

Bear Caught on Camera 'Dancing' in Russia's Far East (Video)

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The  **Moscow Times**

A bear in Russia's Far East has taken the phrase "dance like there's no one watching" to a whole new level.

Video cameras installed by researchers at the Leopard Land nature preserve in Vladivostok captured footage of the Himalayan black bear writhing against a birch tree in a performance that would make Miley Cyrus jealous.

Leopard Land employees set the footage to an R&B song and posted it online Thursday, accompanied by a upbeat statement.

"A routine check of the video traps installed in Leopard Land has brought joy to the park's staff," the statement said.

"And it's not just that the footage is valuable from a science viewpoint. Scientists have once again ascertained that Leopard Land is inhabited by not only beautiful, but also highly artistic animals," the nature preserve said.

The birch tree is "held in high regard" by local bears, who rub against it to mark their presence for other animals, the statement said.

A number of bears have approached the tree in recent weeks, but one of the visitors, a large Himalayan black bear, performed a lengthy "dance," Leopard Land said.

While marking trees is a "necessity in the harsh world of animals," the video indicated that the process "brought real pleasure to the bear," it added.

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