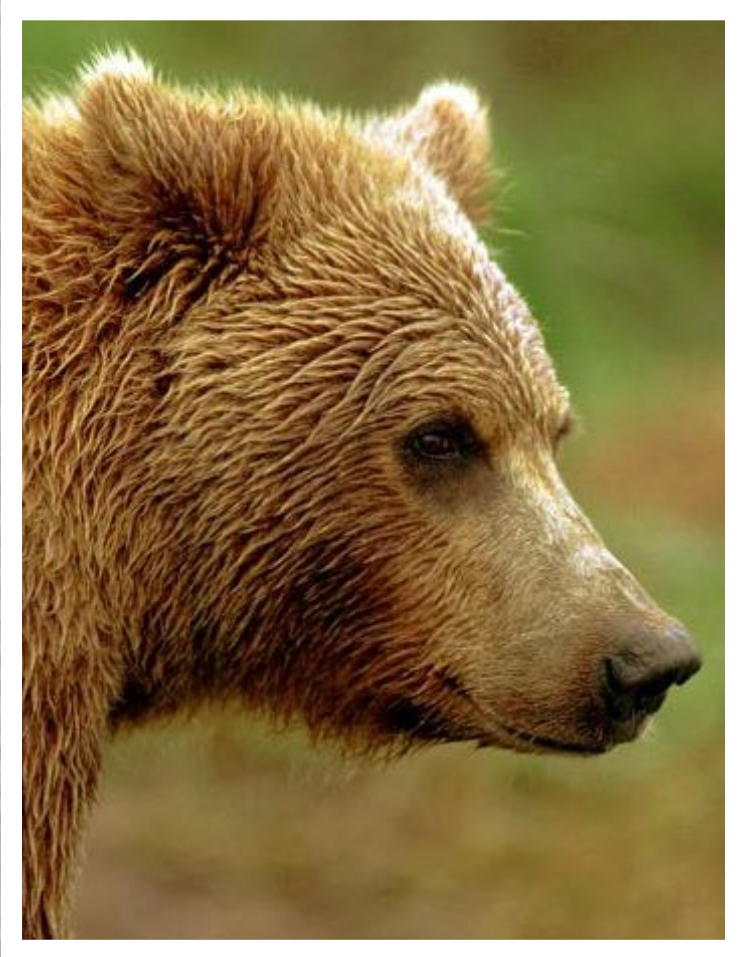


B E A R S

OF THE WORLD



BROWN BEAR

URSUS ARTCOS

One of the largest and most widely distributed of the 8 bear species.

Weight: 300 - 860 pounds

Diet: nuts, grasses, fruits, bulbs, roots, insects, fish and small animals

Distribution: North America, Europe and Asia



SLOTH BEAR

MELURSUS URSINUS

These long-haired bears have a mouth specially adapted for eating termites.

Weight: 110 - 210 pounds

Diet: termites, ants, grubs and fruit

Distribution: India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka



AMERICAN BLACK BEAR

URSUS AMERICANUS

The most common of all the bears with 16 recognized subspecies.

Weight: 90 - 155 pounds

Diet: nuts, grasses, fruits, bulbs, roots, insects, fish, small animals and carrion

Distribution: North America



ASIATIC BLACK BEAR

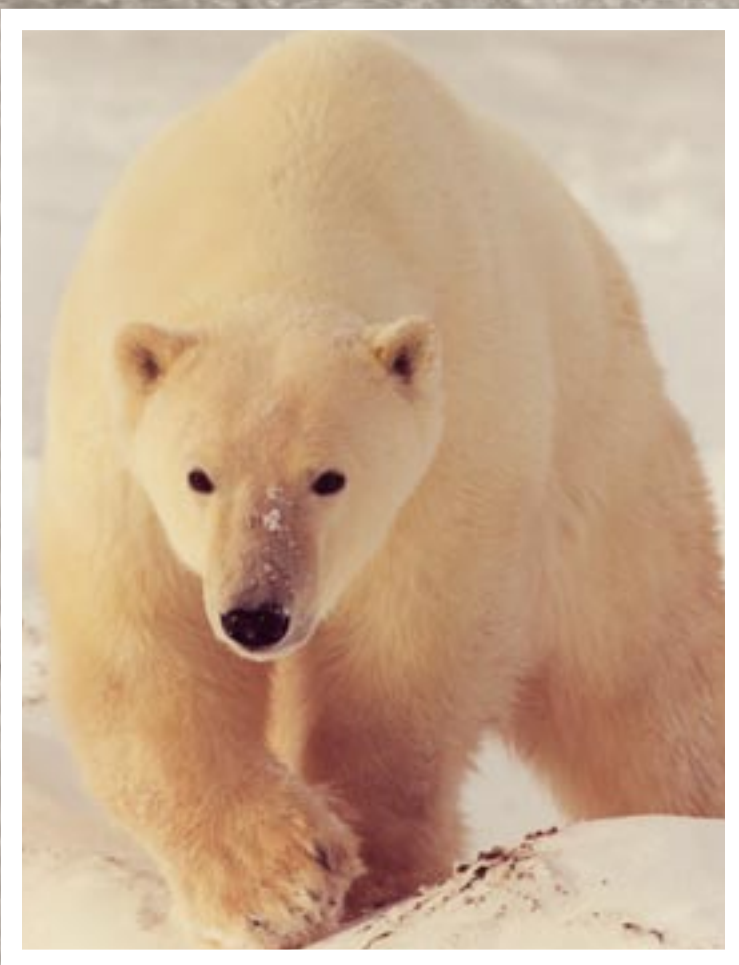
SELENARCTOS THIBETANUS

This bear is sometimes called the "moon bear" due to the white patch on its chest.

