

# ADVANCES OF THE GRIZZLY BEAR PROGRAM

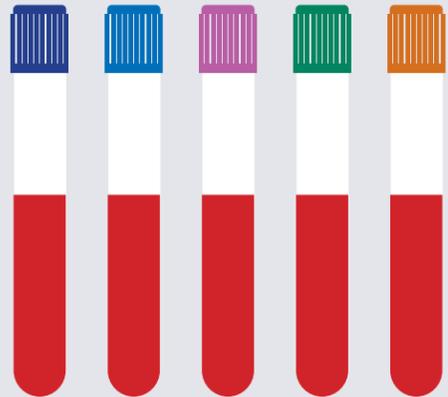
Since 1998, the program has added immensely to our understanding of grizzly bears and improved the methods that biologists use to study many species and ecosystems.



## CAPTURE

### Minimally Invasive

There is no way to understand grizzly bears without capturing a few, to gather health data and to fit them with tracking collars. But it must have as little impact on the animal as possible, both ethically and for good science.

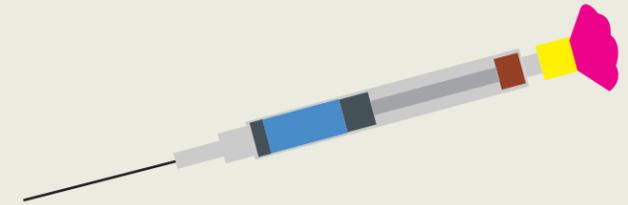
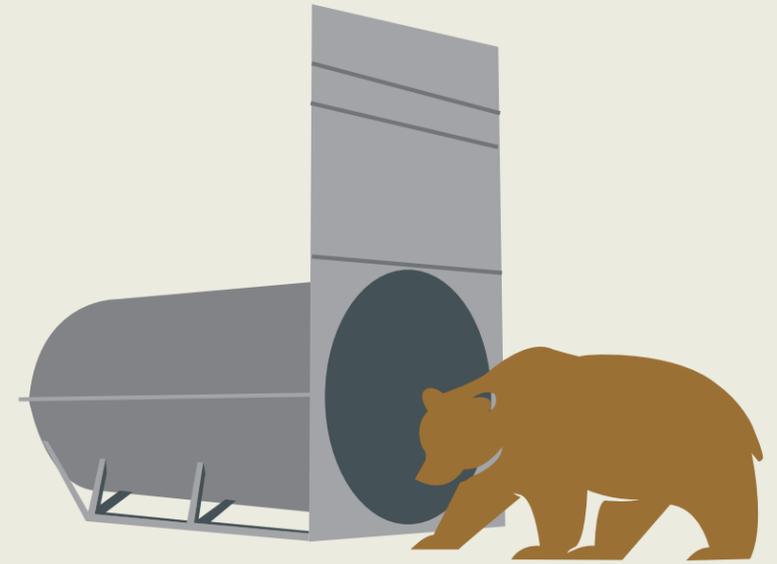


### Improvements

We discovered that using snares can cause long term harm to bears and affects results. We immediately stopped using them and other groups soon followed.

We designed better culvert traps to replace snares. These don't injure the bear and automatically alert us so we can collar and release the bear as quickly as possible.

We showed that rapid injection tranquilizer darts cause hidden tissue damage and switched to slow injection darts.



### The Future

A major focus of the program has been to pioneer non-invasive methods such as hair and scat collection to answer some of the questions that, formerly, we had to have a live bear for.

