

Boundary County Commissioners
Ronald R. Smith, Chairman
Dan R. Dinning, Commissioner
Walt Kirby, Commissioner



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BOUNDARY COUNTY
P. O. Box 419
Bonnors Ferry, ID 83805

February 25, 2011

Yvette Converse, GNLCC Coordinator and
Tom Olliff, GNLCC Coordinator
USGS Northern Rocky Mountain Science Center
2327 University Way
Box 2
Bozeman, MT 59715

Dear Ms. Converse and Mr. Olliff,

The Board of County Commissioners of Boundary County, Idaho wishes to endorse and support the proposal by Lincoln County, Montana to gather landscape scale data on the grizzly bear population in the Cabinet-Yaak Ecosystem.

Portions of the Cabinet-Yaak Grizzly Recovery area lie within the boundaries of Boundary County. Being able to obtain accurate information regarding bear conservation and its relationship to resource extraction and recreation planning are vital to us.

Obtaining reliable data regarding the density, connectivity and population, and bear abundance is vital to making decisions regarding the management of this animal. Of great importance is the genetic diversity of the species and equating this to the overall population accurately.

We support using this data regarding Grizzly Bears to help understand the effects of climate change regarding the recovery of the species. Integrating accurately all of the obtained data is of vital concern and we feel this proposal will add confidence and accuracy to future management decisions.

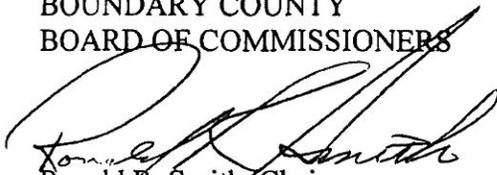
Boundary County sits at the table as one of the Co-Chairs of a unique collaborative called the Kootenai Valley Resource Initiative. The KVRI has its own functioning sub-committee to understand and to make recommendations regarding bear recovery in the Selkirk/Cabinet-Yaak Grizzly Bear recovery area. Boundary County sits on the Selkirk/Cabinet-Yaak Managers Subcommittee of the IGBC. Our citizens and those that make the management decisions welcome the opportunity to support any endeavor that will allow us to make recommendations based on accurate and up to date science.

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We support this proposal and look forward to the opportunity to see what new information this will garner.

Sincerely,

BOUNDARY COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



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Dan R. Dinning, Commissioner



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