



Board of County Commissioners - Staff Report

Subject: AMD2021-0006: Wildlife Feeding & Bear Conflict Area LDR Text Amendment

Agent/Applicant: Teton County

Property Owner: n/a; County-wide

Presenter: Ryan Hostetter, Principal Long-Range Planner

REQUESTED ACTION

Proposal to amend the Teton County Land Development Regulations (LDRs), pursuant to Section 8.7.1, to amend Section 5.1.3, Wild Animal Feeding and add Bear Conflict Area Standards within this section, and remove Section 5.2.2. Bear Conflict Area Standards. This amendment is made by the Teton County Planning Division at the direction of the Teton County Board of County Commissioners to update the Natural Resource Land Development Regulations in phases. The proposed amendments include standards for feeding of wildlife (prohibition), keeping of wildlife attractants, and removal of the bear conflict zones which would require bear proof trash containers countywide rather than in limited areas.

BACKGROUND/DESCRIPTION

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This proposed text amendments include an update to both the Wild Animal Feeding and Bear Conflict Area regulations outlined in section 5.1.3 and 5.2.2 of the LDRs. The update includes additional requirements for securing wildlife attractants such as compost piles and food bearing gardens as well as requiring bear resistant trash enclosures countywide. The updates are a cooperative effort between the County Long Range Planning division, Integrated Solid Waste and Recycling, County Public Works, Wyoming Department of Game and Fish (WGFD), Jackson Hole Wildlife Foundation, Greater Yellowstone Coalition, the Teton Conservation Alliance, multiple waste haulers in Teton County, and several interested members of the public.

BACKGROUND

The fiscal year 2021/2022 Workplan, which prioritizes the goals of the joint Town of Jackson and Teton County Comprehensive Plan, includes tasks related to updating Natural Resource Regulations. This work, beginning with updating the County's Land Development Regulations (LDRs) Division 5.1 and 5.2, has been broken down into separate tasks based on topic. On December 28, 2020, staff presented an update to the County Commissioners related to this strategy for updating these Divisions of the LDRs. The strategy began with updating chapters on Wildlife Feeding and Wildlife Friendly Fencing and will continue with tackling larger items such as the tiered habitat mapping separately.

LOCATION

N/A; applies County-wide.

STAFF ANALYSIS

The most up to date draft of the proposed text amendment is included as an attachment to this report. The original draft was released November 10, 2021, pursuant to the LDRs and Wyoming Statute §16-3-103 and has been updated based on public comment and review by the Planning Commission.

SUMMARY OF KEY CHANGES

The proposed draft amendments include additional language within Sec 5.1.3 Wild Animal Feeding as well as moving the requirements from Sec. 5.2.2, Bear Conflict Standards into Sec. 5.1.3. The updated components of the new draft language include:

- Prohibition of feeding for *all* wildlife, not just the listed species in the current section which are – antelope, bighorn sheep, deer, elk, moose, mountain goats, bobcats, black bears grizzly bears, mountain lions, lynx, wild bison, wolves, coyotes, foxes and racoons.
- Bird feeders shall be unavailable to wildlife at all times of the year.
- Ornamental non-native fruit bearing trees, not harvested for food, shall not be planted. Existing ornamental, non-native fruit trees shall be managed with harvesting or fencing.
- All trash shall be stored in a certified bear resistant container or dumpster countywide (exception is within Town of Jackson jurisdiction), eliminating Conflict Priority Areas 1 and 2.
- Additional language for ensuring attractants are kept in bear resistant enclosures such as grease from food service, chicken coops and feed, apiaries, compost, livestock, and fish food.
- Design requirements for bear resistant enclosures included in LDRs.
- Establishing an effective date for the above regulations of July 1st, 2022.

KEY ISSUES

KEY ISSUE 1: *Enforcement*

One of the key issues the County has been hearing from members of the public include consistent enforcement of these LDRs. How can the County ensure that residents all have a bear resistant trash can? Why is the County not currently enforcing these requirements when already in place? Will there be enough cans to support implementation of these regulations in a timely manner? All of these valid questions are concerns which the Planning Department has been addressing throughout the process noting that full enforcement and compliance will come with time and support from the community.

Enforcement of the LDRs by the County must follow state law. Section 8.9 of the LDRs discusses the process the Planning and Building Services Department uses to enforce the LDRs. We hear many people ask why the County Planning Department can't impose fines or issue a citation when an enforcement issue comes up. The County has to follow an approved procedure and the Department does not have the authority to issue a fine. Fines can only be issued by circuit court after an abatement order is issued by the County. The LDRs identify the required procedures up to an abatement hearing process, and if the violation is not corrected once an abatement order is issued then the matter can be elevated to the courts. It is only through the court process that a judge can issue a fine if the matter has not been corrected following abatement. While this is a time consuming process, it has been set forth based on the explicit powers granted to the County through the State.

Generally, most violations are handled administratively once the Planning Director or Code Compliance Officer sends a notice to the land owner making them aware of the violation. It is extremely rare for a matter to elevate through a hearing up to the courts. Most code enforcement cases are complaint driven, meaning residents of the community submit a complaint to the Planning and Building Services Department for review.

Planning Staff, Public Works Staff, Integrated Solid Waste and Recycling Staff, Wyoming Game and Fish Department, Grand Teton National Park Staff, and many partners in the community have all been working together to address issues raised and increase compliance through education and outreach. Due to the nature of the nationwide interest in this topic, many people have helped provide information, resources, and ideas to facilitate compliance with the new LDRs. For example, private philanthropy efforts and local non-profits are working to secure purchase of bear resistant trash cans that can be loaned to residents in areas prone to conflicts, while the trash hauling companies increase their inventory of bear-resistant cans. The "BearWise" effort, a partnership between the Bridger-Teton National Forest, Jackson Hole Wildlife Foundation, Grand Teton National Park, and Wyoming Game and Fish Department, is increasing its efforts around education and outreach for residents and visitors alike and coordinating efforts between agencies and the public. More information regarding ongoing efforts is offered below under "continuing efforts" under stakeholder involvement.

KEY ISSUE 2: *Other Attractants*

While much of the attention recently has been focused on bear conflicts with trash and trash containers, the County, working with the Wyoming Game and Fish Department, is also attempting to address other wildlife attractants. These other attractants include intentional wildlife feeding, bird feeders, compost piles, chicken coops, apiaries, and other wildlife attractants. These items lure wildlife (not just bears) into developed areas and habituate animals to frequent residential neighborhoods to forage for trash and other non-natural harmful attractants. This behavior leads to wildlife crossing roadways, increasing wildlife vehicle collisions, and conflicts with pets. In an effort to limit these conflicts, the draft LDR updates include new requirements for the management and storage of these attractants. These changes include:

- Year-round birdfeeder requirements, including that birdfeeders are made unavailable to wildlife other than birds.
- Specific requirements for bear resistant enclosures, buildings or fencing around attractants.
- Management of compost piles, chicken coops, and animal feed.
- Language specifying prohibition of feeding (except for birdfeeders).

KEY ISSUE 3: *Countywide bear resistant trash enclosures*

One of the most discussed community issues recently surrounds the use of bear resistant trash cans and dumpsters. The current LDRs contain “conflict priority areas” (CPA) within an approved map where CPA 1 requires bear resistant trash cans and CPA 2 does not. Currently bear resistant trash cans are required in most of the County within this CPA 1, except for some areas south of town and east of South Park Loop Road as well as areas just north of town between Spring Gulch Road and Highway 89. The LDRs state that an update to this map shall be deemed necessary by the Wyoming Game and Fish Department based on “black bear and grizzly bear observations, occupancy trends, and habitat quality, but shall not necessarily be revised solely due to changes in the frequency or number of conflict incidents reported in Teton County.” The Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD) has submitted a letter dated November 18, 2021 stating that there has been an increase in conflicts with not only black bears but also grizzly bears throughout the County. These conflicts exist countywide, including within those areas which currently do not require a bear resistant trash can (CPA 2). The WGFD request is that the County eliminate the separate conflict areas in order to adopt consistent countywide trash receptacle requirements.

