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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*.
www.GrizzlyTimes.org

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Photo by Richard Spratley

Hello Friends of Grizzlies,

In addition to record summer temperatures, heat is also building on the Yellowstone ecosystem grizzly bear hunt slated for this Fall. Pressure is mounting around the August 30th Federal District Court hearing in Missoula centered around delisting and the trophy hunt. More details on this high-stakes event are below.

THE LATEST GRIZZLY TIMES BLOG:

***Entrusting Grizzlies to a Basket of Deplorables*, Dr. David Mattson**

Dr. David Mattson's latest Blog is a tour de force that ties together many seemingly disparate threads – political, social, economic, philosophical – that underscore the identity and core beliefs behind those who back removing endangered species protections from grizzly bears, and support trophy hunting them. You have never seen a piece like this before – you will be fascinated!

(This Blog follows this newsletter.)

<https://www.grizzlytimes.org/single-post/2018/07/15/Entrusting-Grizzlies-to-a-Basket-of-Deplorables>

IN THE NEWS:

–Missoula Federal Court Hearing on Delisting is August 30 Shootout at the OK Corral for Grizzlies!

For Yellowstone area grizzlies, much rides on the outcome of Judge Christensen's ruling on delisting on August 30, or shortly thereafter. As you probably know, six lawsuits have been filed by conservationists and Tribes challenging the delisting decision. The judge has ordered that the briefing process be consolidated. Attorneys are working hard on briefings now. With the Wyoming grizzly bear hunt slated to start on September 1, it is likely that the judge will rule from the bench, or soon thereafter.

As the best available science lies at the heart of decision-making under the Endangered Species Act, Dr. David Mattson is hard at work on a declaration, now more than 30 pages, that will be submitted to the court by conservation attorneys. As you may remember, conservationists succeeded in restoring protections for Yellowstone grizzlies based on science (specifically related to threats to a key food source, whitebark pine seeds), after the bears were delisted in 2007. Winning in court on science-based arguments, which are typically very complex, is a very tall order. But, David is working with involved attorneys and giving it his best shot.

Here are the details in case you want to witness the drama (It promises to be super exciting!):
Thursday, August 30 at 9 a.m.

Russell Court House, 201 E. Broadway, Missoula, Montana
(Come early if you want to get a seat, as it is likely to be packed.)

Grizzly Times' social media guru, Blake Nicolazzo and I will be doing live posts from in front of the courthouse...and there may be other events, so stay tuned.

–*The Shared, Epic Journey of Grizzlies and Bison*, by Dr. David Mattson Tuesday, August 28 at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$8 at the door.

The Roxy Theater, 718 So. Higgins Ave., Missoula, Montana

Dr. David Mattson is giving a lecture on the ancient shared journey of grizzlies, bison, and more recently, humans, on August 28. His talk, which has only been given publicly a couple times, will be filmed at this event. We also hope to set the stage, and provide important context for what will happen in court during the August 30 hearing mentioned above.

Many do not know that we have only 0.1% of the ecosystems left, that were once jointly occupied by grizzlies and bison in the Northern Hemisphere. Yellowstone is the last stand for both species, still functioning ecologically, as they did for many thousands of years.

NOTE: There will be information tables available at the event for involved organizations. Please let me know if you would like to participate.

–Momentum Builds to Buy Hunting Tags to Slow/Delay the Grizzly Bear Hunt

More and more people, outraged by the idea of trophy hunting grizzly bears, are buying up hunting permits, with the aim of shooting bears with a camera rather than a gun. For more information on this inspiring and brave work, see:

<http://shootemwithacamera.com/>

Many are joining the effort, including world-renowned conservationist and ambassador for peace, Dr. Jane Goodall:

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/environment/2018/07/jane-goodall-joins-wyoming-grizzly-bear-hunt-protest-lottery/>

And here is an article on the issue, just out:

https://www.jhnewsandguide.com/news/environmental/fringe-zone-grizzlies-are-in-the-crosshairs/article_fb5f467b-7409-5a3b-9493-0291f15c51b6.html

GRIZZLY TIMES PODCAST:

Actress/Activist Margot Kidder: Her Last, Prescient Interview

Here is Margie's last interview, at least the last long one (she may have done shorter ones in Germany the previous winter before she passed). She was so passionate, articulate, and wise – even though her body was failing. Listen closely, this may, in fact, change your life. Though the Standing Rock protests failed as an ostensible effort to stop a pipeline being built under the Missouri River, it succeeded in raising awareness of a different possibility of relationships between Native people, whites and other races – and the importance of battling, together, the destructive corporations extracting the last oil from the earth, and of fighting for a more benign future for us all on this small planet.

<https://www.grizzlytimes.org/the-grizzly-times-podcast>

DONATIONS ACCEPTED!

Please Consider Donating to our Work!

We could really use your help right now, with so much going on in response to the challenges facing grizzlies. At *Grizzly Times*, we have not created a separate nonprofit, because we want to keep focused on the work, not administering an organization. But through the generosity of Conservation Congress, you can give a donation to our work:

<https://www.grizzlytimes.org/donate>

Thank you all for your continued support!

For the bears,

Louisa