

Speak up for grizzly bears!

www.northcascadesgrizzly.org



The National Park Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have released options for restoring a healthy grizzly bear population in Washington's North Cascades. Grizzly bears have lived in our region for thousands of years, but despite quality habitat, today fewer than 10 remain. Without our help, they will soon be gone.

Now is the time to take action for grizzly bears! The agencies are accepting public comments through **March 14, 2017**. Please comment at a public meeting or online at www.northcascadesgrizzly.org/comment

The agencies have proposed four "alternatives" for grizzly bear restoration. Three of the proposed alternatives would augment the struggling North Cascades grizzly bear population under varying timelines, but one is a 'no-action' alternative. **The science is clear: no action means grizzly bears will go locally extinct in the North Cascades. We cannot let this happen.** Specifically, we support Alternative C, which strikes a sound balance to meet the mutual goals of grizzly bear recovery and the needs of people. *See reserve side for more info!*



Quick Facts

- Grizzly bears are native to the Cascade Mountains, but overhunting pushed them to the brink of local extinction by the mid-1900's. Fewer than 10 remain, and reproduction hasn't been documented since 1996.
- The North Cascades have some of the best grizzly bear habitat in the world, and the recovery area spans more than 10,000 square miles of wild land anchored by North Cascades National Park.
- Without active restoration, grizzly bears will not recover on their own. The North Cascades are too isolated.
- Full grizzly bear recovery will take decades, if not the better part of a century. Grizzlies reproduce very slowly, which is part of the reason the North Cascades population requires active restoration.
- A functioning ecosystem that can support megafauna like grizzly bears is a strong draw for park visitors, tourists and prospective wildlife viewers, thereby boosting local and regional economies.

Suggested Comments

I am writing to voice my support for restoring a healthy population of grizzly bears to the North Cascades, their home for thousands of years. Specifically, I support Alternative C: Incremental Restoration, with additional bear transplants as needed to ensure sustained population growth. Alternative C strikes a sound balance to meet the mutual goals of grizzly bear recovery and the needs of people. I believe grizzly bears will benefit our region's ecosystems and economies alike, and preserve true wildness for future generations to cherish and enjoy. During your scoping period and in recent public polling, broad support has been documented for grizzly bear restoration. Please do the right thing and bring back this native species through the strategy laid out in Alternative C. Doing so will restore an important piece of our ecosystem, regional culture, and natural heritage.