

Species At Risk in Canadian wildlife poison use zones

Grizzly Bear – *Ursus Arctos*

Federal status: –Special Concern (not yet listed)

Provincial Status: THREATENED in Alberta



Figure 1 Grizzly bear photo courtesy Wendy Chambers

The Grizzly bear, *Ursus Arctos*, is listed by the province of Alberta as a *Threatened* species. Federally, the western population of this species was designated as being of *Special Concern* in May 2012 by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. At the same time, the Ungava population (eastern) was listed as extinct.

Sometime between January 1, 2012 and August 12, 2017 in the Little Smoky caribou range of Alberta, there was a recorded non-target incident upon which one grizzly bear was reported to be killed by strychnine under permit registration no. 20410 at latitude and longitude of 54.47359 and 117.711, respectively. The strychnine was in tablet form (38.6% strychnine as alkaloid) under a permit for use as a Wolf, Coyote and Black Bear Control Predacide. This 5 year use permit expired December 31, 2017, only to be renewed for another 5 years.

In the united states, strychnine was banned in 1972 for using to kill predators, and in 1973 for killing skunks¹. In 1988, a federal district court judge banned the above-ground use of strychnine because the EPA and Department of Interior could not show that this substance could be kept away from protected species, especially bald eagles, wolves, grizzly bears, migratory birds and other wildlife.

¹ Environmental Protection Agency - Office of Prevention - Pesticides - and Toxic Substances. July 1996b. Reregistration Eligibility Decision: Strychnine.

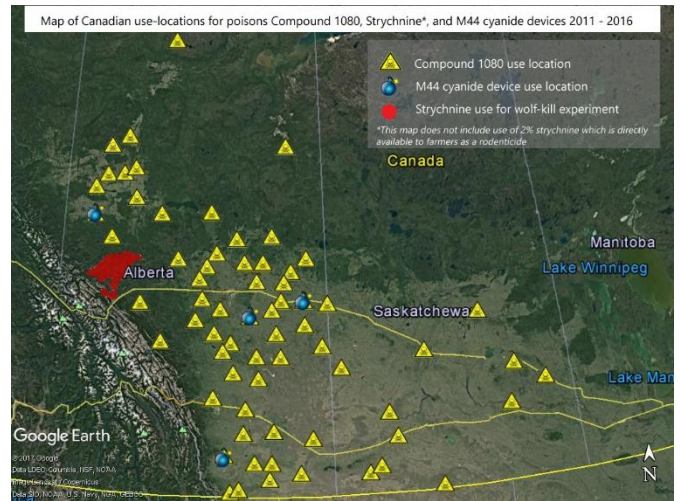
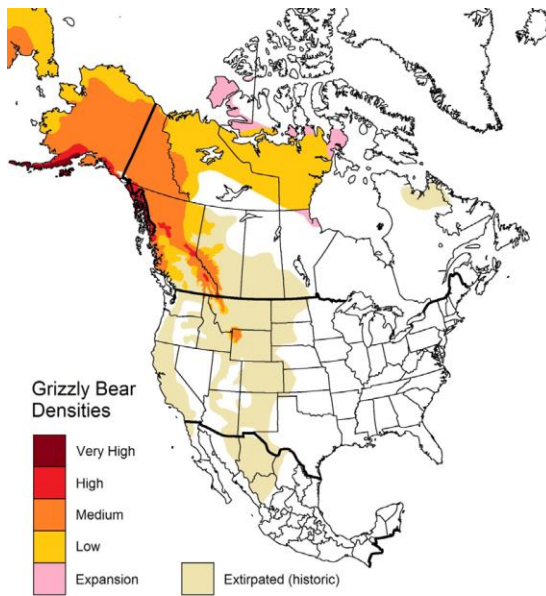


Figure 2 Map Source: COSEWIC. 2012. COSEWIC assessment and status report on the Grizzly Bear *Ursus arctos* in Canada. Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. Ottawa. xiv + 84 pp. (www.registrelep-sararegistry.gc.ca/default_e.cfm). Approximate boundaries of the current and historic (i.e., 19th century) distribution of the Grizzly Bear, *Ursus arctos*, in North America, with contours of relative density.

