

Bear Aware on Campbell Tract



Bear Aware at Campbell Tract Safety Tips in Bear Country

- **Stay Alert:** always be aware of your surroundings, especially in areas known for bear activity. Avoid wearing headphones and be cautious around blind corners
- **Make Noise:** talk, sing, or attach a bell to your backpack to alert bears to your presence. This can help prevent surprise encounters
- **Travel in Groups:** hike with others and keep children close. Groups are less likely to encounter bears than individuals.
- **Carry Bear Spray:** always have bear spray accessible and know how to use it. It can be an effective deterrent in case of an encounter
- **Store Food Properly:** use bear-resistant containers for food and garbage. Keep food away from sleeping areas and never leave food unattended.
- **Known How to React:** if you see a bear, do not run! Remain calm, back away slowly, and make yourself appear larger by raising your arms.



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Recognizing Bear Signs

- **Fresh Tracks:** look for distinct bear paw prints in mud, snow, or sand. The size and shape can help identify the species of bear (black bear or brown bear at Campbell Tract)
- **Scat:** bear scat often contains undigested berries, seeds, grass, etc. Fresh scat is a clear indicator of bear presence.
- **Disturbed Vegetation:** Bears forage for food in dense vegetation, so look for overturned rocks, torn-up logs, and flattened areas of grass or underbrush.
- **Claw Marks on Trees:** bears mark trees to establish territory or sharpen their claws. Fresh claw marks on the bark can indicate bear activity.
- **Campbell Creek:** during the salmon run season, bears like to fish along the creek. When visiting the creek, be aware of a potential increase in bear presence.

