

**From:** Gunther, Kerry  
**To:** [Fortin-Noreus, Jennifer](mailto:Fortin-Noreus, Jennifer)  
**Subject:** Re: grizzly population within YNP  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 07, 2016 12:55:39 PM

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The park has not gotten any bigger, the growth in the population has been occurring outside of the park.

On Wed, Sep 7, 2016 at 12:36 PM, Fortin-Noreus, Jennifer <[jennifer.fortin-noreus@mso.umt.edu](mailto:jennifer.fortin-noreus@mso.umt.edu)> wrote:

Thanks! I may have you look over our response to the comment when we get that far. The comment was:

o The estimated population inside the park, “approximately 150 with home ranges wholly or partially in the park” ([www.nps.gov/yell/learn/nature/grizzlybear.htm](http://www.nps.gov/yell/learn/nature/grizzlybear.htm)<<http://www.nps.gov/yell/learn/nature/grizzlybear.htm>>) means that current bear numbers in the park are less than or barely exceed numbers estimated in 1975 (126-312 “restricted largely to the confines of Yellowstone National Park and some surrounding areas”).

Jennifer Fortin-Noreus, Ph.D.  
Postdoctoral Researcher  
Grizzly Bear Recovery Program  
University of Montana  
University Hall, Room 309  
Missoula, MT 59812  
phone: (406) 243-4994  
[jennifer.fortin-noreus@umontana.edu](mailto:jennifer.fortin-noreus@umontana.edu)

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From: Gunther, Kerry [[kerry\\_gunther@nps.gov](mailto:kerry_gunther@nps.gov)]  
Sent: Wednesday, September 07, 2016 12:30 PM  
To: Fortin-Noreus, Jennifer  
Subject: Re: grizzly population within YNP

That is a very rough estimate based on the number of females with cubs observed in the park. It was never intended for scientific or management purposes, visitors always ask, so we give them a rough estimate. Since our counts of females with cubs have been relatively stable, it is still applicable, but I wouldn't necessarily call it accurate. I'll see if I can dig up the calculations it was based on.

Kerry

On Wed, Sep 7, 2016 at 12:08 PM, Fortin-Noreus, Jennifer <[jennifer.fortin-noreus@mso.umt.edu](mailto:jennifer.fortin-noreus@mso.umt.edu)> wrote:  
Kerry,

On the YNP grizzly bear webpage it says that there are "approximately 150 with home ranges wholly or partially in park." Do you know if this is still accurate? We received a public comment related to this estimate.

Thank you,

Jennifer

Jennifer Fortin-Noreus, Ph.D.  
Postdoctoral Researcher  
Grizzly Bear Recovery Program  
University of Montana  
University Hall, Room 309  
Missoula, MT 59812  
phone: (406) 243-4994  
[jennifer.fortin-noreus@umontana.edu](mailto:jennifer.fortin-noreus@umontana.edu)<mailto:[jennifer.fortin-noreus@umontana.edu](mailto:jennifer.fortin-noreus@umontana.edu)>

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Kerry Gunther  
Bear Management Office  
P.O. Box 168  
Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190

Phone: 307-344-2162  
Fax: 307-344-2211

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Kerry Gunther  
Bear Management Office  
P.O. Box 168  
Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190

Phone: 307-344-2162  
Fax: 307-344-2211