

Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit
Project Summary

Project Title: Grizzly Bear Recovery: Implementation, Monitoring, Research, Education and Conservation

Agreement #: F20AC11441 **Modification(s):**
Type of Project: Research/Technical Assistance/Education
Discipline: Natural Resources
Funding Agency: US Fish and Wildlife Service
Other Partners/Cooperators: University of Montana
Effective Dates: 10/1/2020 – 9/30/2025
Funding Amount: \$470,000

Investigators and Agency Representative:

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Project Abstract: The tasks to be performed under this agreement are as follows: Maintain efficient, cost effective research, management, monitoring, surveys, outreach and education for the grizzly bear recovery program for this listed species throughout Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, and Washington as cooperative efforts between FWS and State agencies, Federal agencies, Tribes, and private partnerships. These efforts should include but will not be limited to the following: identification of fine scale linkage zones in the Northern Rockies, surveys for grizzly bears in peripheral portions of their range, monitoring of use of bridges on I-90 by grizzly bears and other species, monitoring of grizzly bears in the Cabinet/Yaak ecosystem, the effectiveness of the management of human-related attractants in the Swan Valley to minimize bear/human conflicts, climate change impacts on key carnivores in the Northern Rockies: the combined effects of climate change, fragmentation, and human activities on grizzly and wolverine populations in the transboundary Flathead and Glacier Park ecosystem, evaluation of the use of DNA collected at bear rub trees to estimate grizzly population trend, and analysis of bear use of habitats along transportation corridors in Grand Teton National Park. As necessary to perform these actions, capture, handling, and radio tracking of bears must be carried out through this cooperative agreement through Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) protocols administered as per national animal handling requirements and standards. These IACUC protocols are required for the bear capture and handling necessary to implement grizzly recovery efforts.