



Bonny Bay Camp Bear Management Plan

Bonny Bay Camp is fortunate to have exclusive non-resident bear outfitting access to 131 square kilometers of highly productive Crown Land at the doorstep of the camp. Careful stewardship of this land over the past many years has resulted in a healthy bear population that continually provides world class bear hunting opportunities.

Did you know that black bears are among the slowest reproducing mammals? Female bears typically produce their first litter of cubs when they are between 5-7 years of age, and at best they produce cubs every two years. Also, a female bear's access to food during the spring and fall determine whether she will reproduce the following year. It is with this awareness that Bonny Bay Camp's Bear Management Plan is centered around the key concepts of preserving the female bear population, preserving habitat, and preventing over-harvesting.

We accomplish this through:

- Offering hunting for adult male bears only so as not to impact the female bear population.
 - As part of a hunter's orientation he/she will be taught to identify the sex of a bear.
 - Current game camera pictures from the bait sites will be used to identify harvestable bears.
 - Hunting sites will be baited in a manner to increase the amount of time a bear is at the site to provide the hunter enough time to identify the sex of the bear and to harvest the bear humanely.
- Offering only fall hunting to reduce the risk of mistakenly taking a sow in the spring with especially vulnerable cubs.
- Minimizing disturbance of habitat and food sources while accessing baiting/hunting sites and during animal recovery.
- Treating a wounded and unrecoverable bear as if it were a harvested bear.
- Allowing only rifle or crossbow use to reduce the likelihood of wounded and unrecovered animals.
- Baiting hunting sites to provide the hunter enough time to identify the sex of the bear and to harvest the bear humanely.
- Rotating bait sites to prevent over-harvesting of a particular sub-area.
- Collecting data from harvested bears that is helpful to the Province in maintaining the health of the black bear population.

Industry leading resource management provides world class hunting!