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## Newsletter and Blog

Featuring updates on grizzly bear conservation activities,  
and the latest *Grizzly Times* Blog  
from [Louisa Willcox and David Mattson, PhD.](#)  
Co-Founders of *Grizzly Times*.  
[www.GrizzlyTimes.org](http://www.GrizzlyTimes.org)

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Dear Friends of Grizzly Bears,

### **New Podcast Features Former Yellowstone Park Ranger Bob Jackson**

Don't miss this fascinating interview with former Yellowstone Park ranger Bob Jackson! This podcast is particularly relevant as hunter-caused grizzly deaths mount and the government again revisits recommendations to reduce conflicts that have escalated during the past 30 years – but not been meaningfully addressed. Bob's harrowing tales remind us that criminals extolling lawlessness of the "Old West" still run amuck. His ideas for coexisting with bears are practical and compelling – and more important than ever.

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

(The Transcript will be available shortly at this site.)

### **New Blog:**

#### ***Action Jackson: Of Poachers, Grizzlies and Coexistence***

By Louisa Willcox

Louisa's latest essay, which follows below, puts Bob Jackson's work in context of a long history of efforts by citizens and managers to address the chronic conflicts between grizzly bears and people in the Teton Wilderness. Escalating grizzly bear deaths and the tragic but avoidable fatality of hunter and guide Mark Uptain last fall underscore the need for managers to adopt new rules and regulations.

Decades of disregard for law and common sense by outfitters and hunters show that attempted education of the unwilling is not enough. This story features a few politically well-connected reprobates and a number of unsung heroes – in more demand than ever.

<https://www.grizzlytimes.org/single-post/2019/03/07/Action-Jackson-Of-Poachers-Grizzlies-and-Coexistence>

### **Louisa Willcox Featured on BBC's "The Conversation"**

On March 11<sup>th</sup> the BBC is releasing a new episode of "The Conversation," a podcast spotlighting two women from different countries working in similar fields – this one featuring

Louisa and a Kenyan lion conservationist who also stars in David Attenborough's new series "Dynasties." Shivani and Louisa, who have never met, had a blast – hopefully you will too. Here is a teaser with Louisa:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p072w9m0>

You can find the show here: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/w3cswp2x>

### **In the News:**

#### **• Liz Cheney Rides her Broomstick to Slaughter Bears, Again**

Wyoming Congresswoman Liz Cheney and Senator Mike Enzi have again introduced a bill that would legislatively strip Yellowstone grizzly bear of protections that were restored last fall by a federal judge. The bill has little chance of passing the House, but we should not ignore prospects for the bill being tacked onto a must-pass piece of legislation. Remember, Montana and Idaho wolves were delisted legislatively in a bill on credit card reform.

<https://county17.com/2019/03/05/cheney-enzi-join-fight-for-wyoming-grizzly-management/>

#### **• Please Help Protect Wolves – And, Grizzlies Could Be Next**

Last week, Acting Secretary of the Interior David Bernhardt announced that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will soon propose a rule to administratively delist gray wolves throughout the lower-48 states and return management of the species back to the states – in defiance of rulings by federal judges. The rule would not only undermine the rule of law, but also undermine wolf recovery, which is one of our nation's great conservation successes. Only Mexican gray wolves would remain listed under the Act.

Wolves are icons of our landscape and their presence is vital to maintaining the health of their native ecosystems. In Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming, where wolves have already lost federal protections, trophy hunters, trappers, and others have killed nearly 3,500 wolves just since 2011.

\* Please speak out against this terrible proposal, here:

<https://docs.google.com/.../1Gkqi6-QmQhWEHgZz5nlH5yakJE.../edit>

If the government succeeds with delisting wolves nationwide, grizzly bears are certainly next.

#### **• Groups Sue to Stop Attempted Grizzly Bear Hunt by Wyoming**

Conservation groups put the government of Wyoming on notice that they will sue over a recent bill passed by the state legislature authorizing a grizzly bear hunt in defiance of a federal court order reinstating Endangered Species Act protections and prohibiting state-sponsored trophy hunting. The Bob Jackson interview and blog underscore that Wyoming has been out-of-control for a long time, a throw-back to the regressive 1800s politics of the Confederacy, and in need of a good spanking.

<https://buckrail.com/wyoming-prepares-to-defy-feds-with-grizzly-hunt-enviro-groups-sue-state/>

#### **• Forest Service Whines about Selway Bitterroot Grizzly Bear Recovery**

Grizzly bears have been starting to make their way back into the Selway Bitterroot ecosystem of central Idaho, a vast wildlands bigger than either the Northern Continental Divide or Greater Yellowstone ecosystems. Twenty years ago the federal government proposed recovering grizzlies in this ecosystem through mechanical reintroduction, but the process blew up after G.W. Bush was elected president.

