



GRIZZLY BEAR HUNTING IN ALBERTA

Grizzly mortality statistics and interpretation

- Hunting Grizzly Bears in Alberta was suspended in 2006.
- Since 2008, an average of 20 grizzly bears are known to have been killed by humans on provincial lands in Alberta each year. Illegal killing represented the largest proportion (28%) of human-caused mortalities. Self-defence kills and accidental deaths together represented another 44%.
- In 2010, Grizzly bears were declared a threatened species under the Alberta Wildlife Act.
- Government will continue to work with communities, residents, industry and other stakeholders in bear habitat to manage access and human activities so we can reduce the risk of human-caused grizzly bear mortalities.
- Every Albertan who lives, visits or works in grizzly bear habitat has a role to play in their conservation.

Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Total
Hunting licences allocated	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total grizzlies taken during legal hunt	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Aboriginal (subsistence harvest)	2	3	2	1	0	2	1	2	1	1	15
Illegal kill	1	6	6	4	2	11	4	10	6	7	57
Mistaken for black bear	0	3	3	3	2	4	0	0	0	1	16
Self defence	6	0	1	2	5	3	3	3	5	0	28
Accidental (human-related e.g. road kills)	4	5	6	4	4	4	8	8	11	9	63
Research related	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Destroyed—problem bears	6	0	1	1	1	2	3	4	6	4	28
Killed by predation	0	3	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
Unknown	1	1	2	1	1	5	0	1	0	0	12
Total known human-caused grizzly mortalities	19	17	19	15	14	26	19	27	29	22	207
Total mortalities	20	21	21	18	15	31	19	28	29	22	224

Common Facts:

- In the attack, bears will not usually pursue their prey over long distance. However, once the animal is dead, they may drag it some distance to feed under the protection of cover.
- Bears normally attack their prey from the top of the animal.
- Bears are opportunistic hunters and feeders. They will take advantage of any food source when they have the opportunity to do so. Grizzly bears prey on all age classes of cattle as well as swine and sheep. Since Grizzlies are larger than the average bear, they prey on larger animals such as mature cows.
- The common attack zones on adult livestock for Grizzly Bears are: Withers, Spine, Neck, and Skull.

BearSmart Program

The BearSmart Program Mission Statement is as follows:

The Alberta BearSmart Program seeks to reduce human-bear conflict and increase public stewardship in Alberta by providing strategic information and education materials to the public, stakeholders and government agency staff dealing with bears.

The Alberta BearSmart Program is led by the Alberta Government to achieve the following:

- Keep people safe
- Help bear populations survive and
- Reduce property damage and costs

FACT SHEET # 23

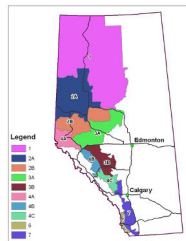
Grizzly Bear Recovery Plan

Alberta's Grizzly Bear Recovery Plan guides grizzly bear management in Alberta, providing recommendations including the following:

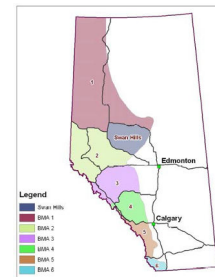
- Suspending the grizzly bear hunt
- Gathering and coordinating scientific data
- Public education (for example, the BearSmart program, or AHEIA's award winning Bear Essentials program)
- Hiring and training bear management staff, including a carnivore specialist
- Better managing of problem grizzly bears

The Grizzly Bear Recovery Plan was last updated in 2008. The plan extends until 2013, including key recommendations as follows yet not limited to:

- Reduce human-caused grizzly bear mortality by changing human-use of the landscape, including:
 - o Controlling access development and use, and other human activities in grizzly bear habitat
 - o Temporary suspension of hunting as an immediate measure while other recovery actions are implemented
- Determine grizzly bear population size and continue ongoing collection and monitoring of key data
- Create Grizzly Bear Priority Areas in each population unit to protect high quality habitat and reduce risk from humans
- Reduce human/bear conflicts by working with people and managing attractants to minimize adverse bear behaviour
- Develop an education program directed at the general public and target audiences
- Maintain current grizzly bear distribution, track availability of suitable habitat, and enhance habitat where appropriate
- Establish regional grizzly bear recovery implementation teams to address regional issues
- Improve inter-jurisdictional cooperation and grizzly bear data management
- Improve regulations and/or legislation to support recovery actions
- Acquire new funding to support additional government staff (create a grizzly bear recovery coordinator position, enforce regulations regarding attractant storage and access use, support conflict management and education, support ongoing inventory and habitat mapping, and assist with integration of grizzly bear conservation needs into land use planning and land use decisions)
- Involve land users and stakeholders in implementation of the recovery plan, including improved communication with, and compensation for, ranchers.



Current Bear Management Areas (BMA's)



Proposed Bear Management Areas (BMA's)

KEY CONTACTS

Alberta Environment and Parks Fish and Wildlife Division	Phone: 310.0000 and ask for the nearest Fish and Wildlife office. Web-site: www.mywildalberta.com
Grizzly Bear Recovery Plan Alberta Bear Smart Program	Web-site: http://aep.alberta.ca/fish-wildlife/wildlife-management/grizzly-bear-recovery-plan/documents/GrizzlyBear2008-2013-RecoveryPlan-2008.pdf
Alberta Hunter Education Instructors' Association — Bear Essentials Program	Website: www.aheia.com

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