



Grizzly Bear (Ursus arctos)



Photo Source: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



03-0104-11



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Grizzly Bear (Ursus arctos)

Federal status: Threatened
Colorado status: Endangered

Grizzly bears are unmistakable, not only because of their large size (to 7 feet long, and weighing 500 pounds or more), but also due to conspicuously humped shoulders. Other distinguishing features are front legs longer than rear legs, a dished-in face, and front claws over 4 inches long. The fur color is mostly yellowish to reddish brown.

Habitat: The grizzly bear is classified as an endangered species in Colorado, but it probably is gone from the state. No grizzly was killed in Colorado from 1952 until 1979, when a hunting guide in the San Juan Mountains killed one in self-defense.

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