



23rd Eastern Black Bear Workshop Ligonier, PA



Hosted by the Pennsylvania Game Commission

Become a partner in bear conservation and management!

The Pennsylvania Game Commission is hosting the 23rd Eastern Black Bear Workshop (EBBW) in Ligonier, Pennsylvania on April 24-27, 2017 at the Antiochian Village Conference Center. The first Eastern Black Bear Workshop was held in Delmar, New York in July 1972. Since then, the EBBW has had a consistent and successful track record of 23 biennial meetings hosted by 18 states and one Canadian province. Workshop proceedings provide an interesting history of black bear management and research in eastern North America for the past 43 years.

Eastern Black Bear Workshops are inherently different from general conferences. Whereas conferences have the purpose of sharing information through the presentation of research papers, EBBWs are designed not only to share information, but more specifically to discuss and find solutions to problems of managing bear populations at the regional level. Attendance is usually around 100 people comprised largely of state, provincial, federal, and university professionals responsible for managing black bear populations in eastern USA and Canada.

The Workshop will begin on the afternoon of Monday, April 24th with meetings of the Northeast Black Bear Technical Committee and the Southeast Large Carnivore Working Group, and then continue with a full workshop agenda over the next three days involving sessions lead by invited speakers with mediated group discussions (please see attached draft agenda). Information about the upcoming meeting also is available at our website www.easternblackbearworkshop.org

As organizing chairman, I would like to invite you to consider being a Workshop sponsor. One of the challenges we face is assisting invited speakers with travel costs. Registration fees typically cover administration costs, but host states often need assistance with enabling quality speakers the opportunity to attend. Providing quality speakers directly impacts the professional development of attendees, which in turn leads to better bear managers. Sponsorship also helps offset costs associated with website maintenance, facility fees, session breaks, and student registration discounts. Our hope is to reach \$8,000 through sponsorships. In donating, you would be benefiting and promoting the conservation and management of bears in eastern North America.

All sponsors will be prominently recognized on the Workshop website, in materials distributed with registration packets, in the Workshop program, during breaks, and in meeting proceedings. For sponsors of \$400 or more, we can also include a half-page add in the Workshop program and a sponsor-provided flyer in registration packets if desired. The Pennsylvania Chapter of The Wildlife Society has agreed to receive and deposit any monetary contributions.

I appreciate your time and thank you in advance for your consideration. Please contact me with any questions or comments you may have or to make a contribution.

Sincerely,

Mark Ternent – Workshop Chair
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