Staff has reached out to local waste haulers, including coordinating with Integrated Solid Waste and Recycling (ISWR), regarding this change. A few issues were discussed including a current lack of supply for new bear resistant cans and dumpsters, the cost of bear resistant cans (approx. \$400 vs. \$80 for conventional residential can), and coordination with the County’s Pay-as-you-Throw program. Staff is recommending a phase in period to allow residents time to prepare for this change. This may help residents who are not able to obtain a bear resistant can immediately, or who may not be able to afford a can right away. In addition, there has been a lot of interest from local nonprofits regarding assisting with the cost or procurement of bear resistant cans. Staff recommends that this change not become effective immediately, and the Planning Commission recommended July of 2022 as an effective date. With this effective date, we believe the major issues brought up could be handled. In addition, the Pay-as-you-Throw program could be implemented with bear resistant cans.

The-Pay-as-you-Throw program is a way for customers to pay a smaller fee for their waste if they don’t generate as much trash from their household. The intent is that residents are incentivized to create less waste as it will cost them less for curbside service if they don’t produce as much garbage. This type of program could be conducted through utilizing different size trash cans (i.e. pay less for smaller can) or haulers providing an alternative pick up schedule (rather than each week, a pick up could be every other week). ISWR worked with a student program from University of Wyoming to investigate different ways that the Pay-as-You-Throw program could be implemented and it would not have any impacts to bear resistant cans. Based on review of the programs in other communities and in discussion with ISWR, the preferred method is to initiate Pay-as-You-Throw utilizing

an alternate schedule and with bear resistant cans. In time, Pay-as-You-Throw could be further implemented using different sized bear resistant trash cans. Therefore, there should be no impacts to the Pay-as-You-Throw program moving forward.

PLANNING COMMISSION ANALYSIS

The Planning Commission completed an extensive review of this proposed LDR amendment. Public meetings including a workshop and presentation by several experts were held on December 27, 2021, January 24, 2022, and February 28, 2022. The Planning Commission recommended the following edits and comments related to the draft, which are reflected in the recommended draft attached to this staff report:

- Prohibit supplemental feeding for all wildlife.
- Providing wildlife attractants is prohibited. Additional language was included in a “catch all” statement which states: *“In the event any property and/or service area associated with the property shall be found to contain any wildlife attractant(s) not otherwise specified in the foregoing standards, the attractant(s) shall be removed or secured consistent with the foregoing standards within 15 days’ notice unless an alternate time frame is agreed to with the county code enforcement officer.”*
- The keeping of gardens is allowed without additional fencing, however the keeping of ornamental, non-native, not harvested for food, fruit bearing trees shall be prohibited (such as crabapples and cherries). Existing trees of these types shall be maintained, harvested and/or fenced.
- Trash shall be “properly” stored in “self-locking” bear resistant trash containers which comply with the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee (IGBC) testing standards and shall be required countywide as beginning July 1, 2022.
- Commercial dumpsters do not have to be bear resistant if they are contained within a bear resistant building or enclosure. If they are not within such an enclosure, they shall be bear resistant.
- Construction site debris does not have to be in a bear resistant enclosure, however any food waste shall be stored in a bear resistant container if kept on site.

The Planning Commission, in addition to recommendations for amended LDR language, included recommendations related to future policy or programs which should be considered by the Board of County Commissioners:

- Provide funding for residents who may require financial assistance purchasing a bear resistant can, subsidy or loan program as an example
- Education and Outreach
- Building Codes and requirements for screening of dumpsters in compliance with the commercial bear resistant dumpsters
- Goal to make the “Bear Smart Community” designation by IGBC – ultimately achieve the gold standard
- Public facilities such as County and Town facilities to comply with these requirements
- Add indicators for compliance with the new wildlife feeding LDRs under the ecosystem stewardship indicators in the annual indicator report

STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS

PUBLIC COMMENT

No additional written public comments have been received as of the publishing of this report. Comments received prior to and during the Planning Commission hearings have been addressed through updates to the draft, or are reflected as key issues in this report.

DEPARTMENTAL REVIEW

A draft of the proposed amendment was sent to the following departments for review:

- Wyoming Game and Fish Department
- Teton Conservation District
- Teton County Engineering

All reviews received have been incorporated into the draft attached to this staff report (other than 'no comment' type responses which are not included).

Fiscal Impact

The passage of this regulation will have direct and indirect costs to local government, businesses and residents of the community. Public facilities including but not limited to County Facilities, START, Pathways, School District, Housing Authority, and Parks and Recreation that maintain trash collection would be impacted by either higher indirect costs for trash hauling (approximately \$10/month increase for residential and \$50/month commercial) or by the need to replace facilities with Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee (IGBC) bear resistant infrastructure. In the future this would necessitate the installation of IGBC approved containers for refuse disposal at parks, boat launches, pathways, bus stops and other publicly owned facilities and the replacement of publicly owned dumpsters or garbage containers.

On private lands there will be costs to landowners to replace/improve birdfeeders, manage fruit tree removal, harvest, or replacement program, or provide exclusionary fencing for agricultural and residential conflict prevention with beehives, poultry, livestock, gardens, compost, etc.

Individual trash hauling businesses in the community will need to increase the number of residential garbage containers and applicable commercial dumpsters that are IGBC approved containers. Approximately 2,000 rollout containers (at approximately \$400 apiece) and several hundred dumpsters (costs between \$250-\$1000 for modification or \$4000-5000 for replacement) will need to be replaced or modified. These costs are currently factored into monthly fees for trash hauling and presumably passed on to the consumer.

CONTINUING EFFORTS

Public Works Continuing Efforts

Public Works staff has begun participating in the BearWise Jackson Hole efforts that are a partnership between the Bridger-Teton National Forest, Jackson Hole Wildlife Foundation, Grand Teton National Park, and Wyoming Game and Fish Department. Staff are interested in bringing forth a recommendation at a future Board of County Commissioners meeting to officially join this effort as a partner organization, through a memorandum of understanding, and potentially provide financial support to the efforts that will improve the implementation of these Land Development Regulations. Specific actions that have been discussed include coordinating efforts between local agencies and private philanthropy, funding assistance for bear resistant infrastructure and targeted HOA outreach and education, through the staffing of a position at BearWise. If desired by the Board, Public Works will bring this forward as a future agenda item.

LEGAL REVIEW

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RECOMMENDATIONS

PLANNING DIRECTOR RECOMMENDATION

The Planning Director recommends **APPROVAL** of **AMD2021-0006**, as presented in the draft attached dated February 28, 2022, with no conditions based on the findings recommended below.

PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

At its February 28, 2022, meeting, the Planning Commission voted 5-0 to recommend **APPROVAL** of **AMD2021-0006**, as presented in the draft dated February 28, 2022, to amend Section 5.1.3, Wild Animal Feeding and add bear conflict standards within this section, and remove Section 5.2.2. Bear Conflict Area Standards, being able to make the findings of Section 8.7.1. as recommended by the Planning Director.

PLANNING DIRECTOR AND PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDED FINDINGS

Pursuant to Section 8.7.1.C. of the Land Development Regulations, the advisability of amending the text of the LDRs is a matter committed to the legislative discretion of the Board of County Commissioners and is not controlled by any one factor. In deciding to adopt or deny a proposed LDR text amendment the Board of County Commissioners shall consider factors including, but not limited to, the extent to which the proposed amendment:

1. Is consistent with the purposes and organization of the LDRs;

Division 1.3: Purpose and Intent: Based on the legislative discretion of the Board of County Commissioners, these LDRs are in accordance with the Jackson/Teton County Comprehensive Plan. Their purpose is to implement the Jackson/Teton County Comprehensive Plan and promote the health, safety, and general welfare of the present and future inhabitants of the community with the intent listed below.

