



Dear Hunter,

Congratulations on your successful application for a Limited Entry Hunting Authorization for Grizzly Bear. Before your hunt please take a few moments to consider why it is important to select a male Grizzly Bear during your hunt.

Please Select a Male Bear:

As with all species, females play the major role in sustaining hunted populations. However, many hunters don't fully realize what effect the harvest of female bears has on Grizzly Bear populations and future hunting opportunities. A change in adult female survivorship, such as through hunting, can have a dramatic impact on a population's growth rate.

To reduce the harvest of female bears and to protect family units, there is no hunting of Grizzly Bears younger than 2 years of age or any Grizzly Bear accompanying it; females with offspring are protected and cannot be hunted.

Your patience and awareness are all factors that can ensure BC's Grizzly Bear populations continue to be managed to a world class standard. It often takes patience and perseverance to distinguish a male (particularly younger male) from a female grizzly, and even then mistakes may be made even by experts; this is why it is legal to harvest a female Grizzly Bear that is not with offspring. We are appealing that you and your fellow hunters consider the implications of harvesting a female bear and take the extra time to identify the sex of each bear before shooting.

Please do your research on male and female Grizzly Bear identification. A good place to start is the Yukon Territorial Government and Alaska Department of Fish and Game Bear Identification Video "Take a Closer Look" located on the Alaska Department of Fish and Game Multimedia Library at <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=bearbaiting.bearchoice> (note: coloration properties of McNeil River, coastal Alaska bears often used in this video are different from most Grizzly Bears in British Columbia). Generally, adult males have larger, blockier heads than females that makes a male's ears seem small. . Adult males are also much larger, at least a third and often twice the weight of adult females. Another identification feature is that a female Grizzly Bear urinates down or even backwards behind her back legs whereas a male Grizzly Bear urinates frontwards ahead of his back legs.

Kill Location:

When a harvested bear is submitted for Compulsory Inspection (CI) evidence of sex attached to the hide and the skull must be submitted, and information on the hunt is collected, including the kill location. Currently, the kill location on the CI form rounds to the nearest 1 km². While not mandatory, hunters that use a GPS unit are encouraged to provide more precise UTM coordinates for recording during the CI process.

Thank you for your cooperation. Have a safe and memorable hunt.

Fish and Wildlife Branch
Ministry of Forests, Lands, and Natural Resource Operations