



# **Bear Resistant Trash Receptacles to Reduce Human- Bear Interactions**

**May 22, 2018**

**New Mexico State Game Commission Meeting**

**Los Alamos, NM**

# Background

- Bear activity in Los Alamos has increased over the last several years
- Attracted by human food bears increasing coming into town
- Canyons and ravines are ideal travel corridors
- Increased likelihood of negative human-bear encounters



July 2016 – story made national news



31 Oct 2016 – LA Daily Post

# Bear Resistant Dumpsters

- Phase 1: Commercial & Multi-Family Areas
- Cooperative agreement between LA County, LA Medical Center and DGF
  - Purchase 13 bear resistant dumpsters
- Total Cost = \$23,418
  - LAC & LAMC = \$8,196; DGF = \$15,222
  - Delivered December 2016



Bear in LAMC parking lot



New dumpsters at LAMC

# Bear Resistant Roll-Carts

- Phase 2: Residential Areas
- Cooperative agreement between LA County and DGF
  - Purchase 300 bear resistant roll-carts
- Total Cost = \$49,424
  - LAC = \$17,900; DGF = \$36,024
  - Delivered February 2018
- Education Campaign
  - LA County
    - Links to bear educational sites on website
    - Attend community events
  - DGF
    - New “Living with Bears” brochure
    - New “Be Bear Aware” materials



# Expected Benefits

- Increased awareness among residents
- Reduced incentive for bears to enter town
- Less potential for negative human-bear encounters
- Less need for lethal removal of habituated bears



# Questions ?