1.3.1. Implement the Community Vision: Preserve and protect the area's ecosystem in order to ensure a healthy environment, community, and economy for current and future generations.

1.3.2. Implement the Common Values of Community Character

A. Ecosystem Stewardship

1. Maintain healthy populations of all native species and preserve the ability of future generations to enjoy the quality natural, scenic, and agricultural resources that largely define our community character.

2. Consume less nonrenewable energy as a community in the future than we do today.

B. Growth Management

1. Direct future growth into a series of connected, Complete Neighborhoods in order to preserve critical habitat, scenery and open space in our Rural Areas.

2. The Town of Jackson will continue to be the primary location for jobs, housing, shopping, educational, and cultural activities.

C. Quality of Life

1. Ensure a variety of workforce housing opportunities exist so that at least 65% of those employed locally also live locally.

2. Develop a sustainable, vibrant, stable and diversified local economy.

3. Residents and visitors will safely, efficiently, and economically move within our community and throughout the region using alternative modes of transportation.

4. Timely, efficiently, and safely deliver quality services and facilities in a fiscally responsible and coordinated manner.

1.3.3. Implement the Illustration of Our Vision

A. Achieve the desired future character identified for each Character District.

B. Implement the policy objectives for each Character District.

C. Achieve the character-defining features identified for each Subarea.

1.3.4. Predictable Regulations, Incentives, and Allowances

- A. Ensure standards are consistently applied to similar applications and circumstances.*
- B. Ensure landowners, the public, and decision-makers know the amount, location, and type of growth to expect.*
- C. Use data analysis and best practices to inform standards and implement the adaptive management philosophy of the Growth Management Program.*

1.3.5. Coordination Between Jurisdictions

- A. Implement the joint Town/County Vision through coordinated, supportive actions.*
- B. Maintain a common structure, format, and definitions in Town and County LDRs.*

***Div. 1.4. Organization of the LDRs:** These LDRs constitute the County's zoning and subdivision regulations. They have two organizing principles. Primarily, they are organized by zone in order to implement and emphasize the community's character-based planning approach. Secondarily, to provide ease of use, they are organized to answer three questions:*

- What can be built or physically developed?*
- What uses are allowed?*
- How can the land be developed or subdivided?*

Can Be Made. The purpose of this update to the LDRs is to further bring the wildlife feeding standards into compliance with the goals of the Comprehensive Plan, specifically "Policy 1.1.d: Limit human/wildlife conflicts". The current LDRs do not include requirements for bear resistant enclosures and fencing around wildlife attractants including items such as compost, or trash containers countywide. This update recognizes the increase in bear conflicts as submitted from Wyoming Game and Fish Department. Conflicts are prevalent countywide and therefore the proposal to require bear resistant trash containers is submitted for County approval. Additionally, these amendments address new points which have become conflicts with humans and wildlife. These additional conflicts include compost areas, crabapple trees, year round bird feeders, residential chicken coops and chicken feed, and the keeping of apiaries. These proposed updates are intended to address not only the keeping of trash, but also other wildlife attractants which are prevalent in the County. By focusing on these items, the goal is that wildlife will be less likely to become habituated and attracted to urban areas, development, and manmade food attractants, thereby improving the health and safety of both wildlife and humans.

2. Improves the consistency of the LDRs with other provisions of the LDRs;

Can be Made. The updated wild animal feeding requirements are consistent with all other provisions of the LDRs. The proposed updates include added language which ties to other portions of the LDRs such as the newly updated fencing regulations related to small exclusionary fencing areas that are encouraged to protect wildlife from unhealthy attractants.

3. Provides flexibility for landowners within standards that clearly define desired character;

Can Be Made. The proposed updates strengthen the wild animal feeding requirements. Landowners will be able to continue to use bird feeders and compost on their properties, however there are additional requirements for the management of those items. The new LDRs include options and flexibility for how a landowner can comply depending on their situation (i.e. hard enclosures vs electric fencing).

4. Is necessary to address changing conditions or a public necessity and/or state or federal legislation;

Can Be Made. This amendment of the LDRs is proposed due to increased human wildlife conflicts within Teton County as presented by Wyoming Game and Fish Department. Due to these changing conditions, WGFD is recommending the removal of the Conflict Priority Areas and requiring bear resistant trash containers countywide.

5. Improves implementation of the Comprehensive Plan; and

Can Be Made. This proposed amendment of the LDRs is intended to implement the ecosystem stewardship Common Value One outlined in the Comprehensive Plan. Specifically, Policy 1.1.d asks to limit human and wildlife conflicts which is exactly what this LDR amendment is intended to do. In addition, the Wyoming Game and Fish Department has submitted evidence (letter attached dated November 18, 2021) which shows that conflicts have been increasing, therefore this LDR amendment is also proposed to influence this trend and reduce conflicts per the Policy and Principle of the Comprehensive Plan.

6. Is consistent with the other adopted County Resolutions.

Can Be Made. No apparent conflict or relationship to other County Resolutions was identified by staff in this review.

ATTACHMENTS

- Draft Amendment recommended by the Planning Commission
- Letter from Wyoming Game and Fish Department dated November 18, 2021
- Letter from Bear Wise Jackson Hole
- Public Comment
- Planning Commission Packets including additional public comment can be found at the following links:
 - [December 13, 2021](#)
 - [December 27, 2021](#)
 - [January 24, 2022](#)
 - [February 28, 2022](#)

SUGGESTED MOTION

I move to recommend **APPROVAL** of **AMD2021-0006**, as presented in the draft dated February 28, 2022, to amend Section 5.1.3, Wild Animal Feeding and add bear conflict standards within this section and remove Section 5.2.2. Bear Conflict Area Standards, being able to make the findings of Section 8.7.1. as recommended by the Planning Director.

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8. Landscape fencing (including any temporary landscape fencing) shall be of a sturdy material such as wire (non-plastic) and shall be properly maintained as to not allow wildlife entanglement.
9. All standards for natural resource protection and wildlife movement as recommended by the Planning Director shall be recorded in the permit.

5.1.3. Wild Animal Feeding (4/1/16AMD2021-0006)

A. Findings

The feeding of ~~those animals listed below~~ wildlife, as defined by WY 23-1-101 by humans creates one or more of the following risks:

1. Attracts ungulates to residential areas, which poses a significant threat to human ~~safety~~ and domestic ~~pets~~ animal safety and can increase the incidence of wildlife-vehicle collision;
2. Attracts large predators to residential areas, which poses a significant threat to human life or domestic ~~pets~~ animals;
3. Promotes unnaturally high concentrations of animals, which in turn:
 - a. Increases the potential for disease transmission,
 - b. Promotes overuse of certain habitats,
 - c. Disrupts natural animal migration;
4. Promotes unnatural wildlife behavior, such as the frequenting of residential areas and coming into harmful or threatening situations with humans, and resulting in habituated ~~which can result in~~ nuisance animals, ~~and, in some cases, these animals must, which have to~~ be relocated or destroyed, often at public expense, ~~when they frequent residential areas or otherwise come into harmful or threatening contact with humans;~~ and
5. Detracts from the wild spirit of the animals.

B. Purpose and Intent

The purpose of this section is to prevent and mitigate conflicts between humans and wildlife in Teton County by establishing wildlife feeding and bear-attractant standards for residential and nonresidential uses. The intent of this Section is to protect and promote the public health, safety and welfare of the public and wildlife by:

1. Reducing the attraction of ungulates to residential areas, and thereby lessening the significant threat to the safety of ~~humans~~ safety and domestic ~~animals~~ pets;
2. Reducing the attraction of large predators to residential areas, and thereby lessening the significant threat to the safety of ~~humans~~ life and domestic ~~animals~~ pets;

3. Reducing unnaturally high concentrations of animals, thereby lessening reducing the potential for disease transmission, the overuse of certain habitats, the disruption of natural animal migration, wildlife vehicle collisions, and the domestication habituation of wild animals;
4. Discouraging unnatural wildlife behavior, thereby reducing the number of nuisance animals that have to be relocated or destroyed when they frequent residential areas or otherwise come into harmful or threatening contact with humans and domestic animals; and
5. Respecting the wild essence behaviors of the animals' nature.

