

TRACKS

BEARS AND GARBAGE: A BAD COMBINATION

BRYCE ANDREWS AND STEVE PRIMM

Bears are big animals, and they're driven to find high-calorie foods so they can live off their fat reserves through the long winter. In urban-wildland communities bears quickly discover that garbage is easy to find and predictably abundant, which means they don't have to expend a lot of energy to get a full belly. The downside is that garbage-eating bears end up losing their wariness of people. Instead of foraging in the hills for natural foods, these bears focus their efforts on developed areas. They usually end up destroying property, and sometimes hurting people. All too often, they lead short, troublesome lives.

A worrisome trend has emerged in a number of western Montana's rural and suburban developments. In places where the landscape remains wild enough to support large carnivores, and is close enough to towns with individual trash pickup, black and grizzly bears have learned to regularly exploit unsecured trash cans. It's a bad situation. Conflict risk is increased between large carnivores and rural residents, waste management employees are tired of picking up garbage, and bears are learning bad habits. The stakes are raised as our region becomes more densely populated, and the volume of refuse available to bears increases.

People and Carnivores is working to help rural communities on the edges of currently occupied grizzly range limit bears' access to trash cans and dumpsters. We are working to pioneer larger-scale, bear-proof enclosures in places where multiple households leave their full trash cans for pickup.

Our hope is to create something that will be convenient for users, effective at excluding bears, and safe. One possible solution would be to use bear-resistant fencing around high-conflict sites.

Durable, drive-over electrified grids, powered by an electric fence energizer, would allow 24-7 access to users, but would keep bears and other mammals out. Another is to create non-electrified steel structures to house the cans.



PEOPLE AND CARNIVORES

P.O. Box 6733

Bozeman, MT 59771-9922

(406) 587-3389

www.peopleandcarnivores.org



Above: Unsecured garbage waiting for pickup in rural Montana. Left: A bear print near an unsecured garbage site.

Some people have expressed concern about using electric fencing in a public setting. We feel that good design and common sense can minimize this risk. Modern electric fence delivers a pulsed, split-second shock that non-injuriously repels animals. It has a solid track record of safety. Canada's Banff National Park has long used electrified cattle guards at conflict-prone campgrounds to keep bears out, yet allow visitors easy access. With smart design and adequate signage, we can minimize safety risks.

We have the tools to keep bears away from our waste while maintaining convenience. Once bears learn to forage for garbage, they spend more time around our homes and communities, and are more prone to expensive and dangerous conflicts with us. Letting bears have easy access to garbage creates a public safety hazard, burdens wildlife managers with avoidable problems, and kills bears.

STAFF



Bryce Andrews
Northern Field Director

Martha Sellers
Director of Development and
Communication

Lisa Upson
Executive Director

Steve Primm
Conservation Director

Tom Mallon
Program and Communication
Associate

CONTRACTORS

Matt Barnes
Rangeland Coexistence

Paula Posey
Bookkeeping

Alyson Morris
Graphic Design

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bryan Haywood, Bozeman, MT - President

Diane Eagleson, Belgrade, MT - Treasurer

Lacy Kowalski, Columbia Falls, MT -
Secretary

Charlotte Heldstab, Whitefish, MT

Elisa Prescott, Helena, MT

Mike Wood, Boston, MA

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends and Supporters,

I marvel at the fact that this organization just began its 26th year of work on behalf of carnivores and the many landowners and recreationists who share this region. Many of you have supported this work for years, some of you have joined forces with us more recently.

Coexistence work is the future of conservation in an increasingly crowded world. We thank all of our supporters—individual contributors, institutional funders, and agency partners—for working with us to help wolves and bears roam free in the Northern Rocky Mountains. We hope you'll take a moment to read our Annual Report on pages 4 and 5, with a special thank you to Roger and Margaret Harmon, who were longtime donors and made People and Carnivores a beneficiary of their trust.

Your past and future support makes all our work in 2018 possible. We and the carnivores thank you!

Lisa.

lupson@peopleandcarnivores.org

MILLIE'S CUBS ARE THRIVING

TOM MALLON

In the summer of 2016, we participated in an effort to save two grizzly cubs from Montana's Mission Valley whose mother had been buckshot in the face and was no longer able to care for herself or her offspring. Many of you were instrumental in that effort so we thought we would check in on the bears at their new home—The Maryland Zoo—to see how they are doing.

