http://www.kvricollaborative.com>
<https://www.kvricollaborative.com/grizzly>

LIVING IN BEAR COUNTRY

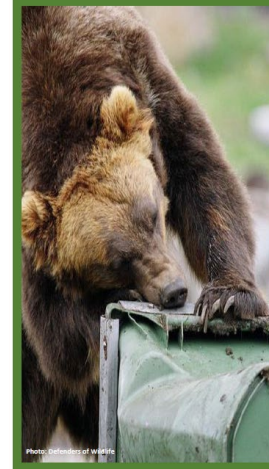


Photo: Department of Wildlife

Identify Bears and Learn About Bear Safety




A Guide to Living,
Working and Recreating
Safely in Bear Country

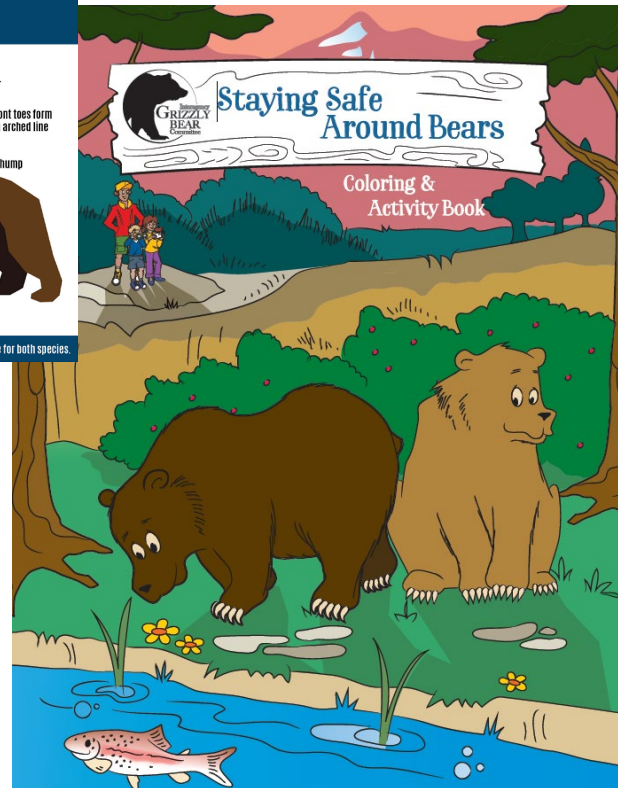
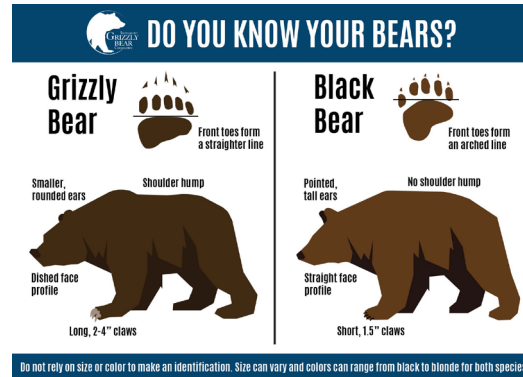
FWP.MT.GOV |  THE OUTSIDE IS IN US ALL.

Deterring Bears with Electrified Fencing: A beginner's guide



SWAG: STICKER, MAGNETS, AND MORE

- Packets distributed to Selkirk & Cabinet-Yaak IDFG, OSC, KTOI, USFWS-Partners, NRCS.
- SWAG shared with Greater Yellowstone-USFWS.
- Shared examples with Bitterroot IEO Subcommittee.



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BEAR SPRAY OUTREACH: SOCIAL CONTRACT + MONITORING

Bear Spray vs. Firearm

Smith et al. studied incidents involving the use of both bear spray and firearms against bears in Alaska. Take a look at a snapshot of their results on human injuries:

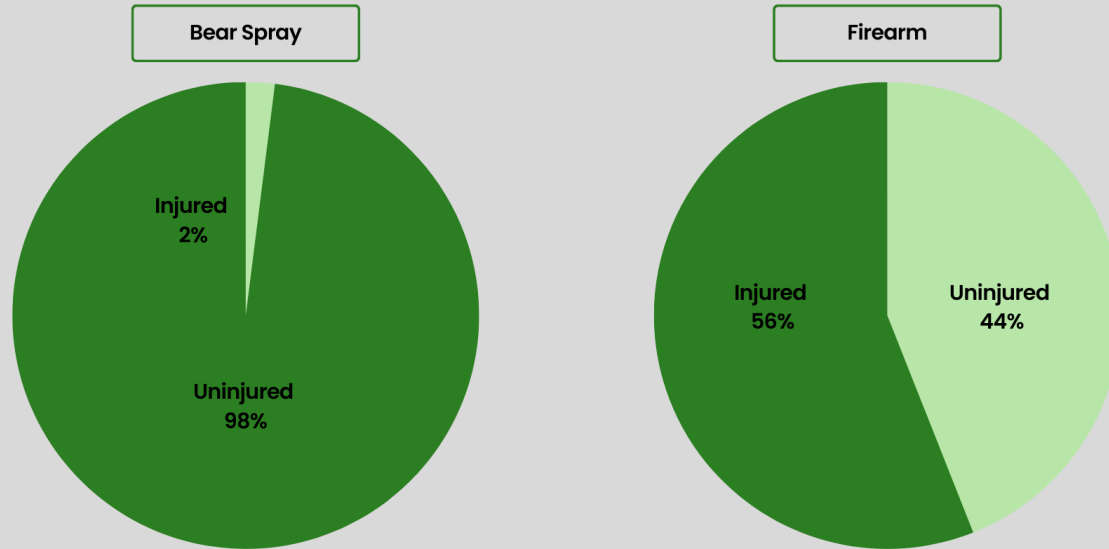


Image Source Adapted from : <https://trailquipt.com/bear-spray/>

Bear spray is the safer option for both you and for bears. Whether you choose to carry a firearm or not, always carry bear spray

Smith, T. S., Herrero, S., Debruyne, T. D., & Wilder, J. M. (2008). Efficacy of bear deterrent spray in Alaska. *The Journal of Wildlife Management*, 72(3), 640-645.

Smith, T. S., Herrero, S., Layton, C. S., Larsen, R. T., & Johnson, K. R. (2012). Efficacy of firearms for bear deterrence in Alaska. *The Journal of Wildlife Management*, 76(5), 1021-1027.

Bear Spray Use Please answer the following questions about bear spray. We plan to use this information to understand when people are carrying bear spray and to improve our bear safety outreach. Your feedback is optional, if anything does not apply to you, please indicate so or skip the question. Your response is important to help us #keepbearswild. Thank you!

1. What bear spray training have you received and when? Include informal training such as friends or family.

2. Are there any activities that you plan to carry bear spray with you this year?

3. Have your experiences with bears or bear safety information changed your intent to carry bear spray? If yes, how?

4. General Comments