C. Prohibitions

1. Supplemental Feeding Prohibited. No person shall knowingly or intentionally provide supplemental feed attractants to the following animals-to wildlife, unless specifically authorized by an agency of either the State of Wyoming or the United States of America: antelope, bighorn sheep, deer, elk, moose, mountain goats, bobcats, black bears, grizzly bears, mountain lions, lynx, wild bison, wolves, coyotes, foxes and raccoons. Supplemental feed includes any human food, pet food, hay, forage product or supplement, grain, honey, seed or birdseed, salt or mineral licks, or other supplemental feed made available to wildlife.
1. Supplemental Feed Attractants. Supplemental attractants are any human food, pet food, hay, forage product or supplement, grain, seed or birdseed, garbage, or other attractant made available to the following animals: antelope, bighorn sheep, deer, elk, moose, mountain goats, bobcats, black bears, grizzly bears, mountain lions, lynx, wild bison, wolves, coyotes, foxes and raccoons.
2. Wildlife Attractants prohibited. No person shall allow for the unintentional attraction and feeding of wildlife by allowing access to attractants on their property, including pet food, garbage, seed or birdseed, or other attractant made available to wildlife.
3. Ornamental (non harvested for food), Non-Native Fruit Bearing Trees (including crabapples and cherries) Shall Not be Planted. Existing ornamental, non-native fruit bearing trees shall be managed to prohibit large mammals from obtaining food rewards, and therefore, shall be either properly fenced and/or maintained with complete harvesting as soon as fruit is available. All exclusionary fencing shall be properly maintained and comply with the requirements of Div. 5.1.2 for exclusionary fencing.
4. Bird Feeders. No person shall install or keep a bird feeder on their property, unless the bird feeder is inaccessible to any wildlife other than birds.
5. In the event any property and / or service area associated with the property shall be found to contain any wildlife attractant(s) not otherwise specified in the foregoing standards, the attractant(s) shall be removed or secured consistent with the foregoing standards within 15 days notice unless an alternate time frame is agreed to with the county code enforcement officer.

D. Exemptions

A person engaged in any of the following activities is not subject to liabilities under this Section:

1. The normal feeding of livestock and/or the practice of raising crops and crop aftermath, including hay, alfalfa and grains, produced, harvested, stored or fed to domestic livestock in accordance with normal agricultural practices as defined in Section 6.1.3.B. There is a presumption that on land taxed as agricultural land, that the alleged feeding is exempt from this regulation; or
2. The cultivation of a lawn and/or garden, and/or the feedings of birds where the bird food is made unavailable to the animals specified in the prohibition of this regulation provision of birdfeeders in compliance with Sec. 5.1.3.E.4 in which the bird food is made unavailable to any wildlife except birds.
3. A finding that the land was taxed as agricultural land shall create a presumption that the alleged feeding is exempt from this regulation.

E. Bear-Resistant Standards (replaces Section 5.2.2)

1. Bear-Resistant Trash Container Required. Beginning 7/1/2022, all trash shall be properly stored in a certified bear-resistant container or dumpster.
 - a. A self-locking certified bear-resistant container or dumpster is one that has passed the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee (IGBC) and has successfully passed the testing program and protocols recited in the Bear-Resistant Products Testing Program. A list of certified bear-resistant containers and dumpsters and the manufacturers that produce these products is available in the Teton County Planning and Building Services Department and at this website, <http://igbconline.org/bear-resistant-products/>.
 - b. If trash is transferred from the property to the trash transfer station or landfill directly by the property owner or property lessee, trash may be stored in another container as long as the container is stored in a bear-resistant building or enclosure at all times while on the property.
 - c. All trash receptacles at construction sites for trash that includes food, food wrappers, or other bear attractants shall be bear-resistant. Containers shall be kept closed and latched at all times. Non-bear-resistant dumpsters or trailer may be used to store construction trash that does not contain bear-attractants, as per LDR 6.4.2(B)(4).
2. Bear-Resistant Building, Enclosure, and Fencing Requirements
 - a. The following attractants shall be stores exclusively inside bear-resistant buildings, fencing, or enclosures.
 - i. Grease storage containers and stores foods for nonresidential food/drink preparation and service;
 - ii. All backyard chicken operations including chicken food storage;

- iii. Apiaries;
- iv. Food compost containers or piles;
- v. Livestock and fish food;
- vi. Commercial dumpster, if not in self locking certified bear resistant dumpster

b. A bear-resistant building or enclosure is one that consists of and/or contains:

- i. A framed building, fencing or enclosure with hard sides and a roof constructed of hard wood, non-reflective metal or other like product reasonably designed and manufactured to withstand an intrusion by a bear; or
- ii. Chain-link fencing that is fully enclosed including the top being fully covered; or
- iii. Functional and maintained electric fencing designed to exclude bears; or
- iv. A combination of the above; and
- v. Functional, maintained self-latching doors and gates, or doors and gates with locks.

EXAMPLE: Examples of bear-resistant enclosures include, but are not limited to, garages, metal sheds, houses, and electrified fencing designed to exclude bears or any other building designed and constructed to prevent access by bears.

5.1.4. Air Quality (7/19/16)

Protection of clean air resources is a goal of the County, in order to protect the public health, welfare and general safety of the residents, the visibility in the valley and the scenic beauty of Teton County.

A. Particulate Matter

For the purposes of this Section, particulate matter is any material other than water, which is suspended in or discharged into the atmosphere in finely divided form as a liquid or solid capable of being airborne or gasborne, including dust. All uses shall conform with the following standards:

1. **Emission Rate of Particulate Matter and Dust/General.** No emissions shall exceed the allowances set forth by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency or WYDEQ, or any other State or Federal agency having jurisdiction to limit emissions. In case of conflict, the most restrictive requirement shall govern.
2. **Ameliorate Possibility of Particulate Matter Becoming Windborne.** Emission of particulate matter from materials or products subject to becoming windborne shall be kept to a minimum by landscaping, paving, wetting, or other means as to render the surface wind resistant.



WYOMING GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

5400 Bishop Blvd. Cheyenne, WY 82006
Phone: (307) 777-4600 Fax: (307) 777-4699
wgfd.wyo.gov

GOVERNOR
MARK GORDON
DIRECTOR
BRIAN R. NESVIK
COMMISSIONERS
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RALPH BROKAW
MARK JOLOVICH
RICHARD LADWIG
ASHLEE LUNDVALL
KENNETH D. ROBERTS

November 18, 2021

Ryan Hostetter, AICP
Principal Long Range Planner
Planning and Building Services – Teton County
PO Box 3594
200 S. Willow Street
Jackson, WY 83001

Dear Mr. Hostetter:

The Wyoming Game and Fish Department (Department) recognizes and supports the need for increased food storage regulations and expansion of the bear conflict zone to the southern edge of Teton County. We greatly support this expansion based on increased conflicts between humans and black and grizzly bears in the southern portion of Teton County in recent years (Figure 1) and an overall increase of grizzly bear distribution through time (Figure 2) that essentially encompasses Teton County. The Department also supported these efforts in 2017.

We feel expansion of the bear conflict zone would enable greater consistency and understanding for the public and sanitation companies. It would also clarify enforcement of Teton County regulations to reduce wildlife conflicts and increase human safety and offer proactive foresight to reduce conflict potential into the future.

Thank you for the opportunity to support this critical wildlife issue and please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. King".

