

MEMORANDUM

May 3, 1996

TO: Steve Martin, Steve Stafford, Billy Sermons, Jim Schuette,
and Mike Abbott--Regional Wildlife Management Biologists

FROM: Mike Brooks, Assistant Chief, Bureau of Wildlife Management

SUBJECT: Black Bear Carcass Disposal

According to Jim Brady's April 1, 1996 memorandum, Bureau of Wildlife Management personnel no longer need to transport black bear carcasses to the Gainesville Research Lab for necropsy. This is a departure from past protocol. This should not diminish our responsiveness to reports of road-killed bears. We need to be sensitive to the fact that the black bear is a threatened species and their body parts have commercial value.

Personnel responding to a reported dead bear should make every effort to locate the carcass, collect the appropriate data, and dispose of the carcass. Disposal may include moving the carcass from the road or right-of-way to adjacent understory/ground cover or transporting the carcass to cold storage for later disposal. The primary concern is to locate and dispose of the carcass before a citizen retrieves the carcass or salvages body parts. If you have any questions, please contact me.

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cc: Regional Directors
Mr. Tim Breault
Mr. Frank Smith
Mr. Tim O'Meara
Mr. Tom Logan
Mr. Jim Brady