



#### THE USE OF HOUNDS FOR HUNTING BEAR

Some believe the use of bear dogs provides an unfair advantage to the hunter. In addition the hounds are likely to separate the adult female from cubs, leaving the cubs orphaned and at a serious survival disadvantage. While NH Fish & Game discourages killing adult females with cubs, often it is not known at the time because of the separation during the hound chase. While hunting with bear dogs is an overall low percentage, the killing of female adult bears is an increasing statistic.



Although training begins July 1, early summer is a notoriously lean time for bears — and the cubs, having only been born in the late winter, barely have a chance to learn the ropes.

They may not get a chance to

learn. The hounds often chase the animals for miles until the bear either collapses, climbs a tree (where they are often shot in hunting season), or decides to stand its ground and fight back.

### **KNOW NH FISH & GAME RULES**

- Dogs being trained shall be accompanied by the permittee. "Accompanied" for the purpose of this section means the hunter must be able to see or hear the dog, or both, or have reasonable knowledge of where the dog is hunting. Nothing in this section shall require that the dog be within sight at all times.
- No person shall use telemetry equipment to track or locate bear dogs within 300 feet of a building occupied as a person's principle place of abode.

# **BEAR DOG HUNTING & TRAINING**

- The NH Fish and Game allows a hunter up to **6 dogs**
- No limit on the amount of hunters within a town per day
- Training begins on July 1 through August 31
- Bear hunting with dogs begins September 30 November 9

#### **ARE LANDOWNERS PROTECTED?**

While these powerful, radio-collared hounds chase a lone bear, dog owners are often miles away looking at a GPS screen with no indication of what their dogs are actually doing. Several Sandwich residents have had to call the police department numerous times this year. Some also have filed complaints with NH Fish & Game due to dogs roaming their property unattended. Often the training/hunting begins at dusk waking up entire households as dogs howl chasing a bear. Pets and livestock need to be secured at all times as the unpredicibility of an encounter with a pursued bear and a pack of dogs renders landowners with no other course of action.

#### WHAT TO DO?

Please post your land.

NO TRESPASSING WITH BEAR DOGS OR NO TRESPASSING/NO HUNTING.

#### WHERE TO OBTAIN SIGNS?

For **NO TESPASSING WITH BEAR DOGS** 

Contact Anne Glavin: apgbostonirish@gmail.com

#### For NO HUNTING/ NO TRESPASSING SIGNS

Amazon, Aubuchon Hardware

#### **HOW TO POST LAND?**

The yellow sign must include letters at least 2 inches high, and have the land owner's name and address. Signs may be no further than 100 yards apart (300 ft) on all sides of the property. This is preferred, however, signs can also be posted at gates, bars and all commonly used entry points.

#### TRESPASSING VIOLATION?

If someone violates your *No Trespassing* signs, you can contact your local police department to file a complaint of Criminal Trespass. Please do not approach hunters.

If bear dogs are on your posted land, the dog owner needs to retrieve their animals with your permission. Or you can contact Fish & Game to ask them to accompany the hunter onto your land and retrieve their animals.

## NH Fish & Game

DISTRICT 2 - Region 2 **(603) 744-5470** 

### **NOISE FROM THE CHASE?**

Bear dogs have woken an entire household and are disturbing the peace at 5:00AM? Sandwich has a noise ordnance. You can call the local police to file a noise complaint.

## FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

## **Sandwich Conservation Commission**

PO Box 110, Center Sandwich 03227



www.nhwildlifecoalition.org

Please Post Your Land Against Bear Hunting or Bear Dogs!

Sandwich landowners can work together to make more land unavailable for hounding bears. Help make our community safe.