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## Newsletter and Blog

Featuring updates on grizzly bear conservation activities,  
and the latest *Grizzly Times* Blog  
from [Louisa Willcox and David Mattson, PhD.](#)  
Co-Founders of *Grizzly Times*.  
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*Dear Friends of Grizzly Bears,*

### **NEW BLOG:**

#### ***Anti-grizzly Fever Grips Wyoming, Again*** By Louisa Willcox

My latest essay focuses on the anti-bear fever gripping Wyoming, again, in the state legislature, Wyoming Game and Fish Department, as well as, the governor's office. State bills go as far as allowing a grizzly bear hunt, even though it has been prohibited by a federal court.

The spewing about grizzlies is counterproductive and harmful, both to bears and a civil, intelligent discourse – and it reinforces concern about whether Wyoming should be trusted with the fate of the nation's iconic grizzlies.

Thanks again to David, Editor in Chief!

[grizzlytimes.org/single-post/2019/01/31/Anti-grizzly-Fever-Grips-Wyoming-Again](http://grizzlytimes.org/single-post/2019/01/31/Anti-grizzly-Fever-Grips-Wyoming-Again)

Here are a few newsclips on the topic, also cited in my essay:

- [powelltribune.com/stories/gov-mark-gordon-pledges-support-for-state-management-of-grizzlies,17362](http://powelltribune.com/stories/gov-mark-gordon-pledges-support-for-state-management-of-grizzlies,17362)
- [powelltribune.com/stories/state-senate-gives-initial-approval-to-bill-allowing-grizzly-hunts,17389](http://powelltribune.com/stories/state-senate-gives-initial-approval-to-bill-allowing-grizzly-hunts,17389)
- [jhnewsandguide.com/jackson\\_hole\\_daily/local/article/Lawmakers: Hunt Grizzlies Regardless](http://jhnewsandguide.com/jackson_hole_daily/local/article/Lawmakers: Hunt Grizzlies Regardless)
- [jhnewsandguide.com/news/environmental/article/2018 Was a Rough Year for WY Grizzlies](http://jhnewsandguide.com/news/environmental/article/2018 Was a Rough Year for WY Grizzlies)

Wyoming is not alone, as a Montana legislator has also introduced a resolution supporting delisting:

[kxlh.com/news/montana-politics/2019/01/21/mt-senator-supports-delisting-grizzly-bears-proposes-resolution/](http://kxlh.com/news/montana-politics/2019/01/21/mt-senator-supports-delisting-grizzly-bears-proposes-resolution/)

## **IN THE NEWS:**

### **- Wyoming Releases Final Report on Mark Uptain Fatality**

Last week, Wyoming released the final investigative report on the tragic death of outfitter Mark Uptain by a grizzly last September. A mother grizzly and her yearling cub appear to have been attracted to a dead elk, shot the day before, that Uptain and his client were dressing out.

The report reinforces previous conclusions by OSHA that bear spray, if properly deployed, could have averted the disaster. By repeating state officials' mantra that the bears' behavior was "abnormal," reporter Mike Kosmrl reinforces stereotypes of grizzlies as "monsters of god." The public deserves better reporting especially when stakes and emotions are so high.

[jhnewsandguide.com/news/environmental/article/Case Closed in Fatal Griz Attack](http://jhnewsandguide.com/news/environmental/article/Case-Closed-in-Fatal-Griz-Attack)

### **- Researcher Joy Erlenbach's Life Revolves Around Getting Along with Grizzly Bears**

By contrast to Wyoming, reporter Wilson Criscione did a great job with this delightful, detailed story about Washington State University researcher Joy Erlenbach, who studies grizzlies in Alaska's Katmai Park. She shares a very different perspective than what you are hearing in Wyoming, with this: "I would like to see people realize that you can peacefully coexist with these animals, that they're not out to get you all the time."

Her success coexisting with bears rests in large measure on her ability to read bear behavior as one might a dog's. "I personally think [grizzly populations] should keep growing and expanding and that the *people* need to change," she concludes.

David is also quoted in this article, offering this: "I think it's wrongheaded to think of it as us versus bears, because our fates are intertwined."

[inlander.com/spokane/after-living-with-bears-for-300-days-a-wsu-researcher-came-away-with-a-wild-idea-that-grizzlies-and-humans-can-coexist](http://inlander.com/spokane/after-living-with-bears-for-300-days-a-wsu-researcher-came-away-with-a-wild-idea-that-grizzlies-and-humans-can-coexist)

### **- Check Out This Cool Film on Doug Peacock's Campaign to Save the Grizzly!**

This new film, *Grizzly Country*, by Ben Moon and Peak Design centers on the legendary eco-warrior, grizzly bear expert, and Green Beret medic Doug Peacock...the man Ed Abbey based his famous character George Washington Hayduke on.

After serving in the Vietnam War, Doug Peacock spent years alone in the Wyoming and Montana wilderness observing grizzly bears. This time in the wild changed the course of his life. With the protection of Yellowstone grizzlies now under threat, Peacock reflects on the importance of habitat and why he continues to fight for wild causes. The film is scheduled at numerous film festivals.

[GrizzlyCountryFilm.com](http://GrizzlyCountryFilm.com)

### **- Earthjustice: Bears in the Crosshairs**

This article, published in Earthjustice's magazine, does a nice job covering the inside story of the incredible work by lawyers Tim Preso and Josh Purtle to stop the Yellowstone grizzly bear trophy hunt and restore federal protections.

Check out the cool video clips of interviews and the illustrations of what happened in the courtroom -- thanks guys, you rock!

[earthjustice.org/features/bears-in-the-crosshairs](http://earthjustice.org/features/bears-in-the-crosshairs)

- **Canada Does the Right Thing for Grizzlies**

Parks Canada recently put the brakes on a proposed bicycle trail between Jasper and Banff parks, despite millions of dollars that had been invested in its construction, because of adverse effects on grizzlies and other sensitive wildlife.

You don't see science and a precautionary approach prevail every day!

[ctvnews.ca/canada/parks-canada-puts-brakes-on-icefields-parkway-bike-trail-in-alberta](http://ctvnews.ca/canada/parks-canada-puts-brakes-on-icefields-parkway-bike-trail-in-alberta)

**Please Consider a Gift to *Grizzly Times***

As we enter, with hope, the new year, we ask you to consider a donation to our efforts.

We need your help! David and I have retired and are doing this full-time work pretty much gratis.

If you were following the delisting court case last summer, you know that David's role was vital to the litigation success that restored protections to Yellowstone region's grizzly bears. The skilled attorneys could not have won the case without David's scientific expertise. There will be continued demands on David's time with the appeal of this case to the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court, the potential delisting of the NCDE - or even all Lower 48 - grizzlies, and the mounting threats to the Cabinet-Yaak population.

As we do not have a nonprofit, Conservation Congress, a not-for-profit tax-deductible organization, has agreed to be our fiscal sponsor. (Thank you, Denise!)

You can make a one-time contribution or sign up for a monthly donation through the Conservation Congress link below.

[ConservationCongress-ca.org/give](http://ConservationCongress-ca.org/give)

Or, you can mail a donation to:

Conservation Congress  
2234 Sierra Vista Circle  
Billings, MT 59105

\* Be sure to note that your contribution is for *Grizzly Times* (GT).

Thank you for your continued support - in any way. It is greatly appreciated!

*For the bears,*  
**Louisa and David**