Rick King
Chief, Wildlife Division

RK/sbn

Attachments

- Figure 1
- Figure 2

cc: Scott Edberg, Deputy Chief, Wildlife Division
Doug Brimeyer, Deputy Chief, Wildlife Division
Brad Hovinga, Jackson Regional Wildlife Supervisor
Dan Thompson, Large Carnivore Supervisor

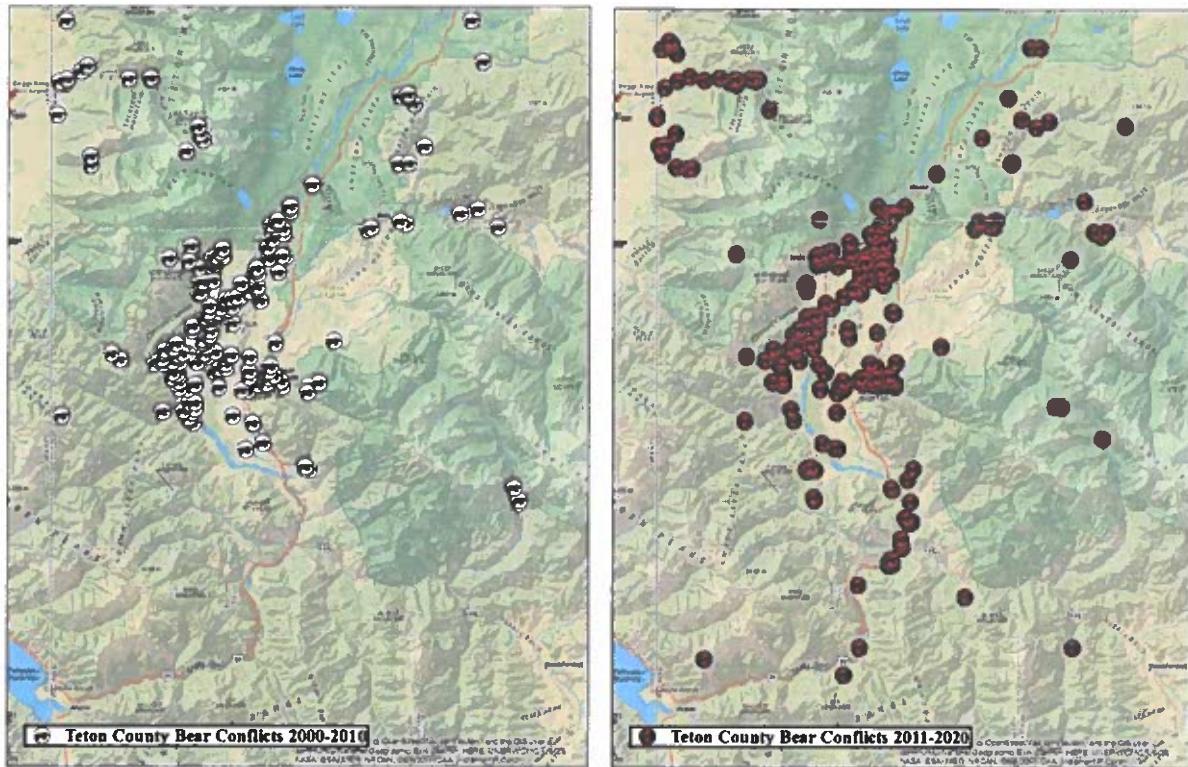


Figure 1. Verified bear (black bear and grizzly bear) conflicts in Teton County demonstrating southern expansion of conflicts and increased conflict potential.

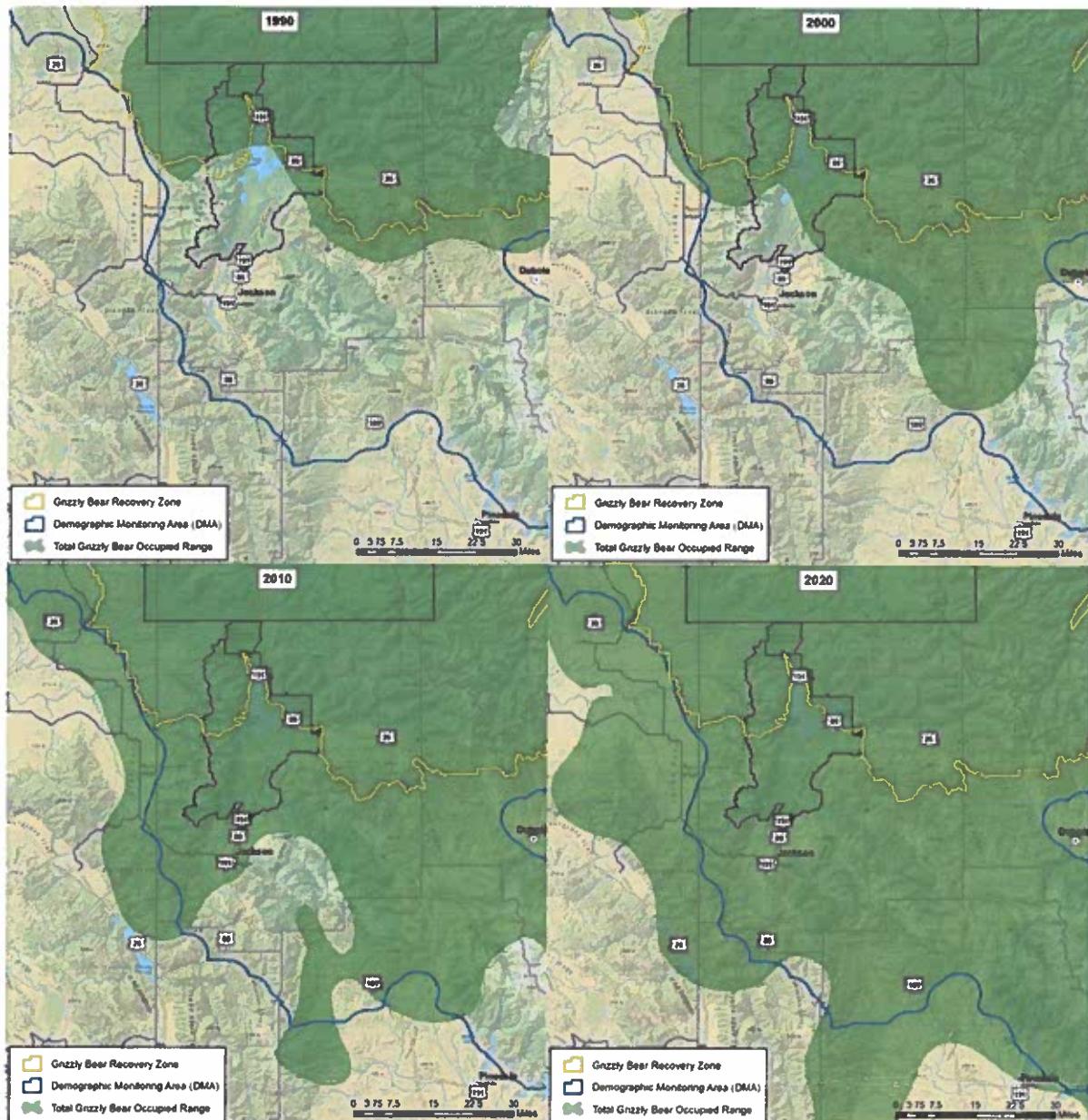


Figure 2. Occupied range of grizzly bears throughout the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, demonstrating increased distribution and expansion of beyond suitable habitats within the Demographic Monitoring Area and and increased distribution of grizzly bear occupied range in Teton County, WY.

