Human Bear conflict

By

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1. Wildlife cameras
   1. Details

* Wild life cameras are little weatherproof cameras that are put on trees to see if there are any animals moving through a specific area. These is used by hunters and by wildlife organizations (Camera Trap)

- What will be done?

* Wildlife cameras will be set up on trees to track bear movement (Done?)
* There will be a fundraiser to help pay for the cameras and the compensation for private landowners to allow the DOW to put the cameras on trees
* After that money is collected, the cameras will be ordered and put up to see when bears go into town and where

- Who will do it?

* This will be done by the DOW
* It will be the DOW because this organization has experience with wildlife cameras like the bald eagle camera (Bald Eagle)

- When will it happen?

* The fundraiser would be in the late spring of 2013
* Then the cameras would be ordered and set up by July 15
* Both of the dates are set because bears are done hibernating during January but it is much too cold out so the DOW could get done with the cameras in summer before bears start hibernating again in the fall (Tyson, Peter)

- Where will this happen?

* The cameras will be set up around the city limits of Durango
* The cameras will be 5/8 of a mile from the city line and spread out .68 miles away from each other
* The cameras will surround the city
* The cameras will be pointed at game trails and at areas where bears are active.

- Why it will happen?

* This is happening so the DOW can see how many bears there are around Durango
* Also so the organizations can see wildlife behavior (Done?)

- Who is paying for it?

* The DOW will pay for the forest rangers to set up the cameras
* The fundraiser will pay for the cameras

- Measurable goal

* By the end of next year the DOW will have caught 500 bears on the cameras
* By the end of next year, the DOW will relocate 10 bears that have been going into town
  1. Benefits
* The cameras see bears and see how many bears there are in one area
* The cameras can see the condition of some bears
* Can set up a live trap to capture a bear that keeps going into town that goes through a certain camera area
  1. Problems
* Cannot set them up right on the edge of town because they might become vandalized or the DOW could be sued for invasion of privacy
* Cannot do anything about the bears when you see them right at first because you don’t know where they are exactly going
* It would take a long time to be able to find the right area to set of up a camera

1. Relocation & Tracking
   1. Details

* There are lots of types of bear traps. There are traps that catch their legs and hurt them. Then there are live traps and box traps. Using box traps is the best because box traps can be used by anyone and the DOW can set them up on private properly (Get Bear). The purpose for box traps are to capture a bear, mark it, check the bear’s health, then relocate it if necessary.

- What will be done?

* There will be a fundraiser to buy the DOW 10 box bear traps
* The bear traps will be used to capture bears, mark them, check health, and then relocate or just leave the bear where it is
* Bear organizations like the DOW set up the box bear traps and relocate the bears if needed (Conflict).

- Who will do it?

* The DOW will do this because the DOW has been using box traps for years. There is a box trap on the Twin Buttes property. There has already been 1 black bear captured in that trap.
* The fundraiser will be held by the city of Durango to help the DOW keep bears out of the city

- When will this happen?

* The fundraiser will happen next summer before bears start needing more food before hibernation (Tyson, Peter)
* The traps will be set up in early fall next year

- Where will it happen?

* The fundraiser will happen at Buckley park, Durango
* The traps will be set up a minimum of ½ of a mile away from the city line of Durango and will be put where there is bear movement on wildlife cameras and on game trails near Durango where there are signs of bears

- Why it will happen

* The fundraiser will happen because traps are expensive and the DOW cannot afford all of them
* The cheapest trap is $400. It is a 48”x 36” x 96” (Live Animal)
* The reason for the box traps is the DOW can take care of bears that are too close to town and can relocate them, if needed
* The DOW can see how healthy the bear is and mark it with a chip. Then that data can be used for research.

- Who is paying for it?

* The fundraiser is paying for 70% of the box traps
* The DOW is paying for 30% of the box traps
* The DOW is paying the forest rangers to set up the box traps

- Measurable goal

* By the end of next summer the DOW will have 15 box bear traps
* In two years the DOW will have 10 traps set up around Durango
  1. Benefits
* Can mark captured bears to keep track of them
* Can relocate a bear if needed
* Can be easily set up and easily moved.
* Works to trap shy bears (Get Bear)
  1. Problems
* Hard to load a occupied trap into a car
* Can capture other animals besides bears
* Children can get caught in it so they have to be checked constantly

1. Aversive Conditioning
   1. Details

Beanbag rounds are used today all across the country. They are used buy police and anyone who wants to have a stopping power that doesn’t kill. The best part is anyone can buy beanbag rounds if they own a shotgun

- What will be done?

* Bean bag rounds will become available at 3 gun and ammo stores in Durango and not just the internet
* Will be more known to the public that bean bag rounds are available (Avoiding conflict)

- Who will do it?

* Bear Smart organization will help spread awareness that bean bag rounds are available when the stores get them in stock
* Bear Smart will do it because people know the organization and Bear Smart has many volunteers to help them with getting bear news out in the community (BearSMART)
* A Bear Smart employee will write 3 letters for 3 different guns and ammunition stores and get 75 people to sign the letter that states the people want to be able to get bean bag rounds locally

- When will it happen?

* It will happen next summer when bears are active and moving around (Tyson, Peter)
* This is the best time because the citizens of Durango should be having more bear problems and will want a non-lethal way to get rid of the bear.

- Where will this happen?

* The beanbag round letters will be sent to these stores in Durango, such as Goods for the Woods, Gardenschwartz, and Big 5
* The letters will be sent to those stores because those stores are very popular and will get a lot of business

-Why will it happen?

* Beanbag rounds can be important because they are a more aggressive deterrent then bear mace and can be used up to 20 feet before becoming inaccurate (Bean Bag)

- Who will pay for it?

* The stores will pay for the rounds

- Measurable goal

* The goal will be to have to shops start selling beanbag rounds by next year in late fall
* Bear Smart will also start hanging up posters and put a notice on the Bear Smart website where bean bag rounds are available besides the internet
  1. Benefits
* Easy to use
* When stores start selling beanbag round, the rounds will be easy to get.
* Anyone over 18 can buy the rounds
* Can be used anywhere outside the city limits of Durango
* Bears will be confused by the noise and the pain and will most likely run off
  1. Problems
* Cannot be used inside the city limits
* There is a chance that it won’t deter a bear and might anger it
* Beanbag rounds are expensive
* Not sold right now locally
* Stores might not want to sell beanbag rounds

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