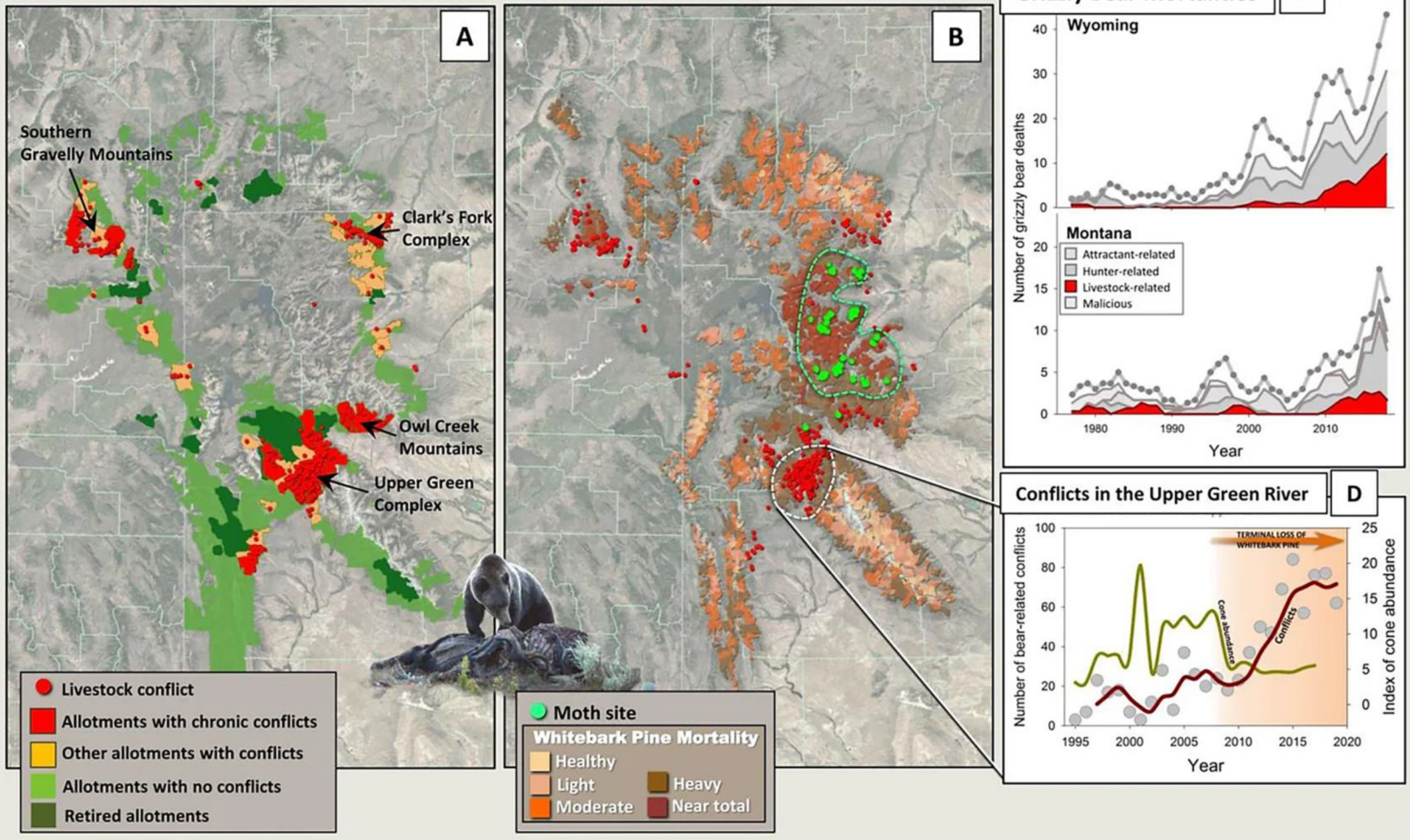


Conflicts on Public Lands Grazing Allotments

Grizzly Times <https://www.grizzlytimes.org/landscapes-of-conflict>

by David Mattson

Livestock-Related Conflicts: Greater Yellowstone 2012-2018



These maps and graphs show annual and spatial trends of human-grizzly bear conflict organized around bear depredation on livestock in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (GYE) during 2012-2018. Map (A) shows documented conflicts (red dots) relative to public-land grazing allotments with chronic conflicts (in red), less than chronic conflict (shown in orange), and allotments with none at all (in green). Allotments shaded dark green had been retired. Note the phenomenal concentrations of conflicts in the Upper Green River drainage and Owl Creek Mountains in the southeastern portion of the GYE. Map (B) shows conflicts relative to losses of mature whitebark pine trees during 2002-2009 (shades of tan to burgundy) and sites where bears fed on army cutworm moths (green dots). Conflicts over livestock (a substitute high-quality food when natural foods are lost) were concentrated in areas with high levels of whitebark pine mortality not offset by the availability of moths (both high-quality native foods). Livestock-related conflicts in the Upper Green are shown in (D) as a red line relative to losses of whitebark pine seeds, as a green line. Note the jump in conflicts coincident with terminal losses of whitebark pine seeds. Losses of whitebark pine and resulting increases in bear depredation on livestock led not only to increasing conflicts, but also to increasing numbers of grizzly bears being killed because of these conflicts (in [C] shown in red as a proportion of total grizzly bear mortalities in the GYE).