

## Is Global Warming Good For Grizzlies?

You've probably heard that climate change is bad news for many animal species like polar bears. Warmer temperatures mean less sea ice in the Arctic region. And with less ice, there's less room there is for polar bears to hunt. And so their populations shrink.

But rising temperatures do not affect all animals in equally harmful ways. For some animals, even for some bears, warming may be beneficial. Take, for example, the grizzly.

Like pretty much all animals, grizzly bears thrive when they have more food. A ten year study that followed 112 bears in the Rocky Mountains of Alberta, Canada, has found that warmer temperatures have resulted in grizzlies having easier access to food.

The more food they have, the fatter the bears get. And the more fat lady grizzlies store, the better their chances of having healthy cubs. Cubs born during warmer than normal years were found to grow into larger and healthier adults.

Of course, this in no way negates the fact that climate change is a serious issue requiring immediate and ongoing attention. For every species that may benefit from global warming, many more may suffer and possibly go extinct.

But the study does show that warming does not necessarily spell total gloom and doom for all animal species. Plus, the research may give scientists a clue about how to alter forest harvest designs to increase the grizzly population in the Canadian Rockies. At the moment, there are only around 750 bears in Alberta, making them an endangered species.

### 译文

#### 全球变暖对灰熊有益吗？

你可能听说过，气候变化对很多诸如北极熊这样的物种都是不利的。温度越高，北极区域的海上浮冰就会越少，进而就会使得北极熊的狩猎范围缩小。最后就会导致北极熊的物种数量萎缩。

但温度升高并不会对所有动物产生同样的不利影响。对有些动物，甚至是一些熊类来说，全球变暖是有利的。就拿灰熊来举个例子吧。

灰熊几乎跟所有动物一样，只要有足够的食物，他们就可以繁衍生息。在一项为期十年的研究中，研究人员对加拿大亚伯达省落基山脉的112只熊进行了观察，

发现温度越高，灰熊就越容易找到食物。

食物越多，灰熊就能够储存更多的脂肪。然而雌熊储存的脂肪越多，他们繁殖健康幼崽的几率也就越大。在温度较高的时候出生的熊仔一般要比正常温度下的熊仔长的更大，更加健康。

当然，不可否认的是，气候变化仍然是一个严重且需要我们密切关注的问题。对于每一个能从全球变暖获益的物种来说，这里仍然存在着更多物种可能会面临着灭绝的危险。但是研究确实表明，全球变暖对所有物种来说并不都是噩耗。

此外，科学家们从这项研究中还知道了如何通过改变森林收获量来增加加拿大落基山脉的灰熊数量。目前，亚伯达地区只有大概750只灰熊，它们已经被列入了濒危物种的名单之中。

【本译文由普特网友 [kevinde](#) 提供】

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