

# Changes to Food Storage Order

- The 2002 draft order required that an unattended big game carcass on the ground be at least ½ mile from any trail.
  - *The new order requires that an unattended big game carcass on the ground be at least 200 yards from a National Forest System Trail only.*
- The 2002 draft order prohibited camping within ½ mile of an animal carcass on the ground.
  - *The new order prohibits **knowingly** camping within ½ mile of a large animal carcass on the ground and clarifies that it is the responsibility of the person killing or harvesting the animal to store it properly or move it beyond ½ mile from any camp.*
- The 2002 draft order defined animal carcasses to include small mammals, birds and fish and required similar storage and other requirements.
  - *The new order makes it clear that prepared or packaged animal carcass parts brought into the area for consumption and small mammals, birds and fish harvested in the area for consumption are considered to be a food items and stored as such.*
- The 2002 draft order was unclear about requirements for certification of bear resistant containers
  - *The new order makes it clear that **all containers** used in areas where food storage is required must be certified through the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committees' Courtesy Inspection Program.*
- The 2002 draft order required that food and carcasses are stored in bear resistant containers or by hanging.
  - *The new order has a provision for 'learning as we go' for secure food storage. The Forest Supervisor can approve new methods in a permit if they prove effective at keeping food unavailable to bears.*
- The 2002 draft order covered the period from April 1 through December 1.
  - *The new order covers the period from March 1 through December 1. Many conflicts occur in March as bears emerge from dens.*
- The 2002 draft order failed to include many items known to be bear attractants in the definition of food.
  - *The new order more completely defines the type of items that are considered food and must be stored unavailable to bears. Examples include; soft drinks, alcoholic beverages, canned foods, pet foods, processed livestock feed and grains, personal hygiene products, and empty food and beverage containers.*
- The 2002 draft order was difficult to understand and some other terms not adequately defined.
  - *At attempt was made in the new order to improve the language. It is less confusing to law enforcement personnel at the field level and definitions have been improved to be clearer for the public.*