

From: Tom Rusch
Sent: Wednesday, August 15, 2007 11:50 AM
To: eaglesnesttpw@citlink.net
Cc: lrogers@bearstudy.org; sue.mansfield@verizon.net
Subject: Eagles Nest Bear Feeding Recommendations

Mr Dan Humay,

I want to thank you and the entire board for an excellent meeting. I was very impressed with the way in which it was conducted and the end result. It was a perfect format for these types of issues. I think we have established a good foundation from which to start working cooperatively on the bear feeding issue in the township.

I wanted to get a few thoughts on paper while they are fresh in my mind. These are my recommendations and are offered in the spirit of "getting the process started". It is my experience that groups need something to start working with, and these would be food for thought.

Recommendations for change

- Remove "Solo" from the population within 30 days. Her cubs are old enough to be on there own. We would reassess their status if they (continue to) create significant problems for residents.
- Move all bear feeders & feeding away from houses, cabins and decks and into the woods or away from human habitation (Including weighing scale).
- Reduce the number of collared study bears (13 in 2007) by 25% by 2009, by 50% by 2012 through normal attrition.
- Set a sunset date on artificial feeding of study of bears. Researchers would continue to monitor bear movements, behavior and ecology without artificial feeding.
- Establish a protocol for identifying "incorrigible bears" to be removed from the population.
- Establish a group that represents the township and are team players willing to reach consensus.
- Establish a simple mission statement and out-line goals for the group.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate. I look forward to working with the Township.

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