Figure 3 Map showing use-locations for Compound 1080, strychnine and sodium cyanide in Ab and SK 2011 – 2016. Map Source: Wolf Awareness Inc 2017

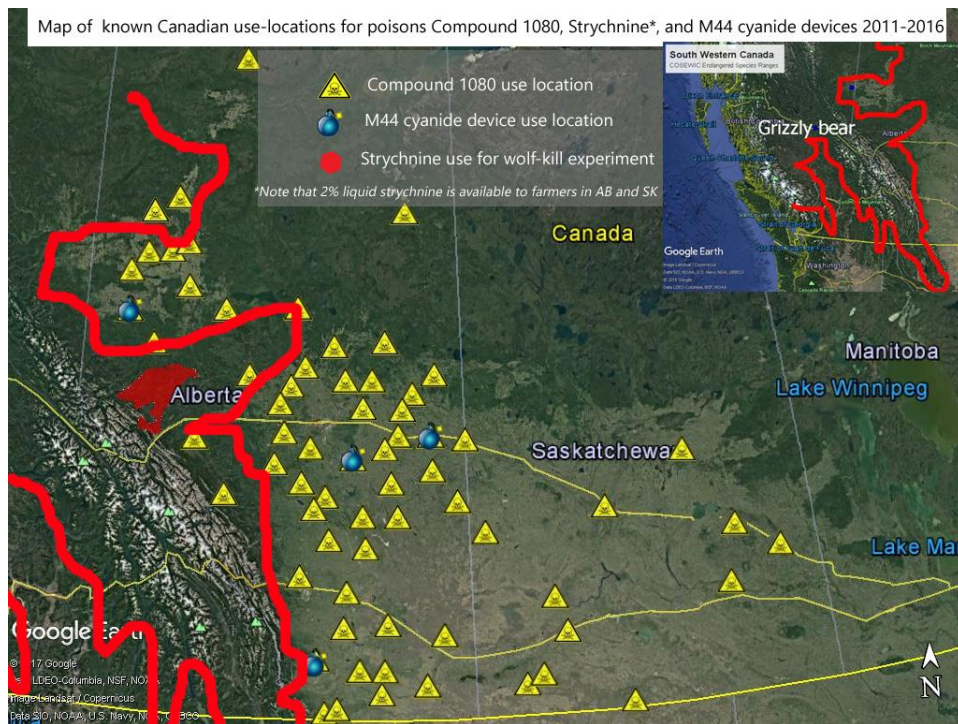
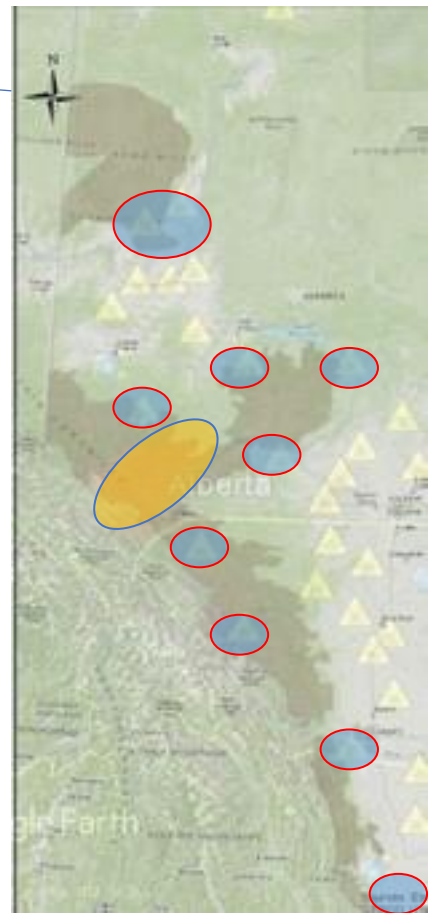


Figure 4, Map showing approximate boundaries of most recent “current grizzly bear distribution”, adapted from COSEWIC. 2012. COSEWIC assessment and status report on the Grizzly Bear *Ursus arctos* in Canada. Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. Ottawa. xiv + 84 pp. (www.registrelep-sararegistry.gc.ca/default_e.cfm). Map version reconstructed by Sadie Parr.

Grizzly Bear Zone



Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Swisstopo, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community
 Projection: NAD 1983 10TM AEP Forest
 Source: Alberta Environment and Parks
 Created by: Victoria Lukasuk
 Date: April 4, 2017



Strychnine predicide used in or near Grizzly Bear occurrence range 2012 – 2017.



Compound 1080 predicide used in or near Grizzly Bear occurrence range 2012 – 2017.

COSEWIC
Assessment and Status Report

on the

Grizzly Bear
Ursus arctos

Western population
Ungava population

in Canada



Western population - SPECIAL CONCERN
Ungava population - EXTINCT
2012

COSEWIC
Committee on the Status
of Endangered Wildlife
in Canada



COSEPAC
Comité sur la situation
des espèces en péril
au Canada