

# Status of the Grizzly Bear in Washington



Photo by Tom Mangelsen

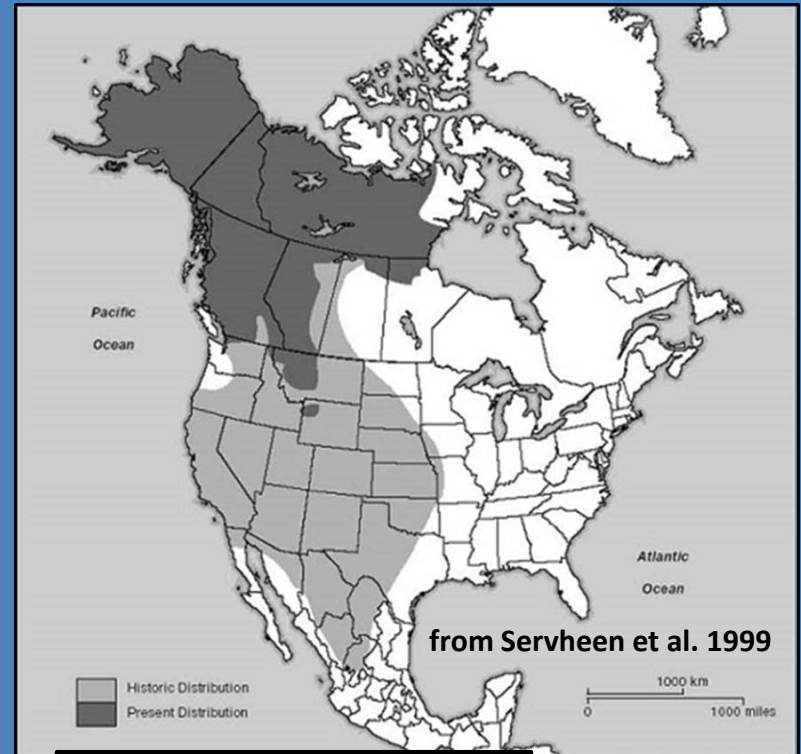
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*Washington Department of*  
**FISH and WILDLIFE**

# Natural History of the Grizzly Bear in NA

- Native to western North America
- Largest terrestrial carnivore; omnivorous; habitat generalist; uses very large areas
- Females can give birth to 1-3 cubs every three years
- Life spans up to 30 years.



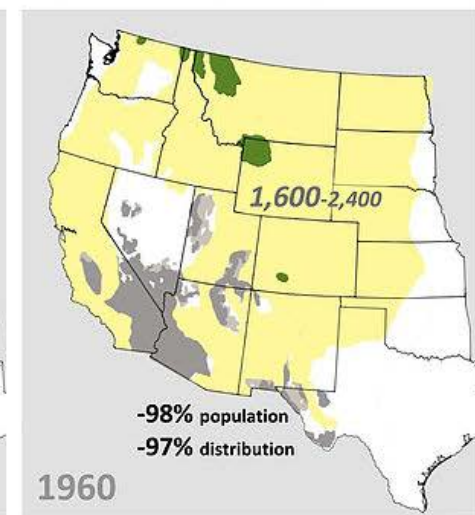
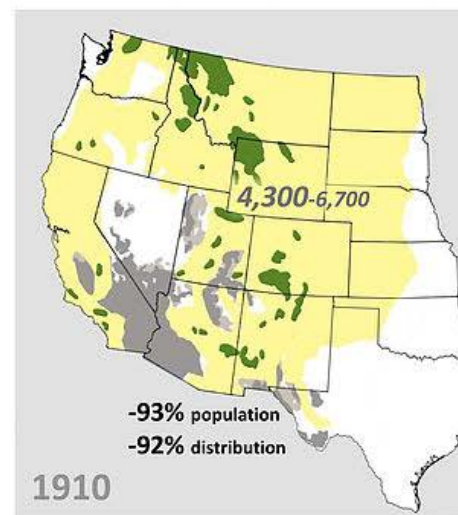
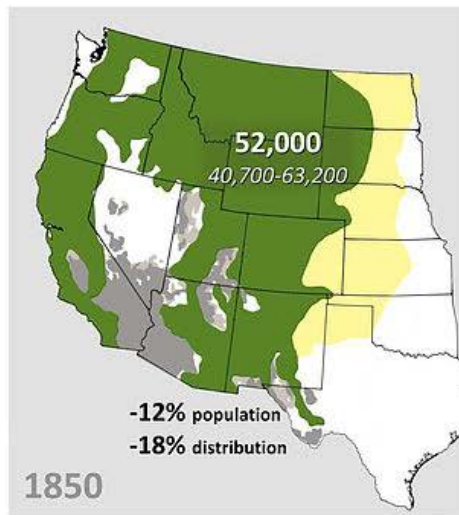
Females  
90-118 kg  
(198-260  
lbs.)



