

# Grizzly Bear Challenge

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# Our Region



- ❖ Specifically speaking about the northern Montana plains and northern Rocky Mountains
- ❖ Agriculture is Montana's #1 industry and it's dominated by wheat and cattle.
- ❖ Farms have increased by 4,400 since 1975

# Conflicts



- ❖ Bears intrude on private land owners property and kill cattle
- ❖ Bears are dangerous animals, and a threat to human lives
- ❖ Extinction of bears could cause an overgrowth of berries and mess up the food chain
- ❖ Deterrents for grizzly bears cost money

# About the Grizzly Bear



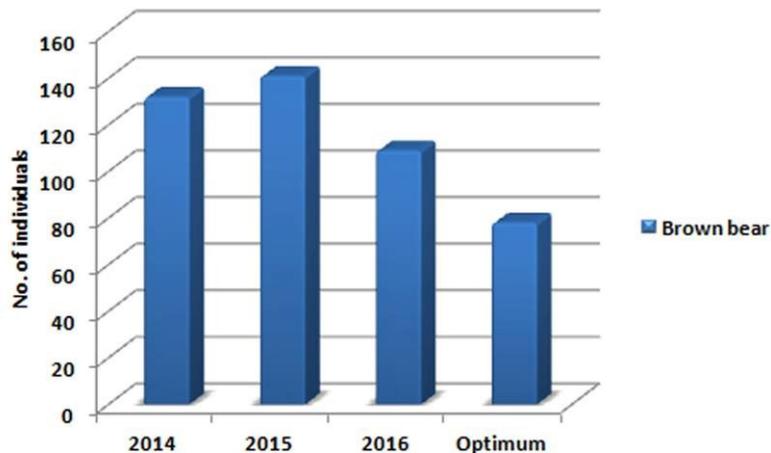
- They have long rounded claws (the size of human fingers) and a large mass of muscles on their backs that help them dig
- These characteristics, along with small rounded ears and white-tipped (or “grizzled”) fur, distinguish grizzly bears from black bears
- The bears settle in their dens to hibernate for the winter.
  
- The grizzly bear is a large population of the brown bear inhabiting North America.
- Scientists generally do not use the name grizzly bear but call it the North American brown bear.
- Montana grizzly bears are listed as threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act.

# Habitat



- ❖ Grizzly Bears live in most mountain ranges
- ❖ They live in western montana and starting to graze on the prairie
- ❖ They like places where berry bushes are and trees and grass for cover
- ❖ Live with many animals such as deer and cougars, moose, etc...

# Population Data



- ❖ Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks envisions a future with a secure, recovered population of grizzly bears in western Montana
- ❖ Currently, south of Canada, there are five grizzly bear subpopulations in Wyoming, Washington, Idaho, and Montana. Grizzlies are difficult to survey
- ❖ more than 500 in the northwest Montana Rockies, about 600 in and around Yellowstone National Park, about 50 in the Selkirk Mountains of northern Idaho and northeastern Washington, and 30 to 40 in the Cabinet-Yaak area of northern Idaho and western Montana.
- ❖ Today, the grizzly is found in only about 2% of its original range in the lower 48 states.
- ❖ Montana grizzly bears are listed as threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act.

# Solutions to Conflict



government or public funding for private landowners bear deterrents.

Delist and protect to bears to prevent overgrowth of berries, and the integrity of the food chain

Increase bear awareness classes. And if you are buying a home where bears have been spotted or can be inferred a bear could be there. The Real Estate agent must inform you, which could decrease the value of a home. If you do buy the house you have to take bear awareness classes

# Sources



- <http://fwp.mt.gov/>
- [https://www.factslides.com/s\\_Bears](https://www.factslides.com/s_Bears)
- [https://defenders.org/grizzly\\_bear/basic-facts](https://defenders.org/grizzly_bear/basic-facts)
- <http://www.bearconflict.org/>