

2022 BLACKFOOT WATERSHED BEAR ACTIVITY REPORT

February 2024

Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP) Region 2 (R2) and the Blackfoot Challenge (BC) produce this wolf and bear activity report. These reports are typically compiled at the end of the range rider season in late fall. We were unable to complete the 2022 report in a timely manner, as a result, wolf information has not been included in this synopsis of bear activity for the Blackfoot watershed and elsewhere in the region.

During 2022, FWP R2 and the BC worked with ranches throughout the area and assisted with range riding and livestock carcass removal. The BC Range Rider Program was established in 2008 and is ongoing. Sigrid Olson and Vicki Pocha are the range riders for the Challenge. Jordan Mannix, who worked with us in years past, returned to the ranch work in 2022. The BC Carcass Pick-up Program has been ongoing since 2004. We thank Dan Masseur and Barry Gordon who pick up most of the carcasses associated with the annual carcass pickup program. Thanks again to the ranchers, landowners, partners, and funders who make these programs possible. Outside of the Blackfoot Valley, carcass pickup programs are also occurring now in the Deer Lodge and Drummond areas as well as in the Bitterroot Valley.

Most bear management, preventative management and grizzly bear research trapping are handled by the FWP R2 Grizzly Bear and Black Bear Management Team. In the Blackfoot Valley, the agency works in conjunction with Eric Graham (BC) who focuses on preventative projects and works closely with communities, homeowners, and landowners in the Blackfoot and Clearwater drainages. Eli Hampson (FWP) based out of Missoula, works throughout R2 (Blackfoot Valley, Missoula Basin, Bitterroot Valley, and Lower and Upper Clark Fork Valleys) and assists where needed. Brad Balis (FWP), who replaced Rory Trimbo in 2022, is stationed in the Deer Lodge, Butte, and the Big Hole valleys, but assists where needed. Bruce Montgomery (FWP) is stationed in the Bitterroot Valley and assists where needed. And Jamie Jonkel (FWP) based out of Missoula, works throughout R2, and assists where needed, but mostly handles calls from the public and provides logistical support.

Wildlife Biologist Mike Ebinger (FWP) was the point person for all issues pertaining to elk, deer, and other aspects of wildlife management in the Blackfoot drainage. Ebinger replaced Scott Eggeman who left FWP in the fall of 2021. For any wildlife-related matters on issues needing the attention of a game warden, contact Lincoln Game Warden Ezra Schwalm. We welcome and introduce Garrett Kocab, the new Seeley Lake FWP Game Warden.

Wolf, lion and bear depredations and livestock loss reimbursement are handled by Wildlife Services (WS). The main contact for Powell County, Granite County, Deer Lodge County and Ravalli County is Bart Smith (WS). The main contact for Missoula County, Flathead County and Mineral County is Ted North (WS). The main contact for Lewis and Clark and Cascade Counties is John Meidke (WS). And Kraig Glazier is the District Supervisor for Western Montana. When wolf depredations are not the issue, Tyler Parks (FWP) handles all other wolf-related

management, wolf research trapping and reporting. Eli Hampson (FWP) handles mountain lion-related management.

We would like to recognize all partners that provide funding and technical assistance - FWP, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), the Bureau of Land Management, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), The Nature Conservancy, Heart of the Rockies, the Livestock Loss Board, Northern Rockies Conservation Co-op, Defenders of Wildlife, Vital Ground, the Cross Charitable Foundation, People and Carnivores, the Stranahan Foundation, the Western Bear Foundation, and numerous individuals.

A quick reminder that all attractants on the ranch or homesite should be unavailable to bears. For example, be sure to lock up all sheds and barns where garbage, grain and other attractants are stored and if you need additional electric fence materials or energizers for containing carcasses, other bear attractants (grain, sweet licks, garbage, etc.) or if you have any questions about the BC Wildlife Committee, community-based bear management in the valley, the range rider or the carcass pickup program, call the **Wildlife Program Coordinator Eric Graham (406) 240-3132**.

