

Grizzly Bear Recovery Notes

Update IGBC Plan Efforts

The March issue of *Grizzly Bear Recovery Notes* [No. 2 of an ongoing series published by the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee (IGBC)] announced availability of the Population Review Task Force Report of data on grizzly bear population size and trend in the Northern Continental Divide Grizzly Bear Ecosystem. The authors conclude that available data (1) do not permit an estimate of population, and (2) do not allow a quantitative population trend estimate, as no indicator provided unequivocal evidence of increase, decrease, or stability.

The IGBC has selected future research priorities based on what managers said they needed to know in order to better manage grizzlies and grizzly habitat for population recovery.

Research topics selected by the IGBC included development of a population trend monitoring system; development of a population augmentation system; quantification of the effects of oil and gas exploration and development on grizzly behavior and habitat use; quantification of the effects of road access and associated activity on grizzly behavior and habitat use; quantification of the effects of non-motorized recreation in backcountry areas on grizzly behavior and habitat use; development of a habitat suitability standard or index; and compilation of a single source state-of-the-art compendium of all research results and management techniques information for North America. The research subcommittee is developing scope of work statements and detailed research proposals for these topics.