

The Black Bear - 60-Second – Captioned for the Visually Impaired

MUSIC: "HINTERLAND WHO'S WHO" THEME

ANNOUNCER: (V.O.):

In primitive times, man regarded the black bear with reverence, and today many Indians have veneration for this imposing and massive animal.

[Black bear walking fast in a forest]

Adult males weigh about 170 kilograms, and are a little more than a metre in height at the shoulder. Appearing awkward and slow-moving, they can reach speeds of 55 kilometres an hour and are expert swimmers and climbers.

[Black bear running in a forest]

The bear prefers heavily wooded areas, and will eat almost anything that is available.

The young cubs are born in the winter den, and remain with their mother for at least a year.

[Black bear cubs running in the grass]

The black bear is shy and retiring, but is unpredictable and should be observed from a distance with respect.

For more information on the black bear, please contact the Canadian Wildlife Service in Ottawa.