



## **Michael Allen – Bear Researcher – Paradise Valley**

Bear ID (Photo/DNA) Population Behavior Biology Denning Education  
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### The Bear Cycle

THE BEAR CYCLE is a power-point presentation illustrating the seasonal behavior, biology, and population ecology of black bears. Michael Allen has been conducting research on black bears in British Columbia for 19 years. Information is presented from the ongoing Whistler Black Bear Project 1994-2005. Presentation is 60-minutes followed by discussion and interpretation of physical artifacts.

### Bio – Michael Allen

I have been studying the behavior and ecology of black bears (*Ursus americanus*) for 19 years in southeast (Lower Columbia River Valley 1987-1992) and southwest (Resort Municipality of Whistler 1993-2005) British Columbia. The mission of the Whistler Black Bear Project (WBBP) is to collect life history data on free-ranging black bears (non-telemetric) within a world class four season resort. Local, progressive bear information is crucial to understanding the dynamic bear-human interface. The scientific goal of the WBBP is to complete a 20-year (1994-2013) study designed to monitor behavior and population ecology of black bear sub-populations utilizing enhanced environs (landfill, ski areas, golf course, and parkland) within the Resort Municipality of Whistler. Field studies delve into various conservation programs including population monitoring, genetic studies, behavior and reproductive biology, and habitat use relationships. Outreach programs (1995-2005) inform and educate through newsmagazine bear update columns, public presentations, classroom and field programs for students, bear viewing, and international wildlife documentaries.