The sisters have taken on personalities of their own. Nova loves swimming in the exhibit's pond, while Nita is happy standing on the rocks, observing her own reflection or watching her sister splash around. On any given day, visitors will find the bears barrel-rolling down their hill, or boxing with each other.

Because of their captivating abilities, Nova and Nita give zookeepers ample time to convey important messages to the audience. Too often, zoo visitors rush from one exhibit to the next, but the sisters are such a draw that zookeepers have been able to share key lessons about grizzly bears, human-wildlife conflict, and the plight of some of these animals in the wild. "They have been such great ambassadors for their species," says Erin Cantwell, the Zoo's Mammal Collection and Conservation Manager.



Photo Credit: Maryland Zoo in Baltimore

Nova and Nita roughhousing in their new home.

**"NEVER STOP, NEVER STOPPING! LOVE
YOUR WORK AND IT'S CRUCIAL."**

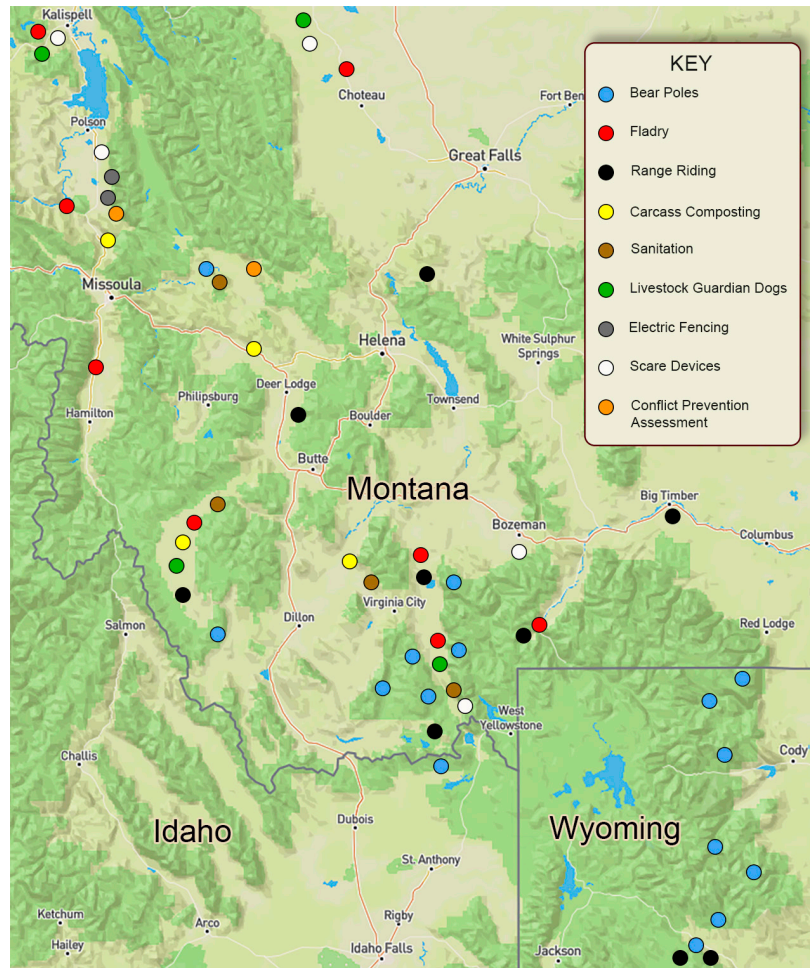
- Ryan Lindsay

Read more details about the cubs at peopleandcarnivores.org/blog/

IN THE FIELD

JUST A FEW OF THE PROJECTS WE'RE DEVELOPING FOR 2018.

- We are helping landowners acquire Livestock Guardian Dogs and developing a test to learn whether dogs can guard crops.
- Carcass composting projects continue to grow; this season we are developing a composting site in the Mission Valley and setting up composting pickup in the Ruby Valley. In addition, we will produce a short film on carcass composting to add to our growing list of video resources.
- We are building two more bear-resistant mobile chicken coops and working with a rancher in the Mission Valley to test the efficacy of stringing together multiple coops with one solar-powered parent structure as a less-expensive model.
- Our fladry installation on the Hanson ranch has resulted in two seasons of no losses. This year we will reinstall the fladry and trail cameras to further test the level of wolf tolerance to fladry.
- Northern Field Director, Bryce Andrews, is teaching a sustainable agriculture class at the University of Montana's Bandy Ranch, and will integrate large carnivore conflict prevention into the curriculum.



