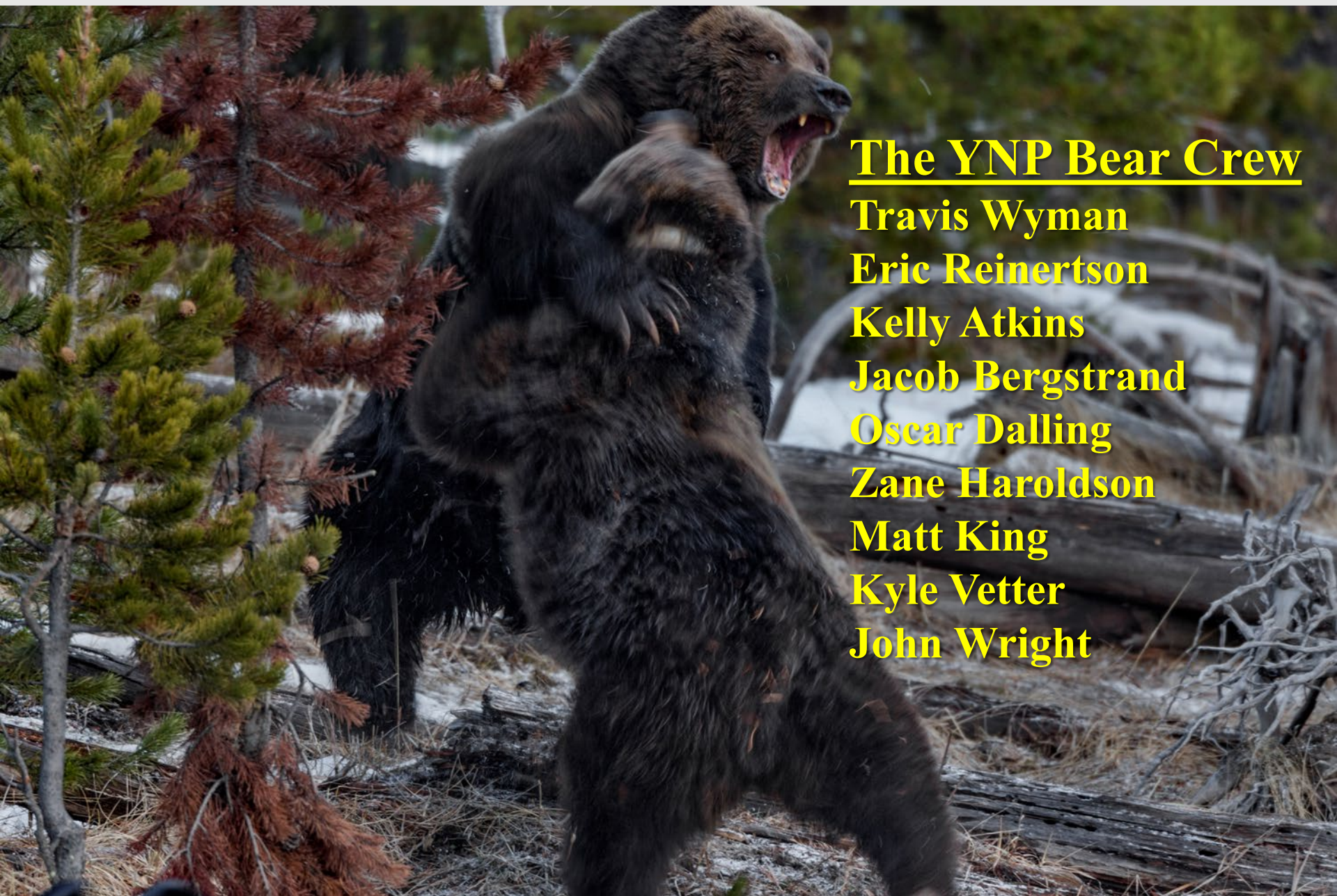


# **Yellowstone National Park Human-Bear Conflict Report - 2024**



**NPS Photo: J. Hadley**



## **The YNP Bear Crew**

**Travis Wyman**

**Eric Reinertson**

**Kelly Atkins**

**Jacob Bergstrand**

**Oscar Dalling**

**Zane Haroldson**

**Matt King**

**Kyle Vetter**

**John Wright**

# **Yellowstone National Park Visitation - 2024**

**4,744,353 Visits**

**95% of visits occurred May – October**

**24,569 visits per day**

Photo: N. Nichols

A photograph of a brown bear standing in a shallow stream, surrounded by tall grass and trees. The bear is looking towards the right. The water is dark and rippled. The background shows a dense forest with tall trees and green foliage.

