

Bear Conservation Project



Presented by Corvallis High School CWW Class

Problem

- Current resolutions to fix the state of human and bear interaction is not benefiting the bears needs nor the stakeholders within which the bears interfere with.

Goal

- Therefore the goal is to find a solution that will overcome these obstacles that are restricting the bears, and stakeholders needs.

Stats

- On average 25 bears are removed from the Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem (NCDE), this is caused by habitat loss, and bears invading human territory.
- According to Nick Mott of MTPR, 2018 has been the deadliest year since the scientists started to track bears in Montana.. 51 mortalities caused by humans indirectly and directly in the year of 2018, which is a recordbreaker.



Path to the Solution

The Corvallis High School CWW class is presenting steps to help decrease the amount of bears from entering stakeholders property without injuring, or relocating the bear, and keeping the stakeholders property unharmed.



Step 1: Educate the Public

When bears were enlisted into the endangered species list in Montana, less than 200 bears were located in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. Once the scientists at the GYE started to study the reasons why the Grizzly Population was decreasing, they ultimately concluded the cause was habitat loss.

Among many things, the bears habitat is being destroyed by human technological advancements in agriculture and the need for more space. As humans expand their territory, bears territory decreases. This causes food sources to be depleted and bears resort to searching for food in areas with an abundance of resources compared to the bears normal habitat which is now lacking the required amount of resources.

Step 2: Ways to Prevent Negative Interactions

1. LEAVE NO TRACE

- a. Bears are most commonly looking for food, with beaproof garbage cans and a clean property, bears will think that our food sources are not a reliable source of energy, which is our goal.

2. HUMAN PRESENCE

- a. Bears are naturally afraid of humans. If bears are aware that a human owns a property possibly through scent, they will stay away.

3. ELECTRIC FENCES

- a. Expensive, but effective. It has been proven that bears will not return to an area that is dangerous, electric fences do not harm a bear but provide a safe warning that will ensure the bear will not return.

Step 3: How We Are Going to Educate the Public

1. Newspaper Article

- a. Throughout the month of March the CWW class of Corvallis High School will work to publish an article that concerns the interaction between bears and humans.

2. Presentation

- a. Throughout the month of April the CWW class we give a presentation to the entire Corvallis School district, and interested community programs.

3. Community Engagement

- a. Throughout the month of May the CWW class will interview community members around the Bitterroot and discuss the CWW classes goal on bear conservation, and ways to help follow through with our plan. Hoping to create a community group of stakeholders that are willing to participate in movements towards a safe, reliable, solution to bear and human engagements.

Step 4: Solution

SPREAD THE WORD!!!

After the public has been informed on the negative impact bears have on humans, and the impact humans have on bears, as a community, safe solutions may be put into effect to reduce the chances of negative human and bear interactions.