Males  
137-185 kg  
(301-407  
lbs.)

# Historical Range Contraction

Human-caused mortality (i.e., direct killing by shooting, poisoning, trapping) associated with westward exploration/expansion.

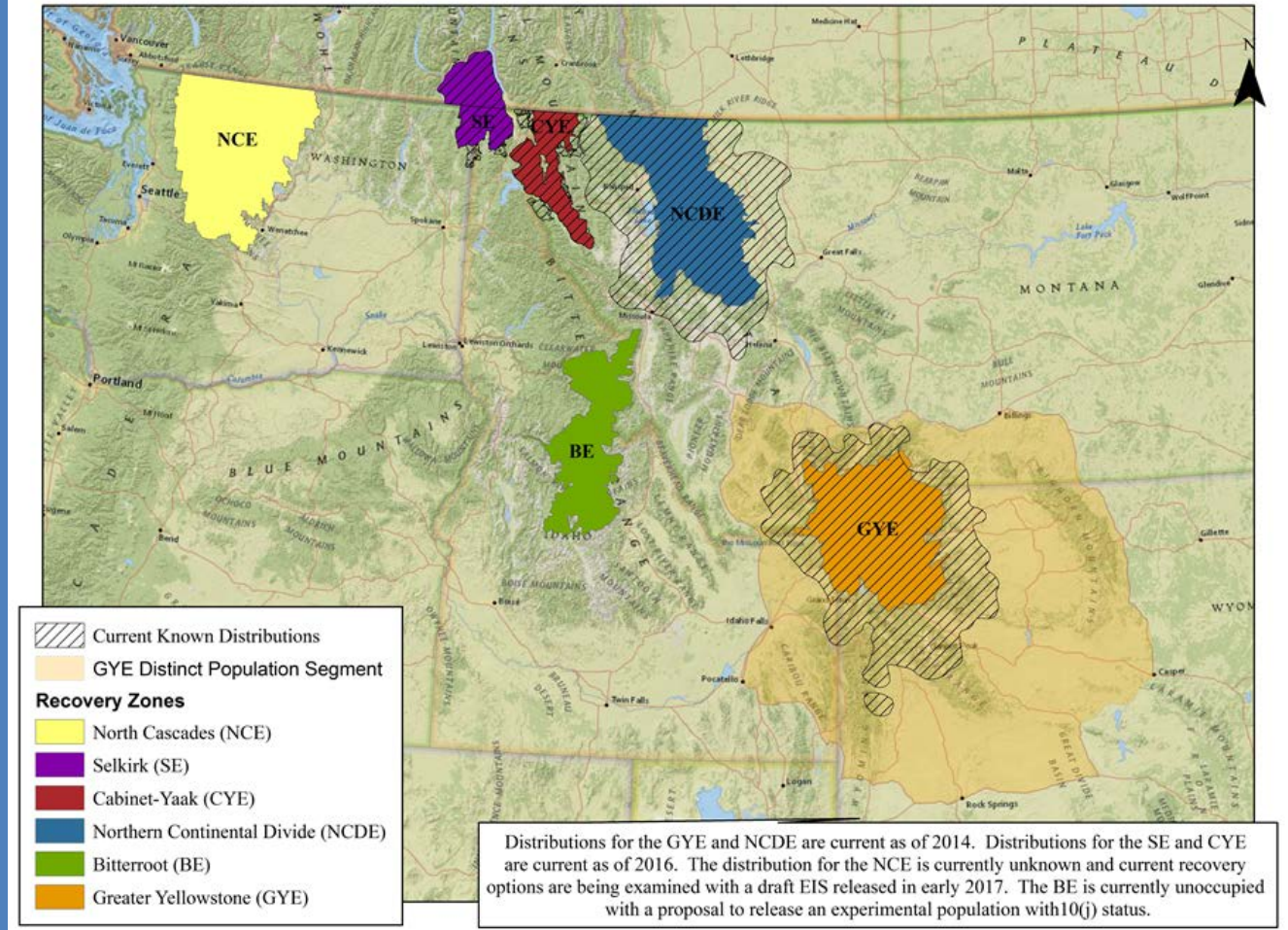




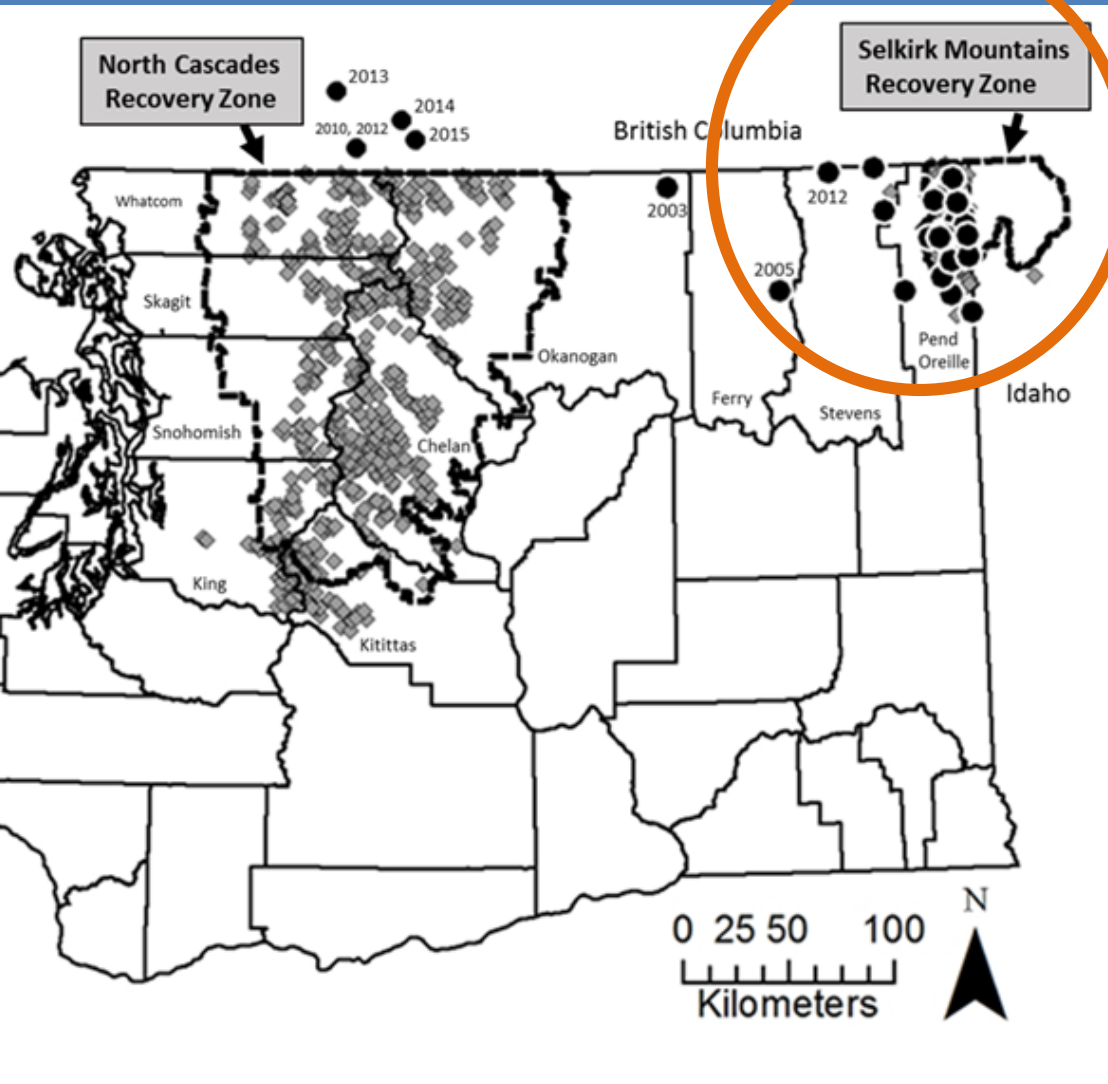
# Legal Status, Distribution, Recovery Zones

- ESA Threatened (1975)
- Endangered in WA (1980)

Grizzly Bear Recovery Zones, Distributions, and Distinct Population Segments



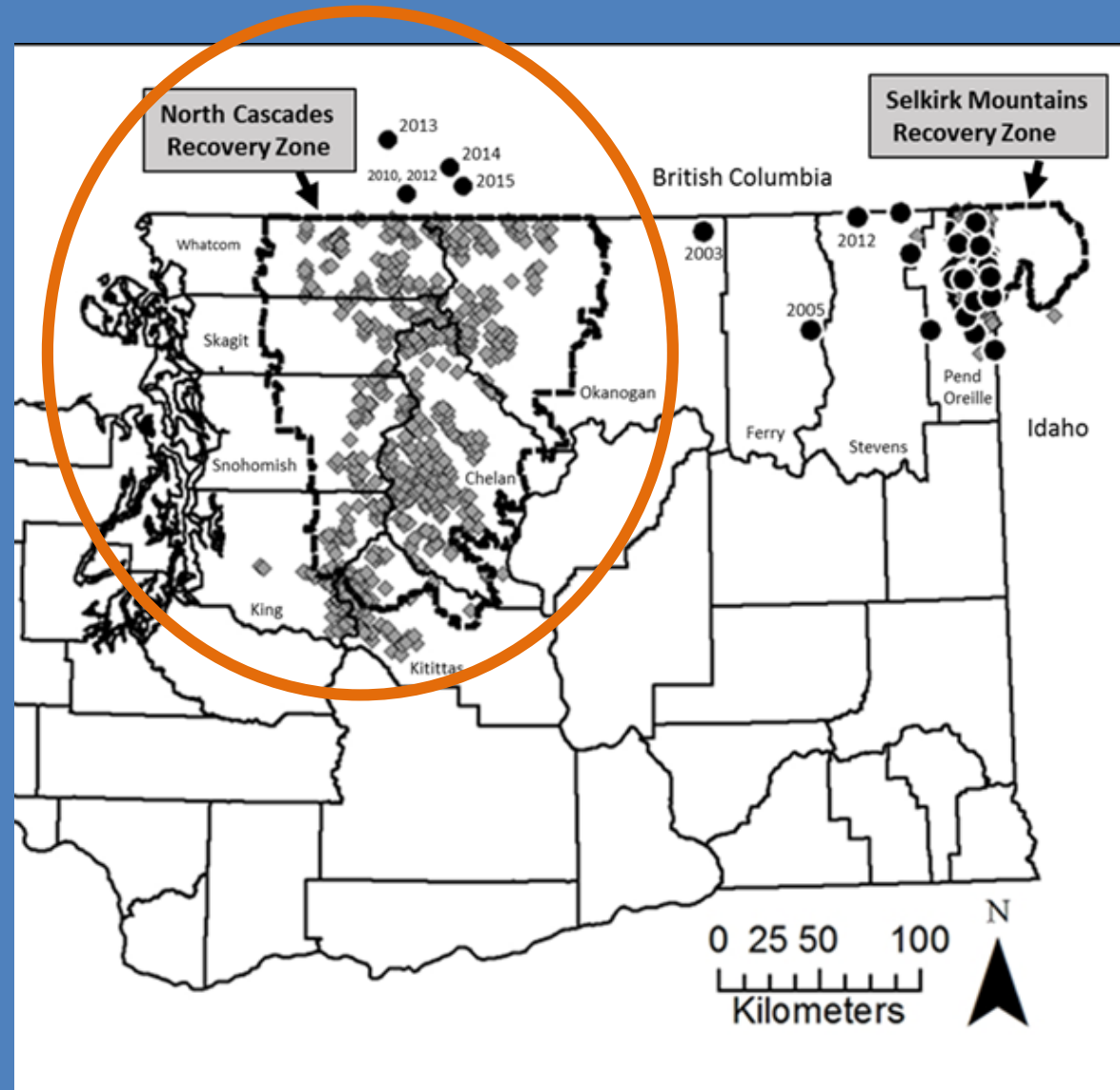
# The Selkirk Mountain Recovery Zone in Washington: Monitoring, Surveys, and Detections



