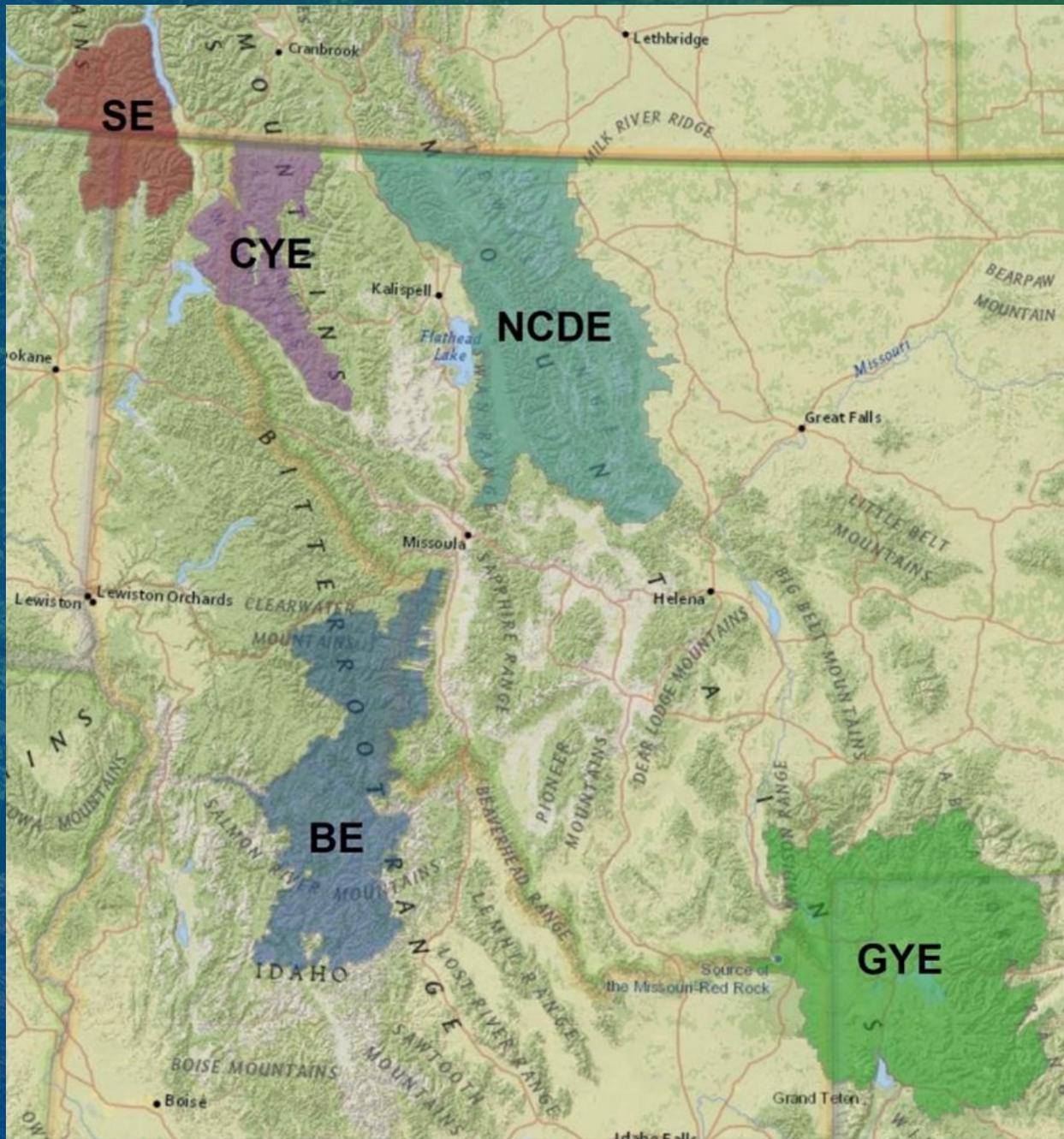


BITTERROOT ECOSYSTEM SUBCOMMITTEE

Winter Executive Committee Report - 2024





BITTERROOT SUBCOMMITTEE REPRESENTATION

Salmon-Challis NF

Bitterroot NF

Lolo NF

Nez Perce-Clearwater NF

Payette NF

Sawtooth NF

Idaho Panhandle NF

Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks

Idaho Department of Fish and Game

Bureau of Land Management – Idaho

Fish and Wildlife Service – Idaho and Montana

Nez Perce Tribe

County Commissioners (Idaho and Ravalli)



2024 SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS

Executive Committee – Information, Education, and Outreach Committee – Science Committee

