Livingston County Tops GLOW Region During 2016 Bear Hunting Season

by Matt Surtel

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WARSAW — A total of nine bears were harvested during the 2016 hunting season, according to the State Department of Environmental Conservation.

The statistics show little change compared to 2015. They include:

A total of three kills were reported in Wyoming County, including two in Castile and one in Pike. That matches the 2015 season, in which three kills were reported.

Each kill was reported during the regular hunting season.

A total of six kills were reported in Livingston County, including four in Ossian and two in Conesus. That's one fewer than the seven bears taken in 2015.

Three of the bears were taken during the bow hunting season, with the remainder taken during the regular season.

No kills were reported in Genesee or Orleans counties during the 2016 season. That compares to a single bear harvested in 2015 in Byron.

Chautauqua County dominated bear kills in Western New York, with a total of 104 bears taken. It nearly doubles the county's previous total of 53 bears.

Steuben County fell to second place with total of 77 bears taken. But it marks a big drop-off, compared to the 115 bears harvested in 2015.

The remaining totals for 2016 included Allegany County with 49 bears; Cattaraugus County with 33 bears.

A total of 1,539 bears were taken statewide in 2016. That's the fourth-highest total in the past 20 years.

The top three seasons include 1,863 bears in 2003; 1,715 bears in 2015; and 1,628 bears in 2014.

The heaviest bear taken in 2016 was a 555-pound male taken in the town of Brandon in Franklin County.

A 540-pound bear ranked second. It was taken in the town of Walton in Delaware County.

2016 Bear Take Summary by The Livingston County News on Scribd

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