- Recent survey detections
- Females with cubs observed since 2014; male radio-collared 2016
- Population may be slowly growing (1-2% per year)
- Detections outside the zone

# The North Cascades Recovery Zone: Monitoring, Surveys and Detections

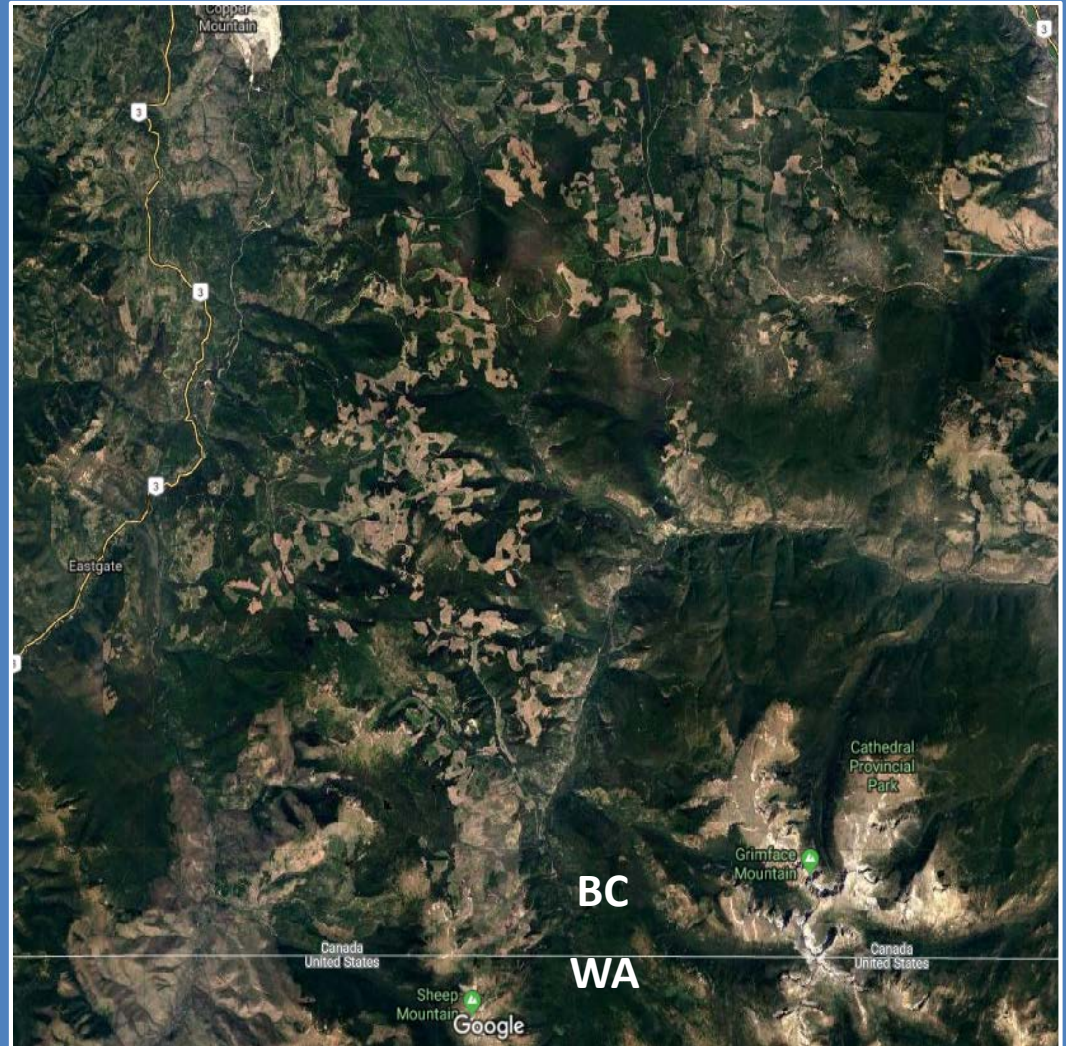
- Extensive survey effort throughout the NCRZ over last 20 years to detect grizzly bears; none detected
- Five detections in BC portion of the NCRZ in last ten years.