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR REPORTING WOLF, BEAR AND LION ACTIVITY:

Jamie Jonkel – FWP Bear Management Specialist (406) 544-1447

Eli Hampson---FWP Bear/Lion Management Technician (406) 210-3213

Brad Balis—FWP Deer Lodge Bear Management Technician (406) 465-9343

Bruce Montgomery—FWP Bitterroot Valley Bear Management Technician (406) 422-6184

Mike Ebinger – FWP Blackfoot Area Wildlife Biologist (left for another position)

Tyler Parks – FWP Wolf Management Specialist (406) 531-4454

Again, if you have a suspected livestock predation, please notify USDA WS as soon as possible to determine the cause of death. Regarding reimbursement for losses through the **Livestock Loss Board**: If you suspect a livestock loss due to mountain lion/wolf/grizzly bear predation, you can request an investigation to see if the losses were due to a confirmed or probable depredation. The Livestock Loss Board can pay only for confirmed or probable losses as determined by USDA WS. For more information go to this link: [Livestock Loss Board \(mt.gov\)](http://Livestock Loss Board (mt.gov)).

WS Powell County - Bart Smith (406) 660-0368

WS Missoula County - Ted North (406) 274-4856

WS Lewis & Clark County - John Meidtke (406) 855-8429

Western Montana District Supervisor- Kraig Glazier (406) 458-0106

Department of Livestock - Livestock Loss Board (406) 444-5609

And for any other wildlife-related matters needing the attention of a game warden contact:

Ezra Schwalm– MFWP Lincoln Game Warden (406) 438-3666

Garrett Kocab – MFWP Seeley Lake Game Warden (406) 210-1299

IMPORTANT UPDATES REGARDING 2022 GRIZZLY BEAR ACTIVITY IN THE BLACKFOOT VALLEY

2022 Grizzly Bear Conflicts and Depredations in the Blackfoot Watershed

In 2022, there were a handful of conflicts and multiple reports of grizzly bears. The first report of grizzly tracks, although unverified, was on February 23, 2022, north of Ovando. The first verified tracks were observed on March 14 along the Nevada-Ogden Road near Trapper Peak. After the 14th, tracks were reported through the rest of the month. The first report of female with offspring was on April 5th northeast of Ovando. Throughout the remainder of the year, grizzly activity in the central basin and the headwaters of the Blackfoot drainage was constant with abundant reports of grizzlies feeding in crops, traveling near homesites and towns, and feeding on natural foods on private lands. But compared to years past, there was a reduction in the number of conflicts in the Blackfoot basin:

- On 5/12/2022, a grizzly killed one calf at a ranch near Helmsville and a second calf was reported missing. WS set a trap, but no bears were captured.
- Starting on 5/13/2022 through August, a lone grizzly accessed uncontained garbage, birdfeeders, and other attractants at multiple home sites on east side of the Potomac Valley. FWP set traps on several occasions and began working with the community on sanitation issues.
- On 5/21/2022, the cubs of a female grizzly were treed by hounds at a residence north of Seeley Lake. The female protected the cubs but left the site once the dogs were pulled inside.
- On 6/13/2022, an unmarked female grizzly with two cubs broke into a chicken coop and grain shed in the Ovando area. Through the course of the summer this family group broke into multiple private sheds, buildings, and a barn at the Monture Ranger Station. On July 20th one of the cubs was road-killed on Hwy 200 near the North Fork of the Blackfoot Bridge. On 9/16, the female and remaining cub were captured after another barn break-in near Ovando. The decision was made to euthanize the female and remaining cub due to extreme food-conditioned behavior. The hide and skull of the female were donated to the Ovando Museum.
- On 8/6/2022, a grizzly killed several sheep on a ranch southeast of Lincoln. Over the course of the month the same grizzly fought with livestock guardian dogs and killed additional sheep. On the 24th, a young adult male was captured by WS and euthanized.



This sow and cub repeatedly broke into sheds and buildings in search of food and were ultimately captured and euthanized in September 2022.

- On 8/10/2022, a female grizzly and cubs got into apple trees and a grain shed in the Helmville area. The BC assisted the ranch with erecting a temporary electric fence.
- On 9/17/2022, a grizzly near Nevada Lake got into an open grain shed at a ranch. The BC assisted the ranch with erecting an electric fence.
- On 8/20/2022, a lone grizzly broke into a grain shed east of Clearwater Junction. The ranch contained the attractants and set up cameras. The bear did not return.
- On 8/29/2022, two hikers encountered a grizzly at close range near Upsata Lake. The bear charged and bear spray was deployed. The bear left the area. For more information on this incident check out this article: [Grizzly encounter resolves in cloud of bear spray \(missoulian.com\)](#)
- On 9/1/2022, a calf was killed by a grizzly near Lincoln. WS set traps and an adult male grizzly, known as “Lucky Four” from previous research, was captured the next day. A second grizzly was observed on camera at the trap site. Not knowing which bear was involved the male was relocated to the South Fork of the Flathead River East of Hungry Horse Reservoir.
- Beginning on 9/8/2021, a lone grizzly broke into several grain sheds and chicken coops in the Woodworth area. BC and FWP assisted several residences with electric fences. Traps were set, but no bears were captured.
- On 9/25/2022 through early October, a grizzly started accessing garbage at a ranch in the Helmville area. Traps were set but no bear was captured.

