

Black Bear Facts

- 🐾 The Louisiana black bear is a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act.
- 🐾 Breeding bear populations are located in the Tensas and Atchafalaya river basins.
- 🐾 Male bears weigh 150 to over 350 lbs and females weigh 120 to 250 lbs.
- 🐾 Male home ranges average 20,000 acres while females average 5,000 acres.

- 🐾 Denning starts in December and continues into April.
- 🐾 Bears prefer to den in large, hollow trees, but will also den in brushpiles and thickets.
- 🐾 Denning bears go into a deep sleep, but can be aroused if disturbed.
- 🐾 Females mature at 3-5 years of age and have 1-5 cubs every other year.
- 🐾 Cubs are born in the den weighing 8 oz and come out of the den weighing 4 lbs.
- 🐾 Cubs stay with their mother for one and a half years.
- 🐾 Bears are opportunistic feeders and will eat almost anything available.
- 🐾 A bear's diet consists of 90 percent vegetables, nuts, fruits and berries.
- 🐾 Most protein in a bear's diet comes from colonial insects like termites and ants.
- 🐾 Prime bear habitat includes escape cover, dispersal corridors, diverse foods and dens.



Chris Wynn

If You Encounter a Bear

- 🐾 **NEVER APPROACH A BEAR!**
- 🐾 Bears are normally shy and not aggressive towards humans.
- 🐾 If a bear regularly visits your deer stand, scare it with rocks, a sling shot, or air horn.
- 🐾 If you encounter a bear at close range, talk in a calm manner while backing away slowly, do not make eye contact.
- 🐾 **DO NOT RUN!** This can trigger a bear's chase instinct.
- 🐾 If a bear approaches you, stand your ground, raise your arms to appear larger, yell at the bear, and make eye contact to scare it off.
- 🐾 If attacked, fight back aggressively with anything available.
- 🐾 **DO NOT PLAY DEAD!**

It's the Law

- 🐾 It is a violation of federal and state laws to kill a Louisiana black bear, with penalties of up to \$100,000, loss of hunting privileges worldwide and/or jail time.
- 🐾 Cash rewards are offered for information leading to the arrest of anyone killing a black bear.
- 🐾 Hog hunters **BEWARE**, hogs and bears can look very similar. Know your target!

For more information on the Louisiana black bear, contact:

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
(225)765-2385
www.wlf.louisiana.gov



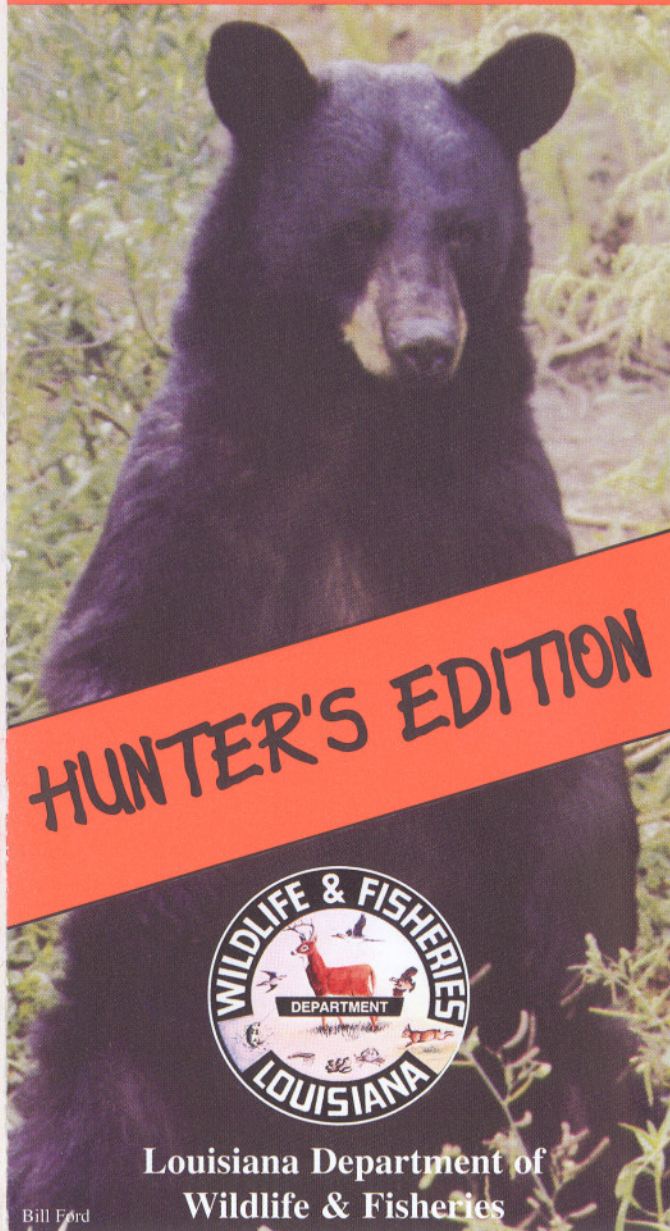
Black Bear Conservation Committee
(225)763-5425
www.bbcc.org



TO REPORT A BEAR CONFLICT, CALL:
1-800-442-2511
(24 hours/7 days a week)

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BEAR SAFETY IN MIND



Bill Ford

Prevent Bear Conflicts

- Keep camps clean to prevent odors that will attract bears.
- Discard gut piles away from camp.
- Placing deer corn in piles or in open feeders will attract bears.
- Using an automated feeder hung out of reach of bears will decrease bear visitation.
- Switching bait types from corn to soybeans will reduce bear activity.



Larry Meyers

Planting food plots is the best way to attract deer and avoid bear visits!



Electric fencing will deter bears while allowing deer access to feeders.



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