

District 4 Bear Presentation

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Objectives

Increase the awareness of livestock guard dogs to prevent bear attacks on livestock.

Plains Grizzly Bears

Advantages:

- Eat more beetles and cutworms than other populations (cutworms are a problem for wheat)

Problems:

- Known to attack local livestock creating losses in profits
- Bears will come into contact often with humans

About Livestock Guard Dogs

- Most common and effective Guard Dog Breeds
 - Akbash, Kangal, Great Pyrenees, and Komondor
- Idea originated in Europe many years ago
- Keeps livestock groups together and ward of predators

Benefit of Livestock Guard Dogs

- Livestock Guard Dogs Can reduce attacks up to 93%
- Less livestock are killed by predators such as grizzly bears

“I’ve had my dogs for five and a half years. In that time, I haven’t lost any livestock.”

Drawbacks to Livestock Guard Dogs

- Cost
 - Anywhere from 500-1500 dollars

- If you don't get good ones they can harm the herd.

Concluding Thoughts

- Livestock Guard dogs may be an effective way to keep out Grizzly bears and increase profit margins
- While there is a investment involved large livestock can cost as much as these dogs so one saved animal is worth it