

WildSafeBC Annual Report 2022

Castlegar and Area

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CASTLEGAR

Executive Summary

This report describes the activities, highlights and challenges of the WildSafeBC Castlegar Program between June 1 and November 30, 2022. The program area includes the City of Castlegar and the communities located in Areas I and J within the Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) (Figure 1). WildSafeBC acknowledges that Castlegar and the surrounding area are located on traditional territories of the Sinixt Nation.

In 2022, in Castlegar and the surrounding area, there were 194 black bear reports which far exceeded any other species reports to the Conservation Officer Services (COS). The number of black bear reports was also the second highest it has been in five years. Other species reports included deer, elk, cougar, grizzly, and coyotes.

The main goal of the WildSafeBC Community Coordinator (WCC) is to assist communities in preventing conflicts through educational programs and collaborations with the City of Castlegar and the COS. The following WildSafeBC activities were completed by the WCC:

- There were 26 WildSafe Ranger presentations provided for 392 children.
- A total of 9 Wildlife Awareness and Bear Spray presentations for 113 people.
- An electric fencing presentation was given to the residents of Castlegar and surrounding area in collaboration with Grizzly Bear Coexistence Solutions.
- A total of 449 brochures or door hangers were distributed through 12 neighborhood canvassing sessions.
- Bin tagging took place over 14 nights in 4 different areas within the City of Castlegar.
- There were 7 display booths reaching over 455 people.
- The WCC encouraged 7 businesses to take, or renew, the WildSafeBC Pledge.
- The WildSafeBC Castlegar Facebook page grew from 687 to 800 followers.
- The WCC worked with Pass Creek Campground to initiate the Bare Campsite Program.
- Wildlife in Area signs were rotated through various locations throughout Castlegar.
- In collaboration with the community group Castlegardens, "Pick Me, Please" signs were provided to residents in an attempt to encourage people to harvest fruit, prevent food waste and prevent human-wildlife conflicts.
- In collaboration with the City of Castlegar, the Harvest Match program was developed to help match volunteers with local ample fruit or nut supplies.
- A new game was developed for the WildSafe Ranger program to further engage kids in the WildSafeBC messaging.

The largest highlight of the season was the number of WildSafe Ranger and wildlife presentations that were completed. The participants appreciated the information and this will hopefully result in positive changes throughout the community. Some members of the community were not as concerned by the potential of bears becoming habituated but were concerned at the thought of increased activity of other species such as rats, skunks, and raccoons. The WCC provided a consistent message that managing garbage, compost, pet food

and other common attractants will not only help with keeping bears out of the community but that all wildlife will find more suitable options outside the community if attractants are reduced.

The WCC would like to thank the City of Castlegar, the BC Conservation Foundation, the Province of BC, the Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK), and the Columbia Basin Trust for their support of this program. The WCC would also like to thank the residents of Castlegar for their support and interest in keeping wildlife wild and communities safe by properly managing their attractants.

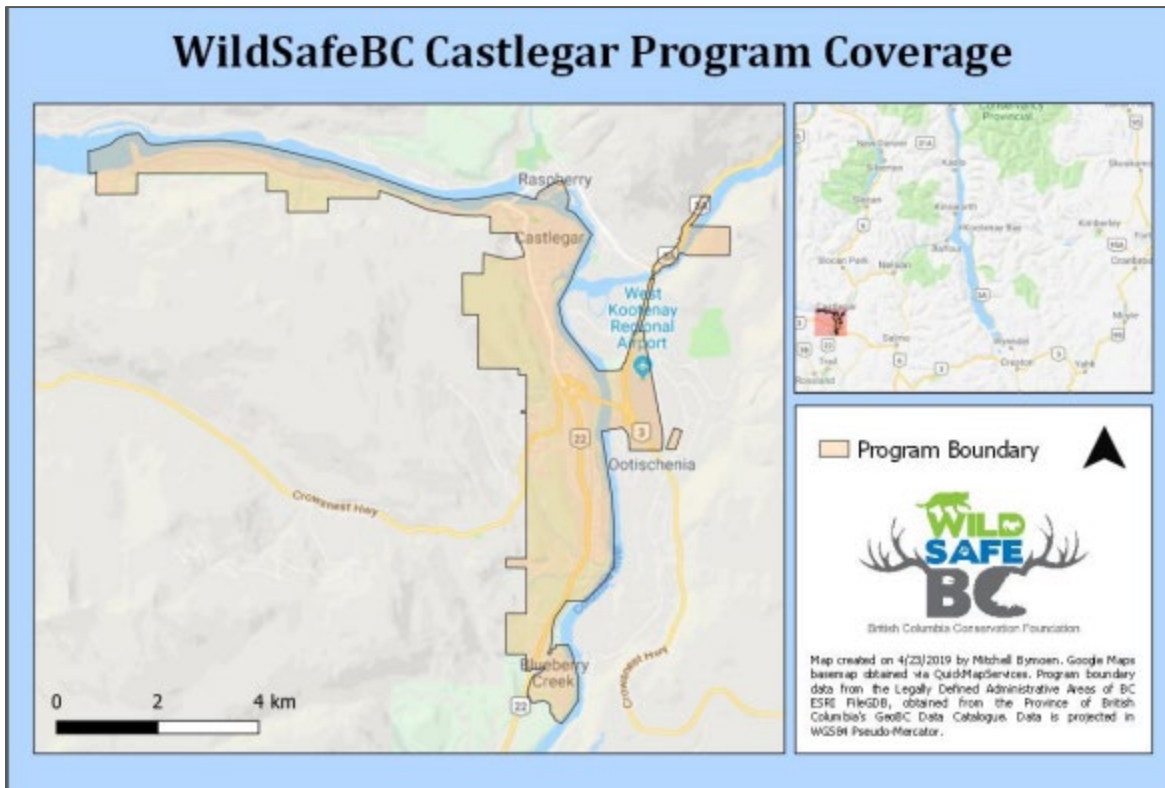


Figure 1. WildSafeBC Castlegar Program Coverage Area.

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Highlights from the 2022 Season

Wildlife Activity

Reports made to the COS through the RAPP line (1-877-952-7277) and the online form (<https://forms.gov.bc.ca/environment/rapp/>) are available to the public through the WildSafeBC Wildlife Alert Reporting Program (WARP) found on the WildSafeBC website. This data is updated daily and this report for Castlegar and area includes data from January 1, 2016 to November 26, 2022. There were 194 black bear wildlife reports which far exceeded any other species in Castlegar in 2022 (Figure 2). There were an additional 8 reports of grizzly bears in Genelle and Ootischenia immediately outside of Castlegar. Deer, elk and coyote reports have remained fairly consistent over the past few years, while cougar reports have decreased overall (Figure 2).

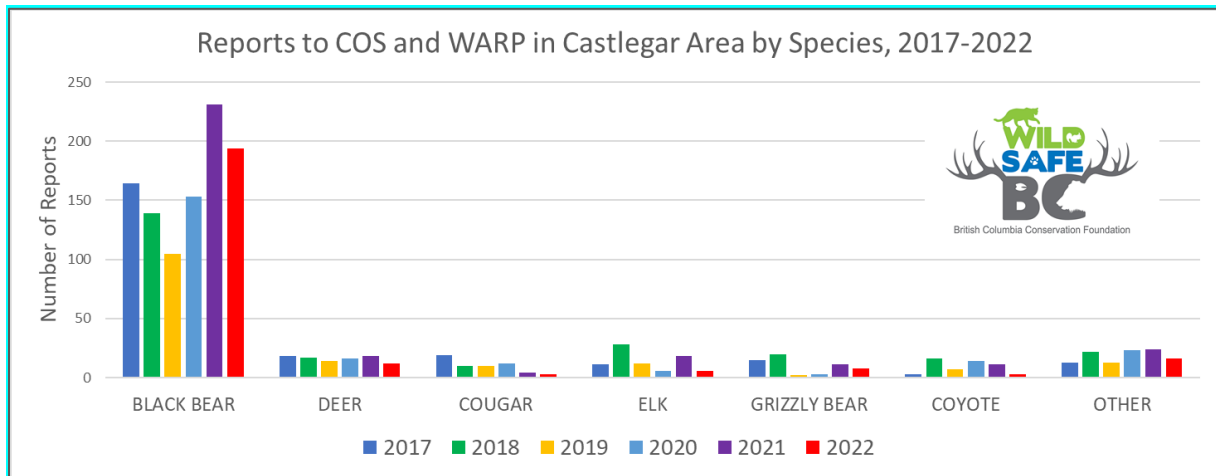


Figure 2. Wildlife reports to the Conservation Officer Service by species from Jan 1, 2017 to Nov. 26, 2022.

There was a decrease in wildlife reports from 2021 (Figure 3). This was the second consecutive year that had a poor berry crop resulting from hot and dry summer conditions. Various wildfires in 2021 may have also contributed to a greater number of reports last year.

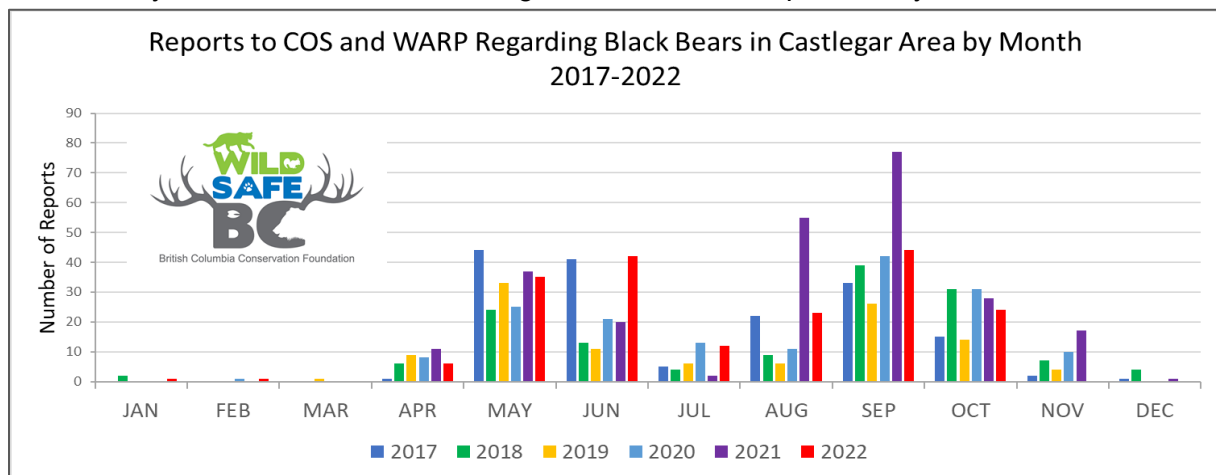


Figure 3. Black bear reports to the Conservation Officer Service by month from Jan. 1, 2017 – Nov. 26, 2022.

Unfortunately WARP was unable to track the wildlife attractants as it has in previous years, however, it is strongly suspected that garbage continues to be the leading attractant for black bears in Castlegar, followed by fruit and nut trees. Nine bears were euthanized within Castlegar city limits this year, which was an increase from 2021. There is consistent feedback from residents indicating they are reluctant to report instances where bears access garbage or damage property due to fear that the bear will be harmed. Reporting to the COS needs to be encouraged to effectively manage potential human-wildlife conflict. Educating the public about the goals of the COS in dealing with wildlife conflict would help to mitigate this misconception. A new organics collection service is set to begin as early as spring 2023, which will hopefully decrease the number of bear reports associated with garbage.

There is also a continued reluctance by the public to recognize fruit as an attractant that leads to conflict. Unlike garbage, fruit is perceived as a healthy form of calories while disregarding the fact that a bear has been encouraged to forage among densely populated areas. Once the fruit wanes, these food-conditioned and human-habituated bears may then turn to other sources of nearby food such as garbage.

Display Booths

WildSafeBC held regular booths throughout the City during the season, engaging with a total of 455 people (Figure 4; Table 1). These booths were held in a variety of locations in an attempt to reach a broader audience.

Table 1. WildSafeBC display booths in Castlegar, 2022.

Venue	Date	# of Participants
Castlegar Farmer's Market	July 23, 2022	93
Syringa Provincial Park	August 5, 2022	72
Millennium Park	August 7, 2022	52
Pass Creek Campground	August 27, 2022	17
Public Library Spray Park	September 1, 2022	32
Castlegar Farmer's Market	September 11, 2022	103
Castlegar Famer's Market	October 15, 2022	87
TOTAL PARTICIPANTS		455



Figure 4. Display booths at the Public Library Spray Park (left), Millennium Park (centre) and Pass Creek Campground (right) in 2022.

WildSafe Ranger Program

The WildSafe Ranger Program (WRP) introduces youth to the concept of human-wildlife conflicts and what they can do to stay safe and how they can ensure their family secures wildlife attractants around the home. The WCC hosted a WRP presentation for the Castlegar Summer Reading Club, the SPCA Summer Camps, various preschools and daycares, as well as eight classes ranging from grade 1 to 7 at Kinnaird Elementary, Robson Community School, and Blueberry Creek Early Learning and Care Centre, resulting in 26 presentations all together (Table 2; Figure 5).



Figure 5. WildSafe Ranger presentations in Castlegar, 2022.

Table 2. WildSafeBC display booths in Castlegar, 2022.

Schools/Organizations	Grade	# of Students
Les Roudoudous Daycare	Pre-School	7
Castlegar & District Public Library	Pre-School	10
Castlegar & District Public Library	Kindergarten	14
Castlegar & District Public Library	Grade 1-3	10
Castlegar & District Public Library	Grade 4+	14
Castlegar & District Public Library	Grade 4+	9
Castlegar & District Public Library	Pre-School	11
Castlegar & District Public Library	Kindergarten	7
Castlegar & District Public Library	Grades 1-3	17
Castlegar SPCA	Grades 2-5	9
Castlegar SPCA	Grades 2-5	14
Castlegar SPCA	Grades 6-7	14
Castlegar SPCA	Kindergarten – Grade 1	10
Kinnaird Elementary	Grade 1	21
Kinnaird Elementary	Grades 1-2	21
Kinnaird Elementary	Grades 3-4	24
Kinnaird Elementary	Grade 7	27
Blueberry Preschool	3 years old	11
Blueberry Preschool	4 years old	16
Blueberry Preschool	Strong Start	8
Robson Community School	Kindergarten – Grade 1	24
Robson Community School	Grades 4-5	20
Robson Community School	Grade 7	23
Robson Community School	Grade 2/3	24
Mindful Munchkins Day Home	3-4 years old	9
Children's Orchard Preschool	3-5 y/o	15
Total:	26	392

Wildlife Awareness Presentations

The WCC was a guest speaker for two classes at Selkirk College with a total of 53 students: an international nursing class and a language instruction class (Table 3). Additionally, a presentation was also held at Kootenay Family Place for 8 newcomers to Canada. Each in-person presentation was highly informative for participants that lacked familiarity with local wildlife. There was a large focus on safety and managing attractants.

There was also a presentation to the City of Castlegar Public Works Department. The goal of this presentation was to inform the employees of signs of active wildlife in the area and where to report such sightings. Examples included unsecured commercial garbage bins (bylaw), animal carcasses not from a vehicle accident (RAPP), scat and signs of recent wildlife activity (WARP and WCC). This presentation proved to be beneficial as it led to an increased exchange of information, allowing for faster response time to community concerns.

Table 3. Wildlife Awareness presentations in Castlegar, 2022.

Group	Date	# of Participants
Kootenay Family Place	June 27, 2022	8
Public Works	August 22, 2022	23
Language Instruction Students	September 16, 2022	30
International Nursing Students	September 27, 2022	16
Chrissy's Place	November 16, 2022	10
Total Participants		87

Electric Fencing

An electric fencing workshop took place at the City Hall Community Forum in collaboration with Gillian Sanders from Grizzly Bear Coexistence Solutions (Figure 6). There were seven people in attendance. As part of our partnership with the City of Castlegar, the space was provided at no charge.

Bear Spray Workshops

A total of four bear spray workshops took place in Castlegar with a total of 26 participants (Figure 6). The majority of the bear spray workshops were held at Millennium Park as it is located in a central location and is operated by the City of Castlegar. Additionally, there is a sheltered area that is ideal for the presentations and ample open space to use for bear spray practice space without disturbing other park users.

Table 4. Bear Spray Workshops hosted in Castlegar, 2022.

Venue	Date	# of Participants
Syringa Provincial Park	June 24, 2022	9
Millennium Park	August 16, 2022	7
Millennium Park	October 2, 2022	4
Millennium Park	October 30, 2022	6
Total Participants		26



Figure 6. Electric fence workshop (left) and bear spray workshop (right) in Castlegar, 2022.

BC Goes Wild

BC Goes Wild is a campaign to celebrate wildlife in BC and it occurs in September which is typically the month when human-bear conflicts are at their highest in BC. This year there was a family-friendly scavenger hunt set up for the entire month in Millennium Park (Figure 7). The exact number of participants is hard to determine as there were a number of family submissions, but at least 26 people took part in the activity.

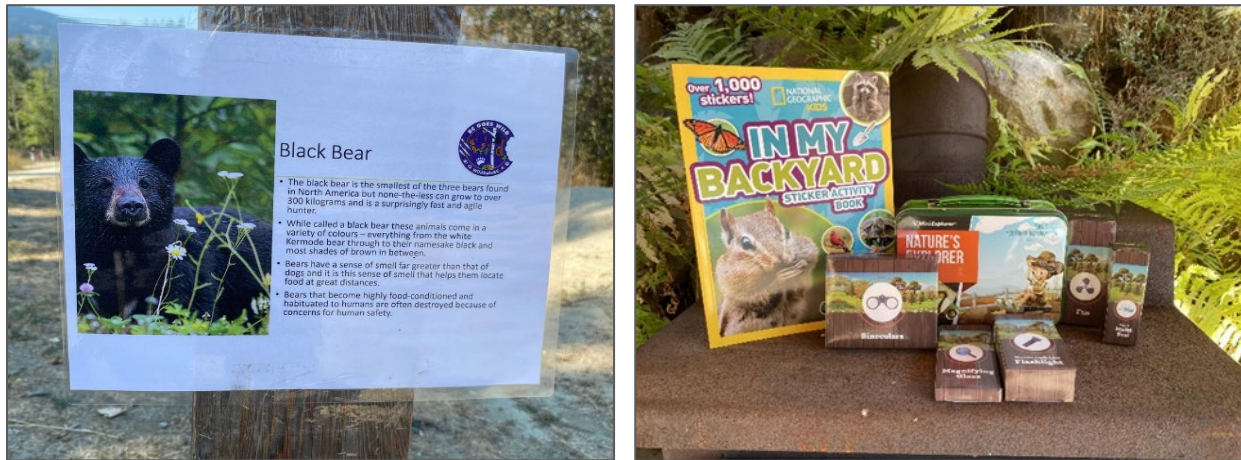


Figure 7. Sample scavenger hunt clue and prize pack for BC Goes Wild in Castlegar, 2022.

There was also a collaboration with the WCC's representing Nelson and Selkirk-Purcell areas. Various breweries within each of the coverage areas were contacted with the opportunity to have a brief local wildlife presentation, followed by "Bears N' Brews" trivia (Figure 8). Two breweries scheduled this event, resulting in 40 participants in total.



Figure 8. Bears N' Brews trivia night for BC Goes Wild at Angry Hen Brewing, 2022.

Door-to-Door Education

Close to 500 door hangers or black bear brochures were delivered to residents within and outside of Castlegar city limits (Table 5). Black bear safety information was developed and included in the quarterly utility bill which is sent to every property owner within Castlegar (Figure 9). Other species brochures delivered were grizzly bears, cougars and raccoons.

Table 5. Brochures and door hangers distributed in Castlegar and Area, 2022.

Species	# of Brochures/Door Hangers	Locations Delivered
Black Bear	All Castlegar Residents	City of Castlegar
Black Bear	366	2 nd , 8 th , Crescent and King Street, 4 th , 6 th , 7 th , 8 th , 10 th , Avenue, Highland Drive (240)
Grizzly Bear	64	Blueberry, Emerald Cres.
Raccoon	35	10 th , 11 th Avenue, 23 rd Street
Cougar	23	Oglows
Total Brochures	488	

BEAR SMART COMMUNITY

Be Bear Smart

Let's keep wildlife wild and people safe

Bear Smart Tips

Your Garbage Cart

- Lock and store carts in a secure building between your collection day.
- Carts left outside must have both clips locked and be chained to a strong post or tree between collection. It is more difficult for bears to break into a cart if it is fixed upright.
- Only place carts on the curb with clips unlocked between 4-7a.m. on your collection day. Fines up to \$200 may be issued for carts not secured or placed on the curb outside of collection windows.
- If your cart or clips are damaged, contact the City.

Reduce Odors

- Freeze especially smelly food items. Add them to your cart on your collection day (e.g. meat, bones, rotten fruit, etc).
- Take additional garbage to landfill.
- Clean your cart regularly. Add ¼ cup baking soda and ¼ cup of Borax to absorb odors.
- Secure and manage backyard compost carefully by adding small amounts at a time and never add meat, dairy, bones or grease.

Managing Attractants

- Pick all domestic fruit and nuts as they ripen.
- Feed pets inside.
- Remove bird feeders until winter.
- Install electric fencing.

For more info visit wildsafebc.com

Free Bear Safety Course

Visit bit.ly/30QcLdO to enroll in this course or scan the QR code

This 30 minute course contains key information on how to avoid conflicts with bears and stay safe when recreating in British Columbia. It includes these topics:

- WildSafeBC's Wildlife Alert Reporting Program
- Bear attack statistics
- Avoiding negative encounters
- Responding in an encounter
- Interpreting animal behaviour
- Camping in bear country
- Bear spray

Do not feed wild turkeys or any wild animals. Help keep wildlife wild.

DID YOU KNOW? Wild turkeys are agile fliers and roost in trees overnight to stay safe from ground-duelling predators?

Report human-wildlife conflicts to the RAPP line at 1 877 952 7277 or #7277 on the TELUS Mobility Network

Castlegar is a BearSmart Community
castlegar.ca | 250 365 7227

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Figure 9. Bear aware information included in the quarterly utility bill, Castlegar, 2022.

Garbage Tagging

Garbage bin tagging consists of placing a highly visible and removable warning sticker on top of containers set curbside the night before collection (Figure 10). During 14 outings throughout Castlegar, a total of 28 bins were tagged in the City of Castlegar. The number of bins that were tagged was down significantly from last year, showing that the residents of Castlegar experienced a large learning curve from last year. The City was more proactive in issuing tickets. There were 9 tickets issued in 2021, and 23 in 2022, which contributed in this obvious improvement.

There were also two rounds of commercial dumpster checks of food-related businesses with an average of 16 dumpsters found unlocked or open. This was also a decrease from last year, which averaged 25 unsecured dumpsters in two rounds of checks.



Figure 10. Residential bin tagging.

Waste Management took on the task of placing bear decals on all the commercial bins used in Castlegar to help ensure proper practices are followed by anyone accessing the bins (Figure 10). There were also five non-bear-resistant bins located throughout Castlegar. A bear was caught accessing one of the bins on multiple occasions (Figure 11). Once it was brought to the attention of city representatives, all five bins were removed the following day.

Help keep wildlife wild!

WILD SAFE BC
British Columbia Conservation Foundation

PREVENT ACCESS TO GARBAGE

- Keep bins **CLOSED** at all times
- Keep surrounding area clean
- Do not overfill container
- Ensure lid is properly secured

www.wildsafebc.com

CASTLEGAR Bring surplus waste to the Landfill
616 Columbia Road, Castlegar



Figure 11. Commercial bin sticker (left) and black bear accessing non-resistant bin in Castlegar (right), 2022.

Within the RDCK, specifically the communities of Raspberry, Brilliant, Robson and Ootischenia, there is no consistent garbage pick-up service. Residents of these communities can hire one of three companies that operate in the area, all with different pickup schedules, therefore the

garbage cart tagging program is not suitable for these areas. Education efforts should continue in these areas to help these communities to stay safe and keep wildlife wild.

WildSafeBC Bare Campsite Program

The WildSafeBC Coordinator approached the Pass Creek Campground host and manager to discuss the benefits of the Bare Campsite Program early in the season. The campground has made significant improvements but the cost of some infrastructure improvements remains a barrier for full implementation. They have adopted the practice of having campers sign a declaration upon check-in that they will not leave any attractants out when their site is unattended. The campground has also installed food lockers to help ensure the safety of campers staying in soft-sided units. Next year they plan to install a kitchen for campers to help keep food prep areas away from sleeping areas. If that is accomplished, the campground will have met all of the criteria of the Bare Campsite Program.

WildSafeBC Business Pledge

The WCC approached 4 businesses in Castlegar and surrounding area about the WildSafeBC Business Pledge, but there was no response from any of those contacted. Businesses that took the pledge last year were also contacted in regards to renewing. Of the seven businesses that committed last year, two were no longer in business and two expressed interest. Unfortunately, timing was a challenge and the reviews were not completed in time. Early follow up in the spring is recommended.

Social Media and Press

The WildSafeBC Castlegar Facebook page has been an effective way to reach residents, although there was minimal engagement on posts. Some of the most popular posts were about Castlegar specific WildSafeBC events and activities. Examples include the promotions of the Electric Fence and Bear Spray workshops, as well as the BC Goes Wild scavenger hunt. The number of page followers increased from 721 in 2021 to 800 in 2022 - a 9.8% increase.

The Castlegar News regularly printed ads related to bear safety (Bear Aware) through the season. The WCC and the City of Castlegar collaborated on a one-page bear safety informative insert for the quarterly utility bill sent out to all Castlegar residents (Figure 9). The City also collaborated with the WCC to create a short video for social media to share good examples of locals managing their attractants. There were three radio interviews with Castlegar's local station, *The GOAT*, to help share wildlife activity updates as well as support various initiatives and events.

Fruit Gleaning

The WCC collaborated with the City of Castlegar with the development of a local fruit gleaning initiative – Harvest Match Castlegar (Figure 12). The intent of this program is to connect local residents in search of fruit and nuts to harvest with those who were unable to manage their fruit trees or had an abundance that would otherwise go to waste. This program was very well received by the community. Facebook was used as the primary communication tool; the page

gained 76 users in less than one month, and another 9 individuals who joined outside of Facebook.

On the Harvest Match Facebook page members can share what fruit/nuts they are hoping to collect, or that they have to offer. Members private message each other with collection details (primarily the home owners address, specific timeframes and required materials) and the volunteers follow the home owners parameters. The fruit and nuts collected can be used in any capacity – donation, feeding livestock, selling, or personal consumption. The feedback received from home owners and volunteers was all very positive with each individual indicating that they would use the program again, as well as suggest it to others.



The flyer features a header with various fruits and nuts and the text "Harvest Match Matching trees & people". The main content is organized into several sections: "What is Harvest Match?", "Get Started", "Got a tree?", "Pick a harvest", "Supported by WildSafeBC & the City of Castlegar", "Bear Smart Tips", "Your Garbage Cart", "Reduce Odors", and "Managing Attractants". Each section contains specific instructions and contact information for the program.

What is Harvest Match?
We match tree-owners with local people ready to pick unwanted fruit & nuts to reduce food waste and bear attractants.

Get Started
On Facebook, join us at **Harvest Match Castlegar**. Not comfortable with Facebook? Call 250 608 5404 or email us at castlegar@wildsafebc.com and we will find you a match.

Got a tree?
Have a fruit or nut bearing tree that needs picking? Let your neighbours know what you got and when people can pick it by posting it in our Harvest Match Castlegar Facebook group.

Pick a harvest
Watch for fruit & nut tree posts. Then make arrangements with the tree-owner and get picking! Remember to respect the tree owner's time, property and privacy.

Supported by WildSafeBC & the City of Castlegar

Bear Smart Tips

Your Garbage Cart

- ▶ **Lock and store carts** in a secure building between your collection day.
- ▶ **Carts left outside must have both clips locked and be chained to a strong post** or tree between collection. It is more difficult for bears to break into a cart if it is fixed upright.
- ▶ **Only place carts on the curb with clips unlocked between 4-7 a.m. on your collection day.** Fines up to \$200 may be issued for carts not secured or placed on the curb outside of collection windows.
- ▶ If your cart or clips are damaged, contact the City.

Reduce Odors

- ▶ **Freeze especially smelly food items.** Add them to your cart on your collection day (ie: meat, bones, rotten fruit, etc).
- ▶ **Take additional garbage to landfill.**
- ▶ **Clean your cart regularly.** Add ¼ cup baking soda and ¼ cup of Borax to absorb odors.
- ▶ Secure and **manage backyard compost carefully** by adding small amounts at a time and never add meat, dairy, bones or grease.

Managing Attractants

- ▶ Pick all domestic fruit and nuts as they ripen.
- ▶ Feed pets inside.
- ▶ Remove bird feeders until winter.
- ▶ Install electric fencing.

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castlegar.ca | 250 365 7227

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Figure 12. Harvest Match program information included in the quarterly utility bill, Castlegar, 2022.

Collaborations

Numerous collaborations took place during the 2022 season with WildSafeBC and these included:

- Bylaw Officer Wayne Cox was an active participant in garbage bin tagging and commercial bin tagging. The large majority of the evenings spent tagging were with Wayne's attendance and support.
- Grizzly Bear Coexistence Solutions Gillian Sanders came to the Castlegar Community Forum to present at an electric fencing workshop organized by the WCC.
- Syringa Provincial Park allowed access to the campground to host a Bear Spray Workshop, as well as host an information booth to help promote bare camping practices (Figure 13).
- Pass Creek Campground allowed the WCC to host an information booth to help promote bare camping and safety practices when recreating.
- Castlegardens provided "Pick Me, Please" signage to the WCC to lend out to residents looking for help with managing the harvest of their fruit trees (Figure 13).
- The City of Castlegar provided space for the Electric Fence workshop, as well as access to Millennium Park for the BC Goes Wild scavenger hunt and three bear spray workshops. They also contracted an external organization to develop the promotional materials and strategy for the Harvest Match Castlegar initiative and funded a promotional video highlighting good community examples of residents managing their attractants.



Figure 13. "Pick Me" signs provided by Castlegardens (left), display booth at Syringa Provincial Park (right), 2022.

Challenges and Opportunities

The City of Castlegar experienced a high number of human-bear conflict reports this season, due to a poor berry crop resulting from very hot and dry summer conditions. Bears visited our communities on a regular basis in efforts to find food. Castlegar continues to have challenges with residents not managing their attractants which leads to food-conditioned bears. There were steady reports of garbage cart damage this year, especially to the clips and lids. Waste Management repairs damaged carts and has been replacing damaged clips with a more durable option. Previously, there would be no charge for this service but now homeowners may be charged if it is found that the cart was left unsecured.

Moving forward, recommendations include considering the impact of organics collection on human-bear conflicts in the community and putting measures in place to mitigate these concerns. Current challenges with the storage of bear-resistant carts will likely translate to similar issues with the organics rollout. Improper storage leads to high numbers of bear damaged carts and food-conditioned bears. There should also be continued education on replacing fruit or nut-bearing trees with other suitable trees and highlighting the wildlife attractant and solid waste bylaws upheld by the City of Castlegar. New residents to Castlegar may be unaware of the bylaws and need easily accessible information. Ongoing education should continue to inform residents of new programs, initiatives, and how to get bins repaired through the City of Castlegar website, Facebook page, and quarterly utility bills.

Many of the homes in the downtown area do not have garages, leaving residents to store garbage outside, often accessible to bears. Some residents effectively chain or strap the bear-resistant bins to posts or trees, but most do not, allowing bears to drag garbage away and rip the bin apart. This has resulted in food-conditioned bears. There was an emphasis on education in this area which must be ongoing. Continued enforcement of proper bin security is highly recommended as it has already proven to be effective. Further, once the organics program is rolled out, residents will have two bins to manage. The following additional initiatives are recommended for 2023:

- Electric fence demonstration(s) and partner with residents on demonstration properties illustrating best practices.
- Continue door-to-door campaigns and wildlife in area signage in hotspots.
- Continue education through radio ads, social media, and quarterly utility bills.
- Follow up with Pass Creek Campground on the WildSafeBC Bare Campsite Program.
- Ensure the continuation of the Wildlife Working Group to facilitate ongoing implementation of Castlegar's Human-Bear Conflict Management Plan.
- Continue WildSafeBC presentations and bear spray workshops at Selkirk College and through other local organizations. Currently, presentations are given to some of the International students and New Comers to Canada to educate foreign students about local wildlife natural history and safety practices in bear country. Additional presentations to a greater audience would be beneficial as this information could be new for many others in the community.

- Initiate the garbage tagging program as soon as possible in the active bear season (starting as early as April) and attempt to recruit volunteers to assist with this program with appropriate conflict mitigation training. Consistency is key with this program.
- Continue the promotion of the Harvest Match program – particularly with houses that have unmanaged fruit trees or renters that may not be motivated to properly glean the fruit.
- Encourage continued education and enforcement efforts, especially focusing residents and businesses where repeated attractant mismanagement occurs.
- Work with residents to find effective bin security solutions, particularly when a second bin is distributed.
- Collaborate with the City of Castlegar to develop an effective strategy to monitor organic bin management.

Acknowledgements

The WCC would like to thank the City of Castlegar, the Province of BC, the RDCK, the BC Conservation Foundation, and the Columbia Basin Trust for their financial support of this program. Thank you to the local Conservation Officer Service; Castlegar Bylaw Officer Wayne Cox; the great staff at City Hall; and the various media outlets for running stories and broadcasts that helped spread the messaging of WildSafeBC. The WCC would also like to thank the community members of Castlegar for their support and readiness to learn about wildlife and attractant management strategies.