

Mother Love In Animals Is Strong And Dangerous

Mother love is a strong thing and experience has shown most mothers develop a rather hostile attitude toward any uninvited intruder. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game says this generalization holds true for wildlife. Many species of Alaskan wildlife can become extremely dangerous if they feel their offspring is threatened.

The Department advises all persons going into the woods this summer to take special care not to interfere with the family life of any wild animal. Moose and bear are responsible for most people-wildlife conflicts but other species are also known to attack people in defense of their young.

A touchy situation can develop any time a person finds himself in close proximity with a wild mother and her offspring, said game biologist James Faro. Attempting to catch, pet or photograph the baby is asking for trouble.

Children and dogs often initiate trouble because they do not realize the potential danger of a wild animal, he continued. Their uncontrolled enthusiasm to see or chase should be held in check for the safety of all concerned. Any time a person is in the woods, he should remember wild animals do not differentiate between a harmless intruder and a dangerous one.