

Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board

2011 Annual Report



Compiled by the Wyoming Department of Agriculture



ANIMAL DAMAGE MANAGEMENT BOARD

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Governor Mead
Joint Agriculture, Public Lands and Water Committee
Joint Appropriations Committee
Joint Travel, Recreation, Wildlife and Cultural Resources Committee

FROM: Jason Fearneyhough, ADMB Co-Chair
Scott Talbott, ADMB Co-Chair

DATE: November 20, 2011

SUBJECT: 2011 Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board Annual Report

Please find enclosed the required annual progress report due on or before November 30 of each year regarding the Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board.

Feel free to contact us if you have any questions regarding this report.

cc: ADMB Members
Wyoming Board of Agriculture
Wyoming Game & Fish Commission

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Section</u>
Board Directory	<u>A</u>
2011 ADMB Overview.....	<u>B</u>
Research Projects	<u>C</u>
Meeting Agendas and Minutes	<u>D</u>
Financial Information.....	<u>E</u>
Administrative Statutes and Strategic Plan.....	<u>F</u>
County Reports from Wyoming Predator Management Districts.....	<u>G</u>

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**WYOMING
ANIMAL DAMAGE
MANAGEMENT
BOARD**

Directory

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2011 Major Issue Overview

New Rabies Outbreak in Laramie County

Laramie County has not had a reported case of a rabid animal since 1984, but in 2011 there have been over 14 confirmed rabies cases. These cases are unique as the strain of rabies found in all samples is from a new strain of rabies that we have not had in Wyoming. A rabies strain, found in large brown bats in Arizona, had mutated across species into the skunk population of that state. From Arizona, the strain has moved rapidly across Colorado, where confirmed rabies cases have spiked over the last couple of years. We are now seeing that strain in Wyoming and we have the potential of seeing it in many counties of Wyoming, where we have not seen it before. Currently, through direction of the ADMB; Johnson, Sheridan, and Campbell County Predator Management Districts receive annual funding to assist with mitigation of their on-going rabid skunk issues. Laramie County was provided with seed money to develop a trapping program and received training on proper sampling methods and procedures to get the sample to the state veterinary lab and on proper trapping methods. An updated rabies educational brochure was developed and over 1,000 were distributed through various outlets in Laramie County.

Gray Wolf Listed as Predator

As progress is made in delisting the gray wolf from the endangered species list in Wyoming, the ADMB is closer to having a “new” predator responsibility. The ADMB is proactively discussing the issue with the Wyoming Game and Fish Department, USDA-Wildlife Services in Wyoming, and the county predator management districts, to establish protocol and procedures for dealing with the wolf in the predator area of the state. State funds are being requested by the Wyoming Department of Agriculture, on behalf of the ADMB, to deal with control measures in cases involving immediate livestock depredation and human health and safety concerns.

2011 Overview

1. **Meetings:** The Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board (ADMB) met four (4) times over the course of the calendar year (January 13, April 27-28, June 9, and November 3). Agendas and meeting minutes are included in this report.
2. **Predator District Funding:** The ADMB received applications and approved funding for 19 predator management districts across the state. In 2011, \$2,423,711 was allocated to the 19 districts. As of the date of this report, all of the initial \$4,830,000 has been allocated to the districts.
3. **Projects:** Evaluated and approved funding for 10 projects (7 new, 3 renewing multiple year,) this past year. Project synopses are included with this report. Complete project reports are available upon request.
4. **Rabies Management:** Renewed the state-wide wildlife rabies management plan with a modified budget. Maintain a Wyoming rabies website at www.wyorabies.org. Continued a state-wide rabies surveillance program, with laboratory validation of rabies prevalence. Three on the ground management programs are in operation and resources have been provided to address the new rabies outbreak in Laramie County. An updated public rabies education brochure was produced and distributed.
5. **Program Partnerships:** The ADMB and Wyoming Ag in the Classroom have joined forces in developing and distributing predator management related curriculum to classrooms across Wyoming and through teacher training.
6. **Promotion & Funding:** As part of the promotion of the voluntary Wildlife Damage Management Stamp, the board continues to develop a stamp with artwork and distributed colored promotional posters to all Wyoming license selling agents. The 2006 stamp displays Sage Grouse; the 2007 stamp featured a pronghorn fawn and coyote; the 2008 stamp features a livestock guarding dog, the 2009 stamp features a raccoon, the 2010 stamp features a grizzly bear, and the 2011 stamp features a common raven and sage grouse. The 2012 stamp will feature a gold eagle.
7. **Public Relations:** The Board had their booth on display at the Wyoming Game & Fish Hunting and Fishing Heritage Exposition held in September, and informational reports at the Farm Bureau in November. Wyoming Stock Growers convention is planned for December.
8. **Information Dissemination:** The ADMB website at www.wyadmb.com continues to be maintained and provides available information regarding the current activities and programs for the ADMB.

In Progress:

1. The next regular meeting of the ADMB will be January 12, 2011 at the Regional Game and Fish Office, Casper, WY.
2. Project applications for consideration at the January 12, 2011 meeting will be accepted until January 3, 2011.
3. Research Project applications for the June 2012 meeting will be accepted from April 1 to May 15, 2012.

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ANIMAL DAMAGE MANAGEMENT BOARD

WYOMING

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Wyoming Game & Fish Commission

FROM: Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board
Scott Talbott, Co-Chair
Jason Fearneyhough, Co-Chair

DATE: August 16, 2011

SUBJECT: Request for Funds

In accordance with Wyoming Statute 11-6-307, the ADMB is requesting \$100,000.00 (one-hundred thousand dollars) from the Wyoming game and fish commission. A synopsis of the projects selected for funding by the ADMB at the June 6, 2011 board meeting, is listed below.

11-6-307. Board to request funding from game and fish commission. The board shall annually request one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,00.00) from the Wyoming game and fish commission. These funds shall be expended for wildlife priorities. The game and fish commission may provide recommendations to the board regarding expenditure of these funds.

