

SEEKING INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE ABOUT GRIZZLY BEAR

VIRTUAL WORKSHOP

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS

Workshop Purpose

To build our relationships with, listen to, learn from, and collaborate with Indigenous peoples, and to deepen our understandings of Grizzly Bears in order to improve their wellbeing. We are also holding these workshops to support more meaningful ways of including Indigenous perspectives and knowledge about Grizzly Bears into Canada's Management Plan.

Workshop Objectives

To document Indigenous perspectives and knowledge of Grizzly Bears and gather this information in a workshop summary report. Information from the summary report could be included in Canada's Grizzly Bear Management Plan, if permitted by the respective Elder, Knowledge Keeper, or community who contributed it.

All stories and information about Grizzly Bears are welcome, including their cultural significance and your historical relationships. To help address key sections of the management plan, the following specific questions will be asked:

- 1) What factors do you think affect Grizzly Bears and their habitats in your area;
- 2) What actions* do you think can be taken to ensure healthy populations of Grizzly Bears in your area.

*Actions by communities or governments

Principles for the Respectful Management and Protection of Indigenous Knowledge

The principles of OCAP®, (Ownership, Control, Access, and Possession), developed by the First Nations Information Governance Centre (<https://fnigc.ca>), will provide guidance on how your knowledge is stewarded by the Centre for Indigenous Environmental Resources (CIER) and Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC). *Specific community protocols and agreements for sharing data can be followed as well or in lieu. Please let us know if such an agreement should be developed in advance.* CIER will audio and graphically record, photograph, and/or take notes during the workshop discussions in order to work with ECCC-CWS staff to produce a summary report after each workshop.

In particular:

- Any information shared will be carefully respected and shall remain the property of the individual and/or community that shared it.

- Only information provided with consent will be maintained and temporarily stored with CIER and/or ECCC. All workshop materials (such as notes and recordings) will be returned to Knowledge Keepers, individuals and communities or deleted after the workshop summary report is prepared. CIER and ECCC will not maintain any information apart from information provided with consent in the workshop summary report.
- A data sharing agreement may be signed that ensures information shared will not directly go beyond this project.

Logistics

CIER staff and ECCC biologists will co-facilitate the workshop. CIER will be the primary contact for workshop logistics including data management, scheduling, honoraria, and capacity funding.

Across central, western, and northern Canada, workshops are scheduled for mid-November 2021 to February 2022 (excluding the holiday period). Specific dates will vary by region, refer to the invitation email for your region's date. Each virtual workshop will be about ¾ day in duration (9am to 3pm Mountain Time) with an hour lunch break.

Community Participation

Each community can nominate 1 or 2 Knowledge Holders to participate and share their stories, knowledge, and perspectives about Grizzly Bears. In recognition of each individual's expertise that is being generously contributed, nominated participants will receive a modest honoraria of \$400 (budget of \$400-800/community). Depending on interest, we may be required to limit community nominated knowledge holders to 1 in some cases.

In addition, community members and staff, including youth representatives ages 12 and up, are welcome to attend as volunteer. The total group size may need to be limited to accommodate dialogue and the virtual technology.

Outside Observers

Parks Canada and some territorial representatives are interested in attending the workshops as observers. Please let us know if you have a preference about whether outside observers can attend.

Next Steps and Capacity Funding

- After each of the workshops, CIER will send a confidential draft summary report (one per workshop) to each community for their review and input.
- Within 2-3 months of the original workshop, we intend to have a second workshop so knowledge contributors can advise as to any changes needed to the report. This is to ensure a respectful understanding of the knowledges and perspectives shared. CIER will then send the updated and final summary report to each community.
- Next, CIER will ask each individual and/or community whether and/or how they wish to share their contributions in the report with ECCC to inform Canada's Grizzly Bear Management Plan.
- Additional engagement opportunities (more so through written correspondence) will happen later in 2022 to review the content of the management plan as it progresses and before publishing it.

- Capacity funding is available to communities for their time to review documents, such as the workshop summary report and a draft version of the management plan. These arrangements will be through CIER.
- For more information, please feel free to reach out to Carine Cote-Germain or Bruce Laurich Biologists with the Canadian Wildlife Service (carine.cote-germain@ec.gc.ca; bruce.laurich@ec.gc.ca), and Kate Hewitt, Project Manager with the Centre for Indigenous Environmental Resources (khewitt@yourcier.org). If you need support with registration, please contact Melissa Gus at CIER (MGus@yourcier.org).