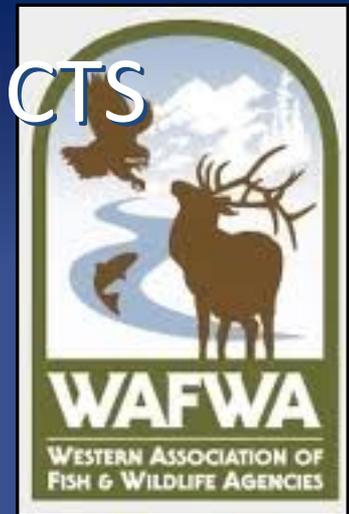


# HUMAN-LARGE CARNIVORE CONFLICTS

June 8-10, 2011

Ramona, CA

## LAKE TAHOE CASE STUDY – WORKING ACROSS JURISDICTIONS



## SAME DEMOGRAPHICS – ONE POPULATION OF BEARS

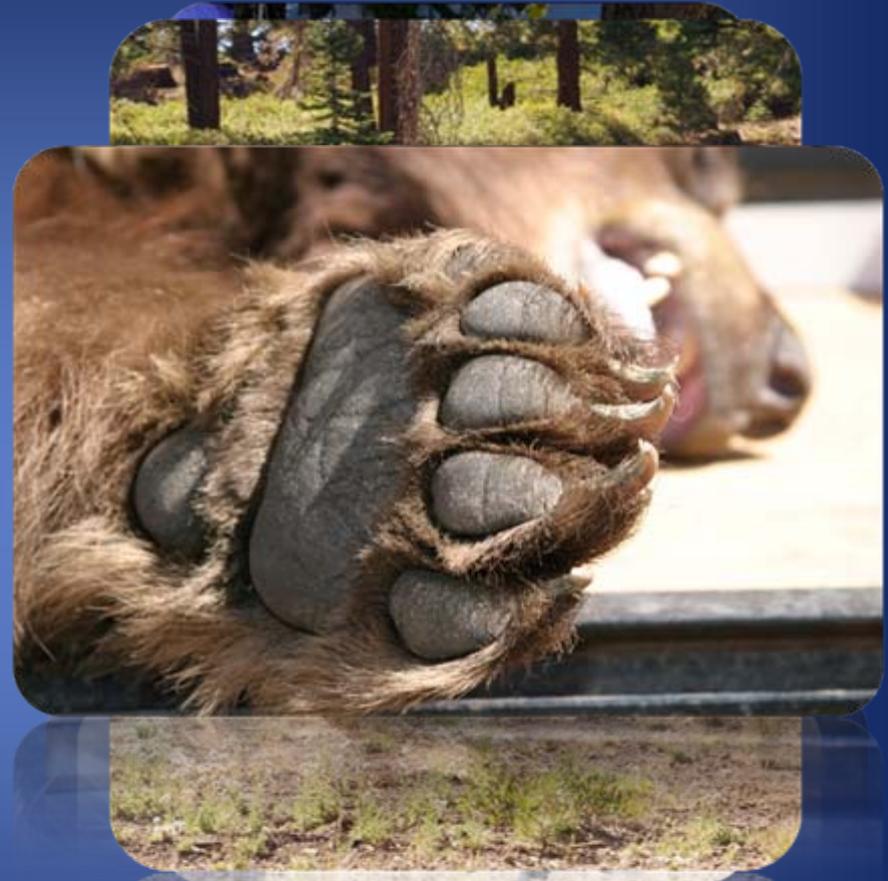


Jason Holley  
Doug Updike &  
Mark Kenyon



Carl Lackey

## California Who?



- Lack of communication due to proximity of biologists – No CDFG personnel in Tahoe on regular basis - Differing approaches
- The differences in policy was focus of advocacy groups

### Informally -

- Assist with releases – use of KBD's
  - varying levels of Aversive Conditioning experience
  - increase number of dogs
  - search for injured bear
- Share data – NV tagged bears killed in CA (= 16 and 1 in Oregon), info on orphan cub releases, etc.
- Research – 15 years in Lake Tahoe

## NDOW policies governing carnivore conflict



- Prior to 1997 – no bear conflict policy. Bear routinely trapped and relocated, no tags, no data collected.
- increasing conflicts spurred change in policy
  - Black Bear Conflict Management - 1998
  - Mountain Lion Conflict Protocol – 1995
  - Wildlife Attack Manual - 2008



