Appendix G. Documentation, Forms, and Form Guidelines

INTERVIEWING SUGGESTIONS

Try to obtain the following information using the forms and guidelines outlined in this appendix when interviewing a person who has been involved in a bear-human interaction.

Use a BIMS form as an outline for your interview.

Get the most precise location of the interaction. Question the person about details (i.e. how long did it take to walk to the site, landscape features in the immediate area, points from which the site might be visible). Remember the information gathered from this interview may provide the only directions to the site of the interaction. Be alert for inconsistencies in time, distance and topography. People unfamiliar with the area are often very confused about exact locations, so clarify this with questions from different angles. Work with a map and your knowledge of the area.

Get a good description of all the actions and reactions that took place before, during and after the interaction. Emphasize times, distances, physical setting, vegetation, wind direction, etc, in your questioning. What did the bear do? What did the people do? What did the bear do next? What did the people do next?

What is the current situation? When the people left camp was the bear still in the area? Is a dropped pack still in the backcountry? Are the tent and food still at the site?

Did the bear obtain food? How was it stored? Are you sure the container lid was properly fastened? You need to be specific.

Who was involved? Get addresses, but also try to find out where people involved in the incident might be staying for the next few days and how they can be contacted.

What type of prior information from the park did the people involved receive about bears? Were they given verbal and written information? Did they see signs? Did bus drivers, backcountry rangers, or interpreters advise them of current bear activities or closures?

Covering these points completely in conjunction with a BIMS form should provide the critical initial information required for determining what management responses might be necessary.

BIMS INSTRUCTIONS

1. Carry a few BIMS forms at all times.

2. Fill in all sections, except those marked "management use".
3. **Use BIMS for all:**
   
   a) Bear-human interactions when people are on foot and the bear is aware of them
   
   b) Property damage, injury, food and garbage incidents, including a bear unsuccessfully trying to get into a garbage can or vehicle.
   
   c) Observations of bears seen within 0.4 km (1/4 mile) of developed areas (campgrounds, visitor centers, building complexes).
   
   d) Bear handling and management actions.

4. Observations from vehicles farther than 0.4 km from developed areas do not need to be reported on BIMS. Observations made away from vehicles do not need to be on BIMS if the bear was apparently unaware of the people. Observations inappropriate for BIMS can be described on index or natural history cards. These are especially important if the observation is unusual, such as predatory activity, sow with cubs of the year, or several bears seen in one area on one day.

5. Do a separate BIMS for each separate interaction (incident, encounter, observation, or control). For example, if a bear damages tents in 2 campground sites in one night, two separate BIMS should be completed.

6. Management actions- Use the same Case Incident Number for all controls related to a particular bear.


8. Wildlife Management Technicians will enter BIMS data into the BIMS database.

Case Incident Form #10-343 will be completed for all incidents involving an injury or property damage. The 10-344 can also be used to record additional narrative information for BIMS report. Copies of all these forms should be attached to the corresponding BIMS form. Give forms to supervisor and Wildlife Management Technicians promptly.

**BIMS FORM**
21. WHERE DID YOU LEARN TO BEHAVE IN BEAR HABITAT?

A. Park interpretive program  E. Posted warnings
B. Backcountry video        F. Previous knowledge
C. Park ranger              G. Books
D. Park newspaper          H. No information received

22. DESCRIPTION OF BEAR-HUMAN INTERACTIONS:
(Please describe what happened.)

23. REPORT COLLECTED BY:________________________________________(NPS Staff)
Date:______________

MANAGEMENT USE ONLY

4. Bear Behavior: 5. Management Rating:

1. Record number: A. Intolerant  A. Observation
B. Curious    B. Encounter
C. Mistaken prey  C. Incident; General
D. Dominance  D. Incident; Gets food
E. Surprise  E. Incident; Prop. Damage
F. Provoked F. Incident; Injury
G. Tolerant
H. Conditioned
I. Rewarded
J. Threat
K. Predation
L. Indeterminate

Control Action:

UTM East:

UTM West:

Control Action:

Entered by:_________________
### 7. DESCRIPTION OF BEAR(S):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>A. Species:</strong></td>
<td><strong>A. Species:</strong></td>
<td><strong>A. Species:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>B. Color:</strong></td>
<td><strong>B. Color:</strong></td>
<td><strong>B. Color:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Light brown</td>
<td>2. Light brown</td>
<td>2. Light brown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>C. Size:</strong></td>
<td><strong>C. Size:</strong></td>
<td><strong>C. Size:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Large</td>
<td>3. Large</td>
<td>3. Large</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>D. Age:</strong></td>
<td><strong>D. Age:</strong></td>
<td><strong>D. Age:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Spring cub</td>
<td>1. Spring cub</td>
<td>1. Spring cub</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Yearling</td>
<td>2. Yearling</td>
<td>2. Yearling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Unknown</td>
<td>5. Unknown</td>
<td>5. Unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>E. Sex:</strong></td>
<td><strong>E. Sex:</strong></td>
<td><strong>E. Sex:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Male</td>
<td>1. Male</td>
<td>1. Male</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Female</td>
<td>2. Female</td>
<td>2. Female</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 13. WHAT WERE YOU DOING BEFORE YOU SAW THE BEAR?

- Sleeping
- E. Sitting
- B. Eating/cooking
- F. Photographing
- C. Hiking
- G. Setting up/Breaking camp
- D. Running
- H. Other

### 14. HOW DID THE BEAR REACT TO YOU?

- A. Not aware of people
- H. Watched people
- B. Stood on hind legs
- I. Walked towards people
- C. Growled/woofed/made noise
- J. Circled around people
- D. Walked away
- K. Bluff charged
- E. Ran away
- L. Made contact with person
- F. Ran towards people
- M. Investigated equipment/property
- G. Remained in area ignoring people
- N. Other

### 15. WHAT DID YOU DO THEN?

- A. Walked away/ backed away
- F. Made noise (talked, yelled, banged pots)
- B. Ran away
- G. Threw something at bear
- C. Remained still/quiet
- H. Photographed bear
- D. Continued hiking same direction
- I. Abandoned property (pack, tent, gear)
- E. Used pepper spray
- K. Other

### 16. HOW DID THE BEAR REACT?

- A. Walked away
- G. Watched people
- B. Ran away
- H. Circled around people
- C. Walked towards people
- I. Bluff charged
- D. Ran closer
- J. Made contact with person
- E. Remained in area ignoring people
- K. Investigated property
- F. Stood on hind legs
- L. Other

### 17. HOW CLOSE DID YOU COME TO THE BEAR?

11. VEGETATION TYPE:

- A. Open Tundra
- B. Gravel river bar
- C. Forest
- D. High brush (taller than 3' or 1m)
- E. Low brush (shorter than 3' or 1m)

### 18. WAS HUMAN FOOD PRESENT?

- A. No food present
- F. Food hung in tree
- B. Food in BRFC
- G. Food outside BRFC
- C. Food odor only
- H. Unknown

### 19. WAS HUMAN FOOD EATEN BY THE BEAR?

- A. No
- B. Yes (what?)
A. Feeding on vegetation  H. Walking towards people
B. Feeding on carcass  I. Running towards people
C. Hunting  J. Running away from people
D. Digging  K. Traveling
E. Standing  L. Playing (with ___________________________)
F. Resting  M. Investigating property
G. Breeding  N. Other ________________________________

20. WAS PROPERTY DAMAGED?  A. No  B. Yes (list property and estimate costs)

C. Unknown

(During this encounter.)

04/03
BEAR FIELD DATA FORMS

These forms will be completed during any chemical immobilization and control actions. Any immobilization attempt, whether successful or unsuccessful, must be recorded to maintain a complete record of drug use. Forms will be kept in the Resource Management files.
DENALI NATIONAL PARK AND PRESERVE BEAR MANAGEMENT

CONTROL ACTION

BIMS Data Base Record #: Date Time

Location (include UTM):

Description of Bears:

People Directly Involved:

Describe the initial situation:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Action (circle):</th>
<th>Hazing</th>
<th>Aversive Conditioning</th>
<th>Translocation</th>
<th>Euthanasia</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cracker Shell</td>
<td># Hits</td>
<td># Miss</td>
<td># Unknown</td>
<td>Distance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rubber Slug</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bean Bag Round</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rifled Slug</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pepper Spray</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paint Pellet</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Describe control action and bear’s reaction:

BIMS Record # of previous control actions involving this bear(s):

Did the bear(s) return to the area after this control action? Y N

BIMS Record #(s) of subsequent control actions involving this bear(s):