FY '11 ADMB Projects

Standing Projects:

1) Impact of raven and red fox removal on Sage Grouse populations in Sweetwater, Uinta and Lincoln Counties – Funding: \$50,000

Synopsis: Dr. Michael Conover, Utah State University, has been studying the impact of raven and fox predation on the nesting success and densities of sage-grouse in Sweetwater, Lincoln, and Uinta counties for the last three years. The funding will be used to continue this study until June 2012 and to determine if sage-grouse nesting success is higher in areas where raven and foxes are being removed. Submitted by: Utah State University

2) Large Carnivore Livestock Depredation Prevention and Control – Funding: \$25,000

Synopsis: Funding up to a maximum of \$25,000 with the Wyoming Game & Fish Commission and Wildlife Services to alleviate black bear, grizzly bear, and mountain lion depredation to livestock, bees and beehives in all counties of the state. Unused funds will revert back to the ADMB account. Submitted by: Wyoming Game & Fish Department

3) Chemical Gonadectomy of the Coyote – Funding: \$12,000

Synopsis: The overall goal of this research is to develop an additional tool for the management of coyotes. Specifically, we will investigate if a single treatment of a sustained release GnRH agonist may suffice to permanently chemically neuter coyotes as a means to control reproduction in this species. Submitted by: Dept of Zoology & Physiology, University of Wyoming

New Projects:

4) Cody Elk Preseason Classification Survey – Funding: \$5,000

Synopsis: Calf predation by grizzly bears, black bears, and wolves has been shown to be significant on certain elk population segments in the Greater Yellowstone Area. We propose to conduct aerial preseason (late summer) classification surveys (via helicopter) throughout the herd unit in order to assess calf survival. Submitted by: Wyoming Game and Fish Department

5) Jackson Elk Monitoring – Funding: \$10,000

Synopsis: Radio collar elk on winter range in the Buffalo Valley and Yellowstone National Park during the next two years and monitor migrations and survival compared to hunting seasons, elk feed grounds and wolf pack home ranges. Submitted by: Wyoming Game and Fish Department

6) Monitoring causes of mortality and predation rates of sage grouse in the Big Horn Basin – Funding: \$62,000

Synopsis: This project has four main objectives. They are: 1. Document mortality causes to sage-grouse in the Big Horn Basin, 2. Identify potential nest predators, 3. Gather information on seasonal habitat use, migration patterns, and lek fidelity, 4. Evaluate control measures for potential predators. Submitted by: Wyoming Game & Fish Department and Meeteetse Conservation District, administrated by Meeteetse Conservation District.

7) Estimating population size of mountain lions using DNA markers – Funding: \$15,000

Synopsis: Collaborating with South Dakota State University, we will use volunteer and agency personnel to tree mountain lions and gather a tissue sample through a biopsy dart. With this information we will create a database of marked individuals using DNA individual identification and assess population size using mark-recapture methods of harvested individuals/known mortalities in accordance with the genetic database. Submitted by: Wyoming Game and Fish Department

8) Provide wolf surveillance on Three Wolf Packs Funding: \$7,200

Synopsis: The purpose of this project is to provide extra surveillance on private, state, BLM and Forest Service lands which has three wolf packs that frequent the ranch lands where cattle are being produced. Extra surveillance should lower death loss and increase pregnancy rates and better document any loss due to wolf damage. Submitted by: Diamond D Cattle Company

9) Bates Hole coyote removal to enhance Mule Deer fawn survival - Funding: \$40,000

Synopsis: The proposed project will entail controlling coyotes in the Bates Hole area south of Casper. The primary goal is to improve mule deer neonate survival and over-summer fawn recruitment. Project efficacy will be gauged by numbers of coyotes removed and comparisons of site-specific postseason mule deer classification ratios (fawn ratios) within the project area to those of adjacent areas within the Bates Hole / Hat Six Mule Deer Herd Unit. The Wyoming Game and Fish Department annually collects aerial (helicopter) mule deer classification ratios during November of each year. Submitted by: Natrona County Predator Management Board

10) Wildlife Specialist – special project position – Funding: \$30,000

Synopsis: This project position will conduct predator management activities to alleviate wildlife damage and will work with the public on predator management in both urban and rural settings. Submitted by: Hot Springs County Predator Management Board

Note: All projects, with the exception of Chemical Gonadectomy of the Coyote (number 3),

Provide wolf surveillance on Three Wolf Packs Funding (number 8), and Wildlife Specialist – special project position (number 10), were approved for G&F Commission funds. These approved projects total \$207,000. If Commission funds are approved, the balance and the other projects will be funded from the regular ADMB account.

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ADMB Meeting
Wyoming Department of Agriculture Conference Room
Cheyenne, WY

Agenda

Thursday, January 13, 2011

9:00 a.m. - Call to Order – (Fearneyhough, Ferrell)

- Introductions of board, guests, & public
- Additions/Corrections/Approval of Agenda
- Approval of November 4, 2010 Minutes

9:10 a.m. - Review of ADMB Strategic Plan, Project Application Date, Wildlife Management Stamp

9:40 a.m. - Discussion on Big Horn Sheep/ Domestic Sheep Working Group policy, Jim Collins

10:00 a.m. - Discussion of Legislative Proposals that affect Predator Management in Wyoming and Wyoming Golden Eagle / Livestock Conservation Alliance, Bryce Reece, Executive Director, Wyoming Wool Growers Assn. and Wyoming Assoc. of County Predator Animal Boards.

11:00 a.m. Final Report, “Evaluating the potential influence of predation on Jackson moose”, Dr. Matt Kauffman, Wyoming Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, Department of Zoology and Physiology, University of Wyoming

12:00 noon - Lunch and Raven Study Presentation, Tracy Frye, Wildlife Services, Riverton

1:00 p.m. - Final Report, “Predator Protection against wolves and bears for sheepherders and sheep in Upper Green River BT Forest, Mary Thoman, Thoman Ranches

1:30 p.m. - Interim Report, “Transferring Livestock Protection Dog Traditions to Large Carnivore Occupancy”, Cat Urbigkit

2:30 p.m. - Discussion on Predator Management District Funding and Application

3:00 p.m. - State Veterinary Lab Rabies Report for 2010 – Dr. Ken Mills, UW

3:45 p.m. - Public Comment / Board Comment

4:00 p.m. - Adjourn

Times are tentative. Please arrive early if agenda items move quicker than anticipated.

ADMB Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 13, 2011
Cheyenne, WY

Present Board Members:

Co-Chair Jason Fearneyhough	Co-Chair Steve Ferrell	Gene Hardy
Jim Collins	Rod Krischke	Ronald "Jerry" Galles
Shaun Sims	Cheryl Chatham, US Forest Service (needs final appt.)	

Absent Board Members:

Bob Innes	Dennis Saville	Jim Schellinger
John (Dale) Leatham	John Espy	Amanda Hulet

Board Administrators Present:

Kent Drake, Alexandria Englander-Tuttle

Public Guests:

J. Williams, C. Urbigkit, B. Hromack, M. Anderson, J. Caudill, L. Stevenson, B. Reece, T. Frye, M. Thoman, Dr. K. Mills

Meeting was called to order at 9:03 by Chairman S. Ferrell. Agenda was changed to accommodate multiple scheduling difficulties. Agenda was approved by general consensus. J. Collins asked that the wording of November 4, 2010 minutes be amended, second page, "years two and three be sought from additional funding" was changed to "substantial funding". J. Collins moved to accept, G. Hardy seconded, motioned passed.

Review of ADMB Strategic Plan

The ADMB five year strategic plan was reviewed. S. Ferrell asked that the issue of updating the glossy ADMB publication be discussed at the board's June meeting.

Project Application Date

K. Drake brought research/special project application dates to the board's attention and that there is a need to get funds earlier in the fiscal year to awarded projects. S. Sims motioned that the research/special project application due date be moved to May 15 and the ADMB meeting be held in the first two weeks of June, G. Hardy seconded, motion passed.

Wildlife Management Stamp

K. Drake brought the board's attention to the annual stamp sales and income/expense report. The board discussed new methods of marketing to bring public attention to the stamp, this included public service announcements and press releases. There was also discussion of discontinuing the printing of actual stamps, in an attempt to save money on printing costs.

Big Horn Sheep/ Domestic Sheep Working Group policy

J. Collins brought the Big Horn Sheep/Domestic Sheep Working Group's final report to the board's attention and asked that they support this document. J. Fearneyhough motioned that the ADMB support the statewide Big Horn Sheep/ Domestic Sheep Working Group's final report and recommendations, J. Galles seconded, motioned passed.

Cat Urbigit presented an interim report on transferring livestock protection dog traditions to large carnivore occupancy.

Bryce Reece, Executive Director, Wyoming Wool Growers Assn. and Wyoming Assoc. of County Predator Animal Boards discussed legislative proposals that affect predator management in Wyoming. He also discussed the recent meeting of the Wyoming Golden Eagle / Livestock Conservation Alliance. B. Reece plans to meet with the Governor and ask that he declare a golden eagle depredation area. With that designation the U.S. Secretary of the Interior shall issue a permit to take depredating eagles. B. Reece asked that he would like ADMB board members to attend the meeting with the governor when he has a meeting date.

Tracy Frye, USDA/Wildlife Services, gave a presentation on the Fremont County Mule Deer and Sage Grouse study that has been on-going for 6 six years. Results from collecting data on artificial sage grouse nests depredation show the common raven as the most frequent predator.

Mary Thoman, Thoman Ranches, presented a final report for predator protection against wolves and bears for shepherders and sheep in the Upper Green River BT Forest.

Dr. Ken Mills, UW, presented a state veterinary lab rabies report for 2010.

There was no public or board comment.

Meeting adjourned at 2:51.

Tentative Meeting Dates

April 27-28, 2011 in Casper

June 2-3, 2011 in Thermopolis

Wyoming ADMB

April 27, 2011 Business Agenda – 9:00 a.m. Welcome, Minutes, Preparation for interviews 9:45 start interviews

Start Time	End Time	Interview	Request
9:45	10:15	Goshen	
10:15	10:45	Converse	
10:45	11:15	Weston	
11:15	11:45	Carbon	
11:45	1:00	lunch	
1:00	1:30	Campbell	
1:30	2:00	Albany	
2:00	2:30	Big Horn	
2:30	3:00	Park	
3:00	3:30	Crook	
3:30	4:00	Fremont	
4:00	4:30	Johnson	
4:30		Public Comment	
Thursday,	April 28		
8:45 a.m.		Resume	
9:00	9:30	Natrona	
10:00	10:30	Hot Springs	
10:30	11:00	Niobrara	
11:00	11:30	Sweetwater	
11:30	noon	Washakie	
Noon	1:00	Lunch	
1:00	1:30	Lincoln	
1:30	2:00	Uinta	
2:00	4:00	Discussion	
4:00	4:30	Public Comment and Adjournment	

**Animal Damage Management Board Meeting – Wednesday, April 27, and Thursday, April
28, 2011
Game and Fish Department - Casper, WY**

Board Members Present:

Co-chair Jason Fearneyhough	Co-Chair Scott Talbott(on 4-28-11)	
Bob Innes	Rod Krischke	Jim Collins
John Espy	Amanda Hulet	Shaun Sims
Jim Schellinger	Mark Sattelberg	Dale Leatham
Gene Hardy	Dennis Saville (on 4-27-11)	
Cheryl Chatham	Ed Mignery (on 4-28-11)	

