

True North Safaris Bear Bait Inspection Summary Report

On June 18, 2009 an ENR Officer conducted an inspection of the bait stations set-up by True North Safaris, for the purpose of baiting black bears, as authorized by a General Wildlife Permit.

Parts of the conditions relating to the bait were:

- Bait Stations may not be established within 500 m of any parks, highways, public roads, trails, camps, buildings, private or leased lands (Including Tli Cho Lands) or other areas of known human activity.
- Each bait station must be posted with readily visible warning signs made of a durable material that is not less than 8"x12" on which is clearly and legibly written the following information:
 - Warning! Bear Bait Station in the vicinity.
 - Permit # GW 014897
 - Contact:... for more information.
- Each bait site must be posted with signs on all approaches to the site that warn other people of the presence of the bait site.
- Signs must be posted within 200m of the bait station, but not any closer than 100m.

A total of 5 bait stations were inspected.

The operator had posted each of the baits with professionally made plastic signs which provided all of the required information in a clear and legible manner.

In each case it was found that the bait stations were within 500 meters of a highway, public road or trail, as follows;

- 1 station was 70 meters from an active gravel pit, and 260 m. from heavy equipment used in the pit.
- 1 station was 160 meters from a gravel pit and 315 meters from of a heavily used road, leading to cabins.
- 1 station was 5 meters from a well-used trail/road, used by woodcutters and hunters.
- 1 station was 35 meters from a gravel stockpile and 275 meters from a DOT water-pump.
- 1 station was 210 meters from a main bush road and 320 meters from Highway 3

In some cases the signs were too close to the bait stations and some of the trails approaching the bait did not have signs.

At one station dog kibble was being used as bait.

ENR actions taken to address bait station concerns:

ENR advised the outfitter that they were in violation of the terms and conditions of their permit and warned them that if a permit was re-issued, the Outfitter would need to be more careful about adhering to the terms and conditions.