

Similar features to a Wallow

Mineral lick - how to distinguish:

- Mineral licks are typically smaller, have less of a depression, and can be drier/less muddy
- Mineral licks can be on hillsides and cliffs rather than flat terrain
- Mineral licks often lack a strong urine smell
- Mineral licks often contain licking/sucking marks

A SIGNIFICANT WALLOW

Definition

A wallow that is :

- i) used by moose, bison, elk, mountain goat, or grizzly bear; and
- ii) used at least annually by multiple individuals of one or more of the species in
 - (i) as evidenced by:
 - well-established trails leading to the wallow, tracks in the wallow,
 - lack of vegetation in the center of the wallow, and/or
 - vegetation disturbed by pawing, trampling, digging or rolling

Location

- Ungulate wallows are often found in openings or clearings , usually adjacent to nearby security cover
- Generally associated with a spring or water source
- Grizzly bear wallows are often found in seepage and wet areas

Features

- Shallow depressions in the soil that can either be wet or dry
- Usually lack plant cover in the center due to the disturbed conditions
- Bare soil is usually covered in wildlife tracks and wildlife trails usually radiate from wallow
- May be a strong smell of urine
- Range in size from 2-3 m² to several m²
- Typically less than 20 cm deep

Notes

- **Ungulate Wallow Sensitive Timing: September 1 – November 1**
- **Grizzly bear Wallow Sensitive Timing: July 1 to August 31**

Information to Consider

- Do not construct roads within 200 m of a significant wallow, unless no other practical option exists; maintain a visual screen between any roads (existing or built) and the wallow.
- If no longer needed, reclaim any existing roads within 200 m of the wallow.
- Maintain a minimum 100 m buffer of intact forest around significant wallows; this buffer should include at least two primary trails leading to the lick and connect adjacent forest to provide a windfirm travel corridor.
- Avoid conducting field reconnaissance, layout, cruising, or tree planting within 100 m of a significant wallow during the sensitive period. Leave the area if animals are observed approaching or at the site.



Photos: Lindsey Ballard, Eliot Terry