

# BEAR SAFETY SIGN CATALOG

North Cascades Ecosystem



## INTRODUCTION

The following bear safety signs have been developed by an interagency communications team for use by various agencies and organizations across the North Cascades ecosystem. The signs address message consistency and will help build familiarity through repetition.

### Notes on Messaging:

- Using communication best practices, messages are intentionally kept brief. Users typically only retain a small number of messages.
- Messaging and graphics are based upon signs in use in other ecosystems.
- Messages combine the use of symbols and short phrases (safety slogans) for important messages so information can be understood at a glance.
- Messaging avoids the use of jargon. CFR and regulations in legal-sounding language are deliberately not included. Most users don't read them.
- Logos and agency branding are not included to make them universally applicable. Agencies can apply their branding (fonts, logos, etc) if needed.

# YOU ARE IN BEAR COUNTRY

Stay safe on the trail



Securely Store Food, Garbage, and Attractants in bear-resistant containers.



**Stay Alert, Remove Earbuds**  
Slow down and make noise as you travel.

### Dogs + Bears = Problems

Where dogs are allowed, keep them on leash to help avoid conflict with wildlife.



**Bear Spray Works!**  
Carry it, keep it accessible, and know how to use it.



## STANDARD TRAILHEAD SIGN

Intended for use at all trailheads, this sign covers basic information for recreation in bear country. Included in an 8.5" x 11" format.

# ATTENTION

## Mountain Bikers and Trail Runners



Expect bears to be present.

Fast-paced trail recreation increases the risk of surprising a bear.

If you encounter a bear, do not run. Back away slowly.



## FAST-PACED RECREATION SIGN

For use at trailheads where deemed appropriate, further emphasizing hazards involved with fast-paced recreation. Can be used in conjunction with the standard trailhead sign. Included in both 8.5" x 11" and half-sheet format options.

# Be Bear Aware



**Bears Enter This Area  
Do Not Approach or Feed  
Store All Food Properly**

## Be Bear Aware



**Bears Enter This Area  
Do Not Approach or Feed  
Store All Food Properly**

## **BEAR AWARE, GENERAL USE**

A general sign to alert visitors to the possible presence of bears.  
Included in 39" x 31" format.

# Be Bear Aware



**Bears Enter This Campground  
Do Not Approach or Feed  
Store All Food Properly**

## Be Bear Aware



**Bears Enter This Campground  
Do Not Approach or Feed  
Store All Food Properly**

## **BEAR AWARE, CAMPGROUND**

A campground-specific version of the "Be Bear Aware" sign, for posting in campgrounds. Included in 39" x 31" format.

# WARNING

## Food Odors Attract Bears

Do not store the following outside or in tents at any time unless they are in immediate use. Store items in hard-sided vehicles or in food storage lockers.

### Food / Items with Food Odors

Sealed Cans or Bottles

Beverage Containers

Cosmetics / Toiletries

Pet Food / Bowls

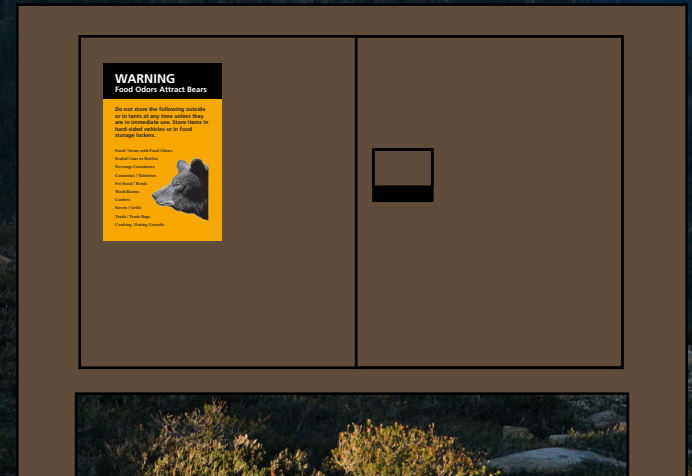
Wash Basins

Coolers

Stoves / Grills

Trash / Trash Bags

Cooking / Eating Utensils



## FOOD STORAGE STICKER

A sticker that specifically lists odorous items that should be securely stored. Intended to be posted on or near bear-resistant containers or lockers. Included in a 12" x 18" format.

# WARNING

## Food Odors Attract Bears

Do not store the following outside or in tents at any time unless they are in immediate use. Store items in hard-sided vehicles or in food storage lockers.

Food / Items with Food Odors

Sealed Cans or Bottles

Beverage Containers

Cosmetics / Toiletries

Pet Food / Bowls

Wash Basins

Coolers

Stoves / Grills

Trash / Trash Bags

Cooking / Eating Utensils



## FOOD STORAGE SIGN

A sign version of the sticker that specifically lists odorous items that should be securely stored. Intended to be posted around campgrounds. Included in an 8.5" x 11" format.

# TEMPORARILY CLOSED



## TEMPORARILY CLOSED DUE TO BEAR ACTIVITY

### **If you see a bear:**

Back away slowly and move away from the area.

Make noise so the bear knows you are there.

### **If a bear approaches:**

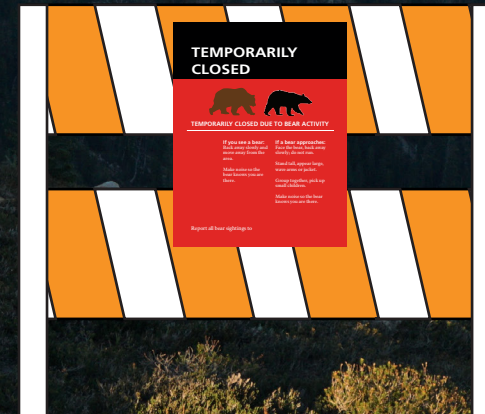
Face the bear, back away slowly; do not run.

Stand tall, appear large, wave arms or jacket.

Group together, pick up small children.

Make noise so the bear knows you are there.

Report all bear sightings to



## TEMPORARY CLOSURE SIGN

A temporary sign intended for short-term closures due to wildlife activity (such as a bear feeding on a deer carcass.) Included in 8.5" x 11" format.



# WARNING

Lorem ipsum



## BEARS HAVE BEEN OBSERVED AT CLOSE RANGE IN THIS AREA

### If you see a bear:

Back away slowly and move away from the area.

Make noise so the bear knows you are there.

### If a bear approaches:

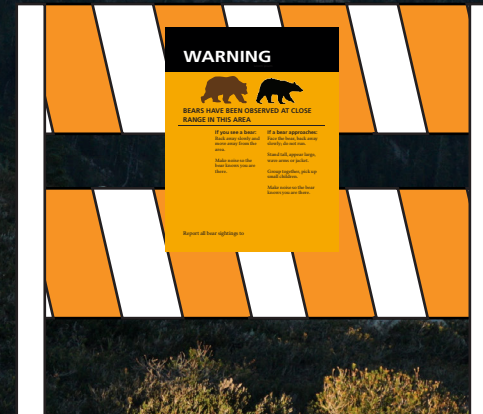
Face the bear, back away slowly; do not run.

Stand tall, appear large, wave arms or jacket.

Group together, pick up small children.

Make noise so the bear knows you are there.

Report all bear sightings to



## TEMPORARY CAUTION SIGN

A temporary sign intended for short-term use to alert visitors to recent bear sightings. Included in 8.5" x 11" format.