

**From:** [Cooley, Hilary](#)  
**To:** [Hogan, Matt](#); [Nelson, Marjorie](#); [Small, Stephen M](#)  
**Cc:** [Jimenez, Benjamin S](#); [Fortin-Noreus, Jennifer K](#); [Kasworm, Wayne](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Grizzly Update June 6-13  
**Date:** Monday, June 27, 2022 5:49:27 PM

---

### GBRP Update June 20-27

Update on Bear Tooth Pass, WY

- WGF removed one of three subadult grizzly bears on Bear Tooth Pass on June 21. The remaining subadults have not been seen since.

Conflicts

- No relocations.
- FWP set no new traps outside the recovery zone.
- The female grizzly bear relocated by Wayne K last week in the CYE returned to the same area and killed chickens. This was the second relocation for the bear. FWP removed this bear after concurrence from FWS concurred.
- 2 conflict specialists (Morgan Vance (rover) and Rory Trimbo (Kalispell) began on-boarding last week, including firearms training and Wilderness First Aid. Becca Lyon begins in Jackson July 5.
- 863 was back on Togwotee Pass Friday, June 24. USFS bear ambassadors and WGF managed traffic and bear. We notified Teton County Sheriff to ask for stepped up patrols. Press release will go out asking the public to not stop on the highway and to not approach bears. 863 has been sporadically visible, but not consistently.

Coordination

- Coordinated with CSKT on the potential for USFWS to use tribal relocation sites and the potential for the CSKT to add additional relocation sites on the reservation.

---

**From:** Hogan, Matt <Matt\_Hogan@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 23, 2022 11:15 AM  
**To:** Cooley, Hilary <hilary\_cooley@fws.gov>; Nelson, Marjorie <marjorie\_nelson@fws.gov>; Small, Stephen M <stephen\_small@fws.gov>  
**Cc:** Jimenez, Benjamin S <benjamin\_jimenez@fws.gov>; Fortin-Noreus, Jennifer K <jennifer\_fortin-noreus@fws.gov>; Kasworm, Wayne <wayne\_kasworm@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Grizzly Update June 6-13  
Great news....nice work Hilary.

---

**From:** Cooley, Hilary <hilary\_cooley@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 23, 2022 10:57 AM  
**To:** Hogan, Matt <Matt\_Hogan@fws.gov>; Nelson, Marjorie <marjorie\_nelson@fws.gov>; Small, Stephen M <stephen\_small@fws.gov>  
**Cc:** Jimenez, Benjamin S <benjamin\_jimenez@fws.gov>; Fortin-Noreus, Jennifer K <jennifer\_fortin-noreus@fws.gov>; Kasworm, Wayne <wayne\_kasworm@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Grizzly Update June 6-13  
Update from WGF this morning:

Bears have not been seen on Beartooth Highway since the removal. Very good news.

---

**From:** Cooley, Hilary <[hilary\\_cooley@fws.gov](mailto:hilary_cooley@fws.gov)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, June 21, 2022 4:08 PM

**To:** Hogan, Matt <[Matt\\_Hogan@fws.gov](mailto:Matt_Hogan@fws.gov)>; Nelson, Marjorie <[marjorie\\_nelson@fws.gov](mailto:marjorie_nelson@fws.gov)>; Small, Stephen M <[stephen\\_small@fws.gov](mailto:stephen_small@fws.gov)>

**Cc:** Jimenez, Benjamin S <[benjamin\\_jimenez@fws.gov](mailto:benjamin_jimenez@fws.gov)>; Fortin-Noreus, Jennifer K <[jennifer\\_fortin-noreus@fws.gov](mailto:jennifer_fortin-noreus@fws.gov)>; Kasworm, Wayne <[wayne\\_kasworm@fws.gov](mailto:wayne_kasworm@fws.gov)>

**Subject:** Re: Grizzly Update June 6-13

Update:

WGF arrived on scene this afternoon and one of the bears approached the vehicle within darting range. They darted it and requested removal (2.5 yr-old female). We concurred. They will not set traps tonight and will monitor the area to see what the remaining bears do - hoping they will leave the area.

