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## Newsletter and Blog

Featuring updates on grizzly bear conservation activities,  
and the latest *Grizzly Times* Blog  
from *Louisa Willcox*  
Executive Director of *Grizzly Times*.  
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Hello Friends of Yellowstone's Grizzly Bears:

If you are sweltering in this heat wave—or even if not—you may want to read David's latest blog on climate warming, and the longstanding campaign of denial in the face of irrefutable evidence – tied into the current grizzly bear debate, of course. The full piece follows this Newsletter.

***The Sinister Underbelly of Climate Warming Denial*, by Dr. David Mattson**

<https://www.grizzlytimes.org/single-post/2018/07/02/The-Sinister-Underbelly-of-Climate-Warming-Denial>

**Grizzly Times Podcast: Musician Jack Locker Rocks!**

Musician Jack Locker has been interested in grizzly bears, ever since he was a child. In Episode 27, Jack provides a wonderful interview about why they matter, and why delisting is a huge problem:

<https://www.grizzlytimes.org/the-grizzly-times-podcast>

**Grizzly Times: Fun Facts on What Grizzlies Eat - Thistle**

We thought you would enjoy this new series by David on what grizzlies are foraging on now. With thistle, for bears, as for us, it is important to avoid the spiny

bits: <https://www.facebook.com/GrizzlyTimes/photos/a.1555606541425374.1073741828.1527324597586902/2047476302238393>

**Protesting the Yellowstone Grizzly Bear Hunt:**

Momentum is building to protest Wyoming's grizzly bear hunt that begins on September 1<sup>st</sup>, if it is not stopped in federal court. Some are looking into buying grizzly bear permits with the idea that any purchased tags will hopefully translate into one less hunter in the field actually wanting to kill a grizzly. This process is complicated, so I am attaching some details from Friends of Wyoming's Grizzly Bears (thanks guys!). The cost is \$600 for a WY resident and \$6,000 for a nonresident. You also need to have taken a Hunter Ed course, which are filling up. Typical of Wyoming, officials are changing the rules to try to prevent disruption of the hunt – e.g., making hunter education requirements apply if you were born before 1966.

Here is more info on how you can help:

[https://www.facebook.com/Shootemwithacamera/?hc\\_ref=ARRT-mPD0xDc6wgsKlti8unPb8JDkeT4tQtHH\\_X3OX6vTbkkC4ucchBBI4Q2OEURKjk](https://www.facebook.com/Shootemwithacamera/?hc_ref=ARRT-mPD0xDc6wgsKlti8unPb8JDkeT4tQtHH_X3OX6vTbkkC4ucchBBI4Q2OEURKjk)

### **The Bruin Battle:**

Here is a wonderful article (the kind we rarely see any more) on grizzly bear delisting and trophy hunting, in *Planet Jackson Hole*. David Benbow Bearshields, Chairman of Guardians of Our Ancestors Legacy, articulates tribal concerns beautifully:

<http://planetjh.com/2018/07/03/the-bruin-battle/>

### **Good News for Three Orphan Grizzly Bear Cubs on the Rocky Mountain Front!**

In some much-needed good news, 3 cubs, recently orphaned when their mother was killed by a vehicle near Lincoln last month, have found a home in one of Canada's premiere zoos, Zoo Sauvage de Saint-Felicien, in Quebec. While being behind bars for the rest of their lives is far from ideal, the chance of the cubs, born earlier this year, surviving without mom is otherwise very low. Montana and federal officials were poised to kill the cubs if this did not happen.

Kudos to the state of Montana and Vital Ground for finding a good home for these little guys!

[http://fwp.mt.gov/news/newsReleases/headlines/nr\\_4337.html](http://fwp.mt.gov/news/newsReleases/headlines/nr_4337.html)

### **Collapse of Trumpeter Swans, Other Birds in Yellowstone Prove Again that Everything is Connected:**

Most grizzly bear advocates are familiar with the collapse in the 1990s of Yellowstone cutthroat trout in Yellowstone Lake, and its impacts on the ecosystem's grizzlies - the consequence of climate warming and the introduction of a nonnative Lake Trout that prey on cutthroats. But researchers are now finding that the impacts of cutthroat loss reach far beyond bears. In the absence of cutthroat trout that are readily exploited by carnivores since they spawn in shallow tributaries to the lake, raptors such as bald eagles are foraging increasingly on young birds, including the imperiled trumpeter swan. This is a somber reminder of John Muir's prophetic statement that: "When we try to pick out anything by itself, we find it hitched to everything else in the Universe."

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/environment/2018/07/yellowstone-lake-trout-trumpeter-swan-avian-collapse-animals/>

### **Steve Primm: Lessons on the Killing of Grizzly in the Wind River Mountains**

Steve Primm, an expert on coexistence with large carnivores, here reflects on the recent killing by a hiker of a grizzly bear mom in the Wind Rivers. He underscores the importance of mental preparedness for a grizzly bear encounter, and of carrying and knowing how to use bear pepper spray – and being ready to deploy it within seconds – something that requires practice to become second nature.

<http://mountainjournal.org/a-hiker-shoots-a-grizzly-bear>

### **Really Sad News for Grizzlies, Wolves, Lions and Us – The Terrible Fate of Washington Wolves and a World-Renowned Scientist, Dr. Rob Wielgus**

Here, an incredible story in the NYT about Dr. Rob Wielgus, former director of the Washington State University's Large Carnivore Lab. By way of thanks for decades of difficult research on carnivore-livestock interactions, Rob was fired, his lab shuttered. Rob has done more than perhaps anyone else to show that killing large carnivores doesn't decrease, but rather boosts conflicts with livestock as carnivore social structure breaks down. Which is why the many tools to deter conflicts (eg, electric fence, husbandry practices, guardian livestock dogs) are so

important. If credible scientists such as Wielgus cannot survive, what hope for the broader enterprise to conserve large carnivores!

THANKS ROB for all your hard work to understand the dynamics between people and livestock - we will keep your findings alive...

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/07/05/magazine/whos-afraid-of-the-big-bad-wolf-scientist.html>

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For the bears,

**Louisa**