



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve

P.O. Box 74680

Fairbanks, Alaska 99707

IN REPLY REFER TO:

N-1645 (GAAR)

August 1, 1988

Memorandum:

To: GAAR Staff

From: Resource Manager

Subject: Summary of Bear Incidents from 1983 - July 1988

Below are summaries in table form of all noted bear incidents from 1983 through July 1988.

YEAR	TOTAL NUMBER OF INCIDENTS	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER
1983	6	0	5	1	0
1984	17	3	10	4	0
1985	9	0	8	0	1
1986	22	6	12	4	0
1987	13	0	8	5	0
1988*	3	0	3	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	70	9	46	14	1

*Report was made as of July 1988.

SPECIES INVOLVED IN INCIDENT	NUMBER OF BEARS
BLACK BEAR	34
GRIZZLY	31
UNKNOWN	5
TOTAL	70

QUAD NAME	NUMBER OF BLACK BEARS	NUMBER OF GRIZZLIES	NUMBER UNKNOWN	TOTAL
WISEMAN	3	18	2	23
SURVEY PASS	31	6	3	40
KILLIK RIVER	0	1	0	1
AMBLER RIVER	0	2	0	2
PHILIP SMITH MOUNTAIN	0	1	0	1
UNKNOWN	0	3	0	3
TOTALS	34	31	5	70

SPECIES	NO. AT ELEVATION > 2,000'	NO. AT ELEVATION < 2,000'	NO. AT ELEVATION NOT GIVEN	TOTALS
BLACK BEAR	0	26	8	34
GRIZZLY	9	11	11	31
UNKNOWN	0	3	2	5
TOTALS	9	40	21	70

SPECIES	MALE	FEMALE	UNKNOWN	TOTAL
BLACK BEAR	3	0	31	34
GRIZZLY	6	5	20	31
UNKNOWN	0	0	5	5
TOTAL	9	5	56	70

STATISTICAL FACT ABOUT BEAR INCIDENTS

- (1) Ten cubs (all grizzly) were involved in seventy (70) incidents.
- (2) Thirty-one (31) out of seventy (70) or 44.3% of the incidents involved property damage. A bear was shot and wounded in one incident.
- (3) Two (2) bears have been shot and killed & one (1) bear has been wounded in the "defense of life".
- (4) Five (5) out of the seventy (70) or 7.1% of the incidents that occurred involved a bear with cubs. Each time it was a grizzly sow with the cubs.
- (5) In twenty-six (26) of the seventy (70) incidents, food was eaten. In forty-three (43) of the incidents, food was not eaten. It is unknown in one (1) incident if food was eaten.

METHOD FOOD WAS CACHED IN	# TIMES METHOD USED	# TIMES FOOD EATEN	PERCENTAGES
BARREL	11	2	18.2%
TUNDRA	4	1	25.0%
GROUND	3	2	66.7%
TREE	7	5	71.4%
NOT SECURED	15	10	66.7%
OTHER	30	6	20.0%

Note:

This information was compiled by SCA Jeff Witter.
The information is also on DBase data files.

JEH

1986 BEAR INCIDENTS

SUMMARY

Incidents: 29 in park + 2 outside park

Species: Black - 14 (12 adults, 2 cubs)

Grizzly - 26 (19 adults, 7 cubs)

Unknown - 1

TOTAL 41

Location (Quad) of Incidents:

Survey Pass - 14

Wiseman - 10 (+2 outside park)

Ambler River - 3

Chandler Lake - 1

Philip Smith/Wiseman - 1

Hughes - 0

Incidents Identified by Type of People Involved:

NPS/VIP - 10

Visitor - 10

Concessioners - 10

Subsistence User - 1

Other - 1

Incidents with Weapons Discharged: 7 (5 NPS, 2 Concessioners)

Property Damage Cases: 6

Bear Fatalities: 1 (black bear)

Human Injuries/Fatalities: 0

Location (Area) of Incidents:

Noatak River - 4

Circle Lake (area) - 3 (2 with property damage,
1 weapon fired)

Arrigetch Creek - 2 (1 weapon fired)

Walker Lake - 5 (1 bear killed, 1 property damage,
3 weapons fired (including fatal
shot))

North Fork Koyukuk - 9 (2 weapons fired, 3 property
(Stansel's Camp - 3) damage)

Others:

Upper AKP River - 1

Upper Alatna River - 1

Ernie Creek - 1

John River - 1

April Creek - 1

Nohtuk River - 1

1987 BEAR INCIDENTS IN GAAR

SUMMARY

Incidents: 16

Species:

Black	-	4 (adults)
Grizzly	-	13 (9 adults, 4 cubs)
Unknown	-	<u>3</u> (1 probably a black bear)
TOTAL		20

Location of Incidents (Quad):

(More specific locations noted on Page 2)

Wiseman - 10 (6 grizzly, 2 black, 2 unknown)

Survey Pass - 3 (2 black, 1 probably black)

Chandler Lake - 1 (grizzly)

Unknown - 2 (grizzly)

no. of bears = adults only

Incidents Identified by Type of People Involved:

(an incident may have more than one type of people involved)

NPS/VIP	-	5
Visitor	-	10
Concessioners	-	2
Subsistence User	-	0
Other	-	1

Incidents with Weapons Discharged:

5 (4 warning shots, ~~only~~)
(3 visitors, 1 concessioner, 1 other)

1 fatal shot

Incidents with Property Damage:

9

Bear Fatalities:

1

Human Injuries/Fatalities:

0

Location of Incidents (Area):

N Fork Koyukuk	- 6
Alapah Valley	- 1
Alatna River drainage	- 1
Alder Creek	- 1
Big Jim Creek	- 1
Clear River drainage (upper)	- 1
Hammond River drainage (upper)	- 1
Walker Lake	- 2
Unknown	- 2