Last fall a grizzly that had nearly made it to this recovery area was removed from the Bitterroot Valley after digging earthworms on a golf course – hardly a "problem." But the Forest Service

has whined, and other regressives are complaining too. Confusion abounds. More on the Selway Bitterroot below.

[https://missoulain.com/news/local/critics-swirl-around-bitterroot-grizzly-management/article\\_1ddba1fc-09ae-5973-a5fd-890ab4607da1.html](https://missoulain.com/news/local/critics-swirl-around-bitterroot-grizzly-management/article_1ddba1fc-09ae-5973-a5fd-890ab4607da1.html)

• **Some Good News:**

**Lovely Article about Grizzly Champion Doug Peacock**

A film about grizzly champion and icon Doug Peacock was featured in the latest issue of Sierra Magazine. “The grizzly bear, on this continent, is the one animal capable of reminding the most arrogant species on Earth its true place in the world,” says Peacock. “Without our arrogance and our firearms and our dominion, we’re just another flavor of meat.”

<https://www.sierraclub.org/sierra/grizzly-country-doug-peacock-bears-and-enforced-humility>

**More Yellowstone Bison Return to Northern Montana**

After bitter legal battles, five Yellowstone bison were shipped to Montana’s Fort Peck Reservation, where Tribes have been hoping to restore a healthy herd and aim to help other Tribes restore functioning bison populations. The opportunities for restoring bison are enormous if the hostile and narrow-minded livestock industry would get out of the way.

<https://www.wyomingpublicmedia.org/post/after-long-wait-fort-peck-tribes-receive-five-yellowstone-bison#stream/0>

**Legendary Photographer Tom Mangelsen Celebrated**

In a league of his own, photographer Tom Mangelsen is one of the best friends bears and other wildlife have. His work is the center of the retrospective exhibition: “Thomas D. Mangelsen: A Life in the Wild,” on display at the [National Museum of Wildlife Art](#) in Jackson Hole, WY through May 5, 2019, part of a 15-venue national tour. Way to go, Tom!

<https://buckrail.com/thomas-mangelsens-legacy-images-speak-to-a-life-shooting-in-the-wild/>

**Mark Your Calendar: *Grizzly Bears for the Clearwater, Beyond the Great Divide***

On April 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>, Dr. David Mattson and Louisa Willcox will present a program, sponsored by Friends of the Clearwater in Moscow, ID. These Idaho and Montana wildlands are now the most extensive of any in the lower-48 states, with the promise of supporting as many grizzly bears as we currently have in the Greater Yellowstone and Northern Continental Divide Ecosystems.

There once was a thriving population of grizzly bears in the Salmon-Selway-Clearwater ecoregion, but all were killed during a century-long onslaught by European settlers.

This program will touch on the past, present, and future prospects for grizzly bears “beyond the Great Divide,” and how natural colonization could lead to durable recovery of grizzlies in this part of the world.

[https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/d2beb3\\_1f49d83f128543e7a85755fdb230738b.pdf](https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/d2beb3_1f49d83f128543e7a85755fdb230738b.pdf)

**Please Consider a Gift to *Grizzly Times***

We need your help! We have retired and are doing this full-time work pretty much gratis. If you were following the delisting court case last summer, you know that David’s role was vital to the litigation success that restored protections to Yellowstone region’s grizzly bears. The skilled attorneys could not have won the case without David’s scientific expertise.

There will be continued demands on David's time with the appeal of this case to the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court, the potential delisting of the NCDE - or even all Lower-48 - grizzlies, and mounting threats to the Cabinet-Yaak population and restoration of grizzlies to the Selway-Bitterroot ecosystem.

As we do not have a nonprofit, Conservation Congress, a not-for-profit tax-deductible organization, has agreed to be our fiscal sponsor. (Thank you, Denise!)

You can make a one-time contribution or sign up for a monthly donation through the Conservation Congress link below.

[ConservationCongress-ca.org/give](https://www.ConservationCongress-ca.org/give)

Or, you can mail a donation to:  
Conservation Congress  
2234 Sierra Vista Circle  
Billings, MT 59105

\* Be sure to note that your contribution is for *Grizzly Times* (GT).

**Thank you for your continued support - in any way. It is greatly appreciated!**

***For the bears,  
Louisa and David***