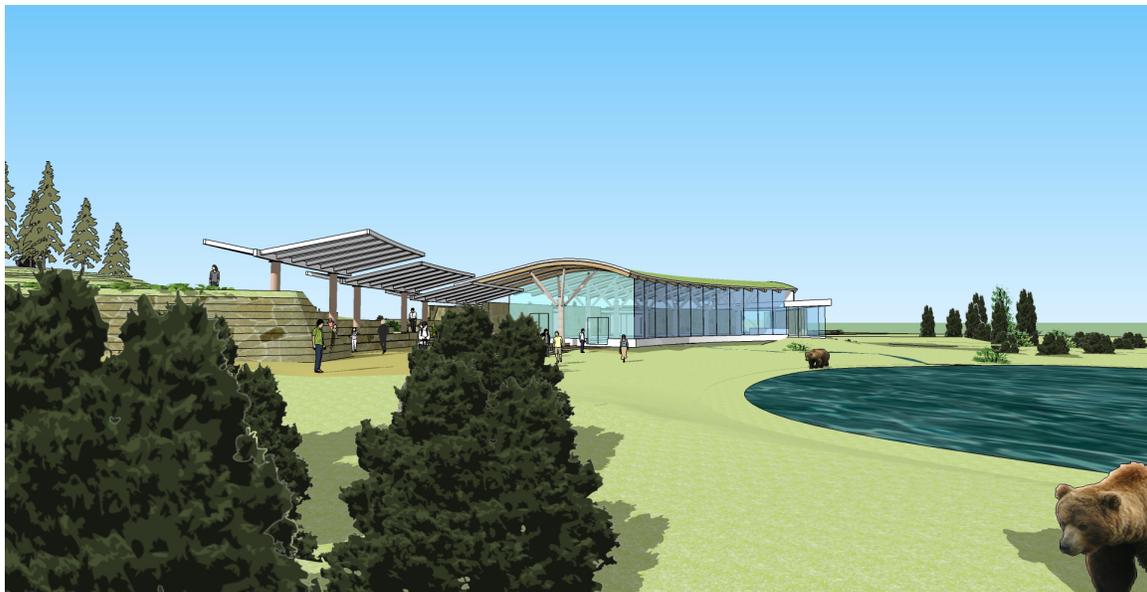


In accordance with the sustainability plan, Phase III of the project is due to be completed in 2016 when Anchorage receives world-wide attention as the host city for the **24th Annual International Conference on Bear Research & Management**.



This very important conference will provide the perfect venue to show case to the world visitors, Alaska's bear management programs and the sustainability efforts taken to ensure responsible resource management.



B.E.A.R.S. Phase III- Future Construction
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The building will include a large interpretive gallery, themed to demonstrate the history, ecology and conservation management of bears. The B.E.A.R.S facility will serve as the integrated classroom resource for science curriculum blending informal and formal settings, resources, and pedagogies. The facility features a conference room, an outdoor viewing deck, animal holding facilities, public rest rooms, staff office space, and a small gift shop.

Educational Interpretive Exhibits - Alaska is the only place in the world with the habitat supporting a stable population of 3 of the 8 species of bears.



Lessons are built around the following standards to include the Alaska Standards:

Next Generation Science Standards:

MS-LS2-1, MS-LS2-2, MS-LS2-4;

Common Core State Standards:

RST.6-8.1, RST.6-8.7, RST.6-8.8,

RI.8.8, WHST.6-8.1, SL.8.1, SL.8.4,

MP. 4, 6.SP.B.5; **NSES National**

Science Standards: A 1-6, C 6, F 2, G

3; **ITEA National Technology**

Standards: 2, 3, and 8; **ABET National**

Engineering Standards: 1, 2, 3; **NCTM**

National Math Standards: 4, 6, 8 & 10

The educational program offerings are STEM-based (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) and full service, combining on-site programs for students, classroom resources, and teacher professional development. Typically, these programs are offered at no charge.

- These programs can be offered to students nationally and worldwide through web based connections and interactivity.
- Portals will connect students to other learning sites to support in class learning.
- Site based learning in the form of independent or group activity will be offered.
- Teach the Teacher programs will guide and support educators.



The site-based programs can either be delivered directly to the classroom or serve as the support structure for the teacher for “Supplementary Classroom Enrichment.”

B.E.A.R.S Center interactive exhibits will engage visitors on topics such as Bear Safety, Bear Management, Bear Conservation in Alaska, sustainable development in bear habitat, Global Climate Change and its effect on bears, the differences between polar, brown and black bears and the other 5 bears of the world, bear communication and bear viewing in Alaska. Bear artifacts and life sized models of the eight bear species will also be featured. Photographs will line the hallways from various well-known wildlife photographers and will be accompanied by wall-sized window viewing of the centers’ brown bears.



B.E.A.R.S Phase III Interior

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Educational Classroom Area - A multitude of education methods will be employed to connect students around the world to the message of conservation education. This area will be used for various educational classes, community meetings, and revenue generating events.

Conference Room - A conference room will have a large viewing window looking beyond the brown bear enclosure to the breathtaking Chugach National Forest.

Outdoor Viewing Deck- From the safety of the outdoor viewing deck, visitors will be able to witness and photograph brown bear behavior up close. Outdoor interpretive panels, along with mounted binoculars, offer the visitor the opportunity to gain further insight into these magnificent animals.

Animal Holding Area- Four 15'x15' indoor dens will allow the bears to be safely restrained for medical treatments, research projects, and ground maintenance. These dens will also provide an area for hibernation, allowing an undisturbed view of the bears in hibernation for students, researchers and visitors.

Animal Food Preparation Kitchen and Walk-In Freezer- Staff will prepare the daily meals for the bears-in the kitchen while educating the public. A glass window into the kitchen will allow spectators and visitors to watch the food preparation process. The kitchen viewing will educate visitors on the diet of Alaskan bears through interpretive displays. Learning about the nutritional value of Alaskan salmon, the total calories an adult brown bear consumes, and feeding adaptations they have developed are some of the topics that will be presented. Food for the bears will be donated from salmon and trout hatcheries, canneries and fish processing facilities, Alaska Railroad, and grocery stores.

Gift Shop Area- A small gift shop area will generate revenue to support the educational programs of the center. Bear-themed products will be sold along with educational materials.

Partnerships

With the construction of this premier bear facility, AWCC has the opportunity to reach out to the public and provide necessary bear education. The Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center has teamed up with Bear Trust International (BTI) to implement a program that provides education to schoolteachers who then pass this knowledge on to their students. AWCC & BTI continue to work together to advance bear education in Alaska and throughout the country, with the support of ADF&G and USF&W.