

Updated 9/00

## **Appendix K. Bear Placement Protocols**

The Zoo Clearing House is the place to begin networking to determine if there is a facility looking for a bear. This responsibility is shared among zoos, so it is a good idea to call a large zoo or the National Zoological Society in Washington DC and inquire about the current location of the clearing house. In 1993 it was based at the Woodland Park Zoo in Seattle. Lee Warde, 1993 Zoo Clearing House Coordinator (206) 684-4832, facilitated communications with Robert Evans at the San Antonio Zoo (210) 734-7183 and Nora Fletchell at Michigan's John Ball Zoo (616) 776-2591. Nora Fletchell has requested information on any future problem bears. They are developing a North American bear exhibit to replace their aging Asiatic Black Bears.

Other good contacts include Phil Koehl who handles zoo and institution placements for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG) 465-6198 and Harry Reynolds, Wildlife Biologist for ADFG 459-7238. Bruce Dale at ADFG's Fairbanks office 459-7235 could also be helpful.

Dr. Charlie Robbins at Washington State University sometimes needs bears for metabolic research. He is particularly interested in cubs or small yearlings. He can be reached at (509) 335-1119.

If a bear is going to be destroyed, research needs for tissue samples should be queried. Joe Cook at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks museum (474-6947) was extremely interested in muscle, liver, kidney, and heart samples for genetics work. He was also hoping to acquire the pelt and skeleton. Randy Zarnke, ADFG pathologist (456-5156), is researching Trichinosis and was interested in 75% of the tongue and 4 or 5 ml of serum. Chris Servheen, The Grizzly Bear Recovery Coordinator, in Missoula Montana, is interested in dried gall bladders.

Before destroying a bear, technicians should consult with ADF&G about the paperwork for a Defense of Life and Property case. Instructions and diagrams for ADF&G recommended bear skinning techniques are as follows: