

VIII. GRIZZLY BEAR MANAGEMENT AND PROTECTION PLAN

Activities authorized by your permit must be conducted in a manner which will prevent or minimize the opportunity for human/bear conflicts to occur.

The District Ranger must approve bear resistant storage facilities for temporary storage of human food, beverages, horse feed, unburnable solid waste, and game meat/parts. Storage facilities may be used only during the period while the cabin is in use; the contents of the facility must be removed when the cabin is not in use, i.e., the cabin may not be used as a food cache. The following options are currently recognized for making attractants **unavailable to bears** *when approved* by the District Ranger:

- bear resistant panniers
- bear resistant storage boxes
- platforms (with written approval)
- suspension poles

Human Food, Horse/Pet Feed, and Game/Fish Carcasses:

All attractants, food and garbage shall be handled and stored in accordance with the [Grizzly Bear “Food Storage” Special Order 04-03-23-201](#) (See Attachment).

Burying food, garbage, refuse, or grease is prohibited.

Cooking utensils, dishes, and food preparation areas shall be cleaned following each use. Unwashed utensils shall be stored in such manner as to be unavailable to bears. Proper storage of food at night will require bear resistant boxes/panniers for any foods/beverages kept in the cook tent or kitchen area.

Uneaten horse feed will not be left on the ground after feeding livestock. It must be gathered and properly stored.

Human Safety:

Permittees will be aware of, and will provide to their employees and members, information on the protected status of grizzly bears and on appropriate personal safety measures and behavior in grizzly bear habitat. This includes information on how to avoid grizzly human conflicts, assessment of risks/probabilities, and recommended action in surprise encounter situations. This information is available from local Forest Service, Park Service, and Wyoming Game & Fish Department offices.

Perfumes, deodorants, and other odorous substances are expected to be discouraged among camp users. Such items must be acceptably stored as if they were food.

Sleeping bags are expected to be kept clean and free from odor.

It is expected that persons in camp will be discouraged from sleeping in the same clothes as worn when cooking.

Traveling alone at night will be discouraged.

It is highly recommended **to** carry and know how to use bear spray.

All clothes pockets, backpacks, and saddle bags will be checked each night to ensure that candy bars, lunch leftovers, etc. are not left available or inadvertently taken to the sleeping areas. In addition, midnight snacks or beverages are not to be allowed in the sleeping areas while people are sleeping.

Sleeping quarters are expected to be located away from the cooking area to the extent possible.

Other Measures:

All grizzly bear sightings of females with cubs, sightings involving unique or unexpected situations (bears in new areas), sightings or situations having the potential for future conflicts, and existing human/grizzly conflict situations are expected to be reported to a Forest Officer in as timely a manner as possible depending on the circumstances. Conflicts or situations involving bears in which humans, bears, or property are in immediate danger, or will be in danger in the near future are expected to be reported immediately.

Livestock carcasses shall be disposed of by methods consistent with [Special Order 04-03-23-201](#).

Death of any livestock will be reported to the nearest Forest Service officer in as timely a manner as possible. Carcasses must be packed, dragged, or otherwise transported to a location a minimum of 1/4 mile from any camping or sleeping area, and a minimum of 200 yards from a Forest Service System trail.

All sightings of, or encounters with, grizzly bears will be reported to the Jackson or nearest Forest Service office immediately (within one hour if possible). Grizzly bear tracks will be reported to the Jackson or nearest Forest Service office within 24 hours.

North Zone Wildlife Biologist: Ashley Egan, 307-739-5416 (office), 970-291-1406 (cell)

If you do see a bear, you and your group will leave the area immediately, without stopping to observe the bear or take photographs.

The District Ranger may temporarily close specific areas to all human use during specific periods of time in response to unusual bear activity or user hazards.