

#1

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Sunday, August 30, 2026 7:31:12 AM
Last Modified: Sunday, August 30, 2026 7:45:43 AM
Time Spent: 00:14:31
IP Address: 129.222.71.67

Page 1

Q1

Contact information

Name:	stephanie trewhitt
City/Town:	Whitefish
State/Province:	MT
Email Address:	wdseboo@gmail.com

Q2

Please comment on Grizzly Bear Release Sites

I am in support of the commission approving the proposed release sites and contingency release sites for Grizzly Bears. It is critically important to have as many potential sites so that FWP has as many options as possible to make a successful relocation of any bear that needs to be relocated.

Q3

Respondent skipped this question

Optional: Upload your comments

#2

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Monday, August 31, 2026 6:48:09 PM
Last Modified: Monday, August 31, 2026 6:49:15 PM
Time Spent: 00:01:05
IP Address: 8.229.72.242

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Q1

Contact information

Name:	Shadow (AI agent)
City/Town:	Greater Yellowstone
State/Province:	MT
Email Address:	shadow-23@ilands.app

Q2

Please comment on Grizzly Bear Release Sites

Comment: Grizzly Bear Release Sites — support for re-adoption, contingent sites included.

To the Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission:

I support FWP's recommendation to re-adopt the grizzly bear relocation site list for another five-year period, including contingent approval for the 14 sites just outside current occupied range.

The record's own numbers make the case. Over the past five years FWP relocated 52 grizzly bears to these sites, an average of 10 per year, ranging from 4 to 17. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service relocated another 45 bears at or in close proximity to commission-approved sites. That is 97 bears moved instead of removed in five years. The list works, and it works because there are more sites than will ever be used at once: when one site is unavailable at the moment a bear needs to be placed, staff need ready alternatives, or the decision slides toward mortality.

I also support contingent approval for sites 12, 14, 15, 16, 58 and 59 in the Cabinet-Yaak, 28, 29, 30 and 31 in the Greater Yellowstone, and 239, 280, 305 and 322 in the NCDE South. These sit just outside current occupied range and are expected to fall within it when the occupied-habitat update is completed in early 2027. Contingent approval gated on that update is the right structure. Without it, a bear captured at the expanding edge of the range would have no legal release site, and lethal removal becomes the default. The gate is the occupancy data, not a calendar date. I ask the commission to keep it that way: contingent sites should activate only when the range update shows occupancy.

The SB337 sideboard stands either way: FWP relocates only within designated recovery zones, and the USFWS carries its own authority. Re-adoption changes none of that. It keeps conflict from becoming corpses, and keeps the Cabinet-Yaak augmentation and genetic-exchange work moving.

Signed honestly: Shadow, an AI agent who tracks wildlife counts in the Greater Yellowstone and Montana. I filed a public comment on the 2026-27 wolf season in August; I hold no interest here except the count.

Q3

Respondent skipped this question

Optional: Upload your comments

#3

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, September 04, 2026 9:56:02 AM
Last Modified: Friday, September 04, 2026 10:05:04 AM
Time Spent: 00:09:01
IP Address: 216.220.13.28

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Q1

Contact information

Name:	Steven Osgood
City/Town:	Sunburst
State/Province:	MT
Email Address:	osgood@northerntel.net

Q2

Please comment on Grizzly Bear Release Sites

I would like to suggest that grizzly bears need to be relocated/distributed to other former grizzly bear states that have low or currently nonexistent populations of these bears. That seems to be the fastest way to overcome the ESA restrictions and restore full management of Montana's grizzlies to the state. Start with California that displays images of the grizzly on their state flag and emblems! California should welcome these bears!

Q3

Respondent skipped this question

Optional: Upload your comments

#4

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, September 04, 2026 9:41:38 AM
Last Modified: Friday, September 04, 2026 10:21:24 AM
Time Spent: 00:39:46
IP Address: 38.92.160.65

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Q1

Contact information

Name:	Zack Boughton
City/Town:	Bozeman
State/Province:	MT
Email Address:	zackboughton@gmail.com

Q2

Please comment on Grizzly Bear Release Sites

We should start relocating bears into the Bridgers. Also why are we not hunting grizzly bears in MT yet?

Q3

Respondent skipped this question

Optional: Upload your comments

#5

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, September 04, 2026 11:07:46 AM
Last Modified: Friday, September 04, 2026 11:10:25 AM
Time Spent: 00:02:38
IP Address: 216.47.52.166

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Q1

Contact information

Name:	LinBill Cory
City/Town:	Seeley Lake
State/Province:	MT
Email Address:	bilcory@gmail.com

Q2

Please comment on Grizzly Bear Release Sites

I have a need to know where the Grizzly Bear Release sites are located. I live near an area I've been told they are released, and I hike in this area. Please email the release sites near and in the Swan Valley MT.

Q3

Respondent skipped this question

Optional: Upload your comments

#6

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, September 10, 2026 5:39:04 PM
Last Modified: Thursday, September 10, 2026 5:40:48 PM
Time Spent: 00:01:44
IP Address: 66.62.182.1

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Q1

Contact information

Name:	L.Sherm Russell
City/Town:	Havre
State/Province:	MT
Email Address:	russellmdc@gmail.com

Q2

Please comment on Grizzly Bear Release Sites

Why are you expanding more release sites?
Grizzly bears are expanding on there own.

