

Grizzly Bear Conflict Response Protocol

1) Grizzly Bear Conflict Reported.

For assistance with grizzly bear conflicts, call the nearest agency office or local conflict specialist:

	Livestock Conflicts	Non-Livestock Conflicts			
	Wildlife Services Idaho	(208) 373-1630			
Idaho	Idaho Dept. of Fish & Game	(208) 334-3700	Idaho Dept. of Fish & Game		
	Tribe		Tribe		
Montana	Wildlife Services Montana	(406) 657-6464			
	Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks	(406) 444-2535	Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks		
	Tribe		Tribe		
Washington	Washington Dept. of Fish & Wildlife	(360) 902-2200	Washington Dept. Fish & Wildlife		
	Tribe		Tribe		
Wyoming	Wyoming Game & Fish Dept.	(307) 777-4600	Wyoming Game & Fish Dept.		
	Tribe		Tribe		

2) Conflict Investigation.

Investigation to confirm grizzly bear conflict and determination of next steps (e.g., trapping, hazing, no action). The decision to trap depends on human safety risk, probability of catching the bear, number of bears in the area, and other site conditions. Investigator notifies US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) of planned action.

3) Decision on Grizzly Bear Control Action.

When a grizzly bear is caught, the responding agency (or agencies) or Tribe recommends management action (euthanize, relocate, release bear on site) to FWS via phone. FWS makes final decision. Decisions are made on a case-by case basis in consideration of the conflict history of the bear and area, availability of relocation sites, mortality threshold of the ecosystem, health and demeanor of the bear, type of offense, and sex and age class of the bear. The Interagency Grizzly Bear Guidelines (Table 1) provide guidance to the decision, but decisions may vary due to factors not considered in the Table.

Table 1. Guidelines for Grizzly Bear Control Action (from Interagency Grizzly Bear Guidelines (1986).

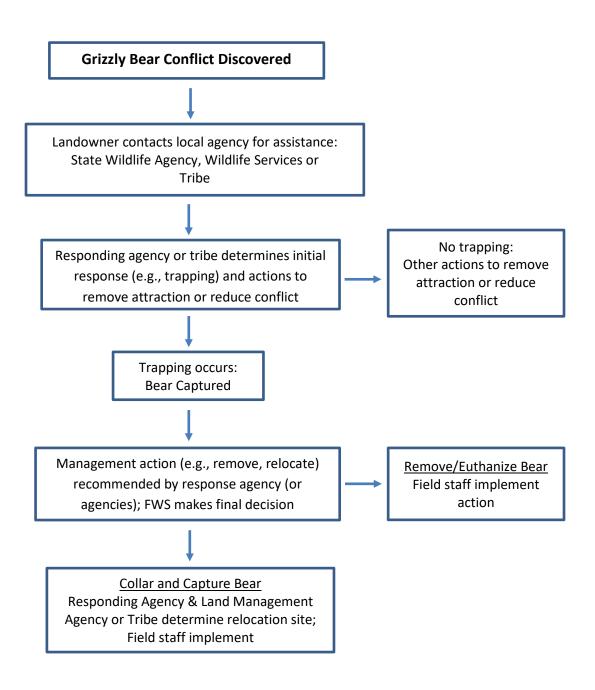
Conflict Type		Livestock Depredation or Use of Unnatural/Human Foods			Human Safety Threat		Human Injury/Death
History (no. of "strikes")		1	2	3	1	2	1
Female	Sub-Adult	REL	REL	REM	REL	REM	REM
Female	Adult	REL	REL	REM	REL	REM	REM
Female	Ad w/ Young	REL	REL	REM	REL	REM	REM
Female	Old Adult	REL	REM	N/A	REM	N/A	REM
Male	Sub-Adult	REL	REM	N/A	REM	N/A	REM
Male	Adult	REL	REM	N/A	REM	N/A	REM
Male	Old Adult	REM	REM	N/A	REM	N/A	REM
Male / Female	Orphaned Cub	RLS/REL	RLS/REL	RLS/REL	RLS/REL	RLS/REL	REM

REL = Relocate; REM = Removal (Euthanasia); RLS = Release on site

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Grizzly Bear Recovery Program

FISH & U.S. SEWICE

Flow Chart of Conflict Response Protocol



USFWS Grizzly Bear Recovery Program Contact: University Hall, Rm 309 Missoula, MT (406)-243-4903