

Virginia Black Bear Management Plan Value Identification Exercise

Example 2001 Virginia Black Bear Management Plan Values:

- *Promote human safety.*
- *Provide a diversity of hunting opportunities.*
- *Conserve black bear habitat consistent with bear population objectives.*
- *Ensure the long-term viability of bear populations in all areas except northern Piedmont and northern Tidewater.*

Example Issue: **Feeding bears**

What is the *value* you hold that makes feeding bears an issue to you or your region?

Is it...

- concern for human safety (because feeding bears brings them into contact or near contact with humans more often)? Then a value you may want to identify for the bear management plan is ***promote or ensure human safety.***
- concern for habituating bears (because they will no longer be able to thrive in the wild or without human assistance)? Then a value you may want to identify for the bear management plan is ***promote or ensure the bear population remains wild or viable.***
- concern for property damage (because bears will damage property looking for food once they know there is a food source in the area)? Then a value you may want to identify for the bear management plan is ***prevent personal property damage.***
- all or a combination of the above concerns and/or additional concerns? Then please identify each value individually during the value identification portion of the meeting today.

Example Issue: **Habitat loss**

What is the *value* you hold that makes bear habitat loss an issue to you or your region?

Is it...

- concern for human safety (because loss of habitat results in bears frequenting neighborhoods to look for food or shelter)? Then a value you may want to identify for the bear management plan is ***promote or ensure human safety and/or conserve bear habitat to prevent bears being forced into residential areas.***
- concern for the welfare or viability of bear population? Then a value you may want to identify for the bear management plan is ***conserve bear habitat to ensure the welfare or viability of the bear population.***
- all or a combination of the above concerns and/or additional concerns? Then please identify each value individually during the value identification portion of the meeting today.

Region 1 Example Issue: **Increasing number of bear sightings**

What is the *value* you hold that makes an increasing number of bear sightings an issue to you or your region?

Please think about why this issue concerns you and write the value(s) you identify below:

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