IMPORTANT UPDATES REGARDING 2022 GRIZZLY BEAR ACTIVITY ELSEWHERE IN REGION 2:

2022 Grizzly Bear Conflicts and Depredations Outside of the Blackfoot Watershed

There was an increase in grizzly activity in the Missoula and Bitterroot Valleys.

- During the last half of May 2022, two unmarked sub-adult grizzlies were tracked and observed on multiple occasions in the North Hills of Missoula. The two bears crossed through the lower Rattlesnake drainage’s residential area and were reported in the Marshall Ski area and portions of the lower Blackfoot drainage just upstream from Bonner. On 5/29, the two subadult grizzlies were captured after they were observed near several homes in the Twin Creek area. Both bears were female and were thought to be members of a grizzly bear family group that was frequenting the Missoula’s North Hills in the fall of 2021. The smaller of the two bears was missing its left front leg and was euthanized when it was determined that the wound was septic. The leg had been found earlier that month by a bicyclist near the Snowbowl Ski Resort. The other female was radio-collared and released in the headwaters of Boles Creek near the Rattlesnake Wilderness. This female later died from consuming ground squirrel poison. For more information check out this article: <https://www.krtv.com/news/montana-and-regional-news/wildlife-officials-capture-two-grizzly-bears-in-blackfoot-valley#:~:text=Montana%20Fish%2C%20Wildlife%2C%20and%20Parks%20says%20the%20two,Montana%20Highway%20200%2C%20approximately%2010%20miles%20from%20Bonner.>

- On 6/15/2022, there were multiple reports of a grizzly accessing uncontained garbage in the Wallace Creek area near Clinton.
- On 8/4/2022, two sub-adult grizzlies, presumed to be siblings, were observed near Turah. Both bears were in the middle of Interstate 90 feeding on a dead deer. On the 6th, the bears were photographed along the frontage road in Bonner, and they crossed Interstate 90 that night. The next day the two grizzlies were photographed on a ranch in the Bitterroot Valley. Although unmarked at the time the two sub adults were documented spending considerable time on the north end of the Bitterroot Valley between Florence and Lolo. The two bears were observed on many occasions and crossed Hwy 93 South at least eight times. Toward the end of September, both bears began showing an interest in empty garbage cans and began feeding on residential fruit. The decision was made to capture and relocate the two bears to a less inhabited area on the east side of the Bitterroot Valley in the Sapphire Range. On the 20th, the sub adult male (“Kolb”) was captured, radio collared and relocated to the Welcome Creek Wilderness. On October 2nd, the sub adult female (“Lichenstone”) was captured radio collared and relocated to the same area. Separately the bears proceeded to travel north, crossed Interstate 90 at different sites, and reunited on the Rocky Mountain Front. For more information on all these two Bitterroot Valley grizzlies check out this article: [Together Again by Montana Outdoors - Issuu](#)

COLLARED AND RELOCATED GRIZZLY BEARS 2022

Here is a quick summary of relocated and radio collared grizzlies in R2:

- On June 10, 2021, the female grizzly bear “Ursa,” and her two yearlings, were in Alice Creek in the headwaters of the Blackfoot River near the Continental Divide. “Ursa” was captured in 2019 on August 26th northeast of Lincoln in the Landers Fork. She spent most of her time ranging the south end of the Scapegoat Wilderness between the Landers Fork and McDonald Pass and denned in the headwaters of Falls Creek northeast of Lincoln. “Ursa” was last located and observed with her two sub adults on 5/5/21 in the headwaters of the Landers Fork. In 2022 Ursa was observed with at least one cub. She wore her collar through 2022 and denned again in the headwaters of Falls Creek.
- On 9/4/2020, a young adult male grizzly, “Tipper-not,” was captured at a private resort north of Seeley Lake. At the time of capture there was no way to verify if he was involved in a series of conflicts involving uncontained garbage. Multiple grizzlies were in the area. As a result, he was relocated to the Whitefish Range northwest of Eureka. The bear denned in Canada just north of Frozen Lake and emerged in mid-April 2021. On June 11th he was recaptured in Trego, MT, after traps were set for a grizzly accessing uncontained garbage in a residential area. It appeared “Tipper-not” was one of several bears in the area and he was relocated to the Spotted Bear River on the south end of the Bob Marshall Wilderness. He denned in the Swan Range and dropped his collar in 2022 in the Bunker Creek.
- On October 21st, 2020, a young adult male grizzly, “Lingenpolter,” was captured west of Garrison Junction and relocated near Huckleberry Pass northwest of Lincoln. He denned north of Seeley Lake, and, in the spring of 2021, he emerged from his den and returned

to the Drummond area where he did get into several chicken coops. He eventually crossed Interstate 90 and moved slowly south into the Deer Lodge and Bitterroot Valleys. He denned in the Flint Range and dropped his collar in the spring of 2022 in the headwaters of Gold Creek. For more information on “Lingenpolter’s” movements. check out this article:

https://missoulian.com/news/local/wayward-griz-shows-how-bears-use-the-land-get-in-trouble/article_45d124da-59ae-585d-a452-6bd6a52c2451.html

- As mentioned above, on 5/29/2022, two subadult grizzlies were captured after they were observed near several homes in the Twin Creek area. The smaller of the two bears was missing its left front leg and was euthanized. The other female, named “Wisherd,” was radio-collared and released in the headwaters of Boles Creek near the Rattlesnake Wilderness. This female later died from consuming ground squirrel poison.
[Grizzlies too close to homes in Blackfoot - Seeley Swan Pathfinder \(seeleylake.com\)](#)
- On 9/1/2022, a calf was killed by a grizzly near Lincoln, MT. WS set traps and an adult male grizzly, known as “Lucky Four” from a previous research capture, was captured the next day. A second grizzly was observed on camera at the trap site. Not knowing which bear was involved, the male was relocated to the South Fork of the Flathead River East of Hungry Horse Reservoir. He spent the remainder of the 2022 and denned in the Flathead National Forest.
- In the fall of 2022, the NCDE Grizzly Bear Research Team captured and collared a female grizzly along the Swan-Clearwater Divide. The bear known as “Alpine Glow” spent time in the Clearwater River but mostly in the Bob Marshall Wilderness. She denned in the headwaters of Shaw Creek.
- In the fall of 2022, an orphan cub-of-the-year from the Rocky Mountain Front was relocated by the USFWS to the headwaters of the Jocko River on the Flathead Indian Reservation. The cub was not collared and its whereabouts are unknown.



Blackfoot Challenge Wildlife Coordinator Eric Graham assists MT FWP staff with capturing and monitoring research bears in the watershed.

GRIZZLY BEAR MORTALITIES 2022

In 2022 there were six confirmed grizzly bear mortalities:

- On 5/29/2022, two subadult grizzlies were captured after they were observed near several homes in the Twin Creek area. Both bears were female and were thought to be members of a grizzly bear family group that was frequenting Missoula’s North Hills the fall of 2021. The smaller of the two bears was missing its left front leg and was

euthanized on the 30th when it was determined that the wound was septic. The missing leg had been found earlier that month by a bicyclist near the Snowbowl Ski Resort.

- The second female, captured on 5/29/2022, named “Wisherd,” was radio-collared and released in the headwaters of Boles Creek near the Rattlesnake Wilderness. This female later died from consuming ground squirrel poison. The carcass was discovered on 7/13/2022.
- On 7/20/2022, an unmarked male grizzly bear cub was road-killed on Highway 200 east of Ovando near the North Fork of the Blackfoot Bridge.
- As mentioned earlier, on 8/6/2022 a grizzly killed several sheep on a ranch southeast of Lincoln. Over the course of the month the same grizzly fought with livestock guardian dogs and killed additional sheep. On the 24th, a young adult male was captured by WS and euthanized.
- As mentioned earlier, on 9/16/22 a female and her male cub were captured. The decision was made to euthanize the female and her male cub due to extreme food conditioning behavior. The two bears had been involved in multiple building break-ins. [Two grizzly bears euthanized after repeated conflicts - Seeley Swan Pathfinder \(seeleylake.com\)](https://seeleylake.com)

