



October 28, 2024

Dear Minister Loewen and Minister Schulz,

Nature Alberta is a non-profit organization dedicated to the greater appreciation and conservation of Alberta's natural environment. We serve as a hub for 50 grassroots nature clubs across the province and collaborate with many more community partners. We are a member organization of the provincial Endangered Species Conservation Committee and are obligated to recommend to the Minister of Environment and Protected Areas regarding the status of Alberta species and appropriate management responses. On behalf of our 1,747 members, and the 1,057 members of 9 nature organizations undersigned, **Nature Alberta urges you to immediately reverse the Wildlife (Grizzly Bear - Ministerial) Amendment Regulation that permits hunting of *Ursus arctos* (Brown (Grizzly) Bear), a Threatened species.**

The amendment — stating, “Despite its status as a threatened animal, the hunting of *Ursus arctos* (Brown (Grizzly) Bear) is permitted under section 53.1” — does not align with the Alberta Grizzly Bear Recovery Plan that was implemented in 2020, nor does it align with the conservation efforts of a listed Threatened species. The recovery plan priority is to “resolve human-caused mortality, and ensure a supply of high-quality secure habitat through appropriate land management.”

In situations where human-bear conflicts arise, wildlife management procedures should prioritize non-lethal conflict resolutions, led by qualified wildlife officials using established mitigation protocols. We are deeply concerned by the notion of human-wildlife conflict situations involving a Threatened species being managed by private hunters.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Kimberly MacKenzie, Nature Alberta President, president@naturealberta.ca

On behalf of:

Nature Alberta's 1,747 members

Boreal Avian Research & Conservation Association's 40 members

Bragg Creek Wild's 87 members

Buffalo Lake Nature Club's 49 members

Crowsnest Conservation Society's 112 members

Grasslands Naturalists Society's 125 members

Nature Calgary's 352 members

Peace Parkland Naturalists' 36 members

Red Deer River Naturalists' 140 members

Southern Alberta Group for the Environment's 116 members