

Bears in South Tweedsmuir

The Atnarko and Bella Coola Valleys provide critical habitat for grizzly and black bears. Bears can be encountered in the park **at any time** from May to November. During the chinook angling season from June to July 15, there is an increase in the number of park visitors. As a result, it is common for bear/human interactions to occur. During the fall salmon migration (mid August to November), the concentration of grizzly bears **significantly increases** in both valleys.

The following regulations are in place to help reduce potential bear/human conflicts, and to save bears from being destroyed. ***Failure to comply may result in a violation ticket or eviction from the park.***

Hunlen Falls/Turner Lake Trail - Hikers traveling along the 4x4 road must not camp along the road or at the parking lot. The road and the first three kilometers of the trail should be hiked between late morning and early afternoon, when bears are the least active.

Atnarko and Fisheries Pool Campgrounds – Tenting may be closed at any time to visitors with soft shell campers or tents. Check the park alerts for any closures. Food storage, cooking and fish handling regulations are posted at both campsites.

Trails – There are several river access trails that are closed between dusk and dawn from May to November.

Fishing – Do not cut or lay fish on picnic tables. Bleed and clean all fish in the river and throw offal into fast flowing water. Handle roe cleanly. Store fish and bait in a sealed container in your vehicle.

For more information about general bear safety, please visit the bear safety link listed on the main park page.