Executive

Sandi Fisher, FWS – Chair

Liz Bradley, MTFWP – Vice-Chair

- April 11th – Spring Meeting (Virtual)
- October 23rd – Fall Meeting (Virtual)

IEO

Allyson Turner, FWS - Chair

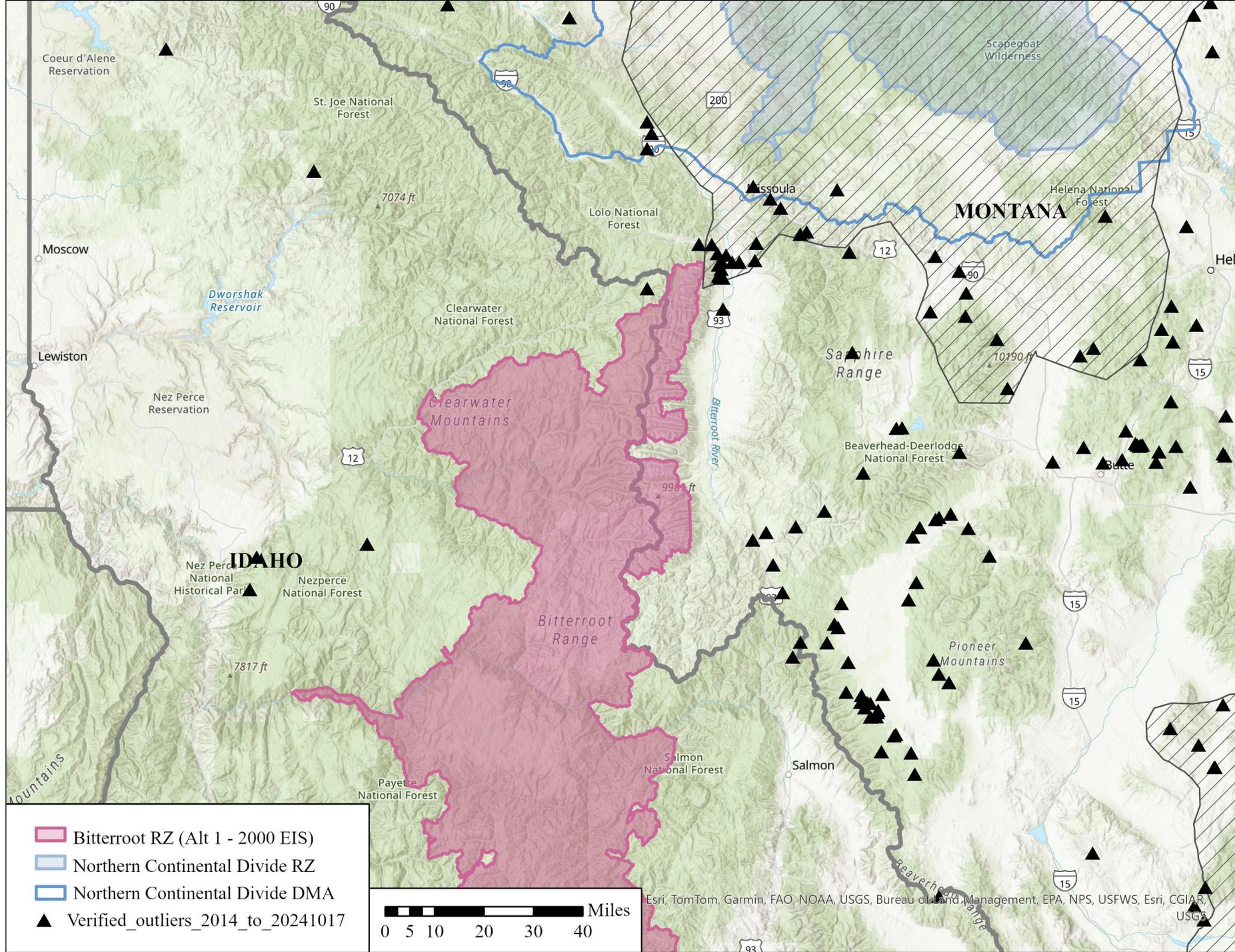
- April 3rd – Spring Meeting (Virtual)
- October 15th – Fall Meeting (Virtual)

Science

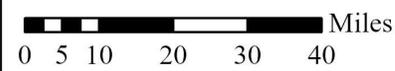
Jennifer Fortin-Noreus, FWS – Chair

Katie Oelrich, IDFG – Co-Chair

- April 8th – Spring Meeting (Virtual)
- October 2nd – Fall Meeting (Virtual)



- Bitterroot RZ (Alt 1 - 2000 EIS)
- Northern Continental Divide RZ
- Northern Continental Divide DMA
- Verified_outliers_2014_to_20241017



Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, Bureau of Land Management, EPA, NPS, USFWS, Esri, CGIAR, USGS

2024 ACCOMPLISHMENTS & 2025 PLANNED ACTIONS

Goal #1: Document Presence/Absence of Grizzly Bears in the Ecosystem

- Objective #1: Systematically monitor areas most likely to be colonized first or where credible sightings occur

2024 Accomplishments

- MT FWP Field Report and Hair Sampling
- IDFG Fisher Camera Monitoring
- IPNF Game Cams

2025 Planned Actions

- MT FWP Bear Reports & Opportunistic Collaring
- IDFG & FS Verified Sightings
- GBRP Hair Corrals

2024 ACCOMPLISHMENTS & 2025 PLANNED ACTIONS

Goal #1: Document Presence/Absence of Grizzly Bears in the Ecosystem

- Objective #2: Opportunistically monitor in other areas each year

2024 Accomplishments

- MT FWP Cont'd Tracking of Reports in R2 area
- Not a Subcommittee Action, but...Sarah Sells et al – Predicting Future Grizzly Bear Habitat Use in the Bitterroot

2025 Planned Actions

- MT FWP Bear Reports & Opportunistic Collaring
- IDFG Opportunistic (Lynx Camera) Monitoring
- GBRP Hair Corrals

2024 ACCOMPLISHMENTS & 2025 PLANNED ACTIONS



Goal #2: Promote Natural Recovery of the Population Through Immigration

Objective #1: Increase human-bear safety annually in areas newly occupied by grizzly bears

2024 Accomplishments

- Food Storage Working Group
- MT FWP Partnering w/ Bitterroot Bear Resources WG
- Lolo NF and ID Panhandle NF Bear Boxes and Signs

2025 Planned Actions

- Finalize Food Storage Implementation Framework
- IEO

2024 ACCOMPLISHMENTS & 2025 PLANNED ACTIONS

Goal #2: Promote Natural Recovery of the Population Through Immigration

- Objective #2: Limit human-caused mortality, including management removals

2024 Accomplishments

- Carcass Pick-up Program
- Range Rider Services
- Fencing Installation and Sanitation/Food Storage Infrastructure
- Food Storage Orders
- IEO Efforts and Bear Spray Giveaway
- Conflict Reduction Personnel
- Bear Aware and Bear Smart Programs

2025 Planned Actions

- Yes, and....
- GBRP Comm Plans
- IDFG Wildlife Human Attack Response Team & Legislative Rule-Making
- FS and BLM Rec Site Infrastructure

2024 ACCOMPLISHMENTS & 2025 PLANNED ACTIONS

Goal #2: Promote Natural Recovery of the Population Through Immigration

- Objective #3: Implement measures to improve connectivity in >50% of linkage areas by 2020

2024 Accomplishments

- MDOT Bitterroot Valley HW 93 Feasibility Study
- Lolo NF Plan Revision

2025 Planned Actions

- MT FWP Engagement in the BE Valley

2024 ACCOMPLISHMENTS & 2025 PLANNED ACTIONS

Goal #2: Promote Natural Recovery of the Population Through Immigration

- Objective #4: Increase landowner and community tolerance for grizzly bears in linkage zones and the recovery zone by 2022

2024 Accomplishments

- Bitterroot Bear Resource Committee
- Visitor Education Efforts

2025 Planned Actions

- MT FWP Cont'd Coordination Bitterroot Bear Resource Committee
- Bear Aware Trailer

2024 ACCOMPLISHMENTS & 2025 PLANNED ACTIONS

Goal #2: Promote Natural Recovery of the Population Through Immigration

- Objective #5: Prevent human-cause mortality throughout the Plan period

2024 Accomplishments

- IEO Summit
- IEO Grants Awarded
- Elimination of Anthropogenic Attractants
- IDFG Wildlife Human Attack Response Team

2025 Planned Actions

- IEO Funding

2025 SUBCOMMITTEE

Executive Committee – Information, Education, and Outreach Committee – Science Committee

Executive

Liz Bradley, MTFWP – Chair

Matt Anderson, BNF – Vice-Chair

- April 23rd – Spring Meeting (Hybrid - Missoula)
- October 22nd – Fall Meeting (Hybrid – Location TBD)

IEO

Vivaca Crowser, MTFWP - Chair

- TBD – Spring Meeting
- TBD – Fall Meeting

Science

Jennifer Fortin-Noreus, FWS – Chair

Katie Oelrich, IDFG – Co-Chair

- TBD – Spring Meeting (Virtual)
- TBD – Fall Meeting (Virtual)

QUESTIONS?

