

Resolution #3
Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs

SUPPORT PROTECTION OF THE AMERICAN BLACK BEAR

Submitted by: Kern/Kaweah Chapter, Sierra Club

Background: There is an unscrupulous bounty on the head of every American black bear. Across America, bear carcasses have been found with their gall bladders removed and their carcass callously left to rot. Poachers and unscrupulous profiteers are commercializing bears to make a quick buck, selling bear organs and other body parts illicitly throughout the world and putting bear species at risk. Recently US Representative Raul Grijalva (D-AZ) and John Campbell (R-CA) introduced the Bear Protection Act of 2009 to deter bear poaching and facilitate prosecution of wildlife criminals. The ghoulish illegal trade in bear organs must be stopped.

Although the national Sierra Club has yet to take a position on this specific legislation, the Kern/Kaweah Chapter of the Sierra Club, as a member club of the Federation, is asking the Federation to support legislative efforts to protect the American Black Bear and to aggressively enforce existing laws against poaching.

Resolution: The Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs supports Federal legislation to end the illicit trade in bear organs and other body parts and calls for vigorous enforcement of existing laws against poaching bears in the United States.

Contact: Joe Fontaine, [HYPERLINK "mailto:fontaine@wildblue.net"](mailto:fontaine@wildblue.net) fontaine@wildblue.net