

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Bear Monitoring and Population Trend

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During the 2013 field season, we captured 65 individual grizzly bears on 88 occasions (Table 1), including 18 females (12 adult), 47 males (30 adult). Forty individuals were bears not previously marked. The percent of previously unmarked individual grizzly bears captured annually during 1998–2013 has remained relatively constant, averaging 62% although the number of individuals captured has increased (Figure 1). This result supports the notion that grizzly bears continue to recruit into the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (GYE) population at a relatively constant rate. The decline in the number of individual bears captured during 2013 is due to both few fall conflicts and the federal shutdown which effectively curtailed fall trapping efforts.

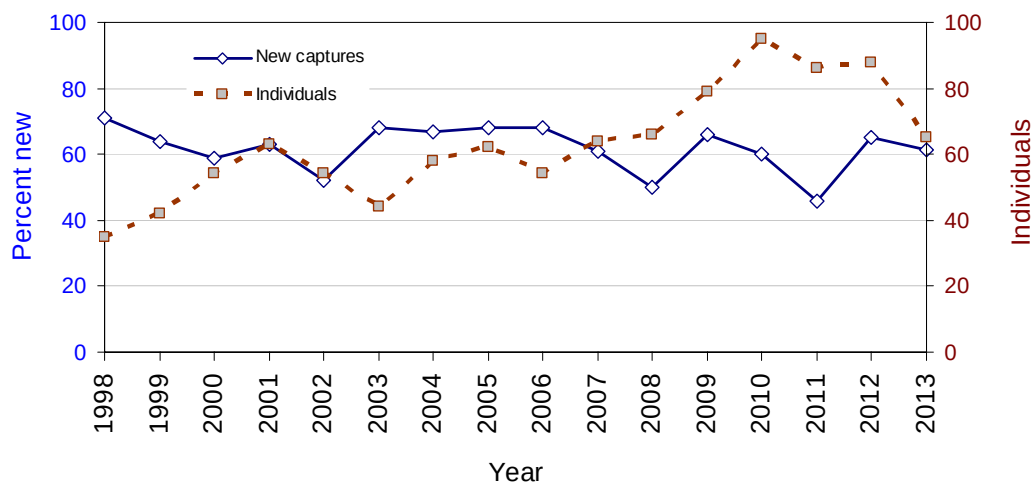


Figure 1. Percent of previously unmarked and total number of grizzly bears captured annually during 1998–2013 in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem.

We conducted research trapping efforts for 590 trap days (1 trap day = 1 trap set for 1 day) in the GYE. During research trapping operations we had 57 captures of 36 individual grizzly bears for a trapping success rate of 1 grizzly capture every 10.4 trap days. One additional research capture resulted from free-darting and not trapping for a total of 58 captures of 37 individual grizzly bears during 2013 research capture operations.

There were 30 management captures of 29 individual bears in the GYE during 2013 (Tables 1 and 2), including 9 females (7 adults), and 20 males (9 adults). Nineteen individual bears (8 females, 11 males), were relocated on 20 occasions because of conflict situations; 1 subadult male was relocated twice (Table 1). There were 10 (2 females, 8 males) management removals. One yearling male was a non-target capture at associated with cattle depredation and was released on site.

We radio-monitored 99 individual grizzly bears during the 2013 field season, including 36 adult females (Tables 2 and 3). Forty-eight grizzly bears entered their winter dens wearing active transmitters. Two additional bears not located during the fall are considered missing (Table 3). Since 1975, 762 individual grizzly bears have been radiomarked in the GYE.

Table 1. Grizzly bears captured in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem during 2013.

