From:	Brett Haverstick
To:	Grp. City Council and City Web Site
Subject:	Bears of Durango screening this Wednesday May 11, 8pm at the ZAAC
Date:	Monday, May 9, 2022 6:52:29 PM

Media Advisory
May 9, 2022

Contact: Brett Haverstick (208) 310-3311

Missoula – Missoula for Bears is hosting a free screening of the award-winning documentary Bears of Durango on Wednesday, May 11 at the ZACC (Zootown Arts & Community Center) located at 216 W. Main. Doors open at 7:30 PM, and the film begins at 8:00 PM. The 60-minute-long film will be followed by a Q&A with expert wildlife panelists.

In 2011, Colorado Parks and Wildlife initiated a major research effort to address increases in human-black bear conflicts in Durango, Colorado. A team of wildlife researchers led by Dr. Heather Johnson spent six years investigating the factors driving those increases and the effects of expanding human development on bear populations. This film is a product of that study.

The film screening in Missoula will offer citizens and elected leaders the opportunity to learn more about living and co-existing with bears and other wildlife, and transitioning towards becoming a Bear Smart community.

"Bears of Durango is a great film on how a western community came together to coexist with bears. This film will really enlighten the citizens, media, Missoula officials and county government on what it takes to make our community safer and a better place for people and bears - please come watch it with us." said Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Bear Specialist Jamie Jonkel.

The event is co-sponsored by Footloose Montana, Bonfire Brands, Irestone Web Design, Save the Yellowstone Grizzly, The Sierra Club, and Wilderness Watch.

Missoula for Bears is a group of citizens dedicated to making Missoula a Bear Smart community. Follow us on Facebook at Missoula for Bears: https://www.facebook.com/missoulaforbears/