# Factors Affecting Grizzly Bears

- Historical extirpation
- Isolation
- Human caused mortality
- High road-densities



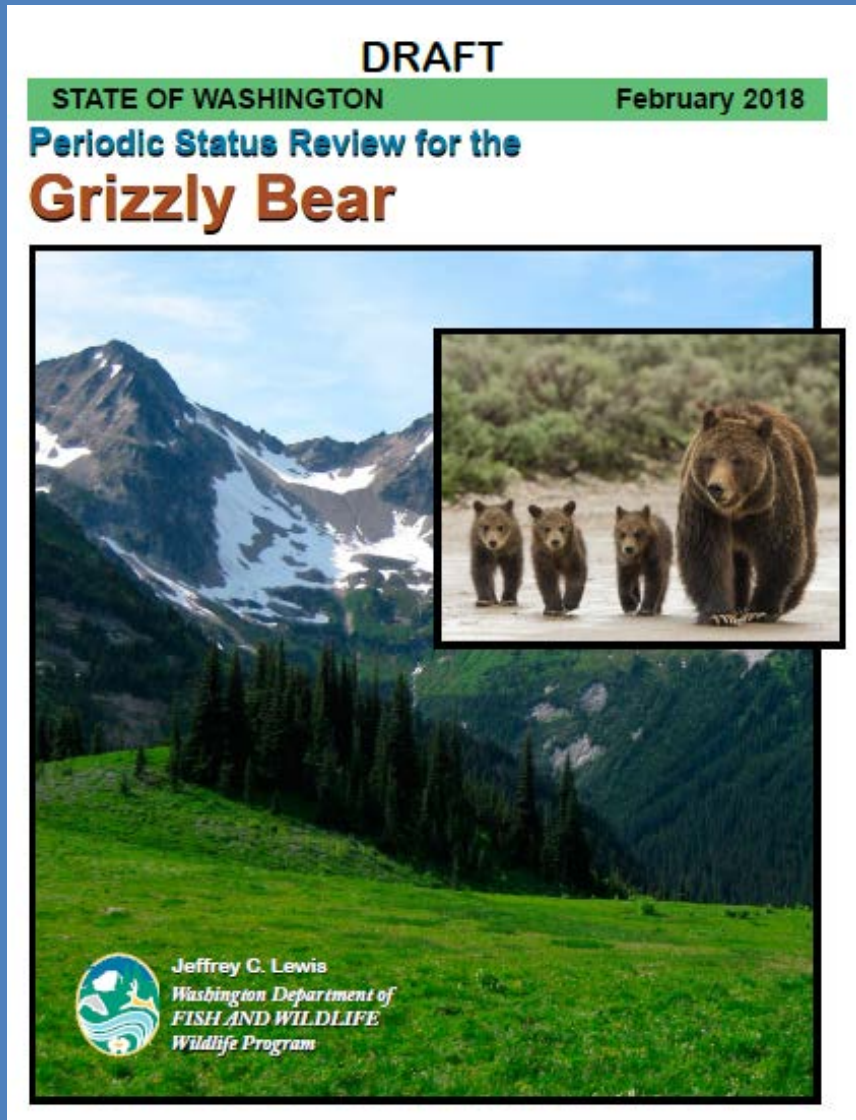
# Conservation Actions

- Surveys and monitoring
- Reducing road densities and motorized vehicle access plans on Federal lands
- Minimize human food and refuse available to bears
- “Living with bears” outreach
- Federal proposal for NCRZ reintroduction
- Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee





# Recommendation



The Grizzly Bear  
should remain  
classified as  
Endangered in  
Washington



# Public Comments

- WDFW received 21 individual comments
  - Eight indicated support for maintaining endangered status
  - Seven indicated opposition
  - Eight comments indicated opposition to the Federal proposed reintroduction of grizzly bears in the NCRZ



# Questions?