---

**From:** Cooley, Hilary <[hilary\\_cooley@fws.gov](mailto:hilary_cooley@fws.gov)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, June 21, 2022 3:09 PM

**To:** Hogan, Matt <[Matt\\_Hogan@fws.gov](mailto:Matt_Hogan@fws.gov)>; Nelson, Marjorie <[marjorie\\_nelson@fws.gov](mailto:marjorie_nelson@fws.gov)>; Small, Stephen M <[stephen\\_small@fws.gov](mailto:stephen_small@fws.gov)>

**Cc:** Jimenez, Benjamin S <[benjamin\\_jimenez@fws.gov](mailto:benjamin_jimenez@fws.gov)>; Fortin-Noreus, Jennifer K <[jennifer\\_fortin-noreus@fws.gov](mailto:jennifer_fortin-noreus@fws.gov)>; Kasworm, Wayne <[wayne\\_kasworm@fws.gov](mailto:wayne_kasworm@fws.gov)>

**Subject:** Re: Grizzly Update June 6-13

We received further info on these bears from WGF. Bears sound comfortable around people (in at least one case, walked towards someone), in 1 or 2 cases were on unoccupied vehicles, and in at least 2 situations bears were fed (still don't have the details on this). Turns out this has been going on for at least 1-2 months. This behavior is not good but we also don't feel like this merits removing 3 bears at this point. WGF is not interested in managing roadside bears and I think this is flavoring their recommendation to remove all 3. WGF set 2 traps today.

Ben will get back to WGF with the following:

-If WGF catches 1 bear, euthanize and close traps. If WGF 2 bears in one night, euthanize 2 and close traps. See what happens.

-In the future, this is not how we want to manage these roadside situations. WGF should notify us as early as possible of simmering roadside bear situations and we will send staff to monitor and manage. This possibly could have been circumvented with early attention (hazing).

---

**From:** Hogan, Matt <[Matt\\_Hogan@fws.gov](mailto:Matt_Hogan@fws.gov)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, June 21, 2022 11:40 AM

**To:** Cooley, Hilary <[hilary\\_cooley@fws.gov](mailto:hilary_cooley@fws.gov)>; Nelson, Marjorie <[marjorie\\_nelson@fws.gov](mailto:marjorie_nelson@fws.gov)>; Small, Stephen M <[stephen\\_small@fws.gov](mailto:stephen_small@fws.gov)>

**Cc:** Jimenez, Benjamin S <[benjamin\\_jimenez@fws.gov](mailto:benjamin_jimenez@fws.gov)>; Fortin-Noreus, Jennifer K <[jennifer\\_fortin-noreus@fws.gov](mailto:jennifer_fortin-noreus@fws.gov)>; Kasworm, Wayne <[wayne\\_kasworm@fws.gov](mailto:wayne_kasworm@fws.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: Grizzly Update June 6-13

Thanks Hilary. Be keep me updated on the WY situation on Bear Tooth Pass.

---

**From:** Cooley, Hilary <[hilary\\_cooley@fws.gov](mailto:hilary_cooley@fws.gov)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, June 21, 2022 11:23 AM

**To:** Hogan, Matt <[Matt\\_Hogan@fws.gov](mailto:Matt_Hogan@fws.gov)>; Nelson, Marjorie <[marjorie\\_nelson@fws.gov](mailto:marjorie_nelson@fws.gov)>; Small, Stephen M <[stephen\\_small@fws.gov](mailto:stephen_small@fws.gov)>

**Cc:** Jimenez, Benjamin S <[benjamin\\_jimenez@fws.gov](mailto:benjamin_jimenez@fws.gov)>; Fortin-Noreus, Jennifer K <[jennifer\\_fortin-noreus@fws.gov](mailto:jennifer_fortin-noreus@fws.gov)>; Kasworm, Wayne <[wayne\\_kasworm@fws.gov](mailto:wayne_kasworm@fws.gov)>

**Subject:** Re: Grizzly Update June 6-13

### **GBRP Update June 13-21**

#### **Urgent Conflict Issue – Bear Tooth Pass, WY**

- This morning, WGF informed us that they are setting traps for 3 subadult grizzly bears on Bear Tooth Pass and wants to euthanize them if caught (they asked to shoot them on site, we said no). Bears are roadside and have been fed by public and may have approached vehicles. Construction workers in the area alerted WGF. We are trying to get more info on the situation. WGF also let us know that if we push back on removal, the Director might direct WGF to step back and let us handle.
- Problem is that this is all 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> hand info. WGF is calling bears food conditioned (they could be but we have not seen the evidence – aggressively pursuing human foods). They have also said they don't want to deal with roadside bears. We want to send one of our people there to get first-hand info but WGF is setting traps today. I'd prefer them not set traps now, but they are en route and determined. Bears will likely be caught. We will either have to authorize removal or handle relocation of up to 3 bears. Ben is getting in touch with Shoshone NF and construction workers to find out more and to inquire about feasibility of relocation sites.

#### **Conflicts**

- In the last 2 weeks, FWP set 9 traps for conflict bears outside the recovery zone (would have required USFWS to relocate).
  - 2 bears were captured and relocated by USFWS; 1 on East Front (June 11) and 1 in CYE (June 20). Tribes, FWP and FWS were notified.
  - 7 situations resulted in no bears and traps being pulled
  - 1 trap currently open (East Front)
- 2 conflict specialists (Morgan Vance (rover) and Rory Trimbo (Kalispell) begin work today. They will be on-boarding this week, including completing firearms training and Wilderness First Aid. Becca Lyon (Jackson) begins work July 5.
- 399 and offspring have been quiet
- Togwotee Pass bear has not been seen for 2-3 weeks.

#### **Coordination**

- I reached out to Blackfeet tribe (Buzz Cobel) and CSKT (Kari Eneas) to offer assistance from our new staff and inquire what type of coordination for relocations is desired. The Blackfeet would like to be notified of all relocations we are involved in. CSKT is interested in relocations near the Flathead reservation. They also seem interested in assistance we can offer.

- Touched base with Hank Worsech and Quentin Kujula to ask if they have any concerns with FWS putting out press release about FWS' role in relocations. They expressed no concerns.
- Still awaiting HQ approval of relocation press releases. We will touch base with EA.

**From:** Cooley, Hilary

**Sent:** Wednesday, June 15, 2022 5:18 PM

**To:** Hogan, Matt <[Matt\\_Hogan@fws.gov](mailto:Matt_Hogan@fws.gov)>; Nelson, Marjorie <[marjorie\\_nelson@fws.gov](mailto:marjorie_nelson@fws.gov)>; Small, Stephen M <[stephen\\_small@fws.gov](mailto:stephen_small@fws.gov)>

**Cc:** Jimenez, Benjamin S <[benjamin\\_jimenez@fws.gov](mailto:benjamin_jimenez@fws.gov)>; Fortin-Noreus, Jennifer K <[jennifer\\_fortin-noreus@fws.gov](mailto:jennifer_fortin-noreus@fws.gov)>; Kasworm, Wayne <[wayne\\_kasworm@fws.gov](mailto:wayne_kasworm@fws.gov)>

**Subject:** Grizzly Update June 6-13

Meetings

Ben and I traveled to Jackson June 6-10. Ben got the full suite of perspectives, including ranchers and bear advocates.

- Met with GTNP bear staff, Chip J, and Tommy Boudreau. Handed out coins to people involved in 399 effort. Spent the afternoon with USGS Craig Whitman, who was setting research traps in Park.
- Toured Togwotee Pass and met with WGF conflict staff, USFS staff, and Teton County Sheriff to discuss the issue and potential solutions. Teton County sheriff will be dedicating some patrol time to the area when needed. Bear 863 has been out of view for 2 weeks (likely on elk calves), but we expect her to be roadside again soon. Will be sending out another press release reminding the public to cooperate.
- Met with Frank Durbian and refuge staff. Frank has offered an office space for the new conflict staff, Becca Lyon, who will be starting July 5. NEP will also provide a trailer hookup for Becca (trailers still in contracting process). Becca has housing for now (apartment in Victor).
- Attended a USFS-permittee meeting for livestock producers in the Upper Green River in Pinedale. Met producers, USFS staff, and WGF staff.

Conflicts

- We had our first relocation on Saturday. The bear was involved in a chicken conflict in Vaughn (~15 miles west of Great Falls). Relocation site was near Marias Pass on the Helena Lewis Clark Forest, and has been used by FWP for years. Relocation was cleared by USFS and FWP.
- There are ongoing site conflicts in the Flathead Valley. FWP has one trap out. Potential removal due to bold behavior and recurring conflicts.
- Recent sheep depredations on Rockport Colony (west of Depuyer along Rocky Mtn Front). WS has traps out but will pull traps tomorrow. They are trying to get electric fence up. Rockport Colony has a history of depredations.

Other Coordination

- Tom Radandt organized a training at the WSU bear facility for hands-on training. 8 of our staff attended as well as 2 bear staff from the CSKT. We hope to increase these

trainings in the future to include other partners.

---

Grizzly Bear Recovery Program

US Fish and Wildlife Service

[hilary\\_cooley@fws.gov](mailto:hilary_cooley@fws.gov)

406-243-4903