People & Carnivores project map.

View interactive version at peopleandcarnivores.org/where-we-work/



Bryce and two project partners set up a test of our prototype mobile chicken coop.

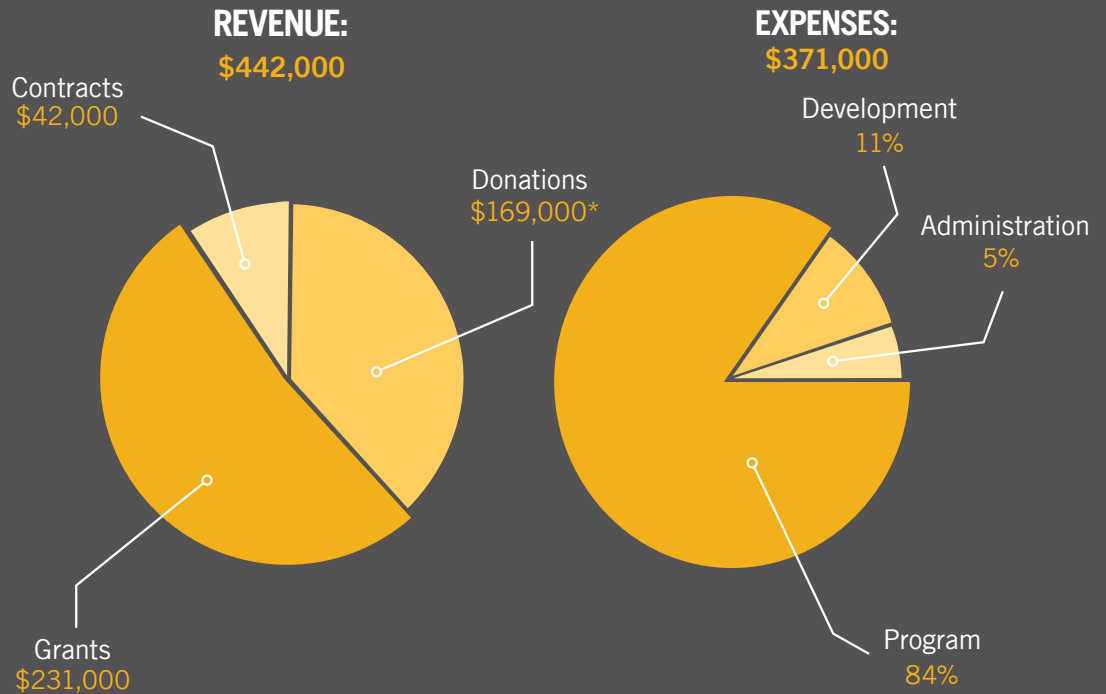
- Continuing our strong focus on keeping game and other backcountry attractants out of reach of bears, we will build poles and one steel structure in the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, and will begin considering other sites as well.
- Our short film, “Averting Grizzly Encounters,” has resulted in a hopeful conversation with some hunters about bear spray. We are conducting at least one hunter focus group to help us understand root causes for certain behavior in the backcountry so that we can target our educational goals.
- Securing garbage is a simple and effective coexistence tool. This year we will distribute bear-resistant garbage canisters and build a prototype “bear guard” to keep bears out of dumps and garbage transfer stations.

FISCAL YEAR 2017 FINANCIAL INFORMATION

(OCT. 1, 2016 – SEPT. 30, 2017)

AS OF 9/30/17,
TOTAL ASSETS
WERE \$489,000.

Total liabilities were \$24,000, and total equity was \$465,000. People and Carnivores' 990 tax return and financial statement have not yet been completed; however, any adjustments are likely to be nominal.



* The donations amount includes a large bequest as well as a small increase in the value of a trust in which we have an interest. Our three-year donation average is roughly \$88,000. Thank you, everyone!

WHAT'S NEW

Whether you are a conservationist, agency manager, landowner, or a carnivore supporter, our growing library of short films has something for everyone. peopleandcarnivores.org/our-work/short-films/

- Bear Poles in the Backcountry
- Ranching with Wolves
- Flandry Fencing to Reduce Wold-Livestock Conflicts

“I’VE ALWAYS BEEN IMPRESSED BY YOUR ORGANIZATION’S ABILITY TO DO A LOT WITH A LITTLE. KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!”

