

BEAR INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (BIMS)

GENERAL

The Bear Information Management System (BIMS) is designed to collect data (see attached reporting form) on species, numbers, locations, behaviors, and bear management actions for use in determining the need for real time emergency management actions, and long-term management strategies. The data is analyzed annually to improve protection of both bear species and to reduce the risk caused by bears to the visitor.

OBJECTIVES

1. To provide the staff and field personnel with pertinent and immediate information for use in making informed decisions regarding bear/people management.
2. To provide base information for resource management and research programs.
3. To provide accurate information for alerting field personnel of potentially hazardous bears and/or bear situations.
4. To assess long-term effectiveness of bear management strategies and interpretive devices.
5. To assess long-term visitor and bear behavior patterns.
6. To provide information for evaluating bear habitat for analyzing sites for visitor use facilities.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Chief, Division of Science and Resources Management: Responsible for implementation of the bear monitoring system in concert with the Bear Management Plan. Responsible for assessments of sightings and incident reports received and dissemination of sightings and incident summaries to the field as specified in the Bear Management Plan and Guidelines. In the absence of the Chief, Division of Science and Resources Management, the Natural Resources Branch, Wildlife Biologist or their designee will perform these responsibilities.

Supervisory Communications Technician: Responsible for coordination of Communications Center operations as listed below.

Communications Center: Responsible for disseminating incident and management action information as directed by the Bear Management Guidelines and the Communications Center Operations Manual and for coding and distribution of the Case Incident Reports as outlined below. They will maintain the system to insure Case Incident Reports are completed. A Case Incident

Report number will be utilized for all bear sightings that involve an Incident or Management Action.

BIMS Clerk: Responsible for assisting the Chief, Division of Science and Resources Management and the Wildlife Biologist with entering and retrieving computerized daily reports of bear sightings, incidents and annual bear reports. Retrieving printouts will be the BIMS Clerk's responsibility. In the absence of the BIMS Clerk, the Wildlife Biologist, or designee, will assume these responsibilities.

District Rangers: Responsible for providing verbal reports relative to incidents and management actions to the Communications Center, with written follow-up within five days. Routine sightings will need a completed BIMS form but may not need a Case Incident Report.

ACTION PLAN

Reporting:

1. All reports of bear sightings will be entered into the online reporting form (found on the Park Intranet page). Those stations or personnel without computer access may forward written reports to the Wildlife Biologist.
2. All reports of incidents and management actions will be called in to the Communications Center by radio or telephone as they occur.
3. All incidents and management actions reported verbally to the Communications Center will be followed up by a Case Incident Report within five days. Instructions on how to complete and distribute this form are fully outlined in the "Law Enforcement Guidelines and Reporting Procedures." Briefly, the distribution of reports for bear monitoring purposes is as follows:
 - a) A Case Incident Report will be completed in the District where the action or incident occurs and will be sent to the Communications Center within five days. A copy should be retained for the District files, if desired.
 - b) After the Communications Center has approved the form, the original will be retained by the Communications Center in the numerical file.
 - c) Summary reports or copies of individual incident reports can be obtained for official use by contacting the Communications Center.
4. Any bear report containing information requiring immediate action should be relayed by telephone or radio to the District Ranger in the area the incident has occurred as soon as possible by the person receiving the information.

ROUTING SCHEDULE OF REPORTS AND LOGS

Information received regarding incidents and management actions will be routed immediately to the Chiefs, Division of Science and Resources Management and Division of Visitor Services by phone.

A copy of the Case Incident Report will be sent to the Wildlife Biologist as soon as it is received.