Board Members Absent:

none

WDA Support Staff

Kent Drake	Margy Anderson	Hank Uhden
Doug Miyamoto		

Public Attending

Bryce Reece	Art Davis	Stan Smith
Wylie Cross	Tim Pexton	Troy Scott
Alan Todd	Jerry Shepperson	Roger Cox
Jerry Dilts	Ken Ford	T. C. Page
David Kalco	George McGregor	Kay Neves
Lisa Kimsey	Brandon O'Brien	Shane Smith
Rori Renner	J.W. Nuckolls	Jerry Ista
Darla West	Rob Philp	
Peter John Camino	Truman Julian	
Sy Gilliland	Donald T. Dodds	J.W. Hendry
Mary Owens	Don Garrison	Mike Connell
Alan Plumber	Brett Belden	Art Hunter
Bob Blacketer	Shannon Bruegger	Barb Kilmer
Ed Perry	Rolly Redland	
Max Fritzel	Wade Larsen	Joe Hickey

The meeting was called to order on 4-27 by Co-Chair J. Fearneyhough at 9:12 a.m. Board members and guests were introduced. The minutes from the 1-13-11 meeting were reviewed. The proposed dates of the June meeting were discussed. Jim Collins moved to approve the minutes as presented to the Board. Shaun Sims seconded. Motion Carried.

Rod Krischke spoke to the Board regarding the earmarked funding for the APHIS-WS Tri-State Predator Control Program, affecting livestock protection from predators in Idaho, Montana and Wyoming. The funding has been eliminated. Rod explained his options to continue with the service agreement for the current fiscal year, and options for continuing operations of the Wyoming program for fiscal year 12. Rod answered questions from the Board.

Predator Management Program Presentations

Representatives from each predator management district presented information on their fiscal year 12 funding requests and took Board questions. District presentations took place in the following order:

Goshen County PMD: Wylie Cross, Stan Smith and Art Davis presented, explained current predator project statistics/enhancements, new projects in Goshen County, and future goals.

Converse County PMD: Tim Pexton and Troy Scott presented, explained current operations of the program, and funding projections for fiscal year 12 and 13 in regards to operating under budget cuts.

The Board took a break, and reconvened at 10:45 am.

Weston County PMD: Alan Todd and Jerry Shepperson presented, explained budget projections for fiscal year 12, the current status of the Big Horn Sheep Project, aerial hunting, and landowner refunds.

Carbon County PMD: Roger Cox presented, explained budget projections for fiscal year 12 in light of funding cuts from Wildlife Services, and brand refunds.

The Board discussed the issue of refunds each predator management board pays out by statute. Co-Chairman Fearneyhough asked Bryce Reece if he would work with WDA staff to help the districts promulgate rules to clarify the refund process by district. B. Reece agreed to assist with the rules process.

The Board took a lunch break. Co-Chair J. Fearneyhough called the meeting back to order at 1:05 p.m.

Campbell County PMD: Jerry Dilts and Ken Ford presented, and explained their budget breakdown in regard to rabies control.

Albany County PMD: T. C. Page, David Kalco and Brandon O'Brien presented, explained a projected change in their wildlife predator management plan, and reduced helicopter time.

Big Horn County PMD: George McGregor, Lisa Kimsey, Kay Neves and Brandon O'Brien presented, explained their program in regard to management, and landowners who allow predator management on their land.

Park County PMD: Shane Smith and Rori Renner presented, explained their projected budget for fiscal year 12, and pheasant program.

The Board took a break, and reconvened at 3:00 pm.

Crook County PMD: J.W. Nuckolls, Jerry Ista and Darla West presented, explained how the

PMD funding has helped control coyote population in the county, and refund requests.

Fremont County PMD: Rob Philp presented, explained that sheep numbers were down and talked about recent activity with coyote control.

Johnson County PMD: Peter John Camino presented, explained that coyote numbers have been down the past two years, talked about success with the rabies program, and explained the increased funding request for fixed wing and contractual helicopter flying money. P. Camino took some time to call the bookkeeper to clarify some budget questions. The Board took a break and reconvened at 4:27 pm. P. Camino finished his presentation.

Public Comment / Board Comment 4-27-11

Public comments were called for. No public comments were made.

Board comments were called for. No board comments were made.

The meeting was adjourned for the day by Co-Chair J. Fearneyhough at 4:35 pm, to reconvene on 4-28 at 9:00 am.

4-28-11

The meeting was called to order on by Co-Chair J. Fearneyhough at 9:02 a.m. The revised budget page from Johnson County PMD was passed out to the Board.

Predator Management Program Presentations 4-28-11

Representatives from each predator management district presented information on their fiscal year 12 funding requests and took Board questions. District presentations took place in the following order:

Natrona County PMD: Don Dodds, Sy Gilliland, J.W. Hendry, Mary Owens and Don Garrison presented, explained how their program works in conjunction with game and fish to control coyote numbers, how aerial and trapping is largely determined by the diverse county topography, education and outreach efforts, and goals to continue predator control.

Sheridan County PMD: Mike Connell and Alan Plumber presented, explained how mortality of livestock due to predation is down significantly, status of sage grouse population, that helicopter is the primary method of aerial control and coyote control numbers.

Hot Springs County PMD: Brett Belden, Bob Blacketer and Art Hunter presented, explained the status of their mule deer project and increased deer count, bird project, coyote, raccoon and skunk counts, and sage grouse project.

Niobrara County PMD: Shannon Bruegger, Barb Kilmer and Ed Perry presented, explained status of mule deer project, increase in doe to fawn ratios, and goals for the remaining spring

with predator management.

Washakie County PMD: Rolly Redland presented, explained the need for a part-time person to help with small predator management, coyote counts versus deer numbers and changing elk habits.

The Board took a break for lunch. Co-Chair J. Fearneyhough called the meeting back to order at 1:10 p.m.

Sweetwater County PMD: Truman Julian from Lincoln County presented, as representatives from Sweetwater Co. PMD were unable to attend.

Lincoln County PMD: Truman Julian and Max Fritzel presented, talked about the raven study with Dr. Conover, and helicopter time.

Uinta County PMD: Joe Hickey and Wade Larsen presented, explained that sheep and livestock cattle losses have gone down tremendously since first receiving state funding, how their program operates hand in hand with the game and fish, and how they have seen an increase in sage grouse numbers.

The Board took a break and reconvened at 2:23 pm.

PMD Discussion and Allocations

The Board reviewed a spreadsheet showing all district requests for fiscal year 12.

S. Sims moved the district funding levels as presented and recommended by the Co-chairs. J. Espy seconded. Discussion ensued.

B. Innes moved to amend the funding levels by reducing the Hot Springs County funding by \$24,000.00, and allocating \$12,000.00 of said amount to Sweetwater County and \$12,000.00 of said amount to Carbon County. G. Hardy seconded. Discussion ensued. Vote called for. 6 in favor, 3 opposed. Motion carried.

J. Espy moved to amend the funding allocation for Park County by reducing it by \$12,000.00, and re-allocating said amount to Sheridan County. A. Hulett seconded. Discussion ensued, vote called for. 7 in favor, 2 opposed. Motion carried.

R. Krischke moved to amend the funding package further by removing \$4,000.00 from Sheridan County, \$4,000.00 from Sweetwater County, \$4,000.00 from Carbon County and re-allocating the combined amount of \$12,000.00 to Hot Springs County. J. Collins seconded. Discussion ensued, vote called for. 2 in favor, 7 opposed. Motion failed.

B. Innes called the previous question to vote on the original motion as amended. S. Sims seconded. The original motion as amended was voted on. 6 in favor, 3 opposed. Motion carried.

The final amounts allocated to each District and approved by the Board were as follows:

Grantees	Board Approved
Albany County PMD	\$86,000.00
Big Horn County PMD	\$148,000.00
Campbell County PMD	\$148,000.00
Carbon County PMD	\$135,000.00
Converse County PMD	\$133,720.00
Crook County PMD	\$126,000.00
Fremont County PMD	\$140,000.00
Goshen County PMD	\$84,991.00
Hot Springs County PMD	\$140,000.00
Johnson County PMD	\$100,000.00
Lincoln County PMD	\$145,000.00
Natrona County PMD	\$163,300.00
Niobrara County PMD	\$134,000.00
Park County PMD	\$121,000.00
Sheridan County PMD	\$140,000.00
Sweetwater County PMD	\$151,700.00
Uinta County PMD	\$127,000.00
Washakie County PMD	\$103,000.00
Weston County PMD	\$97,000.00

Co-chair Fearneyhough asked B. Innes if he would agree to chair an ADMB sub-committee which would discuss criteria to be used for evaluating future PMD funding allocations. B. Innes agreed to chair the committee. Co-chair Fearneyhough asked if 3-4 others would agree to be on the sub-committee. R. Krischke and J. Espy agreed to join the sub-committee. D. Leatham and S. Sims also volunteered. K. Drake asked the committee to convene in September and report to the fall ADMB meeting.

B. Innes moved to accept the rabies funding amounts as presented on the spreadsheet provided. J. Espy seconded. Motion carried.

The final amounts allocated to each District for rabies work and approved by the Board were as follows:

Campbell County Rabies	\$ 33,200.00
Sheridan County Rabies	\$ 10,000.00
Johnson County Rabies	\$ 23,500.00

J. Schellinger moved to require rabies applications be submitted as a separate package proposal from the 1501 funds package proposal. A. Hulett seconded. Motion carried. K. Drake stated that the application format used for research funding requests will be the same one

used for future rabies requests.

The Board moved on to decide the final June meeting dates. G. Hardy moved to move the meeting dates from June 1st and 2nd, to new dates of June 8th and 9th. S. Sims seconded. Motion carried.

Public Comment / Board Comment 4-28-11

Board comments were called for.

Public comments were called for. No public comments were made.

Adjourn

John Espy moved to adjourn the meeting. Shaun Sims seconded. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned by Co-chair J. Fearneyhough at 4:06 p.m.

**ADMB Meeting
Days Inn
Thermopolis, WY**

Agenda

Thursday, June 9, 2011

- 9:00 am - Call to Order – (Fearneyhough, Talbott)
Introductions of board, guests, & public
Additions/Corrections/Approval of Agenda
Approval of April 27-28, 2011 Minutes
- 9:10 am - Request for Extension on Elk Mtn. Big Horn Sheep Project
Stamp Artwork Selection
Set price of Wildlife Damage Management Stamp
Cattle Loss Survey – Todd Ballard, USDA- Ag Statistics Service
Request to Update and Print new Predator Management bulletin – Bryce
Reece, Wy. Assoc. of Predator Management Boards
- 9:30 am - Project Reports (15 min each)
- * Absaroka Wolf-Cattle Study & Absaroka Elk Ecology – Matt Kauffman, UW
 - * Shiras Moose – Matt Kauffman, UW
 - * New Bear Trap for Laramie Region – Bill Rudd, Wy. G&F
 - * ID of Mule Deer Range in Platte Valley – Will Schultz, Wy. G&F
 - * Cedar Mtn. Tgtd. Predator Ctrl to Benefit Mule Deer – Jeff Short, Wy. G&F
 - * Park County Livestock Carcass Mgt. Program – Tara Teaschner, Wy. G&F
- 11:00 am - Project Proposals – Renewals w/ Updates (20 minutes each)
- * Large Carnivore depredation prevention/control – Bill Rudd, Wy. G&F
 - * Impact of raven and fox removal on sage grouse –SW, L, U counties – Mike Conover, Utah State
 - * Chemical Gonadectomy of the Coyote – Marjie MacGregor, UW and Donal Skinner, UW
- 12:00 noon - Lunch