Weight: 220 - 485 pounds

Diet: nuts, fruits, bamboo shoots, birds, bee nests, insects and carrion.

Distribution: Southern Asia



POLAR BEAR

URSUS MARITIMUS

The largest of all carnivores and the only maritime bear.

Weight: 440 - 1,760 pounds

Diet: ringed and bearded seals, walrus and whales

Distribution: The Arctic: Alaska, Canada and Greenland



SUN BEAR

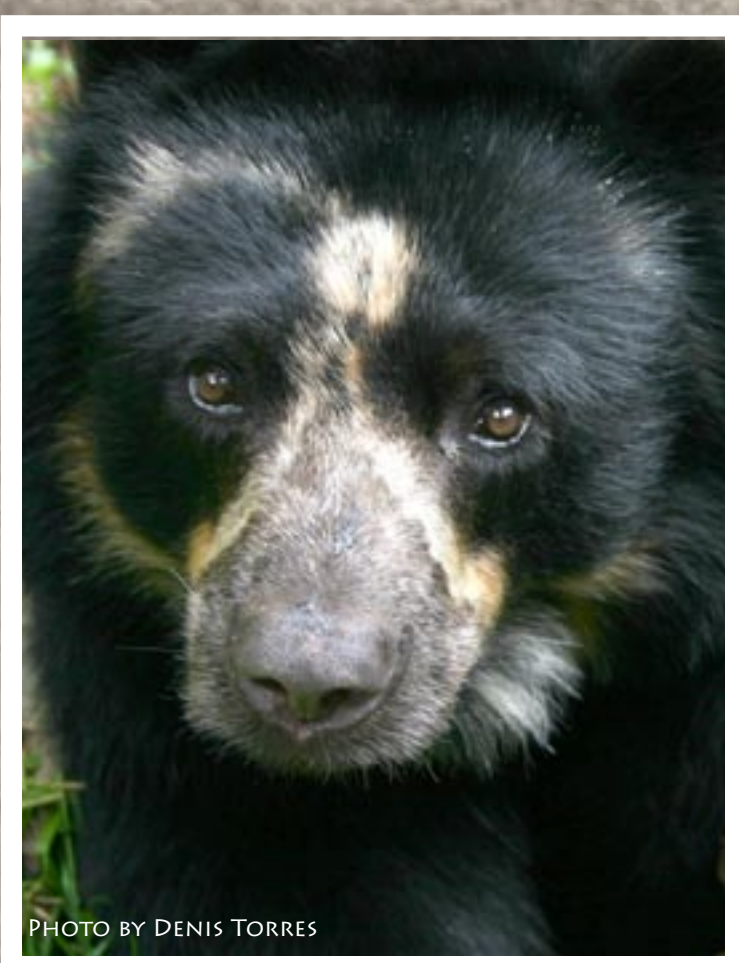
HELARCTOS MALAYANUS

The sun bear is the smallest of all eight bear species.

Weight: 60 - 145 pounds

Diet: honey, insects, fruit and palm tree shoots

Distribution: Southeast Asia



SPECTACLED BEAR

TREMARCTOS ORNATUS

The only bear living in South America and is the continent's second largest mammal.

Weight: 150 - 250 pounds

Diet: fruit, bromeliads, rodents and insects

Distribution: South America



GIANT PANDA

AILUROPODA MELANOLEUCA

Pandas live almost solely on a diet of bamboo, eating up to 33 pounds a day.

Weight: 176 - 275 pounds

Diet: bamboo

Distribution: China

BLACK BEARS

OF EAST TEXAS



Black bears are excellent climbers due to their short and sturdy claws.



Bear cubs stay with their mother until they are about twelve to fourteen months old.



PHOTO BY DOUG LINDSTRAND

Not all black bears are black in color. There are other color phases that include: brown, honey, cinnamon, blue and white.



PHOTO BY DOUG LINDSTRAND



PHOTO BY DOUG LINDSTRAND

Black bears are omnivores. They eat grass, herbaceous plants, fruit, nuts, fish and carrion.

Black bears (*Ursus americanus*) were once common and widely distributed throughout the forests of eastern Texas. By 1904, however, this species was all but eliminated in the Lone Star State due to hunting and loss of habitat. That was over a century ago.

Today, black bears are making a slow comeback to their historic range across the border with Louisiana. Since 1977, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) officials have been documenting an increasing number of black bear sightings in eastern Texas. It is because of these sightings that TPWD recently created the East Texas Black Bear Task Force (ETBBTF). The ETBBTF mission is to promote restoration of the black bear within the East Texas portion of its historic range, through programs of public education, field research, habitat management, and repatriation to suitable habitat.

The ETBBTF strives to accomplish this mission through partnerships with landowners, conservation organizations, universities, and government agencies. By working together, Task Force members believe they can help restore a truly unique and magnificent component of Texas' natural heritage.

For more information on Texas black bears and Task Force activities, please visit the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's website at: <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/>