

APPENDIX 1

TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT BLACK BEAR INVESTIGATION REPORT



Instructions: Fill in all applicable data on both sides of form. Mail completed forms immediately to Wildlife Diversity Program Leader, TPWD, 3000 IH-35 South, Suite 100, Austin, Tx. 78704 or designated regional staff person.

INVESTIGATOR: _____ **DATE:** _____

OBSERVATION DATA

Report Classification (see back of form) I II III

Type of Report: Sighting Track Scat Other

Observation Date: MM/DD/YY _____ Time: _____ AM/PM

County: _____ Location: Lat./Long _____

Ranch: _____ Distance/Direction from nearest town: _____

Nearest man-made structure/residence/potential conflict area (type/description): _____

Terrain: Mountain Rugged Hills Rolling Hills Undulating Flat

Topographical Location: Ridge Hillside Bottom Drainage Other

Dominant Vegetation: _____

Observer/s (names/address/phone # of all): _____

Activity of observer/s: _____

Approximate Length of Observation: _____ minutes _____ seconds

Distance of Observation: _____

Activity of bear at time of observation: standing walking running digging
 grazing scavenging preying on other

Did bear notice observer? Yes No

If yes, describe bears reaction: _____

Was more than one bear observed? Yes No

Were any cubs observed? Yes No

If yes, explain and describe: _____

Any identifying markers (ear tags, collars, chest blaze, etc) _____

Has any other bears been reported in this vicinity? Yes No

If yes, explain (date, distance, etc.) _____

Have any depredations been attributed to this bear? _____ Officially Verified? _____

Explain: _____

Describe fate of this bear after observation (killed, trapped, unknown, etc): _____

What is your opinion of the origin of this bear (native, migrant, escaped zoo, released, etc.)?, explain: _____

BLACK BEAR PHYSICAL INFORMATION

General Information: With the exception of foot data, this information are field estimates.
Actual data should be recorded on Black Bear Physical Data Form.

Sex: Male Female Unknown Color _____

Age: Adult Subadult Cub

Weight (lbs): 10 - 50 51 - 100 101-200 201 - 300 300 +

Apparent condition: Excellent Good Fair Poor

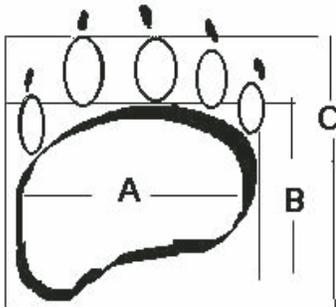
Excellent: Skeleton cannot be felt, bear appears extremely fat.
Good: Skeleton is difficult to feel, bear appears healthy but not extremely fat.
Fair: Skeleton can be felt but is not prominent, bear appears thin but not emaciated.
Poor: Skeleton can be easily felt, bear appears to be a skeleton with skin over it.

Front left foot (cm): total length _____ pad length _____ pad width _____

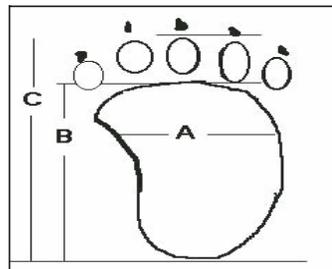
Front right foot (cm): total length _____ pad length _____ pad width _____

Rear left foot (cm): total length _____ pad length _____ pad width _____

Rear right foot (cm): total length _____ pad length _____ pad width _____



- A. Pad width
- B. Pad length
- C. Total Length



Additional bear information (if a separate form is needed fill out and attach to this one, if not describe bear and its actions/relationship with this one): _____

Comments:

EVALUATION CLASSES:

- Class I: Bear is in possession, seen, or tangible evidence documented by investigator.
 Bear is observed by more than two reliable individuals
- Class II: Detailed description of event provided and the observer seems reliable or is experienced in the outdoors and accustomed to looking for details (I.e. biologist, trapper, bird watcher, game warden hunter).
- Class III: Details of observation are vague and account is inconsistent or observation has questionable accounts or details. Description is not of bear or otherwise observation is of no value.

Terri Brown - Staff Services Officer
Region 3 Wildlife
Created: 11/21/2001

APPENDIX 2

Louisiana Black Bear Habitat Restoration Summary for 1992 – 2001

In Louisiana (since 1992):

- 117,000 acres of WRP statewide
 - Over 67, 223 acres of WRP directly benefit bears (within 50 point zone)
 - Results in 47,056 acres reforested on WRP tracts
- 78,000+ acres of CRP benefit bears
- 9,500 acres Partners for Fish and Wildlife benefit bears
- 10,000+ acres NWR reforestation benefit bears
- 1,000+ acres state reforestation benefit bears
- 2,000+ acres reforestation on Corps lands benefits bears

In Mississippi:

- 58,334 acres of WRP within historic range of Louisiana black bear

FWS Louisiana Black Bear Habitat Protection Plan (85,500 acres)

- Bayou Teche NWR – 35,000 acres
- Glade Woods NWR – 13,000 acres
- Bayou Cocodrie NWR expansion – 5,000 acres
- Tensas River NWR expansion – 32,5000 acres

COE Atchafalaya Acquisitions (38,800 acres)

- Fee Title – 50,000 acres
- Easements – 338,000 acres

State WMA Acquisitions – 13,000+ acres

Status of Threats to Habitat

- Conversion of forests to agriculture
 - NRCS Study: clearing trends reversed
 - Swampbuster losses negligible
 - Future status of conservation programs within 2002 Farm Bill ??
- Extensive Reforestation and Acquisition
 - Private landowner incentives – WRP, CRP, PFW
 - Service, COE, and state programs
 - Carbon sequestration
- COE Easements in Atchafalaya Basin
 - Prevent clearcutting/conversion
 - Beneficial practices allowed
 - Camp owners educated on containment of garbage to minimize bear conflict