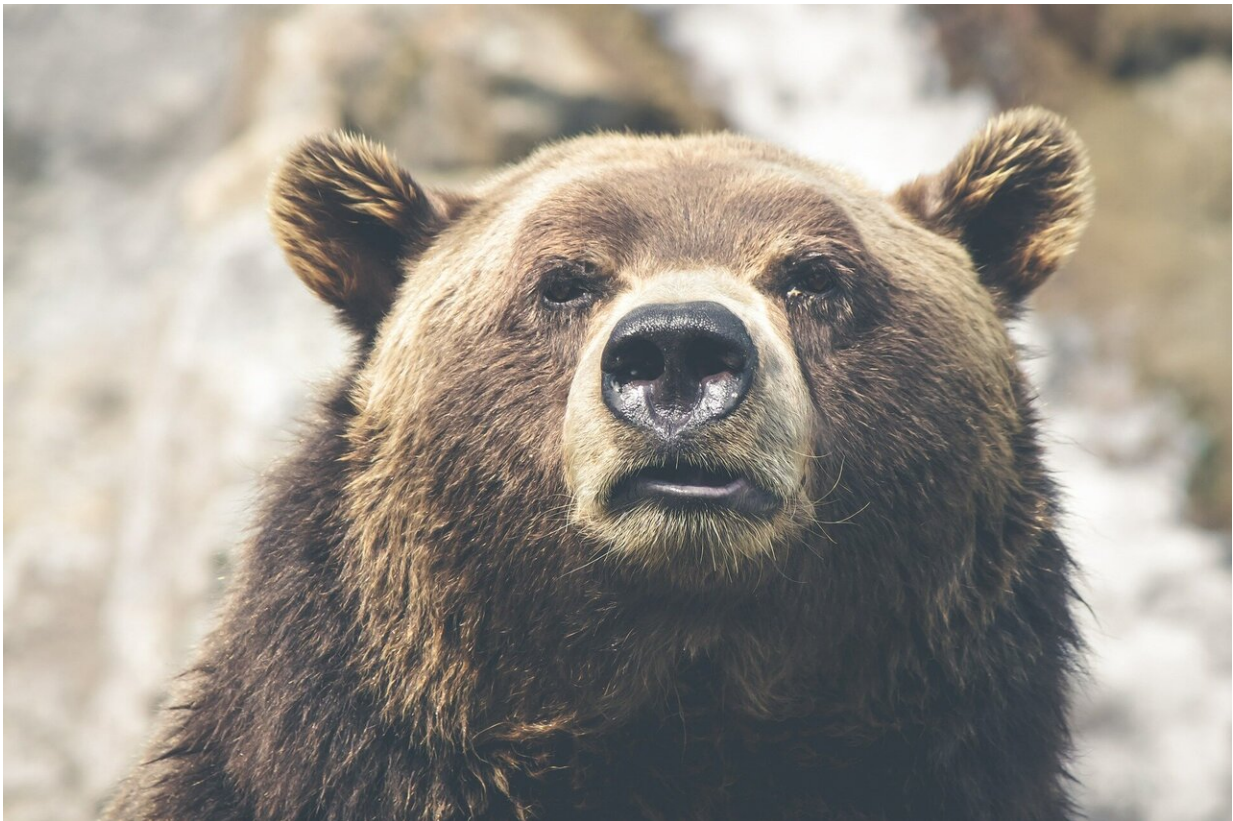


# Kayakers find partially fossilized bear skull in Kansas

October 18 2019

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Credit: CC0 Public Domain

Two sisters have found a partially fossilized bear skull while kayaking the Arkansas River in south-central Kansas.

The Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks said in a news release Ashley and Erin Watt made the discovery in August after flooding apparently dislodged the skull. They posted their find on Facebook, which caught the attention of a game warden.

Two Sternberg Museum of Natural History paleontologists then took a look. One of the paleontologists, Mike Everhart, says the skull was washed out of the same [river sediments](#) where Ice Age-era bison remains are found. It's believed to be either a modern grizzly or an older species.

There are several historical accounts of grizzlies in Kansas. But they are believed to have died out in the state by the mid-1800s.

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