



Wildlife Conflict Policy Development and Implementation

Arizona Game and Fish Department
Rod Lucas, Regional Supervisor, Mesa

How we got there...

- ▶ Initiated by bear/lion (wildlife) conflict, predator management planning, media/public reaction, civil liability, lawsuits/settlements, politics (Arizona Game and Fish Commission, Governor's Office, Constituent Legislators)
- ▶ Agency response/process
 - Agency policy review
 - Public involvement
 - Agency policy changes or revisions
 - Agency employee training
 - Operational Implementation

Arizona Animal Attack Statistics:

- ▶ 6 Mountain Lions: 1 in 1988 (Payson area), 1 in 1989 (Apache Lake), 1 in 1994 (Apache lake), 1 in 2000 (Bartlett Lake), 1 in 2006 (Pima), 1 in 2008 (Sheep's Bridge)
 - ▶ 6 Black Bears: 1 in 1990 (Chiricahuas), 2 in 1996 (Mount Lemon), 1 in 1998 (Roosevelt), 1 in 2001 (Santa Rita Mountains), 1 in 2006 (Hayden)
- 

Media Response

Girl 'good' after lion attack

Aggressive father saves child by driving off doomed animal

By Beth DeFalco
The Arizona Republic

A father's protective instinct saved his 4-year-old daughter's life when a mountain lion attacked her during a weekend outing at Bartlett

for the Arizona Game and Fish Department. "He went after it like a parent."

The rare attack occurred when Victoria Martinez was chasing bugs outside her family's tent Saturday night. The mountain lion clawed her, bit her on the back of the neck and dragged her 15 yards through the brush, never right. Kevin Maricopa County Sheriff's supervisor

Victoria's parents and 7-year-old brother were inside their tent when they heard her scream. Her father, Richard, sprinted from the tent and started yelling and throwing stones at the 160-pound lion until it dropped his daughter and ran away, Bergersen said.

The girl was airlifted to Phoenix Children's Hospital, where she was listed in good condition Sunday after undergoing surgery. Hospital officials expected Victoria to make a full recovery. Her

The Arizona Daily Star

Serving Tucson and Southern Arizona
First Edition, Tucson, Friday, July 26, 1996

50¢ U.S./\$1.00 in Mexico 76 Pages

Bear mauls girl on Mt. Lemmon

Attacker slain

By Doug Kretz
and Adam Ramirez
The Arizona Daily Star

A 16-year-old camp counselor lacerated but alive after a bear attacked her savagely in her tent on Mount Lemmon yesterday morning.

The 250-pound adult male black bear caused an unprovoked assault on Tucsonan Anna Louise Knochel only after a camp supervisor shot it with a .44 Magnum handgun.

The attack, the latest of several bear incidents on the mountain this year, prompted wildlife officers to step up efforts to remove "problem bears" from the popular recreation area north of Tucson.

Forest Service officials closed several of the mountain's campgrounds until the four or five camp-robbing bears can be captured and relocated.

Knochel, who was one of 14 counselors supervising 71 4-H Club campers on Organization Ridge, south of the Palsade Ranger Station, was undergoing surgery and listed in stable condition at Tucson Medical Center last night.

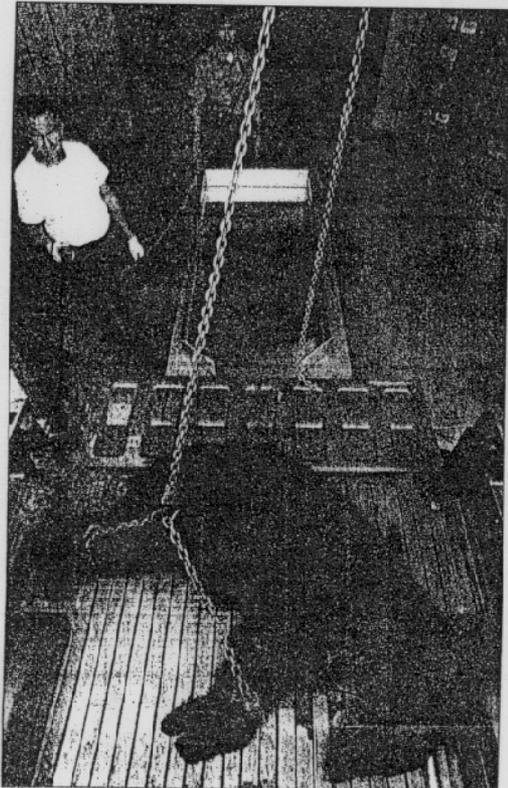
Her injuries included serious bites in her upper shoulder and upper thigh, said Michael O'Connor, spokesman for the Pima County Sheriff's Department.

Knochel, an honor student and cheerleader at Sabino High School, has been a 4-H camp counselor for three years and a camper at the Organization Ridge site for the past seven years.

Mount Lemmon Fire Chief John Roads, who said he saw Knochel in her tent soon after the attack, which lasted about 10 minutes, gave a gruesome account of her injuries.

Roads described "massive ripping injuries from her head to her knees" and he said Knochel also had serious head wounds and scalp damage.

TMC spokesman Michael Letson said



Mehla Perry, left, of the UA Diagnostic Center, uses hydraulics to lift the dead bear from a truck, driven by state official Becky Herne.



Yesterday's cougar attack was Hope's first in 50 years, says a conservation official.

Cougar attack

Middle-aged woman hailed as hero after driving off big cat that mauled 8-year-old girl
Story, Page A2

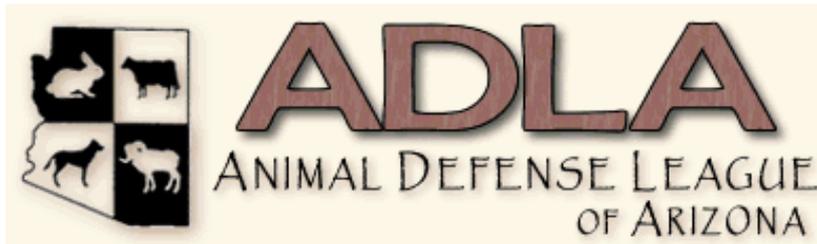
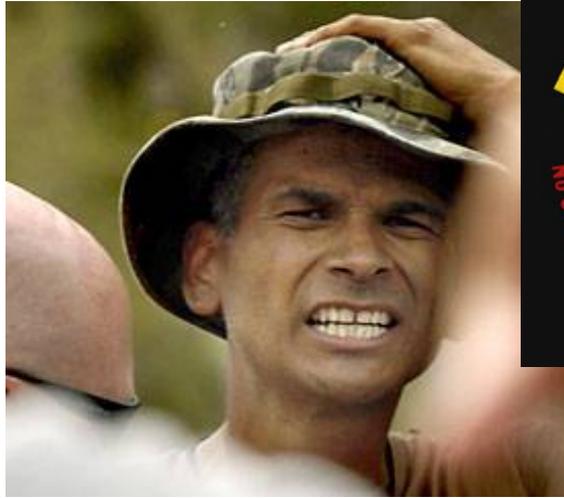
Linda Senger Salazar, A relieved mother after their return, fated 4-H club camp

ON | Page B2

The Public and the Media Weigh In



Environmentalists and Animal Rights Groups Weigh In



CENTER FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
BECAUSE LIFE IS GOOD

Civil Liability/ Lawsuits and Settlements

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF UTAH
CENTRAL DIVISION

KEVAN FRANCIS and REBECCA
IVES, Individually, the Natural
Parents of S.I., deceased,
Plaintiffs,

vs.
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Defendant.

FINDINGS OF FACT,
CONCLUSIONS OF LAW,
AND ORDER

Case No. 2:08CV244 DAK

Tucson, Wednesday, July 9, 1997 The Arizona Daily Star

Bear-mauling victim's family files suit

By Alexa Haussler
The Arizona Daily Star

Anna Louise Knochel's family filed a lawsuit yesterday accusing two agencies of failing to protect the teen from the 340-pound bear that mauled her a year ago.

The lawsuit accuses the state Game and Fish department of moving seven known problem bears to Mount Lemmon in the late 1980s.

It alleges the U.S. Forest Service failed to punish people who fed the bears.

Once a bear loses its fear of human beings you cannot teach that bear other behavior," said Ted Schmidt, an attorney representing the family.

Knochel's family filed \$16 million in claims in October against the U.S. Forest Service, the Arizona Game and Fish Department and the University of Arizona's 4-H Program.

Schmidt said the family decided against pursuing a lawsuit against the university.

Last July, a bear mauled then-16-year-old Anna Knochel during a 4-H camping trip on Mount Lemmon. She sustained severe injuries to her scalp, shoulder and leg when the black bear attacked her as she slept in her tent.



Knochel

"There will be no evidence that Anna did anything to provoke this," Schmidt said.

Officials from the Forest Service and the Game and Fish department declined to comment on the lawsuit yesterday.

Two years before Knochel's attack, there were up to 40 incidents involving bears that broke into cars, coolers and tents in organized campsites, Schmidt said. Before the attack on Knochel, a large black bear pinned down a Boy Scout in his tent, and a bear tore a Brownie Girl Scout's tear duct, he said.

Game and Fish trapped and tagged the Brownie's attacker - bear No. 166 - and moved it nine miles away in the Catalina Mountains, Schmidt said. The same bear returned days later and attacked Knochel, he said.

"Bear 166 was no stranger to the government prior to Anna's attack," Schmidt said. "The bear was a garbage bear and had been for quite some time."

The lawsuit, filed yesterday in U.S. District Court, asks for unspecified damages and lost future earnings.

Schmidt said Knochel's medical treatment, which has involved several plastic surgeries, has cost more than \$300,000. He said she will have to undergo therapy for the rest of her life.

He said he expects the case will go to trial within two years.

Mountain Lion Protocol Workshops



- ▶ Part of our commitment to the Governor's Office on this issue.
- ▶ Designed to include broad-based public input.
- ▶ Three public workshops were held to solicit input on the draft Protocol in Tucson, Flagstaff, and Phoenix.
- ▶ The Department also hosted focus group meetings to conduct table-top exercises for testing the Protocol.

Mountain Lion Protocol Workshops



- ▶ There was unanimous agreement in the room that there were no fatal flaws in the Protocol, and the participants left with a general spirit of consensus that was actually quite remarkable, considering their diverse perspectives.
- ▶ The draft Protocol was revised based on the input from the focus group meeting, and was presented for Department review and comment.
- ▶ Final revised document was approved by the Director and published for Agency implementation.

Governor's Office Update



STATE OF ARIZONA

JANET NAPOLITANO
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
1700 WEST WASHINGTON STREET, PHOENIX, AZ 85007

MAIN PHONE: 602-542-4331
FACSIMILE: 602-542-7601

June 27, 2005

Duane Shroufe, Director
Arizona Game & Fish Department
2221 West Greenway Road
Phoenix, AZ 85023-4399

Dear Director Shroufe:

I am writing to compliment you and your staff on your response to my request to put into place a transparent protocol for addressing mountain lion/human interactions. The "Action Plan for Minimizing and Responding to Lion/Human Interactions" (Protocol) is a good step forward for Arizona.

Arizona's population will continue to grow. As we expand further into previously undeveloped areas, the number of human/wildlife interactions is likely to increase. Therefore, the state needed an effective, collaborative and clearly stated policy in place for addressing real or perceived threats to people from wildlife. It is also extremely important to educate our citizens who live or recreate in these areas on how to live with wildlife. This should help reduce the number of incidents.

As a firm believer in working together collaboratively to find solutions, I appreciate the process the Department used to develop the new Protocol. I am confident that with this Protocol in place we can avoid difficult situations in the future.

Thank you for coordinating with my office to resolve this issue. The Protocol will be a tremendous help as we plan for the future and prepare for additional growth statewide.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Janet Napolitano', written over a white background.

Janet Napolitano
Governor

Agency Policy Review and Changes



Major Considerations:

- ▶ Reduce risk and liability
- ▶ Ensure consistent agency approach to handling conflicts vs. arbitrary
- ▶ Standardize agency procedures and/or guidelines for employees

Implementation of Approved Plans, Policy Changes and Training

Policies

- ▶ Implement new Department Wildlife Conflict Policy
- ▶ Remove policies I1.10, I1.12 & I1.13 and replace with Wildlife Conflict Policy.
- ▶ Address Consistency Between I1.13 or new Wildlife Conflict Policy & C2.3.
- ▶ Address Conflict Between new Wildlife Conflict Policy and Positive Identification of Captured or Destroyed Biting Animal
- ▶ Rename policy A2.31 (Predation Management) to Predator Control
- ▶ Include predator issues in Department Crisis Communication Plan
- ▶ Create human/predator incident database
- ▶ Work Unit presentations of approved team report
- ▶ Develop employee predator management report handbook
- ▶ Presentation to Management Team
- ▶ Develop communications plan

Implementation of Approved Plans, Policy Changes and Training

Training

- ▶ Implement Integrated Mgmt. Approach of Public Education and Direct Control Methods for resolving Urban/Rural Wildlife Conflicts
- ▶ Develop Lesson Plans for in-service wildlife conflict training
- ▶ Provide Department School / In-Service Wildlife Conflicts Training
- ▶ Provide WM Wildlife Conflicts Post Academy Training
- ▶ Standardized Training for Capture & Relocation - Include Wildlife Handling Database
- ▶ Training on Integrated Mgmt. Approach of Public Education and Direct Control
- ▶ Provided Animal Restraint Handbooks
- ▶ Overview of predator management internal communications integrated into New Employee Training
- ▶ Standardize Capture / Safety Equipment Statewide - Dart guns, gloves, goggles, etc.
- ▶ Standardize Guidelines for Wildlife Drug Usage

Department Policy

D.O.M 11.10 Wildlife Conflicts

Category I (Immediate Threat) – Wildlife–human conflicts that may include, but not be limited to, any incident that is judged to be an **immediate threat to public safety or health**. Any Category I Wildlife Conflict requires an immediate on–site response

Category II (Potential Threat)– Wildlife–human conflicts that may include, but not be limited to, any incidents judged to pose a **potential threat to public safety or health**.

Category III (Nuisance) – Wildlife conflicts may include any wildlife that is judged by a Department employee to be a nuisance, but is not judged to be either an immediate or potential threat to public safety.

Note:

- ▶ Policy provides examples of aggressive, acceptable and unacceptable behavior
- ▶ Places interactions into one of three categories and specifies how to respond and handle wildlife that fall into one of the three.



Alco 2010

Arizona Game & Fish Department

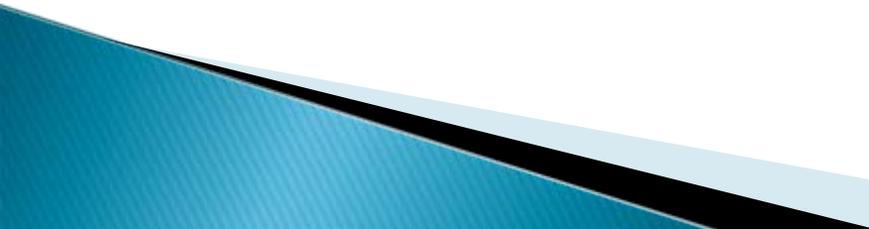


Wildlife Conflicts and Mountain Lion Protocol Training

- ▶ Table-top exercises that consisted of running through actual scenarios.



Scenario 1

- ▶ Occurred in Young, Arizona
 - ▶ Diverse public background (rural and urban)
 - ▶ Public feeding of wildlife is common – high density of deer and peccaries
 - ▶ Lion expert confirmed a fresh lion scrape near school bus stop where 8 kids wait before daylight for the bus (yesterday)
 - ▶ Today, deer kill located w/in 50 yards of stop
 - ▶ Lion observed walking towards kids but stopped at 40 yards
- 

Scenario 2

- ▶ A mountain lion has been observed at Lake Pleasant campground for 5 previous days
- ▶ Wildlife Services person response to call to assess and finds lion feeding on peccary in campground
- ▶ Location is 200–300 yards from entrance station
- ▶ WS person gets out of vehicle and walks just off road and observes the lion for 10 minutes
- ▶ Lion remained at kill

Scenario 3

- ▶ Several adult male lions are equipped with GPS collars on Ironwood National Monument
- ▶ Part of an expensive university research project
- ▶ Two hikers claim to have been chased by lion
- ▶ Report is two weeks old
- ▶ WM contacted hikers and verified story
- ▶ Arizona Desert Bighorn Sheep Society is pressuring removal for Bighorn Sheep protection

Scenario 4

- ▶ 1st report in a high density residential area feeding on pet outside back fence, AGFD called
- ▶ One week later, neighbor hears noise and sees lion jump out of yard – no food outside, dogs were in house, AGFD confirmed lion present by tracks
- ▶ One day later, lion observed near dumpster at 3 pm on a school day, tracks confirmed by AGFD

Scenario 5

- ▶ Lion documented to have killed livestock in the area recently, today a dead cow and injured dog found
 - ▶ Town is two miles away
 - ▶ Area is very isolated
 - ▶ Nearest neighbor is 1 mile away and has also had livestock killed
- 

Wildlife Conflicts Policy and Lion Protocol Tested as follows:

- ▶ Stonegate community in North Scottsdale
 - Lion persisted in community for 27 days without removal efforts implemented.
- ▶ Pioneer Village in North Phoenix
 - Lion killed livestock on several visits
 - No removal efforts initiated
 - Lion was pursued by sport hunter
- ▶ San Tan Village, Pinal County, AZ
 - Numerous Emu's killed
 - No removal initiated
 - Lion was pursued by sport hunters
- ▶ Trilogy Village, Gilbert, AZ
 - Numerous Sightings for over a month
 - Considerable hype by local police department and media
 - No reports of threatening behavior
 - No removal efforts initiated

Wildlife Conflict Call for Service...



Department Considerations

- ▶ Public Safety is First Priority
- ▶ Wildlife behaviors with emphasis on their response to human activity.
- ▶ Location of offending wildlife.
- ▶ Number of reports in the area.
- ▶ Presence of attractants (pets etc).
- ▶ Actions taken by a person to deter the presence of wildlife causing conflict.

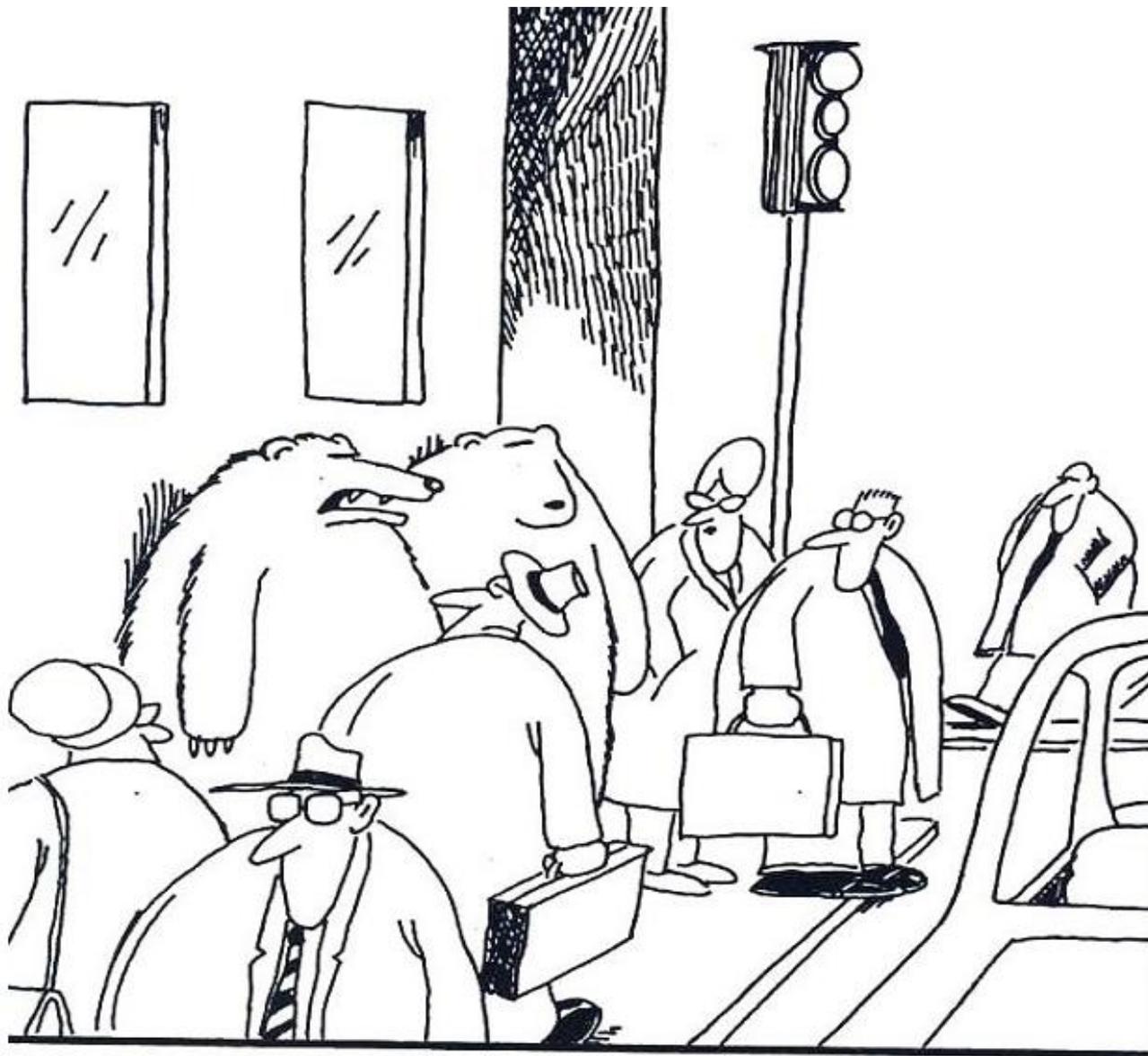
Agency Response

- ▶ Positive Species ID of offending animal is critical.
- ▶ Confirmation of immediate public safety threat/ secure area.
- ▶ Use of on-scene investigative techniques to manage the ensuing critical incident particularly in cases of human death or injury.
- ▶ Team approach with single spokesperson for media is critical.



- Internal communications and inter-agency coordination.
- Handling and disposition of offending wildlife.
- Incident report and database entry.





“Well, we’re lost ... and it’s probably just a matter of time before someone decides to shoot us.”

Human-Wildlife Interaction Database

Human Wildlife Interaction

myAZGFD
Learn. Share. Communicate.

TRAINING HR DEPARTMENT DIRECTORY

HUMAN-WILDLIFE INTERACTION Logout

HUMAN-WILDLIFE CALL

- Add New Call
- Search Calls
- Call Summary Reports

WILDLIFE HANDLING

- Add New Record
- Search Records
- Summary Reports
- Termination Form

S.P.A.R.K.

- Road Kill Menu
 - New Road Kill
 - Search Road Kill
 - Road Kill Reports
- Salvage Permit Menu
 - New Salvage Permit
 - Search Salvage Permits
 - Salvage Permit Reports

MAINTENANCE

NEED HELP?

CALL FORM AGFD REFERRAL PUBLIC INTERVIEW MOUNTAIN LION

Call Details

*Staff Handling Call: **Select employee name** Call ID: 2011-0531145646

*Date of Call: 5/31/2011 *Call Time (24Hr): 1456

*Incident Date: Ongoing/Multiple Interactions Unknown Inct. Time (24Hr):

*Species Reported: **Select species** Urban? Animal Relocated?

Species Verified by AGFD: **Select species** Attack/Bite? Euthanized?

Data Entry: ALEXANDRA FLICKINGER Category: **Select category**

*Description(Interaction, advice, action, etc.)

Reporting Party

Names First: Last:

Affiliation/Involvement: Other:

Address: City: State: AZ Zip:

Phones Home: Work: Ext. Mobile:

Email: OK to Contact?

Directions Comments

Interaction Location [copy](#) Click to copy RP address

Neighborhood/Business name or location:

Human-Wildlife Interaction System Local intranet 100%

News Media Coverage

ONMOUNTAIN

Mary Ann Nock, Western Issues editor 602.444.NEWS (6397)
mary.ann.nock@arizonarepublic.com

Lion tests state's new protocol

Risk, behavior 1st evaluated before removal

By Kate Nolan
THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

A mountain lion playing peek-a-boo in Scottsdale this summer is the first in the Valley to test a new protocol by Arizona Game and Fish.

Adopted in June, the new standards for mountain lion-human encounters evaluate the animals' behavior for risk and clarify when an animal must be removed.

The new rules stem from a controversial 2004 lion hunt the department declared after hikers reported mountain lions were menacing them near Tucson. Two lions were killed and one was removed to Southwest Wildlife, a Scottsdale sanctuary.

"Every time these incidents come up, we walk a fine line between being stewards of wildlife and stewards of public safety," said Jim de Vos, the department's chief researcher and a principal author of the new policy.

Mountain lions are shy animals, not likely to attack or even interact with Arizona's growing bipedal population. But a human is no match for a mountain lion in a throw-down, so any encounter should be a cautious affair.

"What the protocol does is help balance the human hysterics with public safety," de Vos said.

A blend of biological and sociological factors, the protocol resulted from a statewide series of community workshops and input from biologists and environmental and hunting groups.

Under the new protocol, when a lion is reported, specific information is recorded and analyzed, such as the animal's size, location, behavior and the circumstances. Biologists then assess risk, which is influenced by seasonality, availability of food in nature and other

Tips for living in mountain lion country

- Walk or hike in groups.
- Make noise when you are outside.
- Watch children playing outdoors. Be sure they are inside before dusk and not outside before dawn.
- Keep pets indoors or leashed. Roaming pets are easy prey for mountain lions. Don't feed them outdoors. Food attracts javelina and other mountain lion prey.
- Don't feed wildlife. Feeding deer, javelina or other animals mountain lions eat attracts lions.
- Trim back vegetation that can provide hiding places for mountain lions, especially around children's play areas.
- Install outdoor lighting around the house perimeter, especially along walkways, so approaching animals are visible.
- Never run from a mountain lion. Running stimulates the predator instinct. Instead, remain standing, make eye contact and speak firmly to the lion. Make yourself look larger by waving your arms overhead. Leave a path open for the lion to escape from you.

Source: Arizona Game and Fish Department

ing some of the rules of nature to ensure public safety.

"The public wants to hear what is normal or abnormal," de Vos said. "Lions kill things — that's normal behavior. Killing a small child is normal, but it's unacceptable," he said.

Unacceptable behavior also includes unprovoked aggression or predatory behavior toward humans, approaching a human after the cat knows a human has seen it, failing to retreat when a human takes aggressive action or congregating around schools or parks.

It is acceptable for a lion to retreat at the sight of a human or stay put if the human shows no aggression; it's also acceptable for the lion to seem curious or stare into a person's eyes if the human shows



EMMANUEL LOZANO/THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

The new standards for mountain lion encounters evaluate the animals' behavior for risk and clarify when an animal must be removed.

attracting a lion. In Scottsdale's Stonegate community, where a lion has been seen 15 times since June 23, biologists pointed out lion attractants such as pet food, standing water and tall brush, which were removed.

The Scottsdale lion's behavior remains in the "acceptable" column. It is thought to be seeking food during a seasonal shortage of small mammals on the nearby Pima Indian reservation and McDowell Mountains. If it strays into

Vos said. "When a lion crosses the threshold and human risk is very high, and there are no other ways to alleviate the situation, then the solution is euthanasia," he said.

The department has ruled out putting condemned lions in sanctuaries because it would confine the felines for life. The euthanasia issue lacks an easy answer.

"It's something we wrestle with too," said Linda Searles, head of Southwest Wildlife, which built a lion habitat last year. "Nobody

News Media Coverage

SCOTTSDALE

Cardfree | Cave Creek | Fountain Hills | Paradise Valley | Arcadia | Salt River Community

Mountain lion monitored with new state guidelines

By Kate Nolan
THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

SCOTTSDALE — A mountain lion in Scottsdale's Stonegate community is testing new state protocols for handling lions.

Fifteen sightings of the cat, usually spotted in one of the upscale community's nine washes, have been reported to the Arizona Game and Fish Department since June 23.

Response from residents varies from "the lion adds a special interest" to serious concern for public safety, said Larry Paprocki, director of the Stonegate Community Association.

Game and Fish biologists have a more scientific approach that grew out of controversy surrounding the 2004 killings of two lions in southern Arizona.

The new rules rate the threat, based on the animal's behavior, before any action can be taken.

Previous response to mountain lion/human interactions was inconsistent.

The Stonegate lion is the first in Maricopa County to be evaluated according to the

guidelines, which call for extensive monitoring of lions that enter urban areas, said Randy Babb, a Game and Fish biologist. If the cat poses a threat to public safety, the department will remove it and most likely euthanize it.

"Having a wild animal in an urban area is a bad idea because there is an intrinsic risk," Babb said.

The Stonegate cat's behavior, so far, falls within the acceptable range. It shows no curiosity about humans and has been seen people.

Thought to be a young male weighing about 80 pounds, the lion seems to be using the community, near Shea Boulevard and 117th Street, as a passage from the nearby Salt River Reservation to the McDowell Mountains.

Once they are weaned, Babb said, male mountain lions wander off looking for a home; they can cover a 150-square-mile range. Females cover a smaller range.

Babb said the food supply of smaller animals dips in late July and August, which may explain why the lion is prowling human territory.

THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC
John D'Anna, city editor
(602) 444-NEWS (6397)
john.danna@scottsdalerepublic.com

Among the many questions to be addressed, these are some that stand out:

■ **What does it take to ensure that emergency personnel can communicate?** We saw the same type of communications breakdown that occurred at the World Trade Center in 2001. The problems included incompatible equipment and lack of power.

■ **What strategies could have maintained law and order, preventing rapes, looting and sniping?** The violence was all over the media, yet it was four days before National Guard troops arrived to restore order.

■ **What type of disaster plan should New Or-**

land Security in 2003.

■ **Why weren't more helicopters deployed?** One evacuee who ended up in Phoenix, 57-year-old Aguinaldo Evans, said he spent three days trapped on his roof without ever seeing or hearing a helicopter. He floated on a piece of wood to another, higher house, where he spent two more days before using the wood to float to an elementary school, where he was eventually evacuated by bus.

There's no way to prevent natural disasters.

But Americans should demand an adequate answer to the question: How can we make sure that the emergency response next time is rapid and effective?

Natural fear

Our stand: Discouraging encroachment saves cougars

Think quail, jackrabbit, deer, maybe even javelina. This kind of wildlife lends real cache to a neighborhood.

Coyotes? Bobcats? A little scary but still in the bragging zone.

Now think: Mountain lions.

This is something else.

When mountain lions start wandering around your yard, wildlife becomes less about bragging and more about "Who ya gonna call?"

The Arizona Game and Fish Department gets those calls. And it has a plan to deal with them that recognizes the reality of expanding urban zones and the lessons learned in 2004, when a popular outdoor recreation area near Tucson was temporarily closed because of aggressive mountain lion behavior.

In that case, area homeowners had been feeding wildlife, creating an unnaturally large prey base of deer and javelina. That attracted and emboldened the mountain lions.

Before that incident was over, Game and Fish captured one lion and shot two others. The reason is as hard as the laws of nature: There are no places to safely relocate aggressive mountain lions because there is no place in Arizona, no matter how remote, where people don't go.

A cougar that loses its fear of humans is a dead cougar or a cougar that spends the rest of its life in captivity. Period.

That message became part of a public education campaign by Game and Fish.

Now, there's another cougar encounter in the news.

But it is blissfully low key. This time, the people involved are doing everything possible to make sure the animal survives.

More than a dozen lion sightings were reported this summer in Scottsdale's Stonegate community. What is believed to be a young male used the community to get from the Salt River Reservation to the McDowell Mountains.

Residents cut brush in washes and drained horse troughs to discourage the animal from staying. Game and Fish biologists are monitoring the situation in hopes the animal will disappear into the wild without losing its natural fear of people.

That would mean this lion could continue to be a part of the wonderful landscape on the urban edge, where he might be spotted from time to time.

It means he could live out a natural life without ever knowing he owed it all to some human neighbors who were wise enough to make him feel unwelcome.



ARIZONA DAILY STAR
A state plan for mountain lions on the urban fringe offers hope.

THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

Founded in 1890 • A Gannett newspaper
Incorporating The Phoenix Gazette

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Chairman, CEO and Publisher

JOHN ZIDICH

COO and President

EUGENE C. PULLIAM 1889-1978 • Publisher, 1986-1978

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MIKE SPEA

Human Resource

MIKE COLI

Digital Media

San Tan Emu Incident



San Tan Article

B10 FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2005

VALLEY

THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

Metro News, 602-444-NEWS (6397)
metronews@arizonarepublic.com

Cougar tears into emus at ranch near Santan Mountains

MOUNTAIN LION
Continued from B1

But none of Carreiro's emus, which he kept in pens close to his house, survived.

"Emus can kill a coyote, but they don't stand a chance to a mountain lion," he said of the flightless birds, which are related to ostriches but not as large.

On Wednesday Carreiro contacted the Arizona Game and Fish Department, which confirmed that the carnage was the work of a mountain lion, most likely a male that would typically weigh about 145 pounds, said Randy Babb, a biologist with the department.

The department is monitoring the situation and gathering information to ensure the mountain lion does not pose a threat to humans, Babb said.

"If it shows any interest in people, then we modify our approach," he said.

Babb said his agency brought the mountain lion attack to the attention of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Wildlife Services, which is prepared to track down and kill the mountain lion if needed.



JAMES CARREIRO/THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

Exotic-bird rancher Joe Carreiro lost 20 emus in a mountain lion attack, and his bull mastiff, Angie, suffered multiple cuts and claw marks.

Babb said the attack on Carreiro's emus was typical of mountain lions, which often kill every animal trapped within a pen until there's nothing left moving to attract their attention.

"Think of it as a cat in a room of mice," Babb said.

For Carreiro, 36, that meant the loss of the pets he said he bathed and hand fed, plus the

revenue he could generate from breeding them.

"You could walk up and pet them on their heads. They all had their own little hairdos," he said. "I could tell them apart by their eyes."

He estimated that the birds, for which he has no insurance, were worth at least \$1,000 each, plus the value of the eggs they laid. They weigh 160 to 200

pounds, he said, and have three large claws on the end of their feet.

Carreiro lives at West Ivar Road and North Bryce Trail, a dirt road in a neighborhood just across the foothills of the Santan Mountains from San Tan Heights, a new residential development with hundreds of houses just off Hunt Highway.

There are plenty of pets and small children in the horse properties and large lots that surround Carreiro. He has two children of his own, ages 6 and 7, whom he was walking down the street to a school bus stop Wednesday when he first spotted the mountain lion.

Anita Carlin, who lives across the street, said she "was very startled" when an official from the Game and Fish Department informed her Thursday morning of the attack.

"I didn't know this was lion country," said Carlin, 30.

She said she plans to keep her two children, ages 2 and 4, inside or closely watch them playing outside.

Hilary Lawhead, who lives a few blocks away, said she was "very shocked" to learn about the mountain lion, particularly

Tips for avoiding mountain lions

- Hike or walk in groups.
- Make noise while outside.
- Supervise kids outdoors.
- Keep your pets indoors.
- Trim landscaping where lions could hide.

If you encounter a mountain lion

- Never approach it.
- Stay calm, speak loudly.
- Don't run.
- Raise arms and stand tall to appear dominant. Slowly back away.

Source: Arizona Game and Fish Department

because her husband and children, ages 7 and 10, like to ride bikes and hike in the desert and foothills near their house.

"They won't be going up there anytime soon," said La-

whead, 29.

Babb said encounters with mountain lions seem to be occurring more frequently in Arizona as development meets desert.

He said there were two reports of mountain lion sightings last year from people hiking or biking in the Santan Mountains.

About four years ago, there was a reported sighting just east of Carreiro's neighborhood, but the cat's presence could not be confirmed, Babb said.

He added that there have been no human deaths from a mountain lion recorded in Arizona and only a handful of attacks.

Babb said door hangers warning people about the mountain lion's presence were distributed to residences near Carreiro's property, but some houses, including Lawhead's, did not receive one. Her neighbors across the street, whose houses border the foothills, did receive the door hangers.

"They need to be aware, at least until this thing's caught, that there's a lion in the area and he's hungry," Carreiro said.

"They need to be aware, at least until this thing's caught, that there's a lion in the area and he's hungry," Carreiro said.

Mountain lion
20 emus,
at large

by Josh Kelley
ARIZONA REPUBLIC

A mountain lion tore through a fence at a ranch near the mountains south of Queen Valley on the 20 of the 6-foot birds neighbors concerned for their children. Carreiro, owner of the mastiffs, said he spotted the lion's way from one of the pens at about 6:30 a.m. and then an hour later his neighbor's horse. Carreiro said his dog, a bull mastiff, crawled and barked into the lion, starting a fight that left scratches across arms but forcing the lion to retreat.

For my bull mastiff horse would be his. I guarantee to take her horse

MOUNTAIN LION Page B10



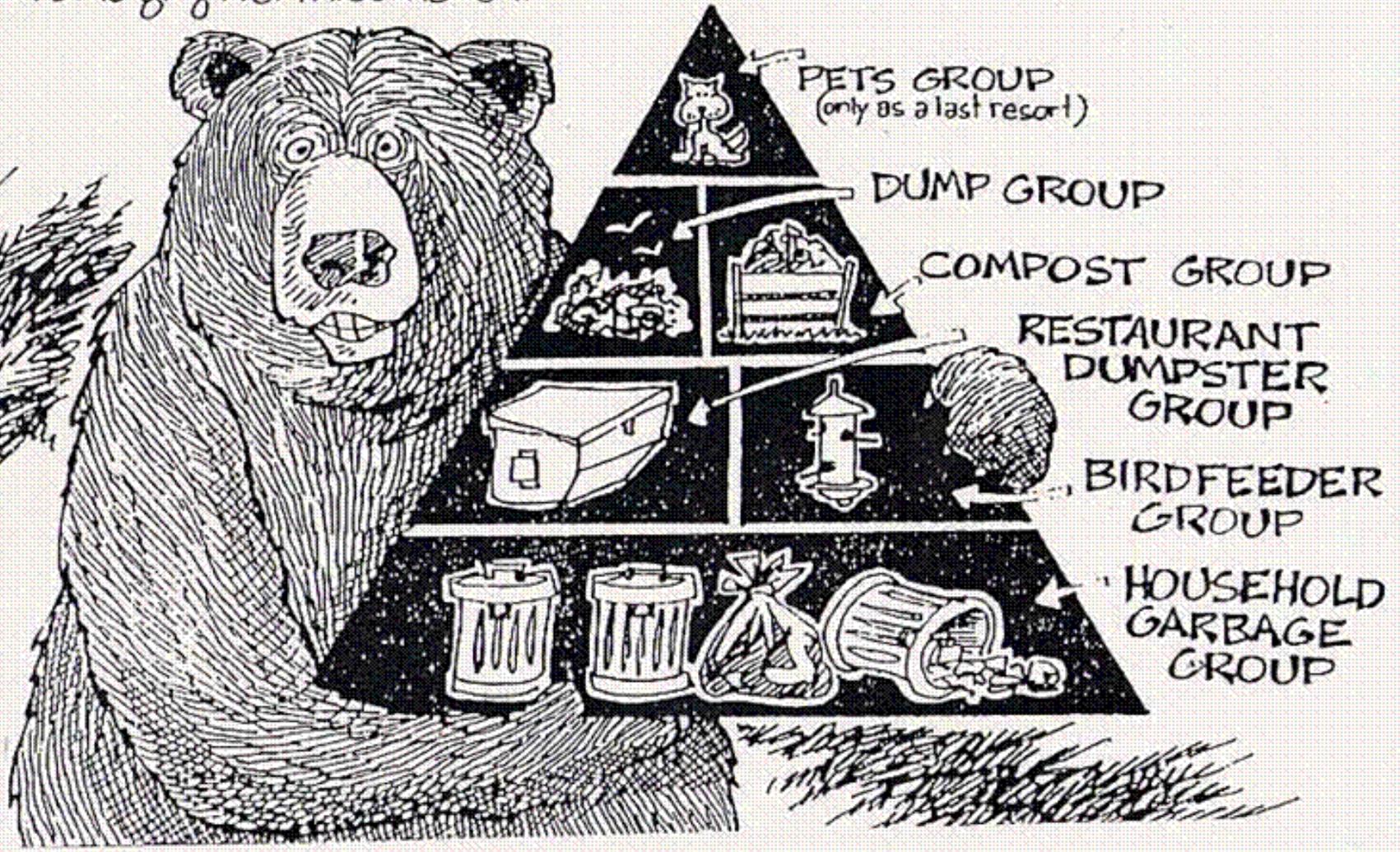
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Enacted State and County Regulations

- ▶ Unlawful to intentionally feed or attract bears in Pima, Navajo and Gila Counties in Arizona.
- ▶ 13–2927. Unlawful feeding of wildlife;
 - Applies to counties with populations of more than two hundred eighty thousand persons.
 - Exception is tree squirrels and birds.
 - Violation is a petty offense.

THE BEAR FOOD PYRAMID

A Guide To Their Daily Food Choices
Upon Emerging From Hibernation.



©1992 MIKE MARLAND
Concord Monitor

Outreach Efforts

Department partnerships with the public, Governmental bodies and the media.

- Public forums.
- Internet resources with informational brochures/links.
- Public/community involvement.





“OK, one more time and it’s off to bed for the both of you.....’Hey, Al, think there are any bears in this old cave?’’I dunno, Jim, let’s take a look.’”

WHAT ARE SOME TIPS FOR LIVING IN MOUNTAIN LION COUNTRY?

- Hike or walk in groups.
- Make noise when you're outside.
- Closely supervise children: watch children whenever they play outdoors. Make sure children are inside before dusk and not outside before dawn. Talk with children about mountain lions and teach them what to do if they encounter one.
- Keep pets indoors or on a leash: roaming pets are easy prey for hungry mountain lions and coyotes. Either bring pets inside or keep them in a kennel with a secure top. Do not feed pets outside; the food can attract javelina or other mountain lion prey.
- Don't feed wildlife: by feeding wildlife in your yard, you are making it more likely that a mountain lion will be attracted to your property.
- Trim low-lying shrubs: trim low-lying shrubs for mountain lion play areas.
- Install outdoor lighting: lit at night - especially when approaching mountain lion country.

HOW DOES THE ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT MANAGE MOUNTAIN LIONS IN THIS STATE?

Mountain lions in Arizona are classified as a big game species, and the department manages them as a renewable natural resource. The state's current mountain lion population is estimated at 2,500 to 3,000. Since 1999, the department has distributed an average of 6,900 hunting permits per year with an annual harvest of 335 lions. The department's mandatory checkout process for successful hunters allows biologists to gather and analyze information on lions, including age and gender. The department is also committed to public education so that people learn how to behave responsibly in mountain lion country to help reduce their vulnerability to these predators.



ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT
(602) 942-3000 | azgfd.gov

LION COUNTRY TIPS



LION COUNTRY

IS IT DANGEROUS?

Interacting throughout the day can result in serious injuries to humans. Mountain lions are elusive - in fact, people rarely see a mountain lion in the wild. However, it is important to remember that mountain lions are top-level predators and can easily injure humans. Therefore, in addition to carrying a public safety vest, it is necessary for the department to issue a warning to the public about the threat to public safety.



WHAT SHOULD YOU DO IF YOU ENCOUNTER A MOUNTAIN LION?

- Do not approach a mountain lion: most mountain lions will try to avoid a confrontation. Give them a way to escape.
- Stay calm and speak loudly and firmly.
- Do not run from a mountain lion: running may stimulate a mountain lion's instinct to chase. Stand and face the animal. Make eye contact.
- Appear larger: raise your arms. Open your jacket if you are wearing one. Throw stones, branches, or whatever you can reach without crouching or turning your back. Wave your arms slowly. The idea is to convince the mountain lion that you are not prey and that you may be a danger to it.
- Slowly back away from the area.
- Protect small children so they won't panic and run.
- Fight back if attacked: many potential victims have fought back successfully with rocks, sticks, caps, jackets, garden tools and their bare hands. Since a mountain lion usually tries to bite the head or neck, try to remain standing and face the animal.

LIVING IN LION COUNTRY SAFETY TIPS

- Hike or walk in groups
- Make noise when you're outside
- Supervise children
- Keep your pets indoors or on a leash
- Do not feed wildlife
- Trim landscaping around house
- Install outdoor lighting

IF YOU ENCOUNTER A MOUNTAIN LION

- Never approach a lion
- Stay calm and speak loudly
- Don't stimulate a lion's chase instinct by running
- Raise arms and stand tall to appear dominant
- Slowly back away from the area
- Protect small children so they won't panic and run
- If attacked, fight back

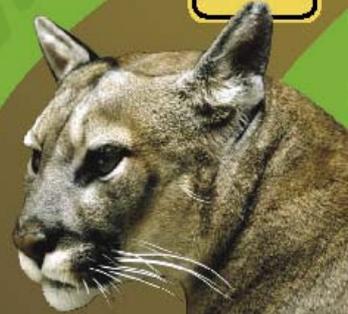


ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT
(602) 942-3000 | azgfd.gov

To report a mountain lion sighting or encounter, please call the Arizona Game and Fish Department at (602) 942-3000 during business hours. In an emergency, call 911.



LION COUNTRY



Imprint made by the front paw.

...al mountain lion
...elk and even
...ents of

...ights.

...mountain lion is 12 to 13 years.



g a mountain lion is small,
t between dusk and dawn

...?
...ree distinct lobes at the
...e M-shaped prints. Dog or
...ut will usually have obvious
... claw marks are not visible.

...lace the hind paw in the

COUGAR WARNING



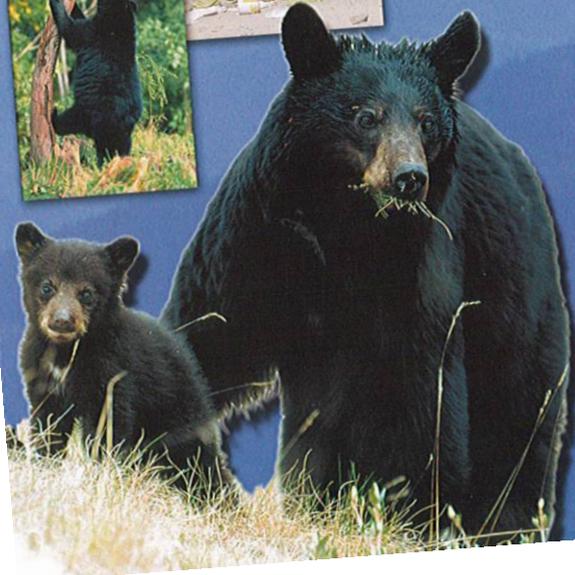
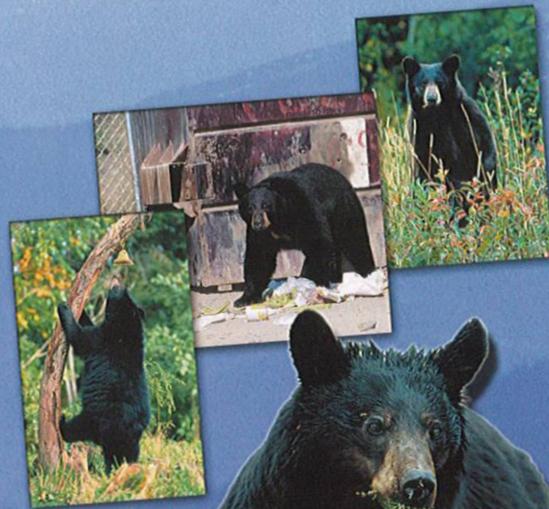
CAMPERS/HIKERS

Cougar activity in this area has been high recently.

Please maintain close supervision of all children and small pets to avoid any dangerous encounters.

Please report all sightings or incidents to the local Ranger Station.

Be Bear Aware.org



Challenges / Considerations

- ▶ Balancing wildlife population management and public safety.
 - Accomplish through continued partnerships, public involvement and outreach efforts.
 - ▶ Department manages for populations as a whole, not individual animals.
 - Public knowledge and awareness of wildlife biology.
 - ▶ Community ownership and responsibilities towards resolving wildlife conflicts.
 - Engaging citizenry and local leadership.
- 

Thank You

Questions?