- 1:00 pm - Project Proposal (New) (20 minutes each)
- * Cody Elk Preseason Classification Survey – Doug McWhirter, Wy. G&F
 - * New Bear Trap for Rawlins Area – Bill Rudd, Wy. G&F
 - * Jackson Elk Monitoring – Doug Brimeyer, Wy. G&F
 - * Monitor causes of mortality and predation in Sage Grouse in BH Basin – Tim Woolley/Tom Easterly, Wy. G&F
 - * Monitor causes of mortality and predation in Sage Grouse in BH Basin- collars – Steve Jones, Meeteetse Conservation District
 - * Estimating population size of mountain lions using DNA markers – Dan Thompson, Wy. G&F
- 3:00 pm - Break
- * Nuisance Bear Reduction Project – Tim Thomas/Bruce Scigliano, Wy. G&F
 - * Efficacy of Livestock Protection Dogs in areas with Wolves/G Bears – Julie Young, USDA-Wildlife Services, National Wildlife Research Center, UT
 - * Coyote removal to enhance Bates Hole mule deer fawn Survival – Natrona County Predator Management District & Wy. G&F
 - * Provide Wolf Surveillance on Three Wolf Packs – Reg Phillips, Manager, Diamond D Cattle Company
 - * Pred., parasitism, climate drivers of Moose in West. Wy. – Matt Kauffman, UW
 - * Wildlife Specialist - Special Project Position – Hot Springs County Predator Management District
- 5:00 pm - Discussion of grant awards criteria
- 5:15 pm - Determination of Grant Awards
- 5:45 pm - Public Comment / Board Comment
- 6:00 pm - Adjourn

Animal Damage Management Board Meeting – Thursday, June 9, 2011
Days Inn - Thermopolis, WY

Board Members Present:

Co-chair Jason Fearneyhough	Ed Mignery	Dale Leatham
Bob Innes	Rod Krischke	Jim Collins
John Espy	Amanda Hulet	
Mark Sattelberg		
Gene Hardy	Dennis Saville	
Bill Rudd (on Co-Chair Talbott's behalf, non-voting, to represent Wyoming Game and Fish)		

Board Members Absent:

Co-Chair Scott Talbott	Jim Schellinger	Shaun Sims
Cheryl Chatham		

WDA Support Staff

Kent Drake	Margy Anderson
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Public Attending

Bryce Reece	Todd Ballard	Jeff Short
Doug Miyamoto	Arthur Middleton	Steve Jones
Tara Teaschner	Marjie MacGregor	Reg Phillips
Matt Kauffman	Mike Conover	Jack Baird
Jordan Steele	Tom Easterly	Tim Woolley
Julie Young	Doug Brimeyer	Mike Kenzie
Sy Gilliland	Don Garrison	Mary Owens
Dan Thompson		

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Jason Fearneyhough at 9:01 a.m. Board members and guests were introduced. The agenda was reviewed. Kent Drake asked to add a project to the proposal list and Jim Collins asked to add time for the Board to discuss the Predator Management Coordinator position. Gene Hardy moved to accept the changes as presented. Amanda Hulet seconded. Motion carried.

The minutes from the meeting held 4-27 and 4-28-11 were reviewed. Jim Collins moved to approve the minutes as presented to the Board. Gene Hardy seconded. Motion Carried.

The Board discussed the recent addition of Kent Drake's duties regarding coordination of the Wildlife Livestock Disease Partnership program. The Board requested to be kept informed of Kent's WLDP duties, to receive brief updates about time spent working with WLDP and to receive project updates as well. Co-Chair Fearneyhough suggested that he and the Board monitor the workload of Kent's position and to let one another know if the workload becomes unmanageable.

The Board reviewed a request by Weston County PMD, to extend their Elk Mountain Big Horn Sheep Predator project through December 31, 2012. Jim Collins moved to extend the project for one year, to June 30, 2012. Gene Hardy seconded. Motion carried.

The Board decided on artwork for the predator stamp. Rod Krischke moved to select the Golden Eagle for the stamp. Dale Leatham seconded. Motion Carried. Jim Collins moved to keep the stamp price at \$10.00. Amanda Hulet seconded. Motion carried.

Todd Ballard presented information from the 2010 USDA Cattle Loss Survey, and requested funds for the 2011 survey. Bob Innes moved to fund the survey at \$8,000.00. Gene Hardy seconded. Motion carried.

Bryce Reece requested \$9,200.00 to update and reprint the educational brochure on the Wyoming Predator Management Districts. Jim Collins moved to fully fund the request at \$9,200.00, and to allow for a second printing if needed. Amanda Hulet seconded. Motion carried. Jim Collins requested the Board add the brochure to the ADMB website.

Oral Presentations – final reports and update reports

Matt Kauffman from the University of Wyoming gave a final oral report on the findings of the “Shiras Moose” project, the “Absaroka Elk Ecology” project and the “Absaroka Wolf-Cattle study”.

Bill Rudd from Wyoming game and Fish gave an update on the status of the “Laramie Region Bear Trap” project and the status of the “ID of Mule Deer in the Platte Valley study”.

Jeff Short from Wyoming Game and Fish provided the status of the “Cedar Mountain Targeted Predator Control to Benefit Mule Deer”. A six minute documentary of the studies is available on YouTube.

Tara Teaschner from Wyoming Game and Fish gave an update on the “Park County Livestock Carcass Management Program”.

The Board decided to work through lunch and begin presentations for funding proposals.

Project Proposals to be considered for Renewal

Bill Rudd from Wyoming Game and Fish explained the status of the “Large Carnivore” project for the past fiscal year to date.

Dr. Michael Conover from Utah State University gave an oral report on the “Impact of Raven and Fox Removal on Sage Grouse lands in Sweetwater, Lincoln and Uinta counties”.

Marjie MacGregor from the University of Wyoming reported on the progress of the “Chemical Gonadectomy of the Coyote” project.

New Project Proposals to be considered for Funding

Tim Woolley from Wyoming Game and Fish presented a proposal to fund the Cody Elk Preseason Classification Survey.

Bill Rudd from Wyoming Game and Fish requested funds to procure a Bear Trap for the Rawlins area.

Doug Brimeyer from Wyoming Game and Fish presented a funding request for the Jackson Elk Monitoring project.

Tim Woolley from Wyoming Game and Fish presented a proposal to fund the project titled: Monitoring Causes of Mortality and Predation in Sage Grouse in the Big Horn Basin.

Steve Jones from Meeteetse Conservation District presented a request to buy collars to be used in the Monitoring Causes of Mortality and Predation in Sage Grouse in the Big Horn Basin project.

Dan Thompson from Wyoming Game and Fish requested funds for the Estimating Population Size of Mountain Lions using DNA Markers project.

Bill Rudd from Wyoming Game and Fish requested funds for the Nuisance Bear Reduction project.

Julie Young from Utah State University presented a proposal to fund the Efficacy of Livestock Protection Dogs in Areas with Wolves/Grizzly Bears project.

Co-Chair Jason Fearneyhough called for a break, and called the meeting back to order at 3:34 p.m.

Sy Gilliland from the Predator Management Board of Natrona County requested funds for the project titled: Coyote Removal to enhance Bates Hole Mule Deer Fawn Survival.

Reg Phillips from Diamond D Cattle Company presented a funding request for a project titled: Provide Wolf Surveillance on Three Wolf Packs.

Matt Kauffman from the University of Wyoming presented a proposal to fund the Predation, Parasitism and Climate Drivers in moose in Western Wyoming study.

Jack Baird from the Predator Management District of Hot Springs County requested funding for a Sage Grouse/Wildlife Specialist position.

Bryce Reece requested the Board consider adding their support to a letter defending and

supporting the operational budget of the USDA-APHIS Wildlife Services program in Wyoming. Rod Krischke abstained from discussing and voting on the topic. Jim Collins moved to sign on to support the letter as the Animal Damage Management Board as a whole, and for the Board members to encourage the county Predator Management Districts to show support in the letter also. Gene Hardy seconded. Motion carried.

Funding Proposals Discussion and Grant allocations

Discussion began to determine funding for the grant proposals presented. Kent Drake mentioned Wyoming Agriculture in the Classroom has an interest in submitting a funding request at a later meeting.

Jim Collins moved to approve the Large Carnivore project at the full requested funding amount of \$25,000.00. Bob Innes seconded. Motion carried.

Rod Krischke moved to consider the rest of the project renewal proposals first. John Espy seconded. Motion carried.

Jim Collins moved to fund the Raven/Fox Removal on Sage Grouse in SW, L and U Counties proposal at the full amount of \$50,000.00. Gene Hardy seconded. Motion carried.

Bob Innes moved to approve the Chemical Gonadectomy of the Coyote proposal at a reduced amount of \$15,000.00. John Espy seconded. Gene Hardy moved to amend the motion to fund the Chemical Gonadectomy of the Coyote project at \$12,000.00. Rod Krischke seconded. Motion carried to amend the motion. The Board voted on the main motion, 4 opposed, 5 in favor of, motion carried.

John Espy moved to fund the Cody Elk Preseason Classification Survey out of the 1501 funds at the full amount of \$5,000.00. Amanda Hulet seconded. The Board voted, 4 opposed, 5 in favor of, motion carried.

Bob Innes moved to approve both proposals for the Monitoring Causes of Mortality and Predation Rates of Sage Grouse in the BH Basin, with the Meeteetse Conservation District as the administrator, at a combined and reduced amount of \$62,000.00. Dale Leatham seconded. Motion carried.

The Board discussed the proposal for the Surveillance of Three Wolf Packs. Bob Innes stated the project would need to include a job description and a daily journal documenting study of predator activity, in order to ensure the project is meeting the goals of the ADMB program. Bob Innes moved to fund the wolf surveillance project at the full requested amount of \$7,200.00, with \$4,000.00 coming from 1501 funds and \$3,200.00 coming from 0317 funds, provided the conditions stated are met. Jim Collins seconded and asked that if alternate funds become available for the project, the Board continue to fund it at 50%. The Board voted, 1 opposed, 7 in favor of, motion carried.

Bob Innes moved to fund the Bates Hole Mule Deer Fawn Survival project at a reduced amount of \$40,000.00. Dale Leatham seconded. Motion carried.

Ed Mignery moved to fund the Estimating Population Size of Mountain Lions w/DNA Markers at the full requested amount of \$15,000.00. Bob Innes seconded. Motion carried.

Jim Collins moved to fund the Hot Springs County Wildlife Specialist position at a reduced amount of \$30,000.00. Amanda Hulet seconded. Motion carried.

Bob Innes moved to fund the Jackson Elk Monitoring project at a reduced amount of \$10,000.00. John Espy seconded. Motion carried.

Jim Collins moved to cease funding. John Espy seconded. Motion carried.

Bob Innes moved to approve the following projects for the Game and Fish \$100,000.00 funds:
Raven/Fox Removal on Sage Grouse in SW, L and U Counties at \$50,000.00
Large Carnivore- Livestock Depredation and Control at \$25,000.00
Estimating Population Size of Mountain Lions w/DNA Markers at \$15,000.00
Jackson Elk Monitoring at \$10,000.00
Gene Hardy seconded. Motion carried.

Public Comment / Board Comment 6-9-11

Public comments were called for. Bryce Reece commented on livestock protection dogs, and asked the Board if they had interest in supporting a project focused on finding a solution to predation with livestock guard dogs. Gene Hardy moved to support the issue and let the Co-Chairs speak on the Board's behalf. Bob Innes seconded. Motion carried.

Board comments were called for. Dale Leatham and Bob Innes asked the District Funding formula sub-committee to meet following adjournment of the ADMB meeting.

The Board moved on to decide the date for the next meeting, tentatively to be held November 2nd or 3rd, in Casper.

Adjourn

Amanda Hulet moved to adjourn the meeting. Gene Hardy seconded. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned by Co-chair J. Fearneyhough at 5:49 p.m.

