

Lack of keys prevents bear from driving off

By Barbara Barte Osborn, Sacramento Bee

It's not unusual for bears – especially juveniles – to wreak havoc at winter's end in Truckee, but it is surprising to see one at the wheel of a pickup.

According to the Truckee Police Department, a young bear entered the cab of the unlocked truck Wednesday evening and was unable to get out when the door closed behind it.



This bear forgot to get the keys. Photo/Truckee Police

Police officers arrived at the home on St. Bernard Drive in the Tahoe Donner subdivision and quickly released the frightened bear.

There was significant damage to the interior of the truck, authorities said.

Bear scat was also left inside. Police are encouraging residents and visitors to lock their vehicles and not keep any food or other scented items that could attract hungry bears to their cars.