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Newsletter and Blog

Featuring updates on grizzly bear conservation activities,
and the latest *Grizzly Times* Blog
from *Louisa Willcox*
Executive Director of *Grizzly Times*.
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Dear Friends of Grizzly Bears,

Yellowstone's grizzlies are waking up - to face a world that bristles with guns. Since the last newsletter, Idaho has joined the fray (with Wyoming) to allow trophy hunting of grizzly bears this fall.

How much will it cost Idaho to go through the process that allows hunters to kill one bear - its quota? And where will that bear, perhaps an especially valuable female, be killed, as hunters may not be able to tell the difference from males, if they don't have cubs by their side? Perhaps on the south side of the Centennial Mountains, the best connecting habitat between the long-isolated Yellowstone population and Central Idaho's vast wilderness?

As with other large carnivores, Wyoming has gone off the deep end to kill grizzlies (even according to some sportsmen groups like Montana Wildlife Federation), aiming to hunt 24 grizzlies, on top of all the others that will die for any number of other reasons, and reduce the population inside what most people think is the core, protected area, called the "Demographic Monitoring Area."

Following this Newsletter is Dr. David Mattson's latest blog on implications of new research from Sweden for the grizzly hunt.

<https://www.grizzlytimes.org/single-post/2018/03/30/Trophy-Hunting-Harms-Grizzly-Bears>

Don't Let Wyoming Get Away with Hunting Grizzlies

The Don't Delisters (THANK YOU guys!) have the best and most complete way to respond to Wyoming's madness, so I need not repeat:

<https://dontdelistgrizzly.blogspot.com/2018/03/what-can-i-do-to-stop-wyoming-grizzly.html>

Recovery of Grizzlies in the North Cascades? YES!

In other bear news, last week Department of Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke said he would back restoration of grizzlies in the North Cascades, an ecosystem as big and wild as Greater

Yellowstone that once supported an abundance of grizzlies. Frankly, the announcement shocked many of us:

<https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/interior-secretary-ryan-zinke-throws-support-behind-grizzly-bear-recovery-in-north-cascades/>

But naturally the backlash has begun. The head of the anti-environmental Mountain States Legal Foundation (think NRA), William Pendery dashed off the protest linked below. His hero? Multi-millionaire Wyoming rancher Charles Price, who ranches in Wyoming's Upper Green River area, and refuses even the most modest efforts to coexist with grizzlies, like requiring his cowboys to carry bear spray:

<https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/opinion/urbanites-glamorize-grizzly-bears-that-attack-ranchers>

Saving Grizzlies in the Beleaguered, but Vital, Cabinet Yaak:

In the lush, magical Cabinet Yaak Ecosystem in northwest Montana, where perhaps only 40 grizzlies remain, two catastrophic hard-rock mines have long been kept at bay, which would, if built, extirpate the last bears. The latest news is that Montana officials have determined that the companies have been found to be "bad actors," and required them to pay \$30 million before they can do any more damage to this vulnerable ecosystem by mining for silver and copper. (If this had been done in the past, we might not now see such disasters as occurred at other mines in Montana such as Zortman Landusky and Butte). I can only muster some small violins for the complaining companies:

<https://wtop.com/national/2018/03/mining-exec-bad-actor-label-is-bid-to-delay-montana-mines/>

NEW GRIZZLY TIMES PODCAST PLATFORMS:

You might be interested in the new, greatly improved podcast site layout in Grizzly Times now on your favorite platforms:

- Itunes: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/grizzly-times-podcast/id1324266637?mt=2>
- Soundcloud: <https://soundcloud.com/grizzly-times-podcast>
- Stitcher: <https://www.stitcher.com/podcast/grizzly-times-podcast>
- Youtube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC05_dT9GhLLuRosj-uZKCvQ/

Kicking Ass for Grizzlies in BC:

Don't miss next week's interview with Chris Genovali of the Raincoast Conservation Foundation, talking about how they stopped the trophy hunt of grizzlies in British Columbia, and other incredible conservation progress – with many lessons for us in the lower-48.

For the bears, and those who, as the late, great Tom Petty said, "Won't back down!"

Louisa