

With increased visitation to our public lands throughout the ecosystem, the current method for tracking and monitoring developed sites as a count of point features has been identified as in need of improvement. It is put forth that recommended changes in methods for measuring and tracking developed sites be generated over the next few **years**. Any new method for tracking developed sites must represent an improvement over existing methods and yield more accurate and quantitative measures of impact to grizzly bear habitat with minimal deviations from the 1998 baseline. Recommended modifications to measuring, tracking, and monitoring the 1998 developed sites baseline will be formulated in time for the 5-year review [of the Conservation Strategy](#) and will be released for public comment.

**Commented [LLA-1]:** I don't think we want to commit to specific modifications at this point (i.e., tracking areal footprint of each developed site, capacity of human use, etc.).

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[Changes to existing developed sites on public land or new sites are acceptable as long as these changes or new developments: 1\) do not increase the number of overnight use sites and/or result in increased overnight human presence at existing sites; 2\) are for the purpose of visitor safety, environmental protection, or enhanced visitor services such as outhouses, picnic sites, parking areas, or interpretive displays; and 3\) that appropriate sanitation and human-bear conflict minimization efforts are associated with any such changes or enhancements.](#)

Ken McDonalds's suggested paragraph:

Since 1998, visitor use in YNP and surrounding public lands has increased significantly, necessitating the need for additional infrastructure to responsibly accommodate the increased and likely future increases in visitor use. Development in or immediately adjacent to major developed sites such as Old Faithful, Mammoth, and Canyon Village is necessary to accommodate increased infrastructure needs. Because major developed areas do not represent significant habitat for bears, a slight increase to the footprint or capacity of major developments will have minimal to no impact on the GYE grizzly bear population. As such, it is acceptable to allow a slight increase to the footprint of major development sites to accommodate increased infrastructure needs while minimizing impacts to higher priority habitats and bears. By the end of calendar year 2021, the agencies will finalize a definition of major development, provide the 1998 baseline of major development, and determine a maximum level of increase to the 1998 baseline for major developments, not to exceed 5%.