

## Grizzly Bear Subcommittee Meeting

### Notes

February 20, 2020 – 5pm KTOI 23 Attendees

Dan called meeting at 5:04 – intro's made

Scott did a brief recap of last meeting and handed out a copy of the minutes as well as other information.

Phone Tree discussed and concern voiced about “staying power” in the event people become disinterested, move or are unable to hold up the process.

Montana's phone tree system brought up by Brian Johnson. Scott provided handouts on that one as well as the Valier Area Bear Aware Neighbor Network.

Nixle explained by Scott and Brian Johnson stressed importance of thinking about all predators, not just grizzly.

1. What information would be broadcast
2. What would generate the broadcast
3. Criteria for alerting the public?

Discussion followed. General agreement reached that:

IDFG is the final call for if/when an alert will be generated.

1. If Sheriff is contacted first – Sheriff will contact IDFG with information – received confirmation and then send alert
2. If IDFG is contacted first – Sheriff will be contacted with confirmation for them to send out alert

Mention was made that we need to confirm with the Sheriff's department prior to setting this in motion or printing this in the paper. Dan suggested a Mid March meeting to firm up details and then launch this.

Also suggested was the development of simple words that help the public understand the degree of concern. “Notice, Alert, Warning e.g.” Brian Johnson agrees it is important to keep it simple.

Angela Cooper voiced the concern that there are those (primarily elderly?) that should be in the loop but may not be able to be and asked if there might be a coordinated effort for the 3 or 4 most popular “bear” areas to have someone designated to reach out.

Mandy Lammers volunteered for her area and though she might know a few others. It was agreed that once a Nixle alert had been given, it would generally be picked up quickly by the Herald and Kootenai Times and posted on Facebook.