Bear	Sex	Age	Date	General location ^a	Capture type	Release site ^a	Trapper/Handler ^b
Unm	male	adult	03/23/13	Bennett Crk, PR-WY	management	removed	WYGF
671	male	adult	04/25/13	Clark's Fork River, PR-WY	management	removed	WYGF
740	male	adult	05/06/13	Sheep Crk, PR-WY	management	Long Crk, SNF	WYGF
549	male	adult	05/06/13	Graybull River, PR-WY	management	removed	WYGF
741	female	adult	05/22/13	Little Horse Crk, SNF	research	on site	WYGF
742	male	subadult	05/24/13	Pat O'Hara Crk, PR-WY	management	Fox Crk, SNF	WYGF
743	female	adult	05/25/13	Greybull River, PR-WY	management	Wind River, SNF	WYGF
G189	male	subadult	05/25/13	Greybull River, PR-WY	management	Wind River, SNF	WYGF
G190	female	subadult	05/25/13	Greybull River, PR-WY	management	Wind River, SNF	WYGF
744	male	subadult	05/26/13	Brent Crk, SNF	research	on site	WYGF
Unm	female	subadult	05/27/13	Wiggins Fork, SNF	research	mortality	WYGF
407	male	adult	05/30/13	Frontier Crk, SNF	research	on site	WYGF
745	male	subadult	05/31/13	Pat O'hara Crk, PR-WY	management	Mormon Crk, SNF	WYGF
745	male	subadult	07/28/13	Rand Crk, PR-WY	management	Squirrel Crk, CTNF	WYGF
746	male	adult	05/31/13	Brent Crk, SNF	research	on site	WYGF
G191	male	subadult	05/31/13	Horse Crk, SNF	research	on site	WYGF
G155	male	adult	06/02/13	Horse Crk, SNF	research	on site	WYGF
747	female	subadult	06/04/13	Long Crk, SNF	research	on site	WYGF
748	male	subadult	06/07/13	North Fork Shoshone, SNF	management	Bailey Crk, BTNF	WYGF
G192	male	subadult	06/08/13	South Fork Shoshone, PR-WY	management	Mormon Crk, SNF	WYGF
219	male	adult	06/10/13	Gibbon River, YNP	research	on site	IGBST
219	male	adult	08/21/13	Bootjack Crk, CTNF	research	on site	IDFG/IGBST
749	female	adult	06/12/13	Stephens Crk, YNP	research	on site	IGBST
750	male	adult	06/19/13	Raven Crk, YNP	research	on site	IGBST
736	male	adult	06/19/13	Gibbon River, YNP	research	on site	IGBST
193	female	adult	06/20/13	Gibbon River, YNP	research	on site	IGBST
193	female	adult	06/22/13	Gibbon River, YNP	research	on site	IGBST
751	male	subadult	06/21/13	Raven Crk, YNP	research	on site	IGBST
752	male	subadult	06/23/13	Heifer Crk, BTNF	research	on site	WYGF
578	male	adult	06/23/13	Cascade Crk, YNP	research	on site	IGBST
578	male	adult	06/26/13	Cascade Crk, YNP	research	on site	IGBST
281	male	adult	06/23/13	Cascade Crk, YNP	research	on site	IGBST
281	male	adult	06/26/13	Cascade Crk, YNP	research	on site	IGBST
G179	male	subadult	06/24/13	West Red Lodge Crk, PR-MT	management	removed	WS/MTFWP
753	male	subadult	06/24/13	Raven Crk, YNP	research	on site	IGBST
754	male	adult	06/25/13	Strawberry Crk, BTNF	research	on site	WYGF
755	female	subadult	06/25/13	Strawberry Crk, BTNF	research	on site	WYGF
755	female	subadult	06/27/13	Strawberry Crk, BTNF	research	on site	WYGF
755	female	subadult	07/04/13	Strawberry Crk, BTNF	research	on site	WYGF
755	female	subadult	07/05/13	Strawberry Crk, BTNF	research	on site	WYGF
755	female	subadult	07/11/13	Park Crk, BTNF	research	on site	WYGF
755	female	subadult	07/12/13	Park Crk, BTNF	research	on site	WYGF
755	female	subadult	07/13/13	Park Crk, BTNF	research	on site	WYGF
755	female	subadult	07/14/13	Park Crk, BTNF	research	Devils Basin Crk, BTNF	WYGF
755	female	subadult	07/17/13	Strawberry Crk, BTNF	research	on site	WYGF
716	female	adult	06/30/13	Green River, BTNF	management	removed	WYGF
756	male	subadult	06/30/13	Wagon Crk, BTNF	management	Sunlight Crk, SNF	WYGF
566	male	adult	07/08/13	Bridge Crk, YNP	research	on site	IGBST
587	male	adult	07/07/13	Green River, BTNF	management	removed	WYGF

Table 1. Continued.

