WHEREAS, The National Park Service (NPS) and the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) have proposed the North Cascades Ecosystem Grizzly Bear Restoration Plan, and

WHEREAS, the public process regarding grizzly bear reintroduction into Washington State has begun.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, The WCA recommends that the NPS and the USFWS must honor the Washington State law from 1995, SB 5106, Grizzly Bear Management (RCW 77.12.035). USFWS’s own regulation specifically 24.4(i)(5)(i) requires USFWS to comply with Washington State permitting requirements prior to releasing grizzly bears which Washington State can’t give due to RCW 77.12.035 and not reintroduce grizzly bears in Washington State.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, The WCA recommends “NO ACTION” from NPS and USFWS or the “STATUS QUO” policy. If grizzly bears re-colonize the North Cascades it should occur without any reintroduction as stated in RCW 77.12.035.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, If the NPS and USFWS elects to override current state law (RCW 77.12.035) and appropriate permitting is allowed to go forward with the translocation of grizzly bears, by the courts. The courts should insist that the state and its citizens be provided the following requirements and assurances:
   (A) The NPS and USFWS be required to have a Grizzly Bear Recovery and Management Plan with a population recovery goal and recovery zone clearly defined.
   (B) Assurance that the USFWS will designate the grizzly bear as non-essential experimental (10-j) so management actions and control of problem bears can be taken quickly when needed.
   (C) Assurance that the NPS or USFWS will fully fund all Washington State Agency’s for all costs associated with grizzly bear recovery both pre and post management.
   (D) Assurance that NPS or USFWS will clearly outline all methods that will be implemented to ensure for the protection of human safety.
   (E) Assurance that USFWS will not include any state or private land in the Recovery Zone.
   (F) Assurance that adjoining state or private lands will not be subject to any new land use restrictions as a result of grizzly bears on the landscape.
   (G) NPS and USFWS should be strictly liable for any and all injuries or damages to persons or property caused by or in any way arising out of the relocation or reestablishment of grizzly bears, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that WCA will lobby the Department of Interior and Congress to defund the North Cascades Ecosystem Grizzly Bear Restoration Plan, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the North Cascades Ecosystem Grizzly Bear Restoration Plan will have profound impacts on all current and future land management, wildlife management and state ESA decisions especially pertaining to timber management, livestock grazing, fire suppression, road construction, hunting and recreational activities. Therefore, as written it is in violation of the law by not conforming to NEPA and the Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA) (requires comprehensive economic analysis of the effect on the lives and livelihoods or rural residents before Federal rules can be imposed) and by not studying or measuring these economic impacts on rural communities or economies. The WCA will litigate the NPS and USFWS if a NEPA-REA study is not included in the preferred alternative or rule, and