

# PACIFIC RIM ANNUAL REPORT 2025

Prepared By :

Chris Read, Pacific Rim  
Community Coordinator  
&  
Bob Hansen, Electric Fencing  
and Special Projects  
Coordinator



ALBERNI-CLAYOQUOT  
REGIONAL DISTRICT



DISTRICT OF  
**Tofino**



*Keeping Wildlife Wild and  
Communities Safe*



[www.wildsafebc.com](http://www.wildsafebc.com)



[programs@wildsafebc.com](mailto:programs@wildsafebc.com)



250-828-2551 ext. 109

# Table of Contents

Executive Summary.....	1
Program Coverage Area/Map.....	1
2025 Highlights.....	2
Wildlife Reports.....	3, 4
Human Bear Conflict.....	5, 6
CBT Vital Grant Project.....	7
Wolf and Cougar Reports.....	8
Presentations and Workshops.....	9
Electric Fencing Projects.....	10
Display Booths.....	11
Bin-Tagging and Door-To-Door.....	12
Social Media and Press.....	13
Business Pledge.....	14
Bare Campsite Program.....	15
Indigenous Awareness and Engagement.....	16
BC Goes Wild.....	17
Challenges and Future Goals.....	18
Acknowledgements.....	19
Infographics.....	20-24
New Resources.....	25

# Executive Summary

This report describes the activities of the WildSafeBC Pacific Rim program for the 2025 season January 1st to November 30th. The main goal of the WildSafeBC Community Coordinator is to assist communities in preventing human-wildlife conflicts through educational programs, collaboration, and community solutions. The following report summarizes key program deliverables over the course of the 2025 season, and will help shape the delivery of the program for the 2026 based on coordinator, community, and sponsor needs.

## Program Coverage Area

The Pacific Rim region is located on the west coast of Vancouver Island, on the unceded traditional lands of the Ahousaht, Hesquiaht, Toquaht Nation, Tla-o-qui-aht and Ucluelet First Nations (FN). It includes the communities of the Ahousaht FN - Ahousaht, the Tla-o-qui-aht FN - Opitsaht- Esowista - Ty Histanis, the Ucluelet FN - Hitacu, the District of Ucluelet, the District of Tofino and a portion of the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District.



**2,046**

Visitors and residents educated at  
outreach event booths

**326**

Students educated at 12 WildSafe  
Ranger Presentations

**246**

People educated through 13 Wildlife  
Safety Presentations

**8**

Renewed Business Pledge or Bare  
Campsite Program

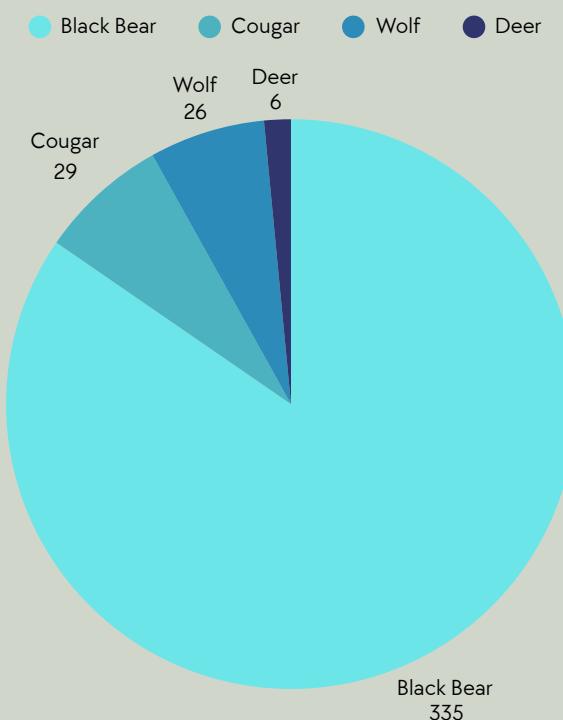
**12**

Electric fencing projects completed

# Wildlife Reports

From January 1 to November 30th, 2025 a total of 394 wildlife reports have been received from various sources. 203 wildlife reports have been made on social media including community Facebook pages. 104 reports were received by email or phone. The COS sent 36 notable incidents to the Pacific Rim Community Coordinator which was generated through the Report All Poachers and Polluters (RAPP) line (1-877-952-7277) or online forms (<https://forms.gov.bc.ca/environment/rapp/>). A weekly wildlife report was generated from these reports and sent to update the local human-wildlife conflict working group on wildlife behaviour and activity.

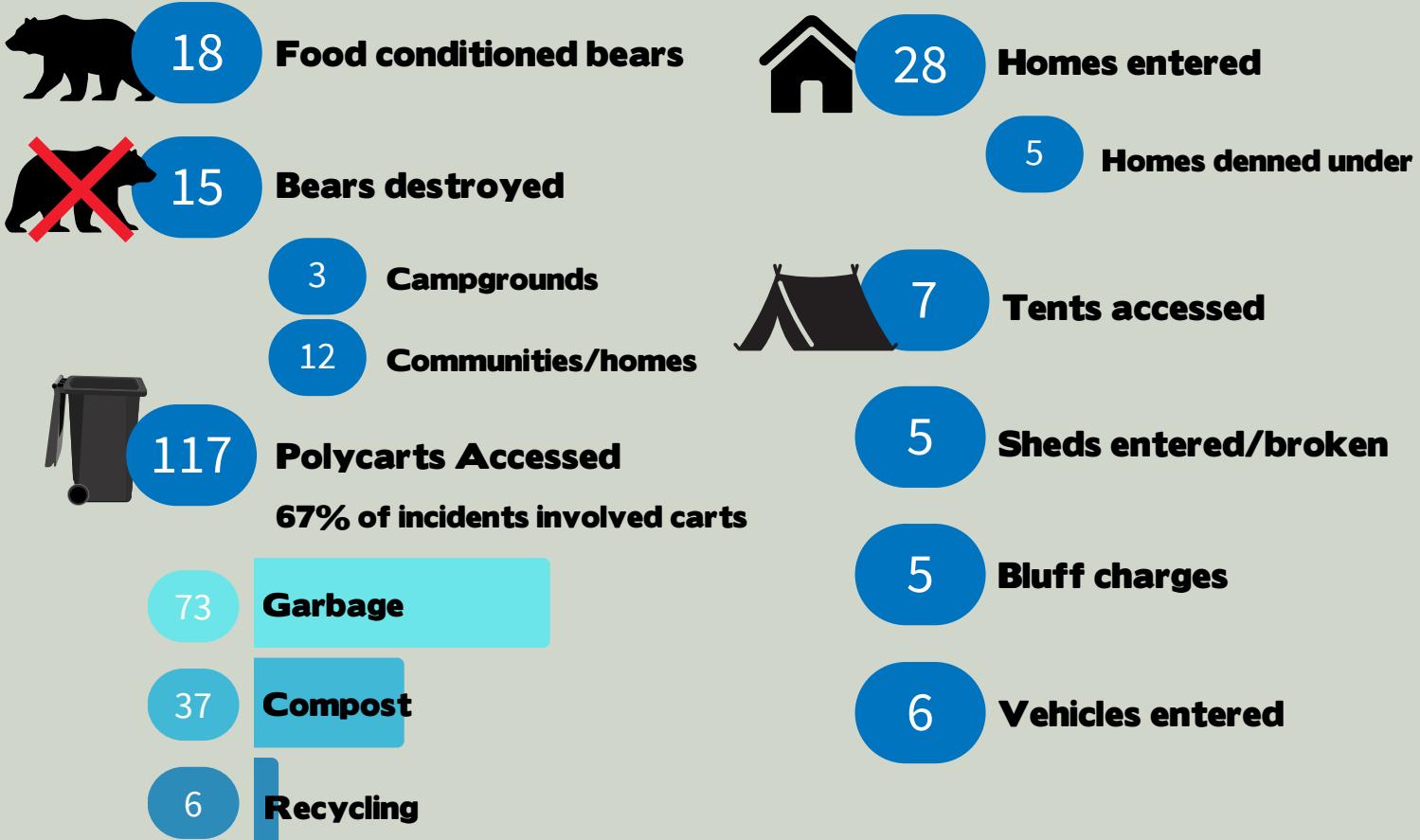
Similar to previous years, black bears were the species most often reported in 2025, followed by cougar, wolf, and deer. This year, there were 335 black bear reports in the Pacific Rim program area. 203 of these wildlife reports were sightings. 117 of the total reports were related to bears accessing garbage and organics from unsecured residential carts. This is the region's main source of wildlife conflict. This year, WildSafeBC Pacific Rim received reports that 28 homes, and 7 tents were entered/accessible. This excludes those 5 cases of bears denning underneath homes or structures. These areas of high-risk wildlife conflict are where the community coordinator focusses activities to prevent further conflict.



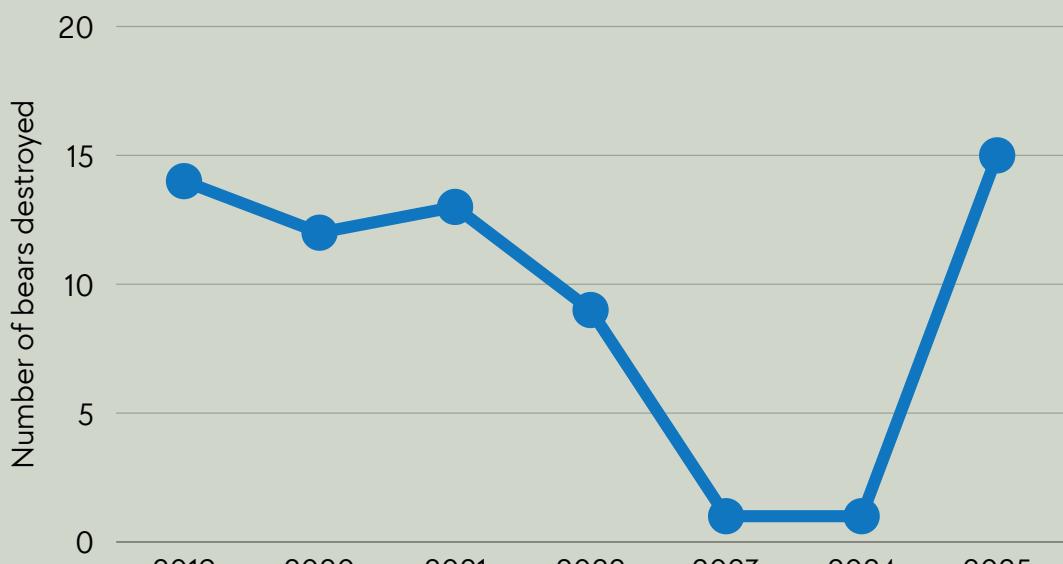
*Reporting incidents with wildlife helps keep our communities safe. WildSafeBC Pacific Rim use and share these incident reports to the public and Conservation Officers to prevent and reduce further human-wildlife conflict.*

# 2025 Wildlife Report Statistics

Summary statistics for the 2025 Annual Report from January 1<sup>st</sup> - November 29<sup>th</sup> from all west coast communities. An additional 1 collision bear death occurred in the Pacific Rim National Park Reserve.



Pacific Rim Bears Destroyed Annually



Bears killed each year in West Coast communities since 2019.

# Human-Bear Conflict

67% of wildlife conflicts in 2025 involved collection carts. When used correctly, the carts are designed to prevent bears from accessing food rewards such as waste garbage and organics. In 2024, WildSafeBC Pacific Rim received 181 reports relating to carts, and it was identified that there were 13 food conditioned bears targeting unsecured carts.

This year, we saw many of these bears return to access carts. It is likely that the food conditioned bears from last year are the same ones that have been reported this year. The food-conditioned bears have continued to enhance their skills. Behavioural changes include foraging for unnatural attractants in the middle of the day, forcefully accessing collection carts, and breaking into homes. Often, food conditioned bears behaviour progress to “resource guarding” and showing aggression. This dangerous behaviour is why 15 of these food conditioned bears have been put down this year.

Other significant areas of conflict involved attractants acquired from tents and homes. Campgrounds at the junction were heavily affected by at least 4 bears who learned to associate tents with food. 20 homes were broken into as a result of increased unnatural attractants around our homes, and bears comfortability with people. Additionally, 5 buildings were denned under earlier this year and 4 sheds broken into. Once these behaviours arrive, aggression typically follows and public safety often outweighs the risk.



*Screenshot of a security camera video at a residents home in Ucluelet. These carts are anchored and secure and the bear walked away after their attempt to knock them over.*

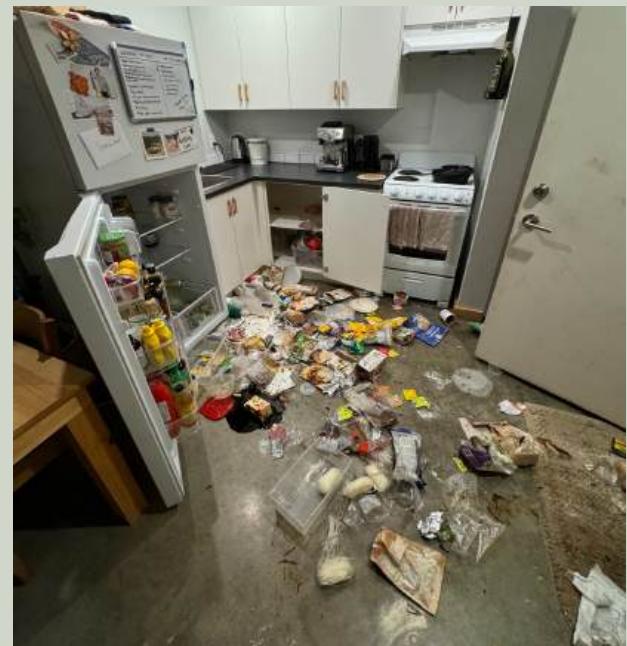
# Food Conditioned Bear Behaviour



An example of a heavily food conditioned bear that successfully dragged the cart away and broke the back handles off of a garbage cart. Notice the lid is still latched with steel carabiners.



Garbage cart lid ripped by a food conditioned large bear in Ucluelet.



A Ucluelet home entered by a black bear and received a food reward.

# Clayoquot Biosphere Trust Funded Vital Grant Project

The ACRD have invested heavily in the cart system for a multitude of environmental stewardship reasons. WildSafeBC is collaborating on community education with the ACRD, Districts and First Nations on how to properly secure carts to reduce human-bear conflicts and to increase public safety. In September 2025, a pilot project began to offer physical solutions to West Coast communities. The project goals are as follows:

1. Replace all brass carabiners with stronger stainless-steel carabiners
2. Repair all broken residential carts
3. For a limited time, subsidize and support materials and approaches for securing outdoor carts

WildSafeBC continues to track damages, supply carabiners and support residents to enhance their carts bear-resistance. This year's focus has been in Ucluelet as this community has had the most bear activity.

By law, residents must anchor outdoor carts so they cannot be tipped over or dragged away. The tops must be clipped at all times except for on the morning of pickup. Bylaw compliance patrols and enforcement around these requirements are on-going. The ACRD and WildSafeBC are constantly recording and sharing cart damage data to help guide the future actions for our waste collection system. As well, a new Neighbourhood Champion Program will seek to recognize streets or neighbourhoods that have been assessed as having implemented proper attractant management. Having residents fully informed and properly securing their residential carts and other attractants is crucial for co-existence with bears and community safety.



Example carts with different options for anchoring at an education booth (left) and at a residents home (right).

# Wolf and Cougar Reports

Wolves and cougars have an important role in the ecosystem of which they live and are common in this region. Both animals naturally avoid humans. They often hunt and travel at night or on lesser used game trails or beaches.

This year, there were 26 wolf sightings in the Pacific Rim region. These sightings included wolves travelling main street Tofino during the day, approaching leashed dogs and people. There were 7 close encounters between wolves and people or their dogs. Working with Parks Canada human-wildlife conflict team, we are able to inform residents and visitors of current wolf activity, advisories and best practices to increase public safety. Habituation is our greatest concern and having people aware of how to respond to an approaching wolf is our best method to limiting habituation.

There have been 29 Cougar sightings this year, with the majority (26) being between January - March. Preventative measures are to keep all pets inside and pens/coops enclosed in electric fencing. We will continue educating residents about cougar attractants and promoting the installation of electric fences.

## Guiding Principles of iisaak

Keeping wolves wild is a shared responsibility. Please show them iisaak (respect) by following these guidelines.

- Learn about wolves that live in this region
- Never feed wolves
- Keep dogs on leash
- Respect all trail and area restrictions, closures and warnings
- Give wolves space. At least 100 meters or the length of 8 school buses
- Keep wolves out of the picture. Be a good role model and do not approach wolves for photography and videography purposes.
- Report all wolf sightings and encounters to the RAPP Line at 1-877-952-7277

*Some of the main ways to prevent human-wolf conflict*

## Presentations and Workshops

This year, the Pacific Rim community coordinators delivered a total of 14 presentations, reaching a total of 251 people. The focus of these different presentations were to provide further education and training on human-wildlife coexistence. The programs were delivered to residents, visitors and staff varying in age and experience with a focus on wildlife attractants and coexisting in our communities. Some examples include:

- **Wildlife Awareness and Safety** - This presentation was delivered to 8 different businesses and organizations, reaching 108 staff. It is an all-encompassing program covering all relevant topics to stay safe where we work, play and live.
- **Wildlife Ecology Presentation** - This ecology based presentation was delivered at the Ucluelet Aquarium three times to a total of 70 people.
- **Electric Fencing & Bear Spray** - 2 Electric fencing and 3 Bear spray demonstrations. Participants learned how electric fencing is used as a long-term solution in the protection of livestock, bees and fruit trees from wildlife.

The Pacific Rim community coordinator also delivered more specialized presentations/events for various audiences. This includes WildSafeBC overview presentations to organizations, Warrior Program knowledge sharing workshops, Bare Campground staff training and Wild Pacific Trail Sea Wolf walk. These amounted to 88 people reached.

Workshops and presentations like these provide residents and visitors to this region with knowledge on how to safely and effectively coexist with wildlife.

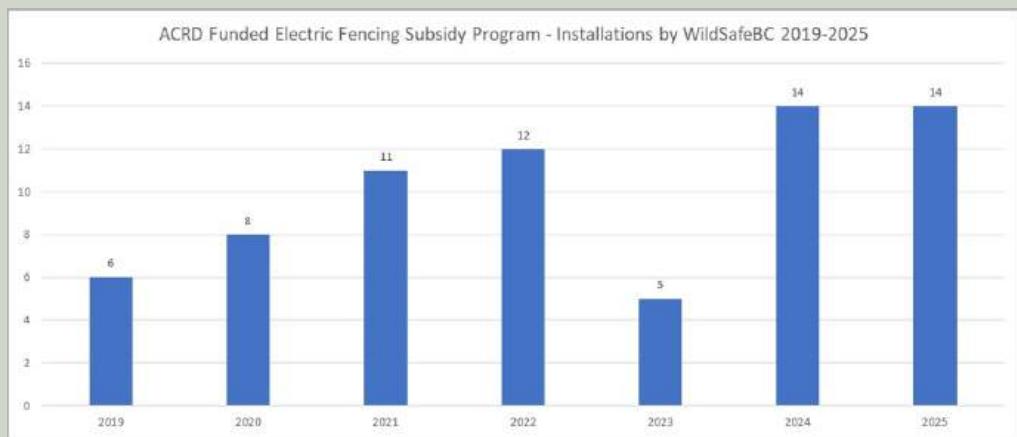
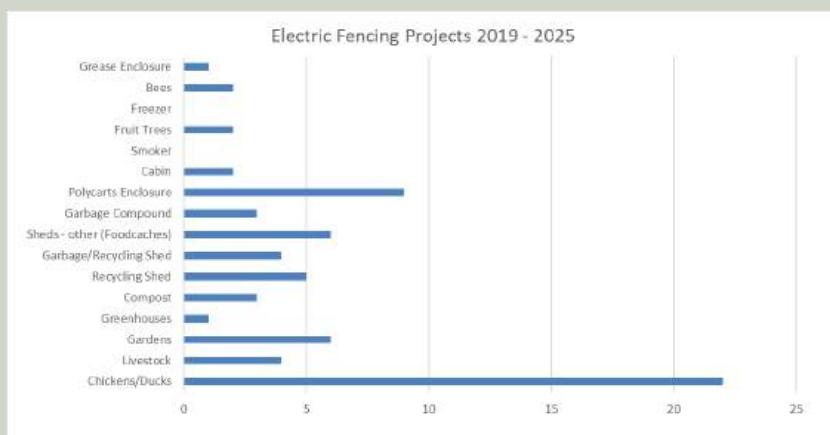


*Wildlife Awareness and Safety presentation given to staff at the Clayoquot Wilderness Lodge*

# Electric Fencing Projects

In April 2024, the District of Tofino implemented Wildlife Attractant Bylaw No. 1317, making it mandatory that all residents have electric fencing around certain wildlife attractants including chicken coops and bee hives. The Alberni Clayoquot Regional District (ACRD) Communities Subsidy Program as well as Bob Hansen's handy work has helped remove financial and physical barriers pertaining to the construction of electric fencing.

This year, WildSafeBC Pacific Rim Community Coordinator helped Bob Hansen, the Electric Fencing Coordinator, complete a total of 14 electric fencing projects. All of the ACRD fencing subsidy funds for the Pacific Rim region were utilized. With the application of the subsidy, the average cost to residents of fence installation was \$385. Since the program began in 2019, 70 projects have been completed. Electric fencing is a safe and effective long-term solution used to prevent wildlife from accessing unnatural sources of food.



Almost all projects were in response to existing human-bear conflicts. Only 2 of 70 projects have had human-bear conflicts since installing their electric fence. In both instances fences were comprised by human-errors.

After repairs there were no further conflicts at either site.

## Display Booths

Display booths allow the residents and visitors to view and interact with our educational materials, learn about wildlife safety, discuss wildlife attractant management, and network. In 2025, more than 2,020 people visited the WildSafeBC display booth at 14 community events across the community. The Pacific Rim coordinator held display booths in the following locations educating both residents and visitors.

- **Wickinnish Community School Gardens** - 1 day
- **Wild Pacific Trail** - 4 days
- **Ucluelet Aquarium** - 2 days
- **Ukee Days** - 2 days
- **Wild Pacific Trail (BC Goes Wild Events)** - 2 day
- **Ucluelet Community Centre** - 1 day
- **CBT 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Celebration** - 1 day
- **Beaver Creek Wild Rivers Day** - 1 day

The Pacific Rim coordinator used a combination of graphics, props and presentations to demonstrate wildlife safety and how to safely and effectively secure garbage using an example polycart. They also taught about recent local wildlife reports in the community. Relevant incidents and management strategies were taught as a way to keep visitors and residents as informed and safe as possible. This was a great conversation starter and made residents aware of the ongoing wildlife reports in the community.



*Outreach Booth with Bob Hansen and Chris Read at Seedy Sunday in the Wick Community School Gardens*



*Outreach booth handing out free steel carabiners at the Ucluelet Community Centre*

# Bin Tagging and Door-to-Door Education

Bin tagging consists of placing a highly visible and removable warning sticker on top of curbside organic, garbage and recycle carts the evening before collection day, which is against the law. The WildSafeBC Pacific Rim community coordinator and 1 volunteer completed both garbage and organics bin tagging in each Ucluelet and Tofino. Bin-tagging is done from June - August. In Ucluelet, 4 compost carts and 6 garbage carts violated the bylaw and were issued warnings. Tofino had 15 compost and 13 garbage violations and warnings issued. This information is passed along to bylaw enforcement and checked to find repeat offenders. This information can also be used to prioritize door-to-door educational efforts.

This season the Pacific Rim community coordinator and Bob Hansen responded to reports of human-bear conflict through contacting residents directly or educational material. Chris and Bob found some different effective ways residents are securing their carts. This was shared through new information flyers to keep the public updated on current issues and solutions. The community coordinator worked with the Conservation Officer Service to respond and educate neighbourhoods with bears exhibiting food-conditioned behaviour.

**Securing your carts at home**



If you have your collection carts stored outside, it is the responsibility of both the homeowner and occupier to ensure those carts are secure by having them either completely clean, or locked and tied down (anchored). Help keep wildlife wild, wary and alive by leaving no trace of food or food waste.

WildSafeBC and the ACRD have made it so you can receive stainless steel carabiners for free. You may also receive a Windsor Plywood gift card if you intend on making your own anchoring system at home!

**Anchor System Options**

**Chain/wire** - Using a chain or wire through the handles and the front of the carts to keep them upright. These chains must be bolted to a fence, wall or other secure structure. To make it more user friendly, add multiple carabiners to the chains to be able to remove a single cart at a time.



**Cinderblock and chain** - same as the chain/wire but in the absence of a fence or wall structure, you may use a heavy object like a cinderblock. This isn't ideal because the carts are more likely to be knocked over. Yet, it does make it more difficult for bears if all carts are chained together and cannot be dragged away.



**Custom U brackets** - You cannot find these at local hardware stores so some people have made their own by purchasing an L bracket and bending it. The brackets should be installed at the right height to be able to slot the cart's handles into the brackets. This system will only work if it is screwed/bolted firmly to a fence, wall or structure.



These aren't the only solutions. Make an anchoring system that works best for you.

 pacrim@wildsafebc.com | [www.wildsafebc.com/contact](http://www.wildsafebc.com/contact)

*"Securing your carts at home" information distributed to residents during door-to-door canvassing and public reach events.*



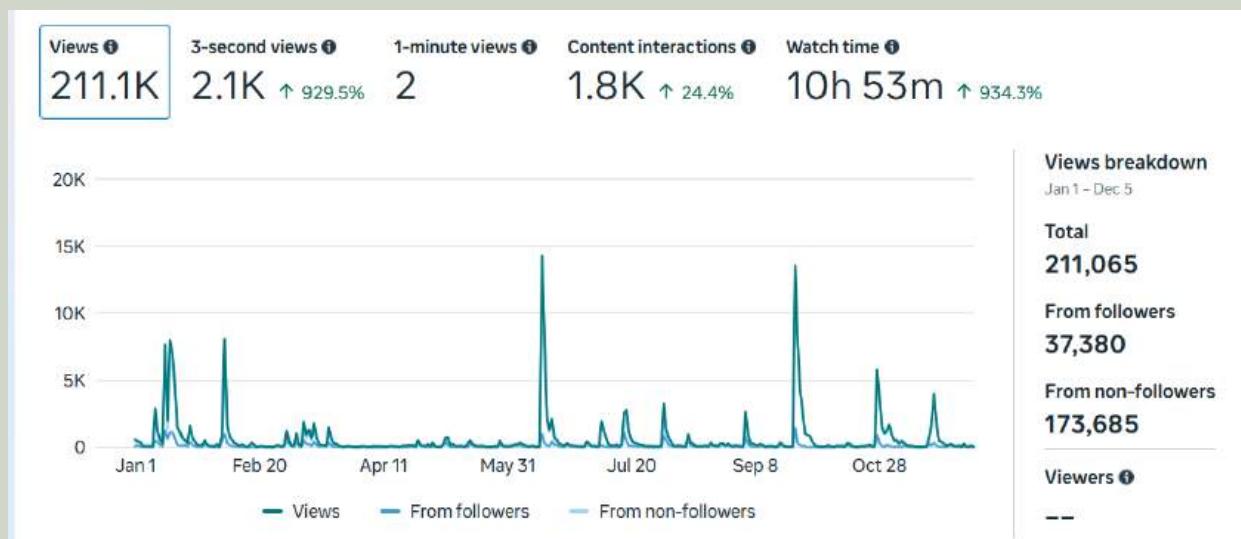
*Bin-tagging warning sticker given to resident who had their cart out the night before collection.*

## Social Media and Press

Since January 1, 2025, the WildSafeBC Pacific Rim Facebook page has gained **123** **followers**, with the total being **1,577** followers on November 30th, 2025. As well, the page has received **1,500** content interactions including Facebook page likes, saves, shares, and replies on our content during this same time period. Throughout the season, the WildSafeBC coordinator gave relevant wildlife updates on the number of incidents and conflict areas. Being open and honest with the community allows residents who know how wildlife are reacting to human activity and behaviour. These posts also provide wildlife safety education. Many Facebook posts created were also shared by Facebook users into other groups or on their own personal timeline, which helped promote the WildSafeBC Pacific Rim Facebook page. In total, 61 WildSafeBC Pacific Rim Facebook posts were shared that reached 46,000 people from January 1, 2024 to November 30, 2024. The most impactful created post created was “*Wildlife Safety Announcement*”, reaching approximately **31,264** people and was shared 20 times.

WildSafeBC Pacific Rim were also involved with 4 different media projects this season.

- **Web** - Pilot Project Press Release on ACRD, District of Tofino and District of Ucluelet webpages.
- **Radio** - One interview on wildlife coexistence and residential cart Pilot Project (Tuff City Radio). Also have Bob Hansen's 2024 story showcased repeatedly (Off the Edge Radio).
- **Newspaper** - Ha-Shilth-Sa News & Westerly News - Update on human-bear conflict and solutions to securing residential carts.



Analytics from WildSafeBC Pacific Rim Facebook (January 1, 2025-November 7, 2025)

# Business Pledge

The WildSafeBC Business Pledge Program has been developed to encourage businesses to set good examples in their community on how to safely co-exist with wildlife. To take the pledge, a business is required to follow best practices in solid waste management, provide adequate training to staff and support. In return, WildSafeBC will provide ongoing support to the business in the form of staff training, educational materials and promotional media. Businesses must be reassessed and trained annually to uphold their pledge.

The Pacific Rim Community Coordinator offered a variety of solutions to new and long-standing Business Pledge members. Different businesses require different actions. Overall, staff, customers, property and the wildlife have all become safer with the implementation of these actions. Businesses who have joined the pledge have far fewer human-wildlife conflicts and act as an example to the community on how to coexist.

This year, 8 businesses renewed their pledge and are recognized as WildSafe businesses. Black Rock Oceanfront Resort and WildWood Inn continues to work on infrastructure and operational improvements to better manage attractants. These and many other businesses have taken grand steps in managing their attractants. 5 other businesses have taken the pledge before and need annual assessments and training. All have expressed interest in retaking the WildSafe Business Pledge.



**We are committed to keeping our  
wildlife wild and community safe**

Join Pacific Sands Beach Resort by taking the WildSafe Business Pledge



**We are committed to keeping our  
wildlife wild and community safe**

Join Hotel Zed and Roar by taking the WildSafe Business Pledge

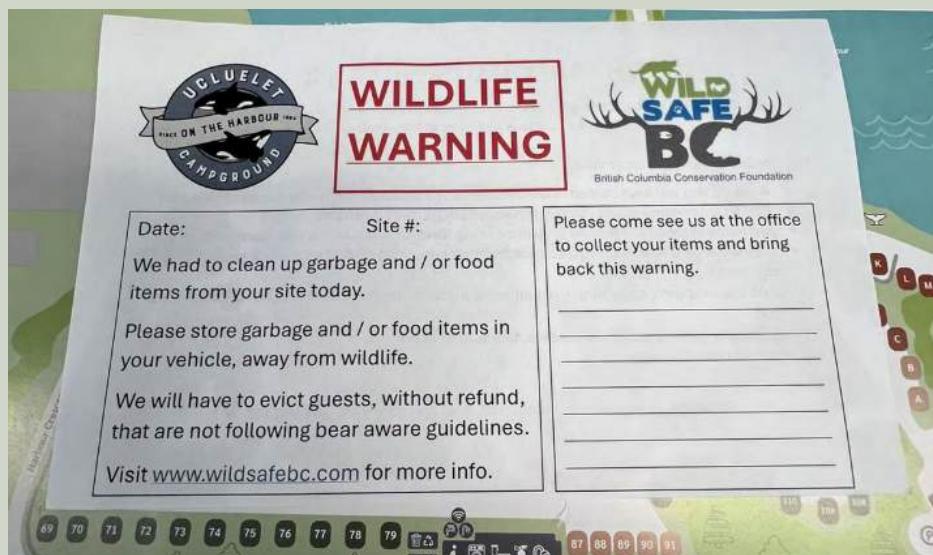
*Pacific Sands Beach Resort, Hotel Zed and Roar with their completed annual WildSafe business pledge*

# Bare Campsite Program

Through the WildSafeBC Bare Campsite Program, WildSafeBC is able to provide clear guidelines and resources to assist campground operators in maintaining a safe campsite for both people and wildlife. In order to be recognized, the correct infrastructure and information must be available for customers. The campground must provide adequate wildlife safety information and routinely check for attractants that may be left out.

This year, Wya and Ucluelet campgrounds were both reassessed and kept the Bare Campsite status. The Pacific Rim coordinator delivered the Bare Campsite training to 5 dedicated staff working Wya Campground in Ucluelet. This year, the Ucluelet Campground manager led his own Bare Campsite training for staff. The Ucluelet Campground management team and seasonal staff continue to be exceptional role models in the Bare Campsite program. They have adopted infrastructure and operational procedures that prevent human-wildlife conflict.

The Pacific Rim Community Coordinator is working with 5 other local private campgrounds to adopt the Bare Campsite program for the 2026 season. Campgrounds often have a lot of wildlife activity being nestled in wildlife habitat and travel corridors. Those who enact and enforce the Bare Campsite Program significantly reduce the number of bear, cougar and wolf conflicts in the campground. WildSafeBC would like to encourage other campgrounds in the community to adopt the Bare Campsite program to help reduce the risk of human-wildlife conflict and help save bears lives.



Ucluelet Campground wildlife warning.

*The camp host distributes this warning to campers who have left attractants out at their site*

# Indigenous Awareness and Engagement

The WildSafeBC Pacific Rim program resides on the unceded traditional lands of the Ahousaht, Hesquiat, Toquaht Nation, Tla-o-qui-aht and Ucluelet First Nations. This year, the WildSafeBC Community Coordinator continued to listen, learn and collaborate with different representatives from the Nations. Some of the projects that they collaborated on were:

- **lisaak Sin Hay Tiic?mis (Respect All Life) Meeting** - attended and participated in lisaak Sin Hay Tiic?mis coexistence network meeting established by Pacific Rim National Park Reserve and Clayoquot Biosphere Trust (CBT). Representatives from Nuu chah nulth nations, local community planners, stakeholders, Pacific Rim National Park Reserve wildlife officers, municipalities, the tourism sector and WildSafe come together to discuss human-wildlife conflict and coexistence within our community.
- **Youth Programs** - created engaging educational experiences and discussions with School District Youth Programs and the Warrior Program for young men.
- **WildSafeBC Macoah Volunteer** - Dennis Hetu of Toquaht Nation continues to act as a WildSafeBC volunteer in local First Nations communities. Dennis has been a role model and advocate for human-wildlife coexistence within the community of Macoah for many years. WildSafeBC will continue to collaborate on projects focusing on youth engagement and to share his knowledge on human-wildlife coexistence with the community.
- **CBT 25th Annual Celebration Event** - attended the Clayoquot Biosphere Trust's 25<sup>th</sup> annual celebration of the UNESCO reserve in Tofino. Indigenous songs, stories and knowledge was shared by representatives from Nuu chah nulth nations to all levels of community organizations. WildSafeBC hosted an educational booth.
- **Nuu chah nulth Language** - WildSafe is always listening, learning and incorporating indigenous teachings and language into WildSafeBC programs.



QʷAYAĆIJK (wolf)

Photo: Sam Rose Philips

## BC Goes Wild

Throughout September when human-bear conflicts are at their highest in BC, WildSafeBC celebrates its annual BC Goes Wild campaign to acknowledge the spectacular diversity of wildlife in the Province. An annual colouring contest and photography contest awarded multiple winners from across the province. This year, WildSafe celebrated its 10th Annual BC Goes Wild Event.

The Pacific Rim coordinator collaborated with the Wild Pacific Trail and Parks Canada. The event took place on September 13th and 14th at the Amphitrite interpretive Centre. The booth received 313 visitors and residents. Using props, storytelling, electric fences, bear spray training and a scavenger hunt, they shared so much education on general coexistence and wildlife safety messaging. Additionally, they had table set up where children could sit and colour bear, cougar, wolf and grizzly colouring sheets. In the afternoons, a bear spray workshop was held for 23 adults where they had the opportunity to practice safely setting off inert bear spray. Some residents and visitors asked about the electric fence and how it worked. Informational packages were given out to those who may want to explore the electric fence subsidy program. Overall, this was a successful event in which visitors and residents could learn practical skills in a fun and interactive way.



BC Goes Wild Outreach booth with electric fence demonstration set up and family completing a colouring page

## Challenges and Future Goals

Human activities led to the food conditioning of 18 black bears. 15 bears were destroyed this year due to food-conditioning in the Pacific Rim region. Improperly managed garbage and organic polycarts continue to be the primary source of human-wildlife conflict while mismanaged food waste in communities and campgrounds follow. Some residents and businesses of the community have not learned or taken steps to prevent this human-wildlife conflict. Continued outreach is needed to provide people with knowledge and skills on how to manage wildlife attractants across Pacific Rim.

With 1 million visitors each year, there is always an emphasis on education towards conflict prevention and wildlife safety to visitors. Having outreach events, infographics and having our partners sharing that same knowledge, is key to reaching visitors before and during their stay. With all of this in mind, the WildSafe Pacific Rim Coordinators recommends the following activities for 2026:

- Keep pursuing Ucluelet Bear Smart status – Renew formal commitment
- Work with District of Ucluelet to adopt and enforce a Wildlife Attractant Management Bylaw to mitigate problem areas
- Public speaker series about human-wildlife conflict in west coast communities with Parks Canada
- Collaborate with members of the lisaak-Sin-Hay-Tiich?miss Network to have clear shared information and educational language towards common problem areas
- Continued focus on the Business Pledge and Bare Campsite Programs
- Expand on educational programing through various media sources
- Increase youth engagement and events
- Work with the Ucluelet Government to educate and improve residential waste collection cart resources in First Nations communities
- Deliver the Action Plan to enhance the bear-resistance of the residential cart system.

On a positive note, Pacific Rim has seen lots of growth towards coexisting with the local wildlife. Tofino had very few conflicts or reports this year. As well, WildSafeBC has successfully implemented 14 electric fences this year which has helped protect carts, chicken coops, bees, a community garden and other wildlife attractants. Conflict with collection carts are lower likely due to more residents storing carts inside or effectively anchoring and clipping outdoor carts with stainless-steel carabiners. We have seen multiple new designs and video proof of anchoring systems preventing access to bears.

## Acknowledgements

WildSafeBC Pacific Rim would like to thank the Districts of Tofino and Ucluelet, Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District, and the Chambers of Tofino and Ucluelet. Additionally, we would like to thank the ongoing support they have from the business community including Clayoquot Biosphere Trust, Hotel Zed, Pacific Sands Resort, Black Rock Oceanfront Resort, Wickaninnish Inn, Long Beach Lodge, Tofino Co-op, Tofino Consumers Cooperative, Clayoquot Wilderness Lodge, Ucluelet Campground, Gray Whale Deli & Subtidal Adventures Ltd, Tamagawa University, Ozzard Environmental Inc, Tofino and Ucluelet bylaw, the Province of British Columbia, and the BC Conservation Foundation for funding the WildSafeBC Pacific Rim project.

Thank you to the Conservation Officer Service for their direction and support of the program, including Daniel Eichstadter, Chris Miller, Ryan Harnish and Jason Hawkes. Lastly, the WildSafeBC Pacific Rim Coordinators would like to send an enormous thank you to all the British Columbia Conservation Foundation staff and fellow provincial WildSafeBC Community Coordinators for their encouragement and support. This program would not be able to succeed without the collaboration of all those mentioned.

Thank You!



*Keeping Wildlife Wild and  
Communities Safe*

## WELCOME TO THE WILD WEST COAST

LEARN HOW THE LOCALS COEXIST WITH WILDLIFE

### Preventing conflict with "WildSafe" practices

- 1. Keeping food and garbage locked at all times
- 2. Keeping your distance from wildlife (100 meters)
- 3. Keeping pets on leash
- 4. Reporting wildlife to the 24/7 RAPP line

[WWW.WILDSAFBC.COM](http://WWW.WILDSAFBC.COM)

### R.A.P.P.

Report All Poachers and Polluters  
Conservation Officer 24 Hour Hotline  
1-877-952-RAPP (7277)  
Cellular Dial - #7277 on Telus network

 www.rapp.bc.ca

### If you meet wildlife:

Stay in a group

Do not run

Stay calm

Keep dogs on leash

Act big and make noise



### Coexisting in your community

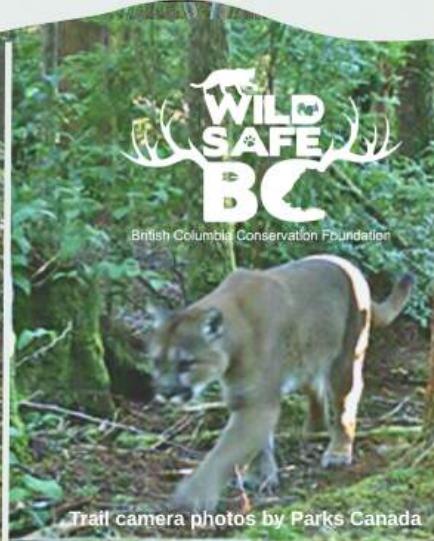
- Keep garbage and compost bins locked and anchored
- If possible, keep bins inside until removal/pick up
- Do not leave dirty BBQs, bird feeders, fruit or pet food outside
- Keep pets inside at night

It is the law!



### Learn more

- Go to WildSafeBC.com to learn about wildlife and coexistence
- Talk to your neighbours about wildlife activity
- Follow WildSafeBC Pacific Rim Facebook page



## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

[WWW.WILDSAFEB.COME](http://WWW.WILDSAFEB.COME)

### FREQUENTLY ASKED:

#### What's the difference between "habituated" and "food-conditioned" behaviour?

- Habituation refers to the decreased level of natural wariness to people over multiple interactions. Food conditioning refers to an animal that learns to associate humans with unnatural food sources. Food conditioned animals may approach humans and become aggressive as they seek out this unnatural food.

#### When do Conservation Officers respond to my call?

- Conservation Officers respond to conflicts with dangerous wildlife where there is a risk to public safety. COS response could be to monitor an animal's behaviour or to provide advice on how to reduce conflict. An animal is only destroyed when there is repeated dangerous wildlife encounters, and situations where dangerous wildlife has become habituated or food conditioned. Following WildSafe practices where you live, work and play is how you can prevent wildlife from becoming habituated and food conditioned.

#### Why are animals not relocated (translocated)?

- Relocating an animal does not solve the source of the problem. Large carnivores can't be relocated because this does not solve the source of the problem. A food-conditioned animal that has learned to access unnatural food will either return to the source, find a new unnatural food source or be killed in another animal's natural territory.

#### Who cares if my dog is off leash?

- Dogs are an attractant to large carnivores. Off-leash dogs cause safety concerns to you, your dog and the wildlife. Wolves, cougars and bears have attacked off-leash dogs on numerous occasions. To keep the wildlife, yourself and your dog all safe, please keep your dog on leash. Migrating shorebirds and other wildlife are stressed by roaming dogs and may not acquire the energy to finish their migration. Having your dog off-leash in the PRNPR or municipality will result in a fine.

### WILDSAFEB RESOURCES:

WildSafeBC offers training courses, site assessments, infographics, electric fencing support, and bear spray workshops.

Feel free to email [pacrim@wildsafebc.com](mailto:pacrim@wildsafebc.com) with inquiries about these support options.

### LOTS MORE LOCAL INFORMATION FOUND HERE:

- [ParksCanada](#)
- [ACRD](#)
- [Government of British Columbia](#)
- [Wild Pacific Trail Society](#)
- [Raincoast Education Society](#)
- [Clayoquot Biosphere Trust](#)
- [BC Parks](#)
- [Redd Fish Restoration Society](#)
- [Ucluelet Aquarium](#)
- [Fisheries and Oceans Canada](#)
- [First Nations partners](#)



[WWW.WILDSAFEBC.COM](http://WWW.WILDSAFEBC.COM)

BECOME A

# Bare Campsite

IN 5 STEPS

one



## Creating Initial Expectations

- Website states that a customer will be staying in bear country
- Defines what manage wildlife attractants are and how to manage them
- Customers agree to following Bare Campsite rules and regulations
- Failure to comply with rules result in appropriate penalties

two



## Repetition of Program Information

- Updates guests on managing attractants and wildlife activity upon check-in
- Has signage at high use areas
- Directs customers towards using infrastructure intended for secure storage

three



## Bear Resistant Infrastructure

- Has certified bear resistant storage for all food and waste easily accessible to customers
- Signage for where to find and how to use infrastructure
- Cleans and improves infrastructure to limit scents and attraction towards wildlife

four



## Annual Staff Training

- Internally or externally (through WildSafeBC) teaches all staff about the Bare Campsite program and its strict process
- Staff understand and teach guests "conditions of stay"
- Know how to perform a campsite check

five



## Perform Routine Campsite Checks

- Has a system to regularly check and address campsites not in compliance (morning and midday)
- Enforces the rules with appropriate penalty
- Reports offences to campground supervisor



[WWW.WILDSAFEBC.COM](http://WWW.WILDSAFEBC.COM)

BECOME A

# WildSafe Business

IN 4 STEPS



one

## Initial Site Visit

Your local community coordinator will come and meet with you. They will conduct a thorough site survey inspecting your infrastructure and operations.

1



two

## Provide Resources

You will be offered options to reduce your wildlife attractants and educate your staff and customers. Having staff and visitors educated is key to long-term success.

2



three

## Staff Training Session

All staff should get some level of wildlife awareness and safety training. Staff training may be modified depending on the business.

3



four

## Annual Review

Wildlife attraction management is an ongoing process. As staff come and go, WildSafeBC will check in on your progress and renew your pledge every year.

4

The WildSafe Business Pledge Program has been developed to encourage businesses to adopt practices that will reduce conflict with wildlife to keep their staff, patrons and local wildlife safe. Through these actions, businesses are setting good examples in their community on how to safely co-exist with wildlife. To take the pledge, a business is required to follow best practices in solid waste management, provide adequate training to staff and support WildSafeBC's safety and conflict reduction information.

Annual renewal

Recognized as bearsmart

Free to join

Introductory information on the Business Pledge - Front

AS PART OF THE BUSINESS PLEDGE,

## WE ARE COMMITTED TO:



Keep our garbage, recycling and organics secure at all times. Including rinsing out recyclables, locking garbage and grease bins overnight.



Keep the exterior of our buildings free of attractants such as spilled grease, garbage, recyclables and food.



Have our staff trained annually to follow WildSafe practices.



Provide customers with accurate advice or direct them to reliable resources such as WildSafeBC's website.



Report conflicts with wildlife to the Conservation Officer Service at 1-877-952-7277



Being an example business published on WildSafeBC's website and through other media channels.



[pacrim@wildsafe.com](mailto:pacrim@wildsafe.com) | [www.wildsafebc.com/contact](http://www.wildsafebc.com/contact)

## Securing your carts at home



If you have your collection carts stored outside, it is the responsibility of both the homeowner and occupier to ensure those carts are secure by having them either completely clean, or locked and tied down (anchored). Help keep wildlife wild, wary and alive by leaving no trace of food or food waste.

WildSafeBC and the ACRD have made it so you can receive stainless steel carabiners for free. You may also receive a Windsor Plywood gift card if you intend on making your own anchoring system at home!

### Anchor System Options

**Chain/wire** - Using a chain or wire through the handles and the front of the carts to keep them upright. These chains must be bolted to a fence, wall or other secure structure. To make it more user friendly, add multiple carabiners to the chains to be able to remove a single cart at a time.



**Cinderblock and chain** - same as the chain/wire but in the absence of a fence, wall or structure, you may use a heavy object like a cinderblock. This isn't ideal because the carts are more likely to be knocked over. Yet, it does make it more difficult for bears if all carts are chained together and cannot be dragged away.

**Custom U brackets** - You cannot find these at local hardware stores so some people have made their own by purchasing an L bracket and bending it. The brackets should be installed at the right height to be able to slot the cart's handles into the brackets. This system will only work if it is screwed/bolted firmly to a fence, wall or structure.



These aren't the only solutions. Make an anchoring system that works best for you.



[pacrim@wildsafe.com](mailto:pacrim@wildsafe.com) | [www.wildsafebc.com/contact](http://www.wildsafebc.com/contact)

Securing your carts at home informational sheet and handout