## LAKE TAHOE CASE STUDY – WORKING ACROSS JURISDICTIONS - A HISTORY -



1998 – formed short-lived alliance  
with the *Bear Preservation League*

- Presented at 7<sup>th</sup> Western  
*Black Bear Workshop*

2001 – relations deteriorated

- *BEAR League*
- Depredation permits



1997 – change in policy

- on-site releases
- aversive conditioning
- research

1999 – co-op with UNR  
2001 – Karelian Bear Dog

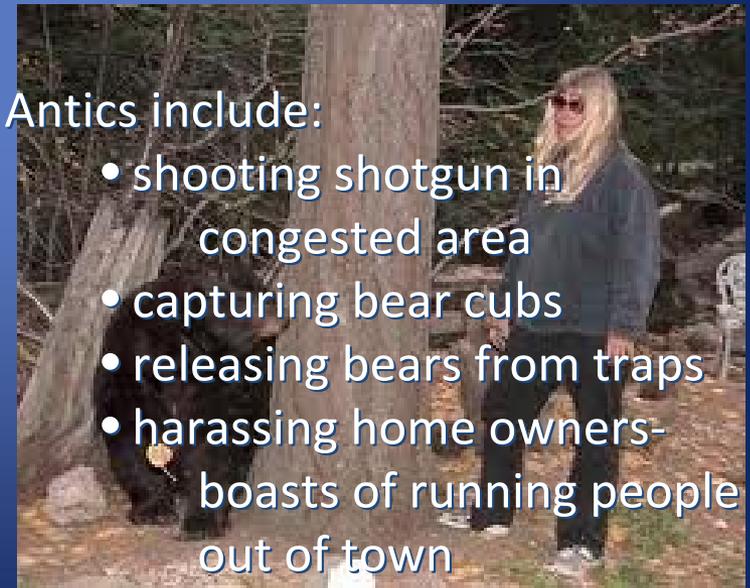
# BEAR LEAGUE

- Formed in 1998 by Bob Malm as the *Bear Preservation League*
- Currently led by Ann Bryant
- Eccentric activities attract media
- Zero accountability for actions or verbal abuse of agency personnel
- viewed by some as THE professional



## Antics include:

- shooting shotgun in congested area
- capturing bear cubs
- releasing bears from traps
- harassing home owners- boasts of running people out of town





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In early 2000s recognized need to unite and discuss management ideas  
while confronting misinformation & bear advocates antics



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*Tahoe Council for Wild Bears*

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# TAHOE COUNCIL FOR WILD BEARS 2002

Formed in 2002 – Participants included:  
CDFG, NDOW, USFS, CA State Parks, BEAR League  
Defenders of Wildlife, Humane Society U.S., Spring  
Creek HOA, Echo Lakes Environmental Fund, TRPA and  
Lake Tahoe Wildlife Care

- Model Ordinance
- List of “approved” GCE’s
- Brochure
- CD
- [tahoe.wildbears.org](http://tahoe.wildbears.org)

Dissolved by 2004 due to internal conflicts  
NGO’s running the show

## Tahoe Council For Wild Bears



### Guidelines For Living in and Visiting Bear Habitat



[www.tahoewildbears.org](http://www.tahoewildbears.org)



## LAKE TAHOE CASE STUDY – WORKING ACROSS JURISDICTIONS - A HISTORY -



- 1997 – change in policy
- on-site releases
  - aversive conditioning
  - research

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- # Management killed bears
- 2007 = 10
  - 2008 = 17

- 2010 – 1<sup>st</sup> bear hunt established

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- 2001 – relations deteriorated
- *BEAR League*
  - Depredation permits

- 2002 – Formed the TCWB  
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- 2007 – bought KBD from NV
- Increased presence in Tahoe

- 2008 – seasonal assistance

# Memorandum of Agreement 2008

Signed by both Directors



2010 – Developed standard  
“talking points” for use  
when discussing bear  
management & BEAR League  
issues with the media

“Agree to share information, personnel, equipment  
and supplies in a cooperative inter-jurisdictional  
black bear conflict management program”

*Results include improved response to the public*

Tahoe Basin is Home to...

One of the longest running Black Bear Projects in North America – 15<sup>th</sup> Year



# Sharing the results – implications across state lines

## One population of bears – separated by political boundary

Behavioral and demographic differences between urban and wildland bears . *J. Zoology* - 2003

Testing Ideal Free Distribution Models  
*J. Mammalogy* – 2003

Effectiveness of Relocation in Great Basin  
*Western North American Naturalist* – 2004

Evaluation of Deterrent Techniques  
*Wildlife Society Bulletin* – 2004

Genetic Relatedness in Conflict Bears  
*J. Mammalogy* – 2008

Effects of Anthropogenic Factors on Life History Parameters  
*Human/Wildlife Conflicts, Berryman Institute* – 2008

Using Isotope Analysis to Investigate Conflict Behavior  
*Univ. of Tennessee* – currently in analysis



# The Future

- 2011 – Cooperative study looking at dispersal and genetic flow in Sierra Nevada population
- 2011 – California investigating Aversion Conditioning Techniques and effectiveness



Questions?

