

Department of the Interior
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
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News Release



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Grizzly Bear Shooting Under Investigation

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service law enforcement agents are investigating the fatal shooting of a federally protected grizzly bear in eastern Idaho.

The adult male bear was shot October 20, 2009, near Ashton, Idaho. The Idaho Department of Fish and Game is assisting in the investigation.

Grizzly bears in eastern Idaho are part of the Yellowstone ecosystem population and are listed as threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act. Grizzly bears in the Yellowstone ecosystem, outside Yellowstone and Grand Teton national parks, were declared recovered in 2007 by the Fish and Wildlife Service and removed from federal protection. In September 2009, U.S. District Judge Donald Malloy reversed that decision and reinstated ESA protection to grizzly bears in the Yellowstone ecosystem.

Killing a threatened species protected by the ESA carries a maximum penalty of one year in prison and a \$100,000 fine.

No other information is available at this time.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit www.fws.gov.