**ADMB Meeting
Regional Game and Fish Office
Casper, WY**

Agenda

Thursday, November 3, 2011

- 9:00 a.m. - Call to Order – (Fearneyhough, Talbott)
- Introductions of board, guests, & public
 - Additions/Corrections/Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of June 9, 2011 Minutes
 - Update on Laramie County Rabies Activity
 - Request to Provide New Application – Dr. Michael Conover, USU, “Impact of Raven and Fox Removal on Sage Grouse Populations in Wyoming.”
- 9:15 a.m. - Wyoming Wolf Management Plan , Mark Bruscano, Wy. Game and Fish Dept.
- 9:45 a.m. - Update of State Wolf Management Budget Request, Jason Fearneyhough, ADMB Co-Chair and Director Wyoming Dept. of Agriculture
- 10:15 a.m. - Predator District Input on Wolf Predator Management
- 11:00 a.m. - Presentation, Final Report, and Request for Funds – Ag in the Classroom, Jennifer Nehl, Education Director, Wyoming Ag in the Classroom
- 11:30 a.m. Update on PMD formula funding, Bob Innes, Committee Chair
- 12:00 noon - Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. Update on Ag Statistics, Todd Ballard, USDA-NASS
- 1:15 p.m. - Update on County Predator Management Board Refund Statute Proposed Changes, Kent Drake, Wy. Dept of Agriculture/Bryce Reece, Wy. Association of County Predator Animal Control Boards
- 1:45 p.m. - Update of Predation on Sage Grouse Research Project – Big Horn Basin and Request for Funds- LPD Collars, Julie K.Young, Ph.D., Field Station Leader, USDA-WS, National Wildlife Research Center, Utah State University, Logan, UT
- 2:45 p.m. - Public Comment / Board Comment
- 3:00 p.m. - Adjourn

Animal Damage Management Board Meeting – Thursday, November 3, 2011
Wyoming Game and Fish Regional Office, Casper, WY

Board Members Present:

Co-chair Jason Fearneyhough	Co-Chair Scott Talbott	Ed Mignery
Dale Leatham	Bob Innes	Rod Krischke
Jim Collins	John Espy	Amanda Hulet
Mark Sattelberg	Jim Schellinger	Shaun Sims
Cheryl Chatham	Gene Hardy	Dennis Saville

WDA Support Staff

Kent Drake	Hank Uhden
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Public Attending

Bryce Reece	Todd Ballard	Tim Fish
Mike Conover	Mark Bruscano	Art Davis
Julie Young	Don Garrison	Bill Taliferro
Barb Kilmer	Bryce Reece	Jennifer Neal
Tim Pexton	Deloyd Quarberg	Marvin Blakesley
Mike Williams	Tod Stutzman	Shane Smith

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Scott Talbott at 9:05 a.m. Board members and guests were introduced. The agenda was reviewed. Kent Drake said that Dr. Conover's project presentation and Todd Ballard, USDA-NASS survey update have been added since the last agenda was e-mailed.

The minutes from the meeting held 6-9-11 were reviewed. Bob Innes moved to approve the minutes as presented to the Board. Amanda Hulet seconded. Motion Carried.

Kent Drake provided an update on the rabies outbreak in Laramie County since this spring. Five thousand dollars was provided by the WDA to the local animal shelter that deals with skunk issues. It was noted that the particular rabies strain was unique to entrance into Wyoming, especially as it has progressed from Arizona, through Colorado, into Wyoming. Kent D. provided an updated rabies educational brochure to the board and recognized USDA-Wildlife Services and WDA Tech Services for their help with education and gps units for the Laramie County Animal Shelter.

Dr. Conover presented his request to the board to again fund his project. Bob Innes moved that we approve the new contract once the original check is returned. Shaun Sims seconded. Considerable discussion was made regarding documentation of contributing funds. Co-chair Talbott requested that fiscal and legal education be provided at the next meeting. Motion to approve new contract was carried.

Mark Bruscano provided information on the current status of the wolf program as it is moving through the legislative process. He informed the ADMB of requirements that need to be fulfilled to keep wolves delisted in Wyoming. Because of the need to document genetic

diversity, Mark B. asked the board to support efforts to notify locations of where wolves were taken to allow the G&F to procure DNA samples or to directly provide DNA samples from wolves that are taken in the predator area. Co-chair Jason Fearneyhough stated that he is working with the governor and the WY Game and Fish to determine wolf management budget levels in the predator area. Many questions were asked about logistics and procedures for sportsman, ranchers, predator management districts, Wildlife Services and other predator board trappers, once wolves are delisted.

Jennifer Nehl provided an update on where the ADMB funds were used for the 2010 Country to Classroom publication and the 2011 Ag and Natural Resource Institute. She also provided a request for \$4,000 to help fund the 2012 Institute. Gene Hardy moved to fund the request at \$4,000. Amanda Hulet seconded. Motion carried.

Bob Innes provided a report from the PMD formula criteria sub-committee. He provided a number of measurable criteria for the board to review and make recommendations. Board and guest input requested additional data to include consideration of districts that border other states that do not do predator control, breakout cattle numbers by feedlot/range, yearlings, etc., and BLM and Forest Service active grazing allotments for cattle and sheep. Shaun Sims recommended that this data could be collected through "Suite Water" that is available through local conservation districts. Bryce Reece also recommended looking at GIS data available at the University of Wyoming. Kent will have data requests complete and available at the January meeting for board review and final decisions.

Todd Ballard, USDA-NASS answered questions on how farms and ranches acreage, breakdown of cattle and sheep, and other measurements are defined by NASS. The cattle loss survey will be sent out to Wyoming cattle producers soon. Todd stated that sheep surveys are in jeopardy of being lost due to budget cuts. He is looking for help with funding for sheep inventory and sheep loss survey. He would like to do both surveys with funding of \$11,000. If he could not find funding for both surveys, he needs \$9,000 for the sheep loss survey. The third proposal would be mail only. Gene Hardy moved to fund the surveys at \$11,000. Jim Schellinger seconded. Bob Innes moved to amend the main motion to read \$5,000 rather than \$11,000. Amendment died for lack of a second. It was moved and seconded to table the motion until further clarification on federal funