

Bipedal Bear

Woodlands was first made aware of this bear early summer 2014

Reviewed videos and photographs and spoke to several that had eyes on info for next few months

Concluded that wounds were well healed and therefore assume the original injury happened sometime in 2013 or earlier. Most likely not during the 2013/14 denning season as he would have been denning.

Photos showed bear in normal health for that time of year – on the thin side but nothing abnormal as all bears are at that time of year

Videos showed upright walking as well as down on three and four legs

Worked to educate the public and social/news media for remainder of time he was seen in 2014

Early summer 2015 he showed up again and the call “for help” once again began

Reviewed new photos and videos and determined he was still in good health

Videos show him interacting with other bears (two different videos), down on all 4 and there is an accounting of him mating

Again educated public and social/news media regarding

There is at least one person stating they have seen this bear for years

Considerations

The wounds this bear sustained happened a long time ago.

He healed fine without human interference or assistance.

The time to help this bear medically or otherwise has long passed

He has adapted extremely well

It has been determined by NJDFW biologists interviewing those who have seen him that he is covering about 4 miles.

Sedating this bear and moving him to a new place to live his life out in captivity is not in his best interest and would only cause unwarranted and unnecessary stress and would only serve to appease those that think he needs help.

That this bear has survived the initial injury, adapted extremely well in spite of his limitations and continues to do well in his own home range. He should be respected as the ever resilient wild animal he is and left to live his wild life. To trap and contain to save him from an unknown fate would not be fair to him.