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# Habitat Selection of Black Bears Based on Heavy to Light Vegetation

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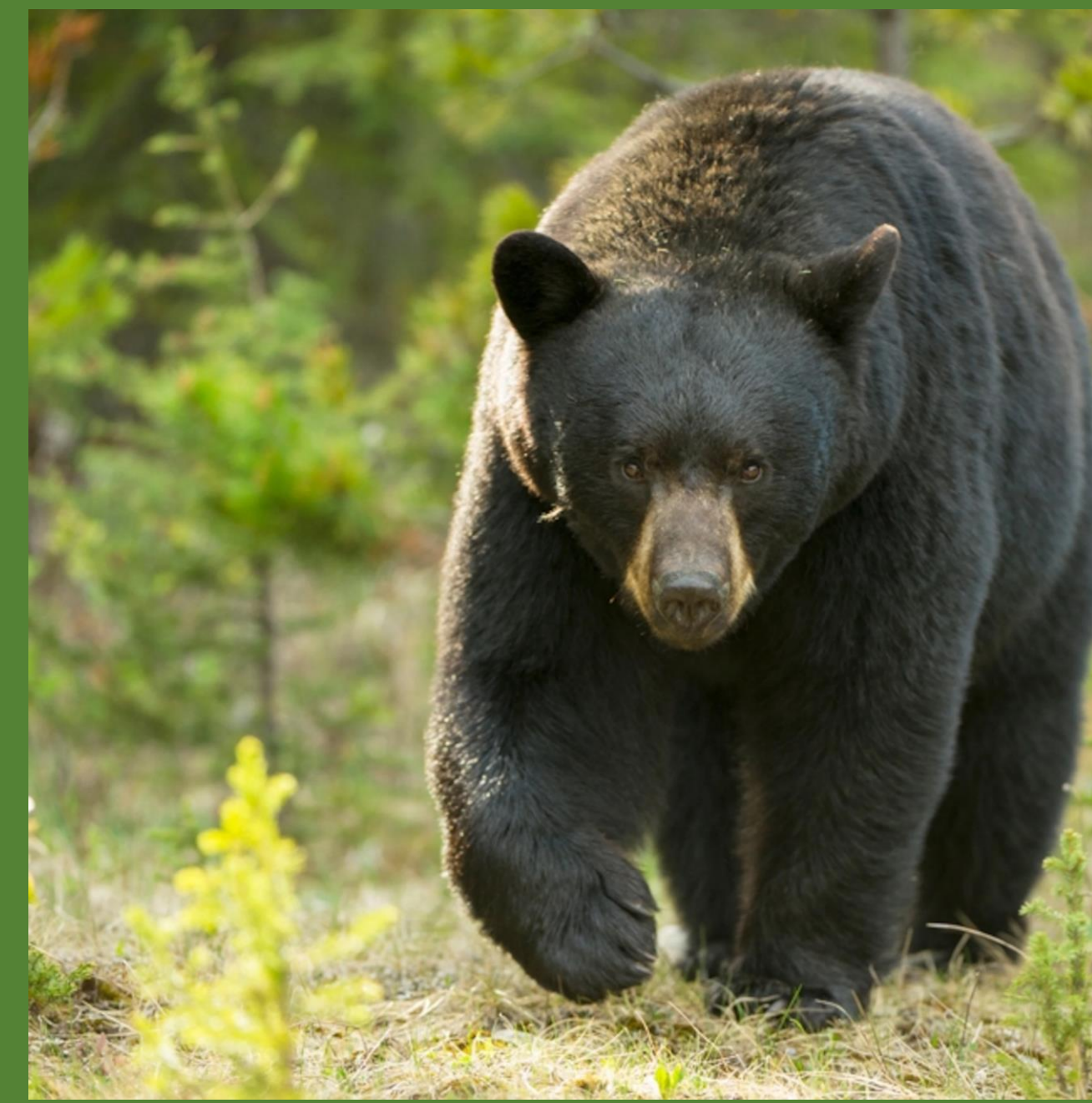
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# Habitat Selection of Black Bears Based on Heavy to Light Vegetation

Logan Scherf



## INTRODUCTION

- Black bears (*Ursus americanus*) tend to choose home ranges in habitats that provide abundant food and shelter such as deciduous and riparian forests
- Bears have been known to cause issues with timber companies leading to frequent relocation efforts or lethal action
- Hypothesis is that black bears will choose the denser vegetation area

## METHODS

- Data was collected between February and April
- Possible data included tracks, scat, and direct sightings
- 30 plot points were made using a handheld GPS



## RESULTS

- Hypothesis was incorrect
- The open vegetation density had a higher number of data collected compared to the closed vegetation density

## DISCUSSION

- The data collected showed that black bears prefer the open vegetation area
- The Small data count was likely due to the study being done in the late winter early spring seasons

## STUDY AREA

- Mad River: below the fish hatchery, used for light vegetation
- Redwood State Park: Redwood creek trail, used for heavy vegetation



## CITATIONS

North American Bear center,  
<https://bear.org/bear-tracks-and-trails/>, 2022  
National Geographic,  
<https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/animals/mammals/facts/black-bear>, 2022