

Wild Bear in the Woods

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Steve was conducting his annual bird survey down in the Ocala National Forest (in Central Florida) last week when he rudely interrupted a Mama Black Bear browsing with her Baby Booboo Black Bear.

He sent me pictures and a note: "The little guy got confused when mom hurried off at my approach. He just stumbled around wailing while I tried to take pix. Jesse (his dog) was beside herself, barking and hanging out the truck window while

the little guy cried and cried. Mom started back several times only to turn away when she got too close to me. At one point the little guy came toward me, probably thinking I was his mom. Eventually mom got back close enough and the little guy followed her as they galumphed off across the savanna."

No bears or naturalists were harmed in this encounter.