



Canadian Institute of Forestry

Rocky Mountain Section

CIF Technical Session

"Grizzly Bear Management in Alberta"

Friday, January 30, 2009

Executive Royal Inn West
10010 178 Street, Edmonton AB

AGENDA

0800	Registration	
0830	Welcome	Mark Kube
0840	DNA Population Studies	Mike Proctor
0910	History of Grizzly Bears in Alberta	George Hamilton
0930	Grizzly Bear Research in Alberta	Gord Stenhouse
1015	Break	
1045	The B.E.A.R.S. Essentials for Recovery	Jim Pissot
1115	TBA	TBA
1145	Lunch	
1245	Greetings from CIF National	Fred Pinto
1300	Impact of Access on Grizzly Bears	Scott Nielsen
1330	Grizzly Bear Recovery in the Greater Yellowstone Area	Chris Servheen
1445	Questions	
1500	Adjournment	

Speaker Biographies

Michael Proctor - Dr. Proctor has a PhD from the University of Calgary. He is currently a Team Member, Transboundary Conservation, working with the USFWS to integrate and enhance grizzly bear recovery efforts between the countries. Dr. Proctor is working on a comprehensive recovery program that includes reducing human-caused mortalities, enhancing inter-population movements, increasing public awareness, and augmenting these populations within the Canadian portions of these ecosystems.

George Hamilton - Mr. Hamilton is currently the manager for priority species in the Fish and Wildlife Division of Alberta Sustainable Resource Development.

Gordon Stenhouse - Mr. Stenhouse is a wildlife carnivore biologist and currently the Program Lead, Grizzly Bear Program at the Foothills Research Institute.

Jim Pissot - Mr. Pissot directs and implements all programs for Defenders' of Wildlife Canada office. Before joining Defenders in 2003, Jim served for two years as executive director of the Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative. He served as a vice president at the National Parks Conservation Association, was a program officer for the W. Alton Jones Foundation, directed wildlife programs for the National Audubon Society, and co-chaired the Endangered Species Coalition to a successful reauthorization of the ESA in 1989. In 1979 Jim co-founded the Utah Wilderness Association and helped secure the passage of the Utah Wilderness Act in 1984. Jim received his bachelor's degree from the University of Utah and holds a masters degree in resource management from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies.

Scott Nielson - Dr. Nielsen has a Ph.D. in Environmental Biology and Ecology from the University of Alberta. His major responsibilities/research interests include: species distribution and habitat supply modelling; endangered species monitoring and management; conservation planning and reserve design; landscape ecology. A recent study conducted by Dr. Nielsen and others showed that, regardless of any ecologically friendly harvesting practices adopted by industry, if road density is not reduced in logging areas, the grizzly population may continue to decline.

Chris Servheen - Dr. Servheen has been the Grizzly Bear Recovery Coordinator for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, based in Missoula, Montana, for 23 years, responsible for coordinating all the research and management on grizzly bears in the lower 48 states and working with biologists in Alberta and British Columbia. His interests involve bear conservation and management and the relationships between human activities and bear distribution and survival. Much of his current work involves the impacts of highways and human developments on habitat fragmentation for bears and other large carnivores in the Rocky Mountains. He is also interested in international conservation issues having worked in many countries in Asia and in Europe on bears and bear conservation. Through his international work he maintains close cooperative relationships with IUCN, WWF, and other international conservation organizations. He is the recipient of many awards. On March 22, 2007, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced that the Yellowstone Distinct Population Segment (DPS) of grizzly bears is a recovered population no longer meeting the definition of threatened or endangered. This DPS has increased from estimates as low as 136 individuals when listed in 1975 to more than 500 animals as of 2006. Grizzly bears now occupy 68 percent of suitable habitat within the DPS boundaries and may soon occupy the remainder of the suitable habitat.