GRIZZLY BEAR AND BLACK BEAR NATURAL FOODS SUMMARY 2022

In 2022 berry production was fair in the Blackfoot Valley and elsewhere in the region. Huckleberries, service berry, chokecherry and hawthorn production varied regionally and in certain areas there were localized berry crop failures. As a result, grizzlies and black bears shifted to other natural and unnatural food sources. In the Blackfoot and Clearwater drainages, conflicts involving unnatural foods, such as garbage and bird feeders, were minimal. But elsewhere, for example in the Missoula and Bitterroot Valleys, the number of bear conflicts were exceptionally high. The chokecherry and hawthorn crops around Missoula in the foothill regions, along stream bottoms and in the riparian zones, were for the second year in a row, especially prolific. During July and August, more black bears than normal migrated to the area. The intense heat in the late summer, however, caused the berries to become over ripe and drop. As a result, the bears shifted their attention to domestic fruit, garbage, and other unnatural attractants. The summer of 2022 was especially overwhelming and can be categorized as one of Missoula’s worst food failure years for the local black bear population. Conflicts were also elevated in the Bitterroot Valley and elsewhere across the region. More grizzly bears are starting to take advantage of the natural berry production in the northern Bitterroot and Missoula/Clinton areas.

2022 BLACK BEAR AND MOUNTAIN LION ACTIVITY:

There were a handful of black bear conflicts in the Blackfoot and Clearwater drainages, but throughout the Missoula basin, Bitterroot Valley, and Clark Fork drainages, conflicts occurred on a regular basis. Black bear conflicts in the Missoula basin in 2022 can be described as occurring on a crisis level due to the early ripening of berries. The year chalked up to be one of

the worst on record. Preliminary analysis of the 2022 FWP R2 black bear data indicates that the agency relocated 40 black bears. Between FWP and WS at least 13 black bears were euthanized. An additional 15 bears were shot or suspected to have been shot by homeowners experiencing conflicts and there was a minimum of 38 road-killed black bears collected by FWP. Additional road-kill black bears were collected by the Montana Department of Transportation. Bears are especially vulnerable to being struck by vehicles in the fall when they are feeding on river bottom berries or attempting to access garbage dumpsters and garbage cans adjacent to highways.



Black bear activity in and around Missoula was especially high in 2022, including this bear that ventured into the downtown area.

In January, February, and March of 2022, FWP fielded reports of lion activity throughout the Blackfoot, Clearwater, Clark Fork, Bitterroot and Missoula Valleys. There were a handful of livestock depredations and incidents where lions were in proximity to home sites. FWP was called out on multiple occasions to assist trappers with freeing trapped mountain lions from wolf and furbearer traps. FWP also responded to several moose and black bears in traps. Report black bear and mountain lion activity and incidents as quickly as possible and for detailed information on black bear and lion activity in and around R2 check out these two sites:

<http://missoulabears.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/missoulabears/>

BEAR SMART COMMUNITY EFFORTS IN THE BLACKFOOT AND ELSEWHERE IN REGION 2

The Blackfoot region is well known for a community-driven approach to managing and mitigating for bear conflicts, and the Blackfoot Valley has been recognized internationally for cooperative effort and having some of the lowest numbers of grizzly conflicts in the state. But, as mentioned above, there are a few grizzlies in the Blackfoot watershed that have developed bad habits the last few years. Therefore, it is always best to lock up all sheds and barns where garbage, grain and other attractants are stored. If you need additional alarm devices, bear spray, electric fence materials or energizers for containing carcasses or other bear attractants (grain, sweet licks, garbage, etc.), call Eric Graham or James Jonkel.

Collaborative community-led approaches for mitigating bear conflicts can benefit both people and bears. For many years, the BC has been practicing this approach effectively and recently

other communities around R2 have been developing similar programs for addressing bear-human conflicts. For example, the City of Missoula, the town of Seeley Lake, the town of Alberton and the community of Potomac Valley have organized and are working diligently on addressing garbage and other attractant issues that are the driving force for bear-related conflicts. A similar endeavor is occurring in the Bitterroot Valley. For more information on these efforts check out these links:

[Bear Smart Missoula – Missoula Bears](#)

[Difficult conditions for black bears following food failure - Seeley Swan Pathfinder \(seeleylake.com\)](#)

[Bear Awareness field day held - Seeley Swan Pathfinder \(seeleylake.com\)](#)

[Teaching bears to keep away, not come and stay - Seeley Swan Pathfinder \(seeleylake.com\)](#)

[Bears visiting the classroom - Seeley Swan Pathfinder \(seeleylake.com\)](#)

Resources are available for any communities interested in pursuing similar efforts. For example, the Bear Smart Community Resource Fund, is available through nonprofit group People and Carnivores: [Nonprofit offers money for communities to go Bear Smart \(missoulian.com\)](#). In addition, the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee has a whole website devoted to assisting communities with bear smart community efforts. For more information, contact Eric Graham or any of the R2 Bear Management Team or visit this link: [Bear Smart Communities - Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee \(igbconline.org\)](#).

RANGE RIDER AND LIVESTOCK CARCASS PICKUP PROGRAMS:

The Blackfoot Challenge is happy to report that a good portion of the livestock producers in the Blackfoot Valley are participating in both programs. Currently, during the spring, summer and fall there is a range rider covering the central portion of the Blackfoot Valley and a range rider covering the Potomac Valley. If you are interested in the range rider program, contact Eric Graham for more information.

The Blackfoot Challenge's Livestock Carcass Pick-up and Removal Program runs during calving season from mid-February through mid-May. Thereafter, carcasses in the Blackfoot



Range riders monitor wolf and bear activity around grazing livestock throughout the summer, keeping in close contact with ranchers.

Valley are picked up by FWP or Blackfoot Challenge employees. In the last few years there have been incidents of grizzly bears venturing into ranch compounds to retrieve carcasses left out for the carcass pickup program. Dead calves were either left on the ground or placed on hay bales within high activity areas on the ranch and bears were lured in to feed on the carcasses. As a result, the pickup protocol was re-evaluated, and it is now recommending that after March all carcasses set aside for pickup be stored away from ranch premises. **For carcass pick up service in the Blackfoot Valley, call Dan Massey at 406-793-5639 (winter and spring) and Barry Gordon at 406-541-1078 (summer and fall).** If you are unable to make contact at these numbers or need carcass pickup service elsewhere in R2, call James Jonkel with FWP at 406-544-1447. The carcasses are either taken to the compost site at Clearwater Junction or the Missoula and Deer Lodge landfill sites. To learn more about this program, watch “Living with Carnivores: Boneyards, Bear & Wolves.” Click here: <https://vimeo.com/131528982>.

ELECTRIC FENCE AND ELECTRIFIED MAT COST SHARE PROJECTS:

Multiple fencing projects have occurred at various ranches and residential sites across the Blackfoot Valley. Over the last two summers the BC has assisted multiple families with electrified residential containment fences and larger scale NRCS electric fence projects. NRCS EQIP funds have provided participants with financial assistance through the Grizzly Bear Mitigation Targeted Implementation Plan. This funding has allowed for installation of electric fences and electrified drive-over mats to deter grizzlies from entering ranch headquarters throughout the Blackfoot area. For more information on how to access NRCS EQIP funding in the Blackfoot or elsewhere, check out the link below. Electric fencing is an excellent way to protect livestock, fowl and contain residential attractants. Electric fence is a method of ensuring that bears or other predators that check out yard areas will not come back again. A good shock is the best way to teach bears to keep away. Contact Jamie Jonkel (544-1447) or Eric Graham (240-3132) if you would like to talk about cost share programs to install electric fence around home sites, livestock holding pens, chickens, cattle, pigs, goats, sheep, bee yards, fruit orchards, gardens and other sites that might attract bears or other wildlife. For information on electric fence and another option for cost sharing on electric fence check out these sites:

<https://defenders.org/got-grizzlies>

[Grizzly Conflict Mitigation Targeted Implementation Plan \(usda.gov\)](https://www.usda.gov/programs/grizzly-conflict-mitigation-targeted-implementation-plan)

[USDA APHIS | Wildlife Services' Nonlethal Initiative](https://www.usda.gov/aphis/wildlife-services/nonlethal-initiative)



Electrified drive-over mats tied into electric fences now help deter bears from entering dozens of Blackfoot ranch yards.