LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF IDAHO
Sixty-seventh Legislature  Second Regular Session - 2024

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 10

BY WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

A JOINT MEMORIAL

TO THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, AND TO THE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION REPRESENTING THE STATE OF IDAHO IN THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES.

We, your Memorialists, the House of Representatives and the Senate of the State of Idaho assembled in the Second Regular Session of the Sixty-seventh Idaho Legislature, do hereby respectfully represent that:

WHEREAS, the grizzly bear is an iconic species that symbolizes the wild heritage of Idaho and the American West; and

WHEREAS, the State of Idaho has a vested interest in the conservation of its wildlife resources, ensuring the safety of its citizens, and in the preservation of its economic interests, including those related to agriculture and outdoor recreation; and

WHEREAS, proposals for the active reintroduction of grizzly bears, the establishment of new experimental populations, the support of natural recolonization, and the facilitation of connectivity among populations have been presented as methods to enhance grizzly bear conservation and recovery; and

WHEREAS, there are current grizzly populations in North and East Idaho under active management by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service; and

WHEREAS, the proposed active translocation of grizzly bears would include the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness and the Selway Bitterroot Wilderness and surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS, such actions may pose significant risks to human safety, private property, and the economic well-being of local communities, and may conflict with the traditional uses of land and natural resources in Idaho; and

WHEREAS, the State of Idaho believes that the current management practices for grizzly bears have been effective in maintaining the balance between conservation objectives and the interests of the state's citizens and economy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the Second Regular Session of the Sixty-seventh Idaho Legislature, the House of Representatives and the Senate concurring therein, that the Legislature hereby expresses its opposition to the active reintroduction of grizzly bears within the State of Idaho, the designation of any new experimental populations, efforts to support natural recolonization, and actions to facilitate connectivity among grizzly bear populations. The Legislature supports the "no action" alternative, advocating for the continuation of current grizzly bear management practices, which are deemed effective in balancing conservation goals with the safety, economic interests, and traditional values of the State of Idaho. This resolution serves as a formal declaration of the State
of Idaho's commitment to the principles of wildlife management that prioritize human safety, economic stability, and the preservation of the state's natural heritage.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives be, and she is hereby authorized and directed to forward a copy of this Memorial, which is a testament to the unified stance of the State of Idaho on this matter, to the Governor of the State of Idaho, the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of Congress, and to the congressional delegation representing the State of Idaho in the Congress of the United States.