April 4, 2022

Teton County Board of Commissioners
P.O. Box 3594
Jackson, WY 83001



Re: Support of Teton County Wildlife Feeding Land Development Regulation (5.1.3 and 5.2.2)
amendments and removal

Dear Board of County Commissioners,

BearWise Jackson Hole (BearWise JH) is a partnership between the Bridger-Teton National Forest, Grand Teton National Park, Jackson Hole Wildlife Foundation, and Wyoming Game and Fish Department, to sustain wild bear populations while minimizing human-bear conflicts in Teton County, Wyoming. This collaboration has existed for >16 years. Our mission is to Keep Bears Wild and People Safe. As a team, we develop outreach materials, send seasonal press communications, coordinate actions with other agencies and organizations, and own and operate the BearWise JH Trailer which is equipped for community education. We work from the principles of [Living in Bear Country](#) from BearWise Wyoming.

We are writing regarding the proposed amendment of Teton County's Wildlife Feeding Land Development Regulation (LDR). Individuals on our team have been closely involved in helping County Planning staff craft language to amend the current Wildlife Feeding LDR, provided data and expertise on wildlife conflicts, and we are supportive of the proposed amendments to Section 5.1.3 and removal of Section 5.2.2. We understand that implementation of the amended LDR will require a multi-effort approach to reach the highest success in reducing wildlife conflict on private lands. Because of this, and given our team's breadth of expertise and resources, we are prepared to support the County in their efforts to preserve and protect the area's ecosystem by incentivizing compliance with the Wildlife Feeding LDR.

To those ends, a recent effort that BearWise JH has undertaken is to employ a staff person that will serve the BearWise JH team primarily on private lands. This person will be administered by the Jackson Hole Wildlife Foundation, while functioning as the first dedicated BearWise JH staff person. This employee will operate under the principles of BearWise and will follow an ethic of goodwill and support for the community. Three areas of responsibility for this person are 1) outreach with the community and homeowners, 2) coordination, support, and liaising with partners, and 3) managing an incentive fund that will exist for the purchase of goods such as bear-resistant trash cans to reduce wildlife attractants.

These efforts will all be conducted under the principles of Bear Wise Wyoming, which are consistent with the USFWS Bear Smart assessment recommendations to reduce attractants and increase community education. The main goal of this position is to be the primary private sector source of assistance and expertise to landowners and business operators in Teton County, Wyoming seeking to comply with town and county wildlife protection standards and regulations.

Specifically, the BearWise JH job responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Communicate with the community, partners, and officials to ensure efficiency and reduce redundancy between partners working towards the same conservation outcomes. Present and

report to partners the various activities being conducted throughout the County to reduce wildlife conflicts.

- Manage an incentive fund that will be used to provide materials to home and business owners needing assistance to purchase or build bear-resistant items or structures such as trash cans, electrified fences, and bird feeders. Contributions to the fund will likely come from agency partners, foundations, and individual donors.
- Assist homeowners, property managers, neighborhoods, and community groups to build bear-resistant items or structures in compliance with County Regulations, enlisting volunteers as needed to help.
- Provide property assessments for interested homeowners to inform residents how they can reduce attractants on their property.
- Assist partners and enlist volunteers to help with various programs including crabapple tree reduction, garden and fruit harvest, electric fence installation, outreach events, and other efforts to reduce human-wildlife conflicts.

We commend the County for the effort of amending the Wildlife Feeding LDR and we believe this is a positive step in securing both the safety of bears and humans while helping bears remain wild, seeking native food sources in native habitat. We understand that implementing new, broader regulations can be challenging and it is our hope that this BearWise JH staff position will provide relief for the County, understanding our goal to reduce conflicts with bears. The agencies and organization of BearWise JH are the only constant in the management of these resources and are invested in a long-term commitment in these goals. Landscape-scale changes in human behavior often occur slower than public opinion, but the decades of work in grizzly bear recovery by these agencies demonstrate that success is possible.

Please reach out to any of our representatives with questions about BearWise JH or our plans. We have recently included Teton County staff to participate in our efforts and invite the County to formally join us as a BearWise JH partner.

Sincerely,



Jason Wilmot
Blackrock District Ranger
Bridger-Teton National Forest



Palmer "Chip" Jenkins
Superintendent
Grand Teton National Park &
John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway

Renee Seidler

Renee Seidler
Executive Director
Jackson Hole Wildlife Foundation

MB

Michael Boyce
Large Carnivore Biologist
Wyoming Game and Fish Department

From: [Britnee Nelson](#)
To: [Ryan Hostetter](#)
Subject: FW: Help save these bears.
Date: Monday, April 4, 2022 8:06:45 AM

Britnee Nelson
Administrative Coordinator
Teton County Planning and Building
PO Box 1727
Jackson, WY 83001
(Ph)307-733-3959 ext. 8410
[**bnelson@tetoncountywy.gov**](mailto:bnelson@tetoncountywy.gov)



From: Alexa Spiegel <anspiegel@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 1, 2022 7:38 PM
To: Natalia Macker <NMacker@tetoncountywy.gov>; Greg Epstein <gepstein@tetoncountywy.gov>; Mark Newcomb <mnewcomb@tetoncountywy.gov>; Luther Propst <lpropst@tetoncountywy.gov>; Mark Barron <mbaron@tetoncountywy.gov>; Board Of County Commissioners <commissioners@tetoncountywy.gov>
Subject: Help save these bears.

Hello,

Require bear proof trash cans and asking residents not to feed wildlife in the backyard.

You have the public duty to pass this public safety and wildlife conservation regulation. Help save these bears.

Regards,
Alexa Spiegel

From: [Britnee Nelson](#)
To: [Ryan Hostetter](#)
Subject: FW: LDR vote
Date: Monday, March 28, 2022 8:01:54 AM

Britnee Nelson
Administrative Coordinator
Teton County Planning and Building
PO Box 1727
Jackson, WY 83001
(Ph)307-733-3959 ext. 8410
[**bnelson@tetoncountywy.gov**](mailto:bnelson@tetoncountywy.gov)



From: Ann Ryan <schttiv@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 27, 2022 1:46 PM
To: Board Of County Commissioners <commissioners@tetoncountywy.gov>; Mark Barron <mbarron@tetoncountywy.gov>; Luther Propst <lpropst@tetoncountywy.gov>; Mark Newcomb <mnewcomb@tetoncountywy.gov>; Greg Epstein <gepstein@tetoncountywy.gov>; Natalia Macker <NMacker@tetoncountywy.gov>
Subject: LDR vote

Dear Commissioners,
I would like to thank you all for your service on behalf of the citizens of Teton County. The process for the updated version of the proposed LDR has been a very thoughtful and thorough task.

My concern is for the citizens of Teton County to assure that securing wildlife attractants will reduce potential human animal conflicts. Reducing attractants will insure safety for those living in this amazing place both animal and humans.

Please vote for the updated LDR so that these thoughtful plans can be implemented.

Thank you again for your hard work for the county.
Sincerely,
Ann M. Ryan

Ann M. Ryan
847-867-5491

6790 W. Trail Creek Rd
Wilson, WY. 83014

From: [Britnee Nelson](#)
To: [Ryan Hostetter](#)
Subject: FW: Bear Proof Jackson Hole
Date: Wednesday, March 30, 2022 8:28:38 AM

Britnee Nelson
Administrative Coordinator
Teton County Planning and Building
PO Box 1727
Jackson, WY 83001
(Ph)307-733-3959 ext. 8410
bnelson@tetoncountywy.gov



From: betty winholtz <winholtz@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2022 8:20 AM
To: Natalia Macker <NMacker@tetoncountywy.gov>; Greg Epstein <gepstein@tetoncountywy.gov>; Mark Newcomb <mnewcomb@tetoncountywy.gov>; Luther Propst <lpropst@tetoncountywy.gov>; Mark Barron <mbaron@tetoncountywy.gov>; Board Of County Commissioners <commissioners@tetoncountywy.gov>
Subject: Bear Proof Jackson Hole

Dear Commissioners:

I am asking you to vote yes on the Teton County wildlife anti-feeding and bear resistant trash can draft ordinance passed by the Planning Commission unanimously. I understand this may be voted on at the April 12, 2022 Teton County Commission Meeting.