Bear	Sex	Age	Date	General location ^a	Capture type	Release site ^a	Trapper/Handler ^b
714	female	adult	07/08/13	Wagon Crk, BTNF	management	removed	WYGF
757	female	subadult	07/10/13	Buffalo Fork, BTNF	research	on site	WYGF
227	male	adult	07/18/13	Henry's Fork, CTNF	research	on site	IDFG/IGBST
227	male	adult	07/23/13	Warm River, CTNF	research	on site	IDFG/IGBST
227	male	adult	07/24/13	Warm River, CTNF	research	on site	IDFG/IGBST
227	male	adult	07/25/13	Warm River, CTNF	research	on site	IDFG
227	male	adult	08/01/13	Warm River, CTNF	research	on site	IDFG/IGBST
227	male	adult	08/02/13	Warm River, CTNF	research	on site	IDFG/IGBST
227	male	adult	08/16/13	Henry's Fork, CTNF	research	on site	IDFG/IGBST
227	male	adult	08/18/13	Henry's Fork, CTNF	research	on site	IDFG/IGBST
227	male	adult	08/19/13	Warm River, CTNF	research	on site	IDFG/IGBST
758	male	adult	07/21/13	Buck Crk, GNF	research	on site	IGBST
759	female	adult	07/23/13	Deadhorse Crk, GNF	research	on site	IGBST
Unm	male	adult	07/23/13	South Fork Owl Crk, PR-WY	management	removed	WYGF
653	male	adult	07/25/13	Henry's Fork, CTNF	research	on site	IDFG
760	male	subadult	07/29/13	Lizard Crk, GTNP	management	South Boone Crk, CTNF	GTNP
761	male	adult	08/01/13	Eldridge Crk, GNF	research	on site	IGBST
762	female	adult	08/06/13	Eldridge Crk, GNF	research	on site	IGBST
637	male	adult	08/06/13	Tepee Crk, BTNF	management	Mormon Crk, SNF	WYGF
730	male	adult	08/08/13	Henry's Fork, CTNF	research	on site	IDFG/IGBST
Unm	male	subadult	08/10/13	South Fish Crk, BTNF	management	on site	WYGF
547	male	adult	08/14/13	Henry's Fork, CTNF	research	on site	IDFG/IGBST
763	male	adult	08/14/13	Bootjack Crk, CTNF	research	on site	IDFG/IGBST
379	male	adult	08/30/13	Thorofare Crk, YNP	research	on site	IGBST
379	male	adult	09/01/13	Thorofare Crk, BTNF	research	on site	WYGF
764	male	adult	09/01/13	Thorofare Crk, BTNF	research	on site	WYGF
G178	male	subadult	09/05/13	Wind River, PR-WY	management	removed	WYGF
765	male	adult	09/10/13	Owl Crk, PR-WY	management	Boone Crk, CTNF	WYGF
717	male	adult	09/14/13	Crow Crk, BTNF	management	removed	WYGF
766	male	adult	09/18/13	Jasper Crk, YNP	research	on site	IGBST
211	male	adult	09/19/12	Jasper Crk, YNP	research	on site	IGBST
767	female	subadult	09/23/13	East Fork Wind River, PR-WY	management	Mormon Crk, SNF	WYGF
768	female	adult	09/27/13	North Fork Shoshone, PR-WY	management	Fox Crk, SNF	WYGF
769	male	subadult	09/28/13	Gardner River, YNP	research	on site	IGBST
769	male	subadult	09/30/13	Gardner River, YNP	research	on site	IGBST
703	female	adult	10/01/13	Prospect Crk, PR-WY	management	Fox Crk, SNF	WYGF
770	female	adult	10/10/13	Henry's Fork, PR-ID	management	Moose Crk, CTNF	IDFG
G193	male	subadult	10/14/13	South Fork Shoshone, PR-WY	management	Cascade Crk, CTNF	WYGF
771	female	adult	10/09/13	Pat O'Hara Crk, PR-WY	management	Moccasin Crk, BTNF	WYGF
227	male	adult	07/18/13	Henry's Fork, CTNF	research	on site	IDFG/IGBST

^a BLM = Bureau of Land Management; BTNF = Bridger-Teton National Forest, CTNF = Caribou-Targhee National Forest, GNF = Gallatin National Forest, SNF = Shoshone National Forest, YNP = Yellowstone National Park, WRIR = Wind River Reservation, PR = private.

^b IDFG = Idaho Fish and Game; IGBST = Interagency Grizzly Bear Study Team, USGS; MTFWP = Montana Fish, Wildlife and Park; WS = Wildlife Services; WYGF = Wyoming Game and Fish; YNP = Yellowstone National Park.

Table 2. Annual number of grizzly bears monitored, captured, and transported in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, 1980–2013.

Year	Number monitored	Individuals trapped	Total captures		Transports
			Research	Management	
1980	34	28	32	0	0
1981	43	36	30	35	31
1982	46	30	27	25	17
1983	26	14	0	18	13
1984	35	33	20	22	16
1985	21	4	0	5	2
1986	29	36	19	31	19
1987	30	21	15	10	8
1988	46	36	23	21	15
1989	40	15	14	3	3
1990	35	15	4	13	9
1991	42	27	28	3	4
1992	41	16	15	1	0
1993	43	21	13	8	6
1994	60	43	23	31	28
1995	71	39	26	28	22
1996	76	36	25	15	10
1997	70	24	20	8	6
1998	58	35	32	8	5
1999	65	42	31	16	13
2000	84	54	38	27	12
2001	82	63	41	32	15
2002	81	54	50	22	15
2003	80	44	40	14	11
2004	78	58	38	29	20
2005	91	63	47	27	20
2006	92	54	36	25	23
2007	86	65	54	19	8
2008	87	66	39	40	30
2009	97	79	63	34	25
2010	85	95	36	75	52
2011	92	86	61	46	24
2012	112	88	47	56	35
2013	99	65	58	30	20

Table 3. Grizzly bears radiomonitored in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem during 2013.