- Tom O’Connell

MANY THANKS TO OUR INSTITUTIONAL FUNDERS



WITH GRATITUDE!

INDIVIDUAL DONORS

\$5,000+

Carita Foundation
Roger J. & Margaret B. Harmon Trust
Sandra Moss
Pearson/Boye Memorial Fund
Patricia Southard

\$1,000 - \$4,999

Anonymous
Elaine Broadhead - Benjamin Rosenthal Foundation
Lammot Copeland
Fanwood Foundation
Desiree Johnson
Jeanie & Murray Kilgour
Ryan Lindsay
Marilyn Robinson
Thomas Scanlin
Leland Selby - Laura J. Niles Foundation
Sabina Sullivan - John W. Pope Foundation
Dona Upson & Felicie Regnier
Richard Urell
Michael Wood

\$500 - \$999

Mark Albrecht
Lois Barty King
Amy Gotliffe - East Bay Zoological Society
Roberta Humphreys
Dwight & Kimberly Lowell
Renee & Bruce McIntyre
Sally & Stephen McVeigh
Diane Pace & William Swartz
Barbara & Danny Primm
Dov Reiz
Catherine Symchych
Lisa Upson

\$250 - \$499

Sandra Becka
Candace Carroll & Leonard Simon
Colleen Chartier & Richard Andrews
Brian Chattin
David & Peg Engel
Candice Guth & David Pogel
Shelby Handlin & Dave Hampton
Susan Hexter
Ron & Greta Kocol
Robert Koppe

Louise Long
Cherie & Kenneth Mason
Subhash Mehta
Doug & Paula Parks
Jessica Real - Bay Area Chapter AAZK
Carol & Mark Rickman
Laura & Scott Shapley
Charlotte & Brian E. Shifrin
Marina Smith
Andrew & Stephanie Towell
James & Patricia Upson
Nancy Warner
Mary Ellen White & Jack Morton

\$100 - \$249

Bob & Fraida Aland
Anonymous
Anne & Jim Banks
Edward & Mildred Bennett
George Booth & Christina Knutson
Richard Carrothers
Jeff Carter
Lucy Costello & David Wiehler
Ronald Davis & Janet L. Dafoe
David & Jean Dean
Micheale Dunsdon & Dave Borkenhagen
Janice Eckhardt
Christina Evans
Ellie Ferrari
Vera Fitzgerald
Monica Fletcher & Stephen Evans
Ligeia Fontaine
Sara Gann
John & Lynn Garberson
Sharon Garcia
Mike Gilpin & Yvonne Baskin
Marshall & Linda Glenn
Lauren Gordon
Dave Hamilton
Marshall Hamilton
Liz Harrison
Laura Heit
Hermi & John Hiatt
Jan Hines
Sandra Holmes
Judith Hutchins
Sue Jackson
Jean & Scott Johnson
Judith Joy
Charles Ketterman & Ruth Kopec
Mary Knable
Rob Kramer
Bob Landis
Gale Lederer
Irene Liebenberg
Jason & Linda Lillegraven
Vicki Markus
Craig & Jackie Mathews
Yvonne McDonald

Bonnie McKenzie
Mimi McMillen
Michael & Shirley McNeill
Leslie Meredith
John & Sue Mills
William Nisbet
Tom & Caroline O'Connell
Lavonne Painter
Jud Parsons
Duncan & Eva Patten
Alison & Kim Pearse
Carrie Pratt
Bryan & Pamela Blyth Pule
Janis Raffaele
Amy Reynolds
Robert Ridgely
Martin Rowe & Mia MacDonald
William & Elizabeth Salot
Betty Schnaar
Martha Sellers
Mike & Christine Siddoway
Ann Silberman
Joan & Jan Skrkon
Sunil Somalwar & Dorothy Goehring-Somalwar
Eleanor & Henry Stanley
Anne Stone
Betty Trentlyon
Charles Trost
Isadora Ullrich
Amy & Steve Unfried
Becky Weed
Cathy & Norm Weeden
Andrew Weiner
Lynn Whited
Carole Whitehead
Frank Winter
Juanita & Hubert Wirtz
Chip & Sharon Wood
Russell Yttri
Robert Zak & Janet Pesaturo

\$1 - \$99

Margaret Adam & Mike Giblin
Charles & Peggy A. Axthelm
Lynne Bannerman
Robert Berghaier
Norman Bishop
Wilma Bogar
Erica Bolliger
Sam Booher
Ken Bosworth & Mary Hofe
Anne Bredon
Cathryn Bulicek
Rosemary Burton
Jean Butgereit
Burl Cain
Claudia & David Campbell
Sheri Cardo
Sharon & Dennis Cavallo
Jenni Chaffin

Kevin Chedd
David Chuljian
Pat Clancey
Mary Clemens
Ruth Connolly
Margaret Dakin
Celia Davis
Gloria Davis
Gary Denny
Naomi Drummond
Penny & Jeff Dumas
Michelle Eaton
Lyn Edwards
Ray Elliott
Rudy & Grace Engholm
Ruth Feldman
Cody Ferguson
Donald Ferry
Aaron Flaherty
Susan Forbes
Charlotte Fountinelle
Jeff & Janet Fox
Gregory & Suzanne Gardner
Lydia Garvey
Jean-Pierre Georges & Linda Andes-Georges
Elaine Goldman
Judy Gordon
Lise Grace
Marya Grathwohl
Susan Grayson
Kayleen Hanna & Robert Zako
Paula Hansen
Craig Hansen
Carol Hardee
John & Carol Harkness
Charlotte Heldstab
Jane Hipp
Rick & Arlene Holding
Betty & Earle Hoyt
James Hughes
Sandra & Bill Hutchings
Robyn & Dick Ingram
Sego Jackson & Raven Jirikovic
Sara Johnson
Caryl & Bob Kensinger
Anne Kerby
Sue & Ken Kerchenfaut
Suzanne Kindland & James Kingwell
Phyllis Kirk
Barclay & Martha Kirk
Paul Kovenock
Maya Kurtz
Valerie Landeraaen
Danni Langdon & C Jacobson
Rick Lanham
Teresa Larson
Genevieve Launay
Alexandra Leo
John & Sylvia LeShane
Kathleen Lynch
Scott & Lynda MacButch
Jane & Dan MacCarter

Michelle MacKenzie
Fred Manaster
Ron & Cay Marquart
Chris Martin
Lucy & John Mattinen
Michelle McFarland
Melinda McIlwaine
John McLaughlin
L. David Mech
Jiri Minarik
Alan Mishael
Joan & Cliff Montagne
Roxann Moore & John Walker
William Morishita
Donald & Barbara Muir
Chuck Neal
Bruce Nealley
John O'Keefe
Vern Padgett
Trina & Tim Peiffer
Wayne Persons
Paul Pike
Bernadette & Ralph Prata
Penelope Purtzer
Rich Reading & Lauren McCain
Marian Robertson
James & Janet Rogers
Barbara & Greg Rupert
Ellen Rush
Kathryn Sakai
Pierre Schlemel
Robert & Joan Schneider
Stephen Schott
Paul & Linda Schutt
Kathy Schwery
Richard Sexton & Marjorie Poe
Gloria Sferra
Patricia Simmons
Thomas & Victoria Sloan
Franklin & Irmeli I. Smith
Bernadette Sonefeld
Henry Spenski
Janice Stanger
Bill & Carol Steele
Beverly Steffens-Claudio
David Steinmuller
Sue & John Stephenson-Love
James Stepp
Paul & Jane Strasser
Susan Strick & Don McKenzie
Steve & Shari Sutherland
Donna Swanson
Rick & Lisa Symons
Bruce Thompson
Lisa Trankley
Christie Trapp
George & Gloria Vassolas
Frona Vicksell
Cynthia Walters
Robin Wear
Diana Weatherby
Veronica Zecchini

If we failed to acknowledge your gift, please contact us.

IN MEMORIAM

This year the conservation community lost a longtime generous supporter. Roger J. Harmon was an avid outdoorsman—a skier, hiker, backpacker, and biker—and world traveler, who was passionate about wilderness habitats. He and his wife, Margaret, (who died in 2013) left a significant legacy to support nature, animals, and birds. We thank them for all their support over the years; they will be greatly missed.

PEOPLE AND CARNIVORES

P.O. Box 6733

Bozeman, MT 59771-9922

Non-Profit Org

Us Postage

PAID

Bozeman, MT

Permit No. 94



AMAZON SMILE

If you shop with Amazon, please consider using Amazon Smile and choosing People and Carnivores as your charity recipient. smile.amazon.com