ADVANCES OF THE GRIZZLY BEAR PROGRAM

Since 1998, the program has added immensely to our understanding of grizzly bears and improved the methods that biologists use to study many species and ecosystems.
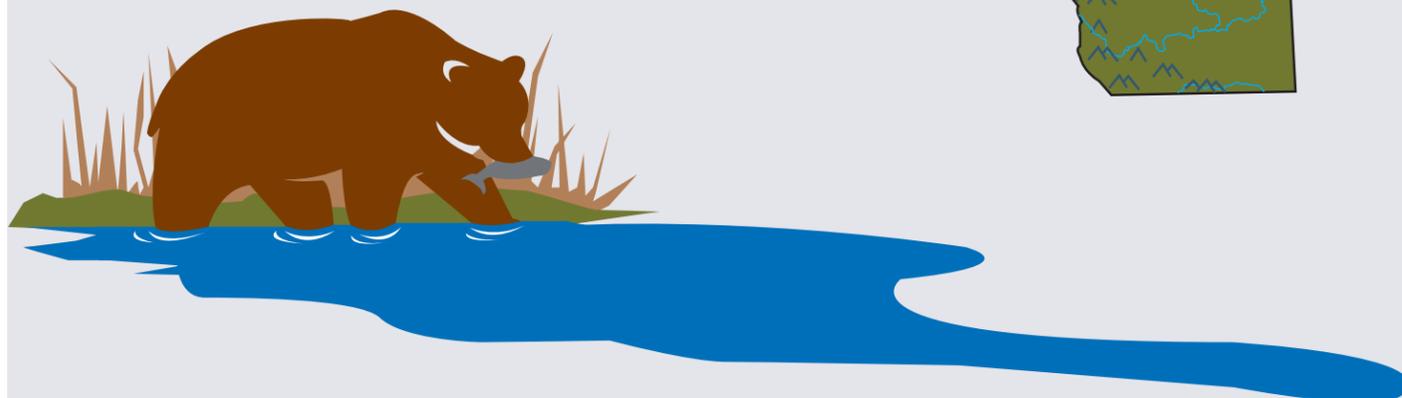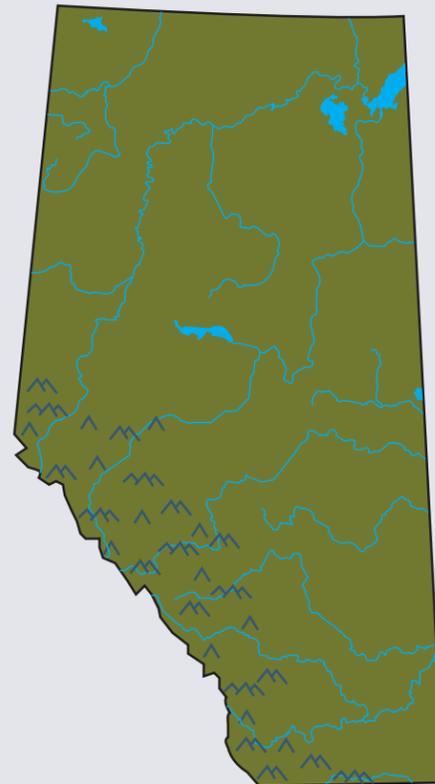
GIS TOOLS

Questions

From the beginning, the program has been on the cutting edge of GIS technology because many of the most important ecology questions are also geography questions.
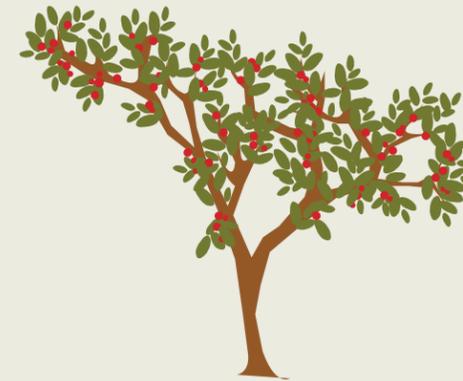
Where is the best grizzly bear habitat?

How is the landscape changing?

How do grizzly bears move and use habitat?

Gathering Spatial Data

Answering these questions takes a lot of spatial data. We laboriously identified and mapped grizzly bear foods throughout their home ranges, and combined that with years of grizzly bear locations.

GBTools

To help make this new knowledge useful, we created GIS tools for government and industry partners that let them model the impact on bears of forest harvesting and road building.

We delivered the first version of GBTools in 2007.

The Program kept building its database and partners requested helpful features; every year or two we release an update with new analysis tools, updated data, and models that cover larger areas of the province.