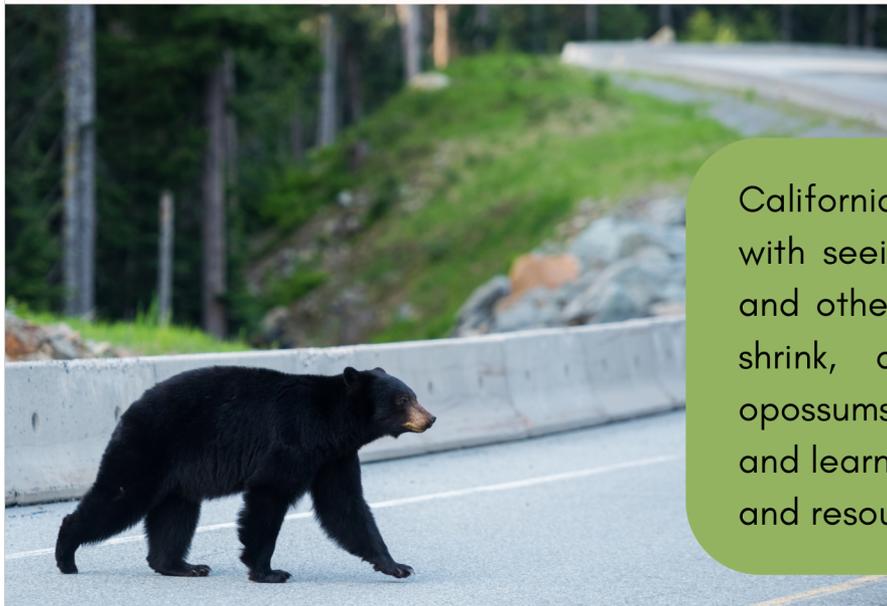


BEING BEAR AWARE

Shared Habitat

As humans have expanded their footprint across the globe, the area of truly wild habitat has fragmented and dwindled. Many wildlife biologists believe that setting aside land in parks and preserves is no longer enough. They argue that the best way to ensure the survival of wild creatures and wild places is by doing a better job of sharing the environment.



Overlapping Range

Californians from Eureka to San Diego are familiar with seeing wildlife in backyards, playgrounds, parks, and other human spaces. As areas of native habitats shrink, animals, including black bears, coyotes, opossums, raccoons, ravens, and skunks, have adapted and learned to take advantage of the remaining space and resources.

Keep Them Wild!

When wild animals learn that human areas have access to easy meals, it can lead to a dangerous situation for everyone. The best way to help black bears and other animals is to **keep them WILD!**

HELPING BEARS AT HOME

- Secure garbage bins and put them outside on the morning of pickup.
- Feed pets indoors or move pet food inside at night.
- Clean and secure outdoor grills after use.
- Protect gardens, compost, and domestic animals with appropriate fencing.
- Place bird feeders securely out of reach.

HELPING BEARS AT CAMP

- Keep campsites clean and place garbage in marked dumpsters or containers.
- Place coolers, food, and scented toiletries in bear-proof storage and away from tents.
- In the backcountry, use bear-resistant canisters for food and trash storage.

No food? No bears! *These tips encourage bears to stay in wild spaces where they have natural food sources.*