I believe the Commission has the public duty to pass this public safety and wildlife conservation regulation.

Sincerely,
Betty Winholtz

From: [Britnee Nelson](#)
To: [Ryan Hostetter](#)
Subject: FW: Bear proof trash containers
Date: Monday, April 4, 2022 8:06:36 AM

Britnee Nelson
Administrative Coordinator
Teton County Planning and Building
PO Box 1727
Jackson, WY 83001
(Ph)307-733-3959 ext. 8410
[**bnelson@tetoncountywy.gov**](mailto:bnelson@tetoncountywy.gov)



From: Brenda Manning <brenda.manning@att.net>
Sent: Friday, April 1, 2022 6:51 PM
To: Board Of County Commissioners <commissioners@tetoncountywy.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Bear proof trash containers

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Brenda Manning <brenda.manning@att.net>
Date: April 1, 2022 at 7:45:08 PM CDT
To: nmacker@tetoncountywy.gov
Subject: Bear proof trash containers

Please, please, please, vote to require Bear proof trash containers in the parks. Can we not just do this, to make our wildlife safe. How can we not protect the wildlife in our state? Tourism brought about, in large part, by our wildlife and our way of life, provide much needed funding for the state.

This must be enacted, and properly supported. Please make the Necessary Resources available, to do so. Please protect our Bears, and all of the states, beloved Wildlife.

Respectfully

Brenda Manning

Sent from my iPad

From: [Britnee Nelson](#)
To: [Ryan Hostetter](#)
Subject: FW: LAND DEVELOPEMENT REGULATIONS
Date: Tuesday, March 29, 2022 11:18:02 AM

Britnee Nelson
Administrative Coordinator
Teton County Planning and Building
PO Box 1727
Jackson, WY 83001
(Ph)307-733-3959 ext. 8410
[**bnelson@tetoncountywy.gov**](mailto:bnelson@tetoncountywy.gov)



From: Cecilia Mink <protectrgriz@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2022 11:17 AM
To: Board Of County Commissioners <commissioners@tetoncountywy.gov>
Cc: Cecilia Mink <protectrgriz@gmail.com>
Subject: LAND DEVELOPEMENT REGULATIONS

Dear Commissioners;

I am writing imploring you to pass the LDR in regards to not only the safety of the wildlife, but the safety of the citizens of Teton county, and the tourists. It is imperative and critical at this time to get this passed.

With the influx of not only residents but tourists coming from places where they don't know the importance of 'bear aware' this issue is critical. We have got to not only protect our wildlife, but we have to give efficient tools and services to mitigate human/bear encounters.

Teton county has a responsibility to help protect the citizens of the community and the wildlife. Those that may not agree with this plan made a decision when they chose to live in an area where bears are prevalent. With this choice comes responsibility to not only your landscape, but your community.

Finally, as someone who lives in bear country, and frequents Teton County yearly for 2 weeks at a time. I spend a tremendous amount of money in your county. These are tourism dollars that I spend at campgrounds, hotels, restaurants and local businesses. Last year alone I spent over \$5000 in September.

Again, I am requesting that you pass the LDR regulation.

Sincerely,
Cecilia Mink
Whitefish, MT

From: [Britnee Nelson](#)
To: [Ryan Hostetter](#)
Subject: FW: Mandatory Bear Proof Trash Cans
Date: Friday, March 25, 2022 12:42:18 PM

Britnee Nelson
Administrative Coordinator
Teton County Planning and Building
PO Box 1727
Jackson, WY 83001
(Ph)307-733-3959 ext. 8410
bnelson@tetoncountywy.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: Diane Dickerson <erskin365@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, March 25, 2022 12:28 PM
To: Board Of County Commissioners <commissioners@tetoncountywy.gov>
Subject: Mandatory Bear Proof Trash Cans

Commissioners,

I understand the commissioners may be voting on the Teton County anti wildlife feeding and bear resistant trash can ordinance in April. In order to protect the wildlife and the humans it is your public duty to pass this public safety and wildlife conservation regulation. The humans and the wildlife must be able to coexist. The wildlife was here first and people move to the area for the mountains and the wildlife but then as soon as some idiot feeds the wildlife then all of a sudden it's the wildlife's fault and they have to be put down (mainly bears). Enforcing no feeding wildlife regulations and mandating bear resistant trash cans is a great start for humans and wildlife to coexist. You know know bears are going to be coming out of hibernation soon and yet not one thing has been done to discourage past behaviors. It's a shame that the bear situation has been going on for several years and yet still nothing has been done to protect them. Teton County is not the only mountain area with these issues but they seem to be the only area that does nothing to help the situation. Look at places in Colorado, Montana and Canada to name a few. They've taken the extra steps and put regulations in place and enforce them which allows humans and wildlife to coexist. Surely you guys have done studies and talked to other communities similar to Jackson. If not, shame on you. I completely understand the challenges that come with these regulations and mandates but you have to start somewhere because it is not going away. As population continues to grow so will the issues. I continue to shake my head that two years in a row 399 and her cubs have been in Jackson and surrounding areas and still no plan in place. Those that care about these bears can see the writing on the wall for 399's cubs when she turns them loose. They will turn out just like 610's cubs....dead! What an absolute shame. Surely the commissioners realize these bears bring in a lot of tourism to the area.

I plead with you to pass the Teton County anti wildlife feeding and bear resistant trash can ordinance. Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,

Diane Dickerson

From: [Britnee Nelson](#)
To: [Ryan Hostetter](#)
Subject: FW: Teton anti wildlife feeding and trash ordinance
Date: Friday, March 25, 2022 10:25:49 AM

Britnee Nelson
Administrative Coordinator
Teton County Planning and Building
PO Box 1727
Jackson, WY 83001
(Ph)307-733-3959 ext. 8410
bnelson@tetoncountywy.gov



From: Dinah Fedorow <Fedorowdl@me.com>
Sent: Friday, March 25, 2022 10:18 AM
To: Board Of County Commissioners <commissioners@tetoncountywy.gov>; Natalia Macker <NMacker@tetoncountywy.gov>; Greg Epstein <gepstein@tetoncountywy.gov>; Mark Newcomb <mnewcomb@tetoncountywy.gov>
Subject: Teton anti wildlife feeding and trash ordinance

Thank you for passing the draft; Teton County anti wildlife feeding and bear resistant trash can draft ordinance. I feel there is a public duty to pass this public safety and wildlife conservation ordinance. Let's keep both wildlife and humans safe so they can live in harmony.

Respectfully, Dinah

Sent from my iPad

From: [Britnee Nelson](#)
To: [Ryan Hostetter](#)
Subject: FW: Public safety and wildlife conservation regulation
Date: Friday, March 25, 2022 11:32:59 AM

Britnee Nelson
Administrative Coordinator
Teton County Planning and Building
PO Box 1727
Jackson, WY 83001
(Ph)307-733-3959 ext. 8410
bnelson@tetoncountywy.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: Elisa De Girolami <eliidg@icloud.com>
Sent: Friday, March 25, 2022 11:32 AM
To: Natalia Macker <NMacker@tetoncountywy.gov>; Greg Epstein <gepstein@tetoncountywy.gov>; Mark Newcomb <mnnewcomb@tetoncountywy.gov>; Luther Propst <lpropst@tetoncountywy.gov>; Mark Barron <mbarron@tetoncountywy.gov>; Board Of County Commissioners <commissioners@tetoncountywy.gov>
Subject: Public safety and wildlife conservation regulation

Please, pass the public safety and wildlife conservation regulation to protect bears.
Thank you

From: [Britnee Nelson](#)
To: [Ryan Hostetter](#)
Subject: FW: New LDRs
Date: Monday, March 28, 2022 8:00:01 AM

Britnee Nelson
Administrative Coordinator
Teton County Planning and Building
PO Box 1727
Jackson, WY 83001
(Ph)307-733-3959 ext. 8410
[**bnelson@tetoncountywy.gov**](mailto:bnelson@tetoncountywy.gov)



From: Leslie Rohrkaste <leslierohrkaste@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 26, 2022 8:57 AM
To: Board Of County Commissioners <commissioners@tetoncountywy.gov>
Subject: New LDRs

Greetings, All,

I'm writing today to ask you all to please pass the new LDRs which will surely benefit both humans and bears alike. Passing this measure is also a vital step in keeping your area wild for tourists, like my husband and I who frequent your area often, to continue to come there and see your gorgeous wildlife. The new LDRs are a smart move, and I do hope you will put this measure into action so humans and wildlife have a chance at peaceful coexistence. Thank you!

Sincerely yours,

Leslie and Gary Rohrkaste

From: [Britnee Nelson](#)
To: [Ryan Hostetter](#)
Subject: FW: COMMENT
Date: Friday, March 25, 2022 9:43:20 AM

Britnee Nelson
Administrative Coordinator
Teton County Planning and Building
PO Box 1727
Jackson, WY 83001
(Ph)307-733-3959 ext. 8410
bnelson@tetoncountywy.gov



From: lassio91@aol.com <lassio91@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, March 25, 2022 9:22 AM
To: Board Of County Commissioners <commissioners@tetoncountywy.gov>
Subject: COMMENT

Dear Commissioners,

Please vote yes in Teton County to requiring bear proof trash cans and asking residents not to feed wildlife in the backyard.

Please pass this public safety and wildlife conservation regulation, you can help save these bears!! Please make the compassionate choice!

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,
Marina Tiedemann
Email: lassio91@aol.com

"To my mind, the life of a lamb is no less precious than that of a human being...I hold that, the more helpless a creature, the more entitled it is to protection by man from the cruelty of man." (Mahatma Ghandi)

From: [Britnee Nelson](#)
To: [Ryan Hostetter](#)
Subject: FW: Bears of Teton county
Date: Monday, March 28, 2022 8:01:36 AM

Britnee Nelson
Administrative Coordinator
Teton County Planning and Building
PO Box 1727
Jackson, WY 83001
(Ph)307-733-3959 ext. 8410
bnelson@tetoncountywy.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: Maria Corbit <thepetnany@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 27, 2022 8:59 AM
To: Board Of County Commissioners <commissioners@tetoncountywy.gov>
Subject: Bears of Teton county

Dear commissioners ,
Thank you for taking our comments .
As a regular visitor to the area and part time worker there ,
I believe taking responsibility for living with wildlife is pertinent and anyone and everyone who lives near them has a responsibility. We must act now to be accountable on our human part . Please make it mandatory to have “bear proof “ containers for trash .
Thank you , Mrs. Maria Hartman
Sun valley , Idaho 83353

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Britnee Nelson](#)
To: [Ryan Hostetter](#)
Subject: FW: Ordinance requiring bear-proof trash cans
Date: Friday, March 25, 2022 9:43:40 AM
Attachments: [image003.png](#)

Britnee Nelson
Administrative Coordinator
Teton County Planning and Building
PO Box 1727
Jackson, WY 83001
(Ph)307-733-3959 ext. 8410
bnelson@tetoncountywy.gov



From: Tami L Swearingen <tswearingen@tm2law.com>
Sent: Friday, March 25, 2022 9:16 AM
To: Board Of County Commissioners <commissioners@tetoncountywy.gov>; Mark Barron <mbarron@tetoncountywy.gov>; Luther Propst <lpropst@tetoncountywy.gov>; Mark Newcomb <mnewcomb@tetoncountywy.gov>; Greg Epstein <gepstein@tetoncountywy.gov>; Natalia Macker <NMacker@tetoncountywy.gov>
Subject: Ordinance requiring bear-proof trash cans

Good day to you all. I am writing on behalf of the bears in Teton County. It is your responsibility and public duty as Commissions to pass this public safety and wildlife conservation regulation. I have had the opportunity to visit this beautiful part of our country and would like my grandchildren to enjoy this at some point in their lives as well. We all live in Florida so don't have the opportunity to encounter bears. The bears must be saved and preserved for future generations and if something as SIMPLE as requiring bear-proof trash cans can accomplish this, then please do the right and humane thing and pass this ordinance to protect the future of bears in Teton County. It's time we all try to care a little more. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Tami S.



Tami L Swearingen

Senior Billing Specialist

727.823.0540 | 727.823.0230 (fax)

tswearingen@tm2law.com | www.tm2law.com

400 Carillon Parkway, Suite 220 | St. Petersburg, FL 33716

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From: [Britnee Nelson](#)
To: [Ryan Hostetter](#)
Subject: FW: Bear-proof trash cans
Date: Tuesday, March 29, 2022 2:41:51 PM

Britnee Nelson
Administrative Coordinator
Teton County Planning and Building
PO Box 1727
Jackson, WY 83001
(Ph)307-733-3959 ext. 8410
[**bnelson@tetoncountywy.gov**](mailto:bnelson@tetoncountywy.gov)



From: K T-B <the_average_gamer@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2022 2:41 PM
To: Board Of County Commissioners <commissioners@tetoncountywy.gov>; Mark Barron <mbarron@tetoncountywy.gov>; Luther Propst <lpropst@tetoncountywy.gov>
Subject: Bear-proof trash cans

Jackson Hole, it is beyond due time to require bear proof trash cans in Teton County. Our beloved Grizzly 610's two sons were recently euthanized for accessing food rewards primarily in the neighborhoods directly outside the relative safety of Grand Teton National Park. Of the 22 conflicts implicated in the second cub's death, 20 were due to improper food storage in these neighborhoods, largely trash. It is truly unacceptable that there is no mandate for bear proof trash cans in place to prevent these conflicts from happening. The deaths of 610s two cubs brought this issue into the spotlight but needless deaths of this nature have been going on for many, many years. We fear that world famous Grizzly 399's cubs will face a similar fate if they are allowed to disperse into the same hostile environment full of unsecured trash if there are no bear proof can ordinances put in place. This is the first responsible step into ensuring that these bears have the best chance of survival in their adult life.

Our beloved park grizzlies and black bears alike face a gauntlet of life-threatening peril when they leave the boundaries and venture into these neighborhoods. The biggest threat by far is unsecured trash that habituates them to human food, leading ultimately to euthanasia. As residents of this beautiful valley, we are blessed to be living so close to these incredible animals and we need to be respectful of their homes as well. This can be accomplished by accepting the responsibility of securing our waste.

From: [Britnee Nelson](#)
To: [Ryan Hostetter](#)
Subject: FW: Bear Proof Jackson Hole
Date: Wednesday, March 30, 2022 9:48:56 AM

Britnee Nelson
Administrative Coordinator
Teton County Planning and Building
PO Box 1727
Jackson, WY 83001
(Ph)307-733-3959 ext. 8410
bnelson@tetoncountywy.gov



From: Wallie Winholtz <wwinholtz1@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2022 9:48 AM
To: Natalia Macker <NMacker@tetoncountywy.gov>; Greg Epstein <gepstein@tetoncountywy.gov>; Mark Newcomb <mnewcomb@tetoncountywy.gov>; Luther Propst <lpropst@tetoncountywy.gov>; Mark Barron <mbaron@tetoncountywy.gov>; Board Of County Commissioners <commissioners@tetoncountywy.gov>
Subject: Bear Proof Jackson Hole

Dear Commissioners:

I am asking you to vote yes on the Teton County wildlife anti-feeding and bear resistant trash can draft ordinance passed by the Planning Commission unanimously. I understand this may be voted on at the April 12, 2022 Teton County Commission Meeting.

I believe the Commission has the public duty to pass this public safety and wildlife conservation regulation.

Sincerely,
Wallie Winholtz