

## **Grizzly bear recovery planning in the British Columbia portion of the North Cascades: lessons learned and re-learned**

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The process of recovering small populations of grizzly bears such as the one occupying the North Cascades Mountains of southwestern British Columbia and northwestern Washington is a long-term effort from both biological and social perspectives with uncertain prospects for success. The development of a grizzly bear recovery plan for the British Columbia portion of the North Cascades Ecosystem is described including an assessment of the strengths and weaknesses of the approach used. Common challenges that can be expected for any effort to recover a small grizzly bear population are discussed. Suggestions for addressing these challenges, and for building successful recovery plans for remnant and extirpated grizzly bear populations, are proposed.