

FOR RELEASE  
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## Public survey on grizzly bear conservation and management

The Government of Yukon and the Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board are asking Yukoners to complete an online survey about grizzly bear conservation and management.

The information collected from this survey will help develop a territory-wide management plan. The plan will provide strategic direction related to grizzly bear conservation and management across Yukon.

The survey takes approximately 20 minutes and can be completed online. The deadline for completing the survey is May 27, 2017.

### Quotes

"The Government of Yukon is committed to ensuring healthy wildlife populations and the conservation of grizzly bears. It is important to understand and appreciate the different values and relationships Yukoners have with bears. As environmental stewards we must work together to responsibly manage wildlife and our sustainable interactions with them."

- Minister of Environment Pauline Frost

"The Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board is committed to ensuring the management of wildlife and their habitats is governed by the principle of conservation under the Umbrella Final Agreement. We are making provisions for public involvement in the development of the plan and we are reaching out to Yukoners with this survey."

- Chair of Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board, Frank Thomas

### Quick facts

- In 2014, the Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board (YFWMB) sought public comment on a proposed Wildlife Act regulation change that would have made it illegal to harvest grizzly bears within 30m of some highways in the Southern Lakes area during the spring bear hunting season.
- Based on input received, in 2015 the YFWMB recommended the Government of Yukon develop a management plan for grizzly bears that considers all aspects of grizzly bear conservation and management, including roadside hunting. Since then, the Fish and Wildlife Management Board and the Department of Environment established a working group that has been collaborating with First Nations governments, the Inuvialuit, Renewable Resources Councils and interest groups to identify the range of issues the plan should address.
- There are an estimated 6,000 to 7,000 grizzly bears in Yukon.
- There is limited data on the status of grizzly bear populations in Yukon. In most of the territory the population status of grizzly bears is unknown. In some areas there may be conservation concern.
- Grizzly bears are nationally assessed by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada as Special Concern. Once listed in the federal Species at Risk Act, a management plan for the species across Canada is required. The Yukon plan will inform the federal process.

Learn more: Survey on grizzly bear conservation and management in Yukon

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