# **Campsite Overnight Stays - 2024**

**536,215 Overnight Stays in Roadside Campgrounds**

**37,257 Overnight Stays in Backcountry Campsites**

**Photo: N. Nichols**



# **Conflict Prevention – 2024**

**Photo: N. Nichols**

# **YCC, MCC, GROUND-Work Management Staff Installed 90 Bear-proof Food Storage Lockers in 2024**



**1,570 of 1,914 (82%) Campsites Now Have Bear Boxes**



**10 of 11 Campgrounds Completed**



**Food Storage Pole ( $n=259$ )**  
**Food Storage Locker ( $n=41$ )**

**A Food Storage Device is Provided at all 300 Backcountry Campsites**

**Posted 13 areas with  
Bear Warnings due to  
Grizzly Activity in Visitor Use Areas**

**WARNING**



**FREQUENTING AREA**

Removal of this sign may result in INJURY to others  
and is punishable by law

**THERE IS NO GUARANTEE OF YOUR SAFETY  
WHILE HIKING OR CAMPING IN BEAR COUNTRY**

# Posted 24 Trail/Area Closures Due to Grizzly Activity In Visitor Use Areas



# Carcass Management

A photograph of five brown bears in a natural, grassy environment. One bear is standing at the top, looking down. Another is on the right, also looking down. Three other bears are clustered in the center, focused on a carcass on the ground. The bears have thick brown fur and are surrounded by green grass and some low-lying shrubs.

**Moved 94 Large Mammal Carcasses  
From Visitor Use Areas in 2023**

**31 Bison**

**29 Elk**

**26 Mule Deer**

**3 Pronghorn**

**2 Grizzly Bears**

**1 Black Bear**

**1 Coyote**

**1 Beaver**



**Management Hazing: 101 incidents**

**Bean Bag Rounds**

**Rubber Bullets**

**Cracker Shells**

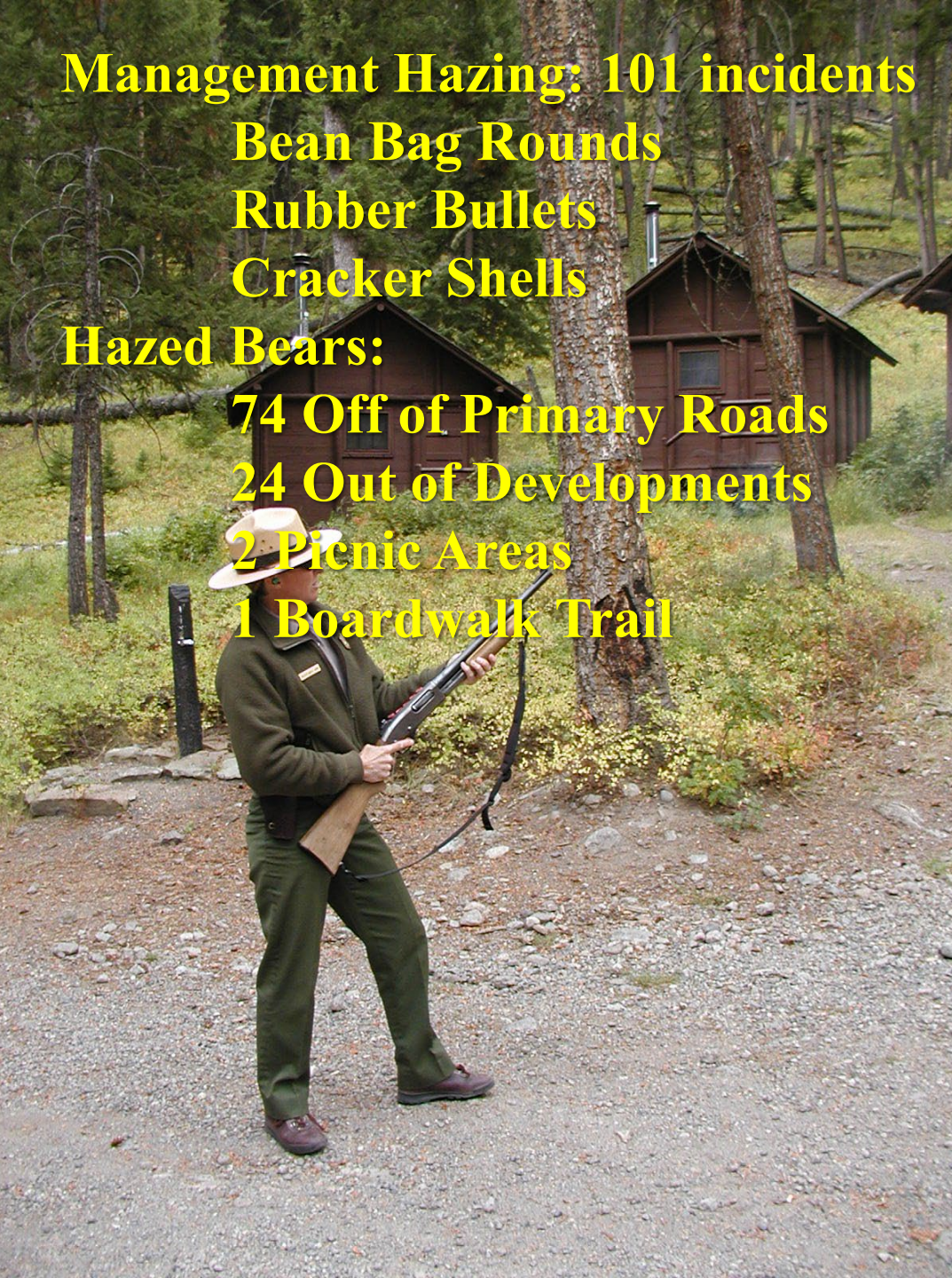
**Hazed Bears:**

**74 Off of Primary Roads**

**24 Out of Developments**

**2 Picnic Areas**

**1 Boardwalk Trail**





**Bear-jams Reported:**

**499 Grizzly Bear**

**760 Black Bear**

**6 Species Not Reported**

**Total: 1,265 Bear-jams**

**Park Staff Managed 352 of 499 (71%) Grizzly Bear-jams**



**No Park Staff Present at 147 (29%) of Bear-jams**

# 760 Black Bear-jams

Park Staff Present at 659 (87%)



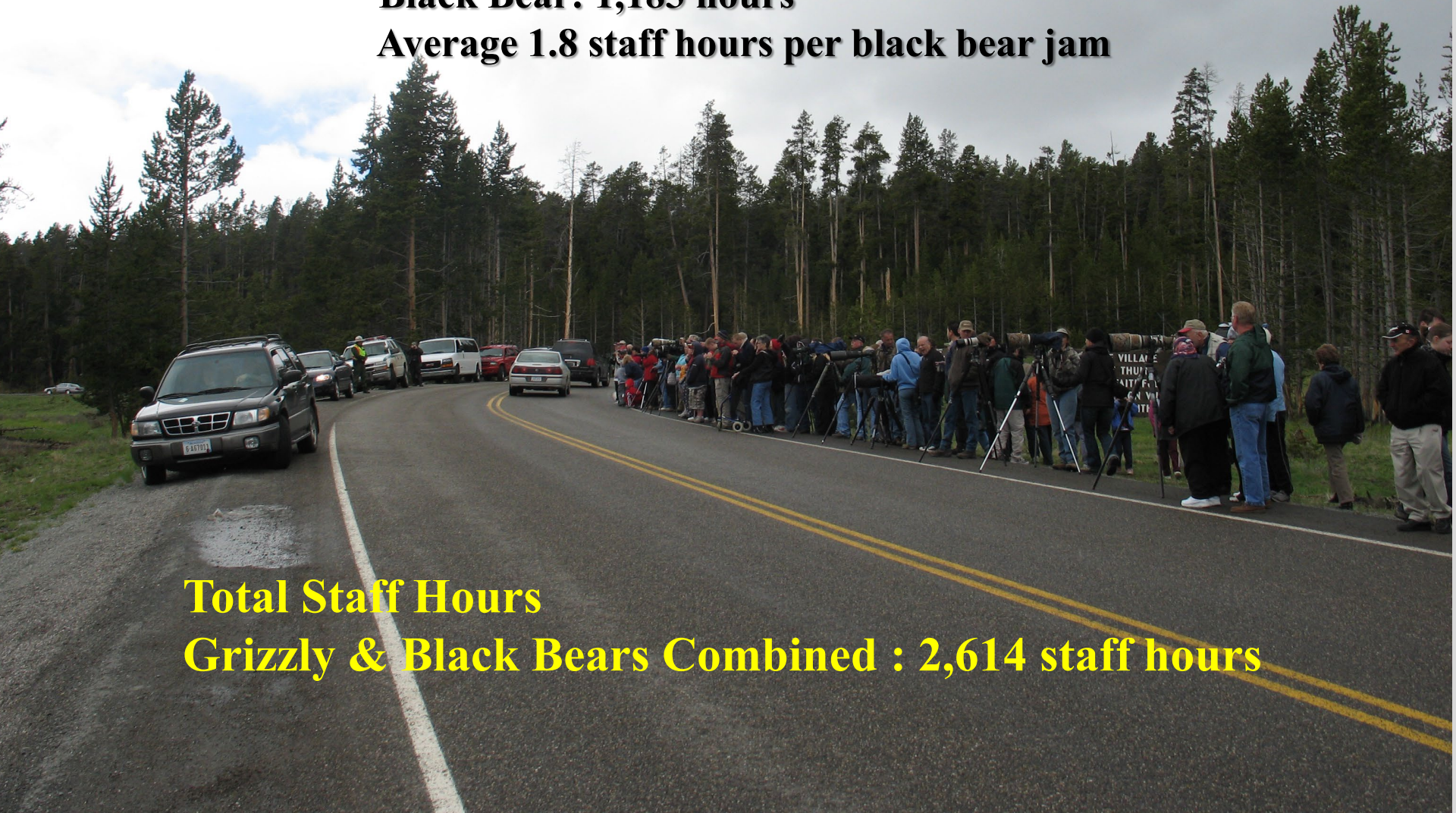
# Staff Hours Managing Grizzly Bear-jams

**Grizzly: 1,431 hours**

**Average: 4.1 staff hours per grizzly jam**

**Black Bear: 1,183 hours**

**Average 1.8 staff hours per black bear jam**



**Total Staff Hours**

**Grizzly & Black Bears Combined : 2,614 staff hours**

A photograph showing a person from behind, wearing a black jacket and a red scarf, standing in a snowy field. They are looking towards a brown bear that is standing on its hind legs, facing the person. The background is a snowy forest with bare trees.

**Need to Develop Better  
Ways to Promote Proper  
Bear Viewing Etiquette  
Among Park Visitors**

**Is Your Photo  
Worth Scaring a Cub?**



**Please Stand Back  
At Least 100 Yards!**

**Give Us Room To Live!**



# Human - Grizzly Bear Conflicts 2024

Property Damage No Food Reward: 0

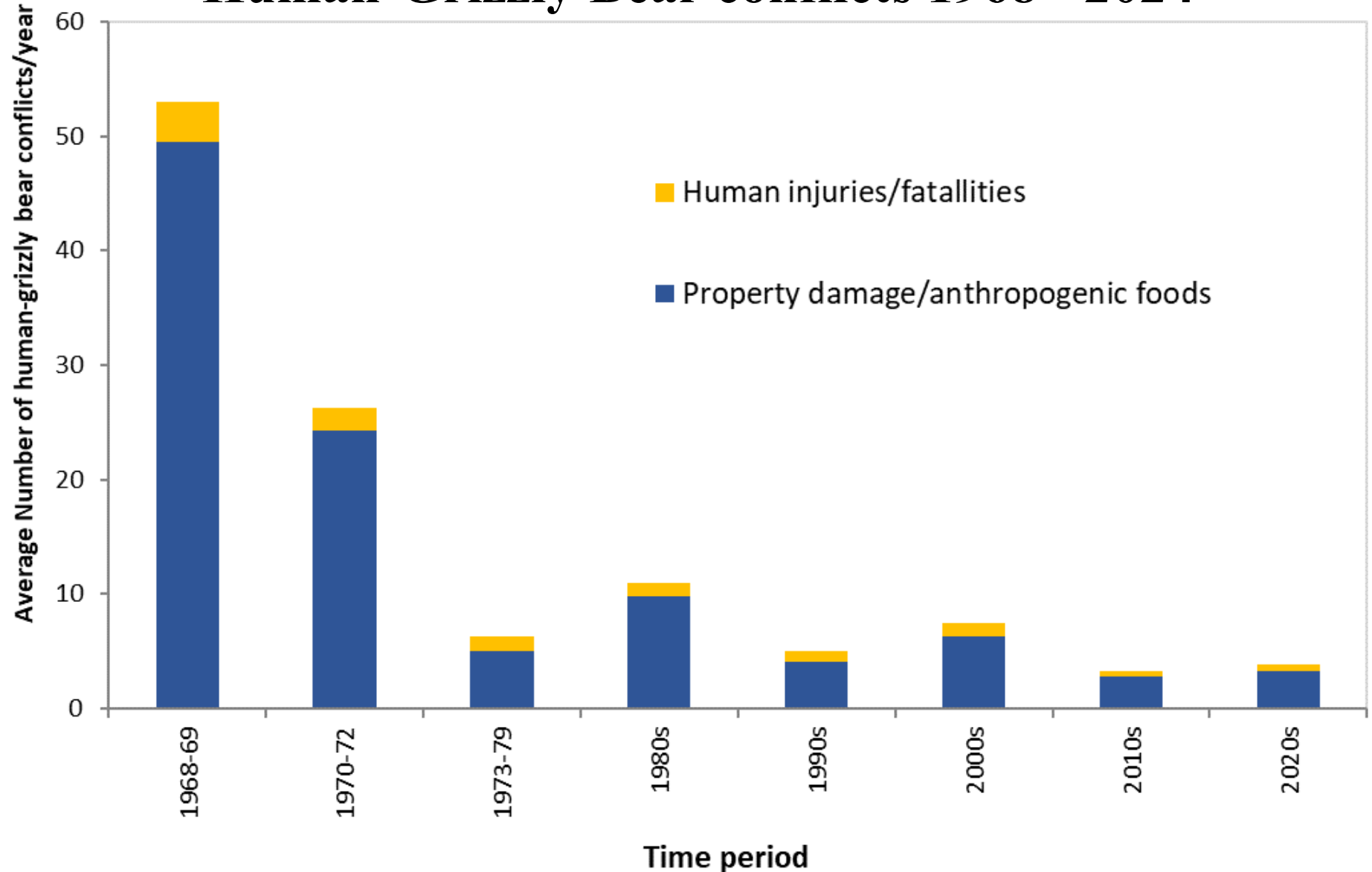
Human Food Obtained: 5

Human Injury: 0

**Total Conflicts: 5**



# Human-Grizzly Bear conflicts 1968 - 2024



# Management Capture & Relocation: 0



# Management Removals of Conflict Bears: 0

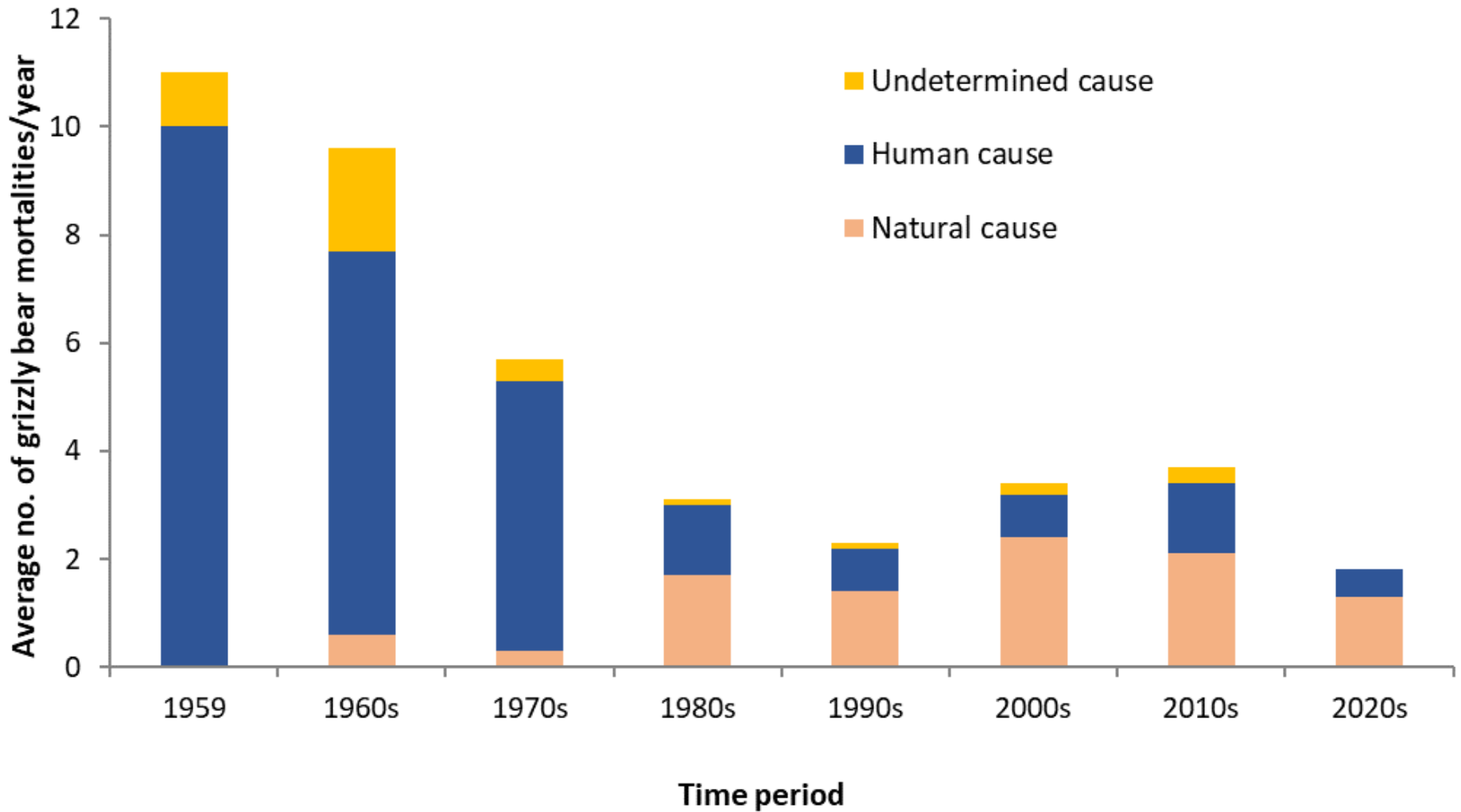




**Vehicle Strike Mortality: 0**



# Grizzly Bear Mortality 1959 - 2024



A photograph of a brown bear cub lying on its back on a large, grey, mossy rock. The cub is looking up with its mouth slightly open. The background is a lush green field with some trees and a clear sky.

# **Human-caused Grizzly Bear Mortality in YNP 2009 – 2024 (n = 16, average = 1 per year)**

**Management Removal - Backcountry Conflicts: 8 (50%)**

**Vehicle Strike Mortality: 5 (31%)**

**Electrocution by Powerline: 2 (13%)**

**Management Removal from Developed Sites: 1 (6%)**

# Risk of Bear Attack 1979 - 2024

**All Visitors Combined: 1 in 3.6 million visits**

**Front-country Recreation: 1 in 69.7 million visits**

**Camping in Roadside Campground: 1 in 29.2 million overnight stays**

**Camping in the Backcountry Campsite: 1 in 1.9 million overnight stays**

**Hiking in the Backcountry: 1 in 275,144 backcountry recreation days**

**Backcountry Recreationalists: 1 attack per 91 backcountry encounters**

Photo: b. Ertel

# Grizzly Bear Reactions to Encounters 1991-2024

**8,102 Encounters Reported**

**Neutral: 56%**

**Flight: 33%**

**Reaction Not Reported: 4%**

**Curious: 3%**

**Stress/Warning: 4%**

**Attack: <1%**



# **YNP's First Grizzly Bear Sighting of 2024: March 9th**

**Be Safe!**

**Hike in Groups of 3 or More People**  
**Make Noise to Forewarn Bears of Your Presence**  
**Carry Bear a Bear Deterrent**  
**Be Vigilant for Bears**

# *The End*



**NPS Photo: D. Schneider**