



Yuułuʔiłʔatḥ Government Wildlife Safety

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

ʔuhʔałḥasuu Citizens and Residents of hitaču,

In the past two weeks wildlife encounters with bears, wolves and a cougar have been reported in hitaču. The encounters have not been aggressive; however, it is important that steps are taken to ensure wildlife doesn't become habituated to people. The Lands and Resources Department will have an employee assisting with youth returning home safely from the school bus drop-off.

According to WildSafeBC, garbage is the most reported wildlife attractant in BC. Allowing wildlife to access garbage leads to habituation of human sources of food and eventually the elimination of the habituated animal. It is vital that garbage and organics bins are always secured when not put out for collection.

To reduce wildlife attractants:

- If possible, keep Sort 'n Go bins inside a house or garage. If this is not possible, secure the bins to concrete blocks with chains or cable locks in a well-lit area or where it will be illuminated by a security/motion sensor light.
- If you are using a shed to store the bins protect the shed with electric fencing.
- Use the clips on the bin to secure the lid shut, except when bins are set out for collection. Put clips back on as soon as collection is finished, regardless of if the bin is empty.
- To reduce odor, freeze smelly items and add them to the garbage or compost on the morning of collection.
- Put garbage and organics bins out for collection no earlier than 5:00am on collection day. Never set bins out for collection the night before.

If your bin has been damaged, please submit a repair request immediately. Requests can be sent to ACRD worker William Severinson, WSeverinson@hotmail.com with BSauve@acrd.bc.ca cc'd. Include your full name, address and the reason for repair (wheels, clips, tears in bin, etc.).

Thank you to all who have reported the wildlife encounters so far. Please continue to report any wildlife sightings by contacting the BC Conservation Officer by calling **1 (877) 952-7277** or email pacificrim@wildsafebc.com.

Sincerely,

Yuułuʔiłʔatḥ Government – Ucluelet First Nation