

From: [Szuszwalak, Joseph A](#)
To: [Cooley, Hilary](#); [Hogan, Matt](#)
Cc: [Riley, Clint](#); [Nelson, Marjorie \(Marj\)](#); [Jimenez, Benjamin S](#)
Subject: Re: West Yellowstone & Glacier National Park bear conflicts
Date: Monday, July 24, 2023 11:21:24 AM

FYSA, GNP news release: [Aggressive Food-Conditioned Grizzly Euthanized in GNP](#). MT outlets have syndicated.

National media is picking up the West Yellowstone incident: <https://www.nytimes.com/2023/07/24/us/bear-attack-death-montana.html>

I have not received inquiries on either incident thus far.

Joe Szuszwalak (He/Him)

Acting Deputy Assistant Regional Director, Office of Communications
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - [Mountain-Prairie Region](#)
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I acknowledge that I work and live in the lands of the Ute, Arapaho, Cheyenne, and Očhéthi Šakówiŋ (Lakota, Dakota, and Nakota) Tribes.

From: Cooley, Hilary <hilary_cooley@fws.gov>
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 11:13 AM
To: Hogan, Matt <Matt_Hogan@fws.gov>
Cc: Riley, Clint <clint_riley@fws.gov>; Nelson, Marjorie (Marj) <marjorie_nelson@fws.gov>; Jimenez, Benjamin S <benjamin_jimenez@fws.gov>; Szuszwalak, Joseph A <joseph_szuszwalak@fws.gov>
Subject: Re: Glacier National Park - bear conflict

We just had a meeting with FWP regional and Helena staff, as well as USFS (Mary Erikson).

Traps out for 1-2 more nights, then reassess. There are many bears in the area and there is concern that leaving traps open will invite non-target catches. We have given authorization to remove if they catch a bear and believe it is the culprit. We normally don't remove bears involved in defensive attacks, but there is evidence that this bear may have gotten trash, and if it is lingering in the area close to humans, that would be unacceptable. DNA from the scene is at the WY genetics lab and they will run against bear data to identify individual and to determine if this is a known bear. USFS has closed the area and will keep area closed through this week.

Most of the homes in the area are vacation rentals and FWP has had consistent problems with noncompliance of food storage orders. We might be sending staff down to help with outreach (door to door).

From: Hogan, Matt <Matt_Hogan@fws.gov>
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 10:58 AM
To: Cooley, Hilary <hilary_cooley@fws.gov>
Cc: Riley, Clint <clint_riley@fws.gov>; Nelson, Marjorie (Marj) <marjorie_nelson@fws.gov>; Jimenez, Benjamin S <benjamin_jimenez@fws.gov>; Szuszwalak, Joseph A <joseph_szuszwalak@fws.gov>
Subject: Re: Glacier National Park - bear conflict

Ok. Please do give real time updates on West Yellowstone bear. Martha has asked to be kept in the loop.

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From: Cooley, Hilary <hilary_cooley@fws.gov>
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 10:57:24 AM
To: Hogan, Matt <Matt_Hogan@fws.gov>
Cc: Riley, Clint <clint_riley@fws.gov>; Nelson, Marjorie (Marj) <marjorie_nelson@fws.gov>; Jimenez, Benjamin S <benjamin_jimenez@fws.gov>; Szuszwalak, Joseph A <joseph_szuszwalak@fws.gov>
Subject: Re: Glacier National Park - bear conflict

I have not heard anything.

From: Hogan, Matt <Matt_Hogan@fws.gov>
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 10:54 AM
To: Cooley, Hilary <hilary_cooley@fws.gov>
Cc: Riley, Clint <clint_riley@fws.gov>; Nelson, Marjorie (Marj) <marjorie_nelson@fws.gov>; Jimenez, Benjamin S <benjamin_jimenez@fws.gov>; Szuszwalak, Joseph A <joseph_szuszwalak@fws.gov>
Subject: RE: Glacier National Park - bear conflict

Has there been much blowback?

From: Cooley, Hilary <hilary_cooley@fws.gov>
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 9:10 AM
To: Hogan, Matt <Matt_Hogan@fws.gov>
Cc: Riley, Clint <clint_riley@fws.gov>; Nelson, Marjorie (Marj) <marjorie_nelson@fws.gov>; Jimenez, Benjamin S <benjamin_jimenez@fws.gov>; Szuszwalak, Joseph A <joseph_szuszwalak@fws.gov>
Subject: Re: Glacier National Park - bear conflict

Yes, the same bear.

From: Hogan, Matt <Matt_Hogan@fws.gov>
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2023 7:55 AM

To: Cooley, Hilary <hilary_cooley@fws.gov>

Cc: Riley, Clint <clint_riley@fws.gov>; Nelson, Marjorie (Marj) <marjorie_nelson@fws.gov>; Jimenez, Benjamin S <benjamin_jimenez@fws.gov>; Szuszwalak, Joseph A <joseph_szuszwalak@fws.gov>

Subject: RE: Glacier National Park - bear conflict

Saw in the clips this AM that a bear was euthanized in Glacier last Thursday. Assume same bear as below?

From: Cooley, Hilary <hilary_cooley@fws.gov>

Sent: Thursday, July 20, 2023 9:05 AM

To: Hogan, Matt <Matt_Hogan@fws.gov>

Cc: Riley, Clint <clint_riley@fws.gov>; Nelson, Marjorie (Marj) <marjorie_nelson@fws.gov>; Jimenez, Benjamin S <benjamin_jimenez@fws.gov>; Szuszwalak, Joseph A <joseph_szuszwalak@fws.gov>

Subject: Glacier National Park - bear conflict

Hi Matt,

Just wanted to make you aware of a conflict situation that might receive some attention: Glacier NP has asked for approval to remove a 5yr old Female grizzly who has received food rewards on multiple occasions and charged a small group of people. They believe she is food conditioned and a human safety threat. They will be attempting to capture and euthanize her. They'll put out a press release after the fact.

I doubt it will get the attention that it would in GTNP or YNP, but you never know.

Grizzly Bear Recovery Program

US Fish and Wildlife Service

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