

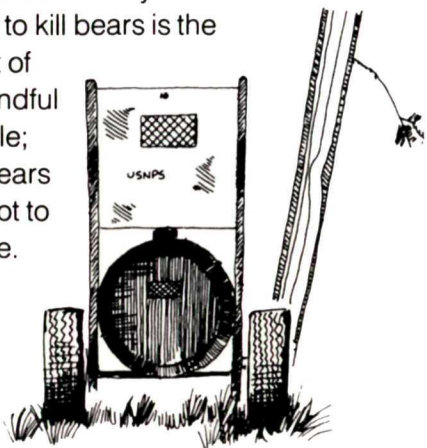
# FACTS . . .

Bears are intelligent and learn quickly. When they repeatedly obtain human food and garbage, many will overcome their natural fear of people. When this happens bears become persistent in their attempts to get human foods.

Each year bears cause thousands of dollars in property damage while attempting to get food that has not been stored properly.

For your safety, and to help restore the wildness of the black bear population, the National Park Service has an active human/bear management program which relies upon human cooperation and control of conditioned bears.

When a bear repeatedly obtains human food and garbage, it becomes so destructive and potentially dangerous that it must be destroyed. The need to kill bears is the result of unmindful people; the bears are not to blame.



## SPECIAL FOOD STORAGE REGULATION

Federal laws in Title 36 Code of Federal Regulations 2.10 (d) and 2.2 (a)(2) require proper food storage and prohibit the feeding of any park animal.

Failure to obey these regulations can result in a \$500 fine and/or imprisonment.

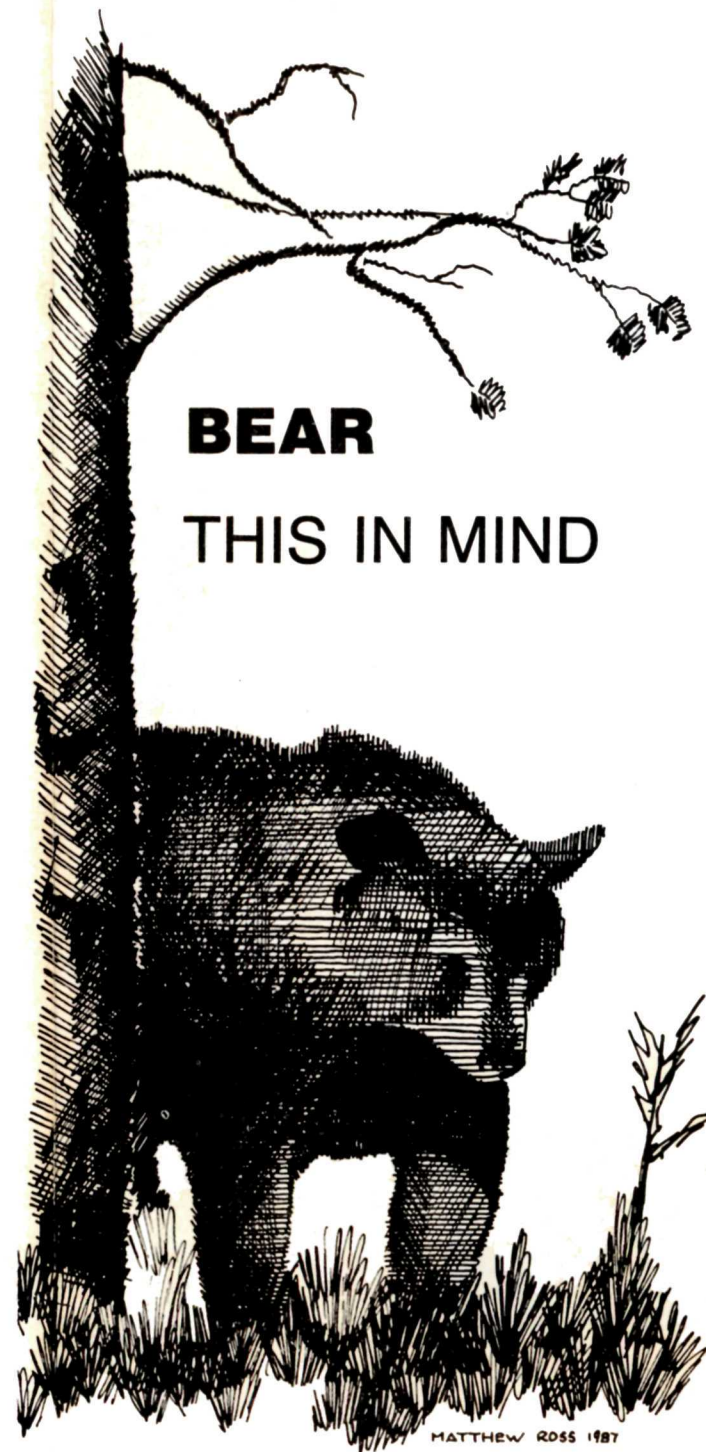
## OBEY ALL REGULATIONS

Rules are not established to make life more difficult for you. They protect you, your property, and the parks' natural integrity.

## YOUR CARELESSNESS WITH FOOD = DEAD BEARS



U.S. Department of the Interior — National Park Service  
Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks  
Yosemite National Park  
With assistance from the  
Yosemite Association



MATTHEW ROSS 1987

# T H E B E A R F A C T S . . .

All bears in Sequoia, Kings Canyon and Yosemite are American black bears (*Ursus americanus*). The name black bear can be misleading since the color of individual bears varies from shades of brown to cinnamon to blond.

Seeing a bear can be an exciting experience. Wild black bears are timid creatures and usually shy away from humans.

Black bears are an integral part of the Sierran wilderness. They roam throughout the parks, day and night, seeking food. Bears eat whatever food is available — grasses, fruits, insects, and sometimes human food.

**DO** use food lockers where available. All food **must** be stored in closed lockers.

**DO** store all food and food containers in the trunk of a vehicle where lockers are not available. In vehicles without a trunk, cover all food and food containers on the floor; close all windows.

**DO** store toothpaste, suntan lotion, insect repellent, and anything with an attractive odor as if it were food.

**DO** deposit all garbage in bearproof garbage containers.

**DO** report all bear incidents to a park ranger.

**DO NOT** let bears approach you. If you encounter a bear, throw objects toward the bear from a safe distance, yell, clap hands, bang pots together. These actions should be immediate and, when done together, can scare bears away.

**DO NOT** leave food unattended.

**DO NOT** feed bears or other park animals.

**DO NOT** overstuff garbage containers.

## BACKCOUNTRY USERS

Inquire about proper food storage when you obtain your wilderness permit.