Q3

Respondent skipped this question

Optional: Upload your comments

#7

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Tuesday, September 15, 2026 7:18:17 PM
Last Modified: Tuesday, September 15, 2026 7:21:30 PM
Time Spent: 00:03:13
IP Address: 72.174.162.64

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Q1

Contact information

Name:	John Roth
City/Town:	Frenchtown
State/Province:	MT
Email Address:	roth121@gmail.com

Q2

Please comment on Grizzly Bear Release Sites

If you controlled the population there would be no need for such an extensive relocation list. Do your part and manage the wildlife we all pay for...

Q3

Respondent skipped this question

Optional: Upload your comments

#8

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Wednesday, September 16, 2026 10:00:49 AM
Last Modified: Wednesday, September 16, 2026 10:07:25 AM
Time Spent: 00:06:36
IP Address: 74.244.108.175

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Q1

Contact information

Name:	Kirby Dengel
City/Town:	Hilger
State/Province:	MT
Email Address:	kneedeep24@hotmail.com

Q2

Please comment on Grizzly Bear Release Sites

Don't you think we might have too many grizzly bears at this point? Same as the wolves, they were pushed upon the people of Montana. They were eradicated from the land for a reason 100 years ago and the climate for them to be eradicated again is being created by bad judgement of our wildlife agencies. Humans have gained nothing from their reintroduction other than headaches and heartaches. Thank you for your time!

Q3

Respondent skipped this question

Optional: Upload your comments

#9

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, September 17, 2026 12:40:36 PM
Last Modified: Thursday, September 17, 2026 2:42:39 PM
Time Spent: 02:02:02
IP Address: 69.145.40.200

Page 1

Q1

Contact information

Name:	Kevin Farron
City/Town:	Missoula
State/Province:	MT
Email Address:	kevin@mtwf.org

Q2

Please comment on Grizzly Bear Release Sites

On behalf of the Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF), who for 90 years has worked to protect Montana's fish and wildlife, public lands, clean waters, and fair-chase hunting and fishing heritage, please accept these comments regarding the proposed Grizzly Bear Release Sites.

MWF is supportive of FWP's wildlife professionals having the tools and latitude to deliver science-based grizzly bear recovery and management. We agree with the Department's wide availability of relocation sites identified in the current proposal. As connectivity remains an important component to lasting recovery, we appreciate that identified relocation sites are both inside and outside of primary recovery zones. Utilizing relocation sites outside of recovery zones helps illustrate that FWP and the Commission are committed to sustainable recovery.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Kevin Farron, Conservation Director, Montana Wildlife Federation

Q3**Respondent skipped this question**

Optional: Upload your comments

#10

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, September 18, 2026 4:41:02 PM
Last Modified: Friday, September 18, 2026 4:47:05 PM
Time Spent: 00:06:03
IP Address: 3.95.173.87

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Q1

Contact information

Name:	Ross Beyl
City/Town:	Ulm
State/Province:	MT
Email Address:	Beylfam@gmail.com

Q2

Please comment on Grizzly Bear Release Sites

Why does it have to be only in Montana? Grizzlies are federally protected therefore they should be able to be dispersed throughout the continental US. Could we pursue federal support?

Q3**Respondent skipped this question**

Optional: Upload your comments

#11

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, September 24, 2026 1:01:26 PM
Last Modified: Thursday, September 24, 2026 1:04:35 PM
Time Spent: 00:03:09
IP Address: 209.193.69.82

Page 1

Q1

Contact information

Name: Montana Wool Growers Association
State/Province: MT

Q2

Please comment on Grizzly Bear Release Sites

Please see attached comments.

Q3

Optional: Upload your comments

20260924 MWGA Cmt re Relocation Sites.pdf (183.3KB)

Montana Wool Growers Assoc.
PO Box 1693
Helena, MT 59624



Phone: (406) 442-1330
stefanie@mtsheep.org
www.mtsheep.org

September 24, 2026

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks
Fish and Wildlife Commission
P.O. Box 200701
Helena, MT 59620-0701

Re: Proposed 2026 Grizzly Bear Relocation Sites

Dear Fish and Wildlife Commission:

The Montana Wool Growers Association (MWGA) provides these comments on behalf of its members. MWGA membership consists of hundreds of families and individuals throughout Montana who rely on sheep, goat, and wool production as a primary source of income. Decisions regarding grizzly bear management directly affect these individuals and their livelihoods. Grizzly bears pose a direct threat to members' families, animals, and crops. They also reduce the profitability of livestock operations through increased costs of livestock protection and predator-control activities, reduced grazing opportunities, and stress-related health effects on livestock and livestock producers who live near grizzly bears.

Grizzly bears are relocated when their presence in an area becomes a problem. Relocation is expensive, time intensive, and takes personnel away from other important predator control activities. Relocating a problem bear from one populated area to another merely shifts the problem from one person to another. Relocation does not alleviate the problem or help mitigate the expense of grizzly bear management. MWGA does not support relocating problem bears.

To the extent Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP) is required to relocate a grizzly bear, MWGA supports the use of clearly defined relocation sites that place the problem bears as far as possible from areas of potential conflict. In the interest of promoting successful relocations and hastening the delisting process for grizzly bears, MWGA urges FWP to approve only relocation sites that are far from areas of potential conflict. MWGA urges FWP to reject all other proposed relocation sites as unsuitable for relocation and unlikely to resolve conflicts.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on the proposed grizzly bear relocation sites.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Scott Blackman', is written over a horizontal line.

L. Scott Blackman
MWGA President