Bear	Sex	Age	Offspring ^a	Monitored		Current status
				Out of den	Into den	
155	M	adult		yes	yes	active
179	F	adult	3 COY	yes	no	Cast
193	F	adult	none	no	yes	active
204	M	adult		yes	no	Cast
211	M	adult		yes	yes	active
219	M	adult		no	no	cast
227	M	adult		yes	yes	active
281	M	adult		yes	yes	active
373	M	adult		yes	no	Cast
379	M	adult		no	yes	active
407	M	adult		no	yes	active
416	F	adult	not seen	yes	no	Cast
423	F	adult	3 COY	yes	yes	active
479	M	adult		yes	no	Cast
481	F	adult	2 COY	yes	yes	active
499	F	adult	none	yes	yes	active
526	M	adult		yes	no	Cast
533	F	adult	none	yes	no	Killed
541	F	adult	2 COY	yes	yes	active
547	M	adult		no	no	Cast
566	M	adult		no	no	missing
574	M	adult		yes	no	Cast
578	M	adult		no	yes	active
600	M	adult		yes	no	Cast
627	F	adult	2 yearlings	yes	yes	active
637	M	adult		no	no	Cast
648	M	adult		yes	no	Cast
653	M	adult		yes	yes	active
658	F	adult	not seen	no	no	Cast
663	F	adult	none	yes	no	Cast
671	M	adult		yes	no	Removed
672	F	adult	1 COY	yes	yes	active
674	M	adult		yes	yes	active
678	F	adult	1 yearling	yes	no	Cast
686	F	adult	not seen	yes	no	Cast
692	F	adult	not seen	no	no	Cast
701	M	adult		yes	no	Cast
702	F	subadult		yes	no	Cast
703	F	adult	3 2-year-olds, weaned	yes	yes	active
706	F	adult	2 COY	yes	yes	active

Table 3. Continued

Bear	Sex	Age	Offspring ^a	Monitored		Current status
				Out of den	Into den	
707	F	adult	not seen	no	no	Cast
708	F	adult	2 COY, lost both	yes	no	Killed
711	M	adult		yes	no	Cast
713	M	subadult		yes	no	Cast
714	F	adult	none	yes	no	Removed
715	M	adult		yes	yes	active
716	F	adult	none	yes	no	Removed
717	M	adult		yes	no	Removed
718	F	adult	2 COY	yes	yes	active
719	M	adult		no	no	Cast
720	F	adult	1 yearling, lost/weaned	yes	yes	active
721	F	adult	none	yes	no	Cast
723	M	adult		yes	no	Cast
724	F	adult	2 COY	yes	yes	active
725	F	adult	none	yes	yes	active
727	M	adult		yes	no	Cast
728	F	subadult		yes	yes	active
729	M	adult		yes	no	Cast
730	M	adult		yes	yes	active
731	M	subadult		no	no	Cast
732	F	adult	none	yes	yes	active
733	M	adult		no	no	missing
734	F	adult	1 COY	yes	yes	active
735	F	COY		yes	no	Cast
736	M	adult		yes	no	Cast
738	M	adult		yes	no	Cast
739	F	subadult		yes	no	Cast
740	M	adult		no	no	cast
741	F	adult	none	no	yes	active
742	M	subadult		no	yes	active
743	F	adult	2 yearlings	no	yes	active
744	M	subadult		no	yes	active
745	M	subadult		no	yes	active
746	M	adult		no	yes	active
747	F	subadult		no	no	Cast
748	M	subadult		no	no	Dead
749	F	adult	none	no	no	Cast
750	M	adult		no	yes	active
751	M	subadult		no	no	Cast

Table 3. Continued.

Bear	Sex	Age	Offspring ^a	Monitored		Current status
				Out of den	Into den	
752	M	subadult		no	yes	active
753	M	subadult		no	no	Cast
754	M	adult		no	yes	active
755	F	subadult		no		active
756	M	subadult		no	no	Cast
757	F	subadult		no	no	Cast
758	M	adult		no	yes	active
759	F	adult	2 COY	no	yes	active
760	M	subadult		no	no	cast
761	M	adult		no	yes	active
762	F	adult	none	no	yes	active
763	M	adult		no	yes	active
764	M	adult		no	no	Killed
765	M	adult		no	no	cast
766	M	adult		no	yes	active
767	F	subadult		no	yes	active
768	F	adult	none	no	yes	active
769	M	subadult		no	yes	active
770	F	adult	none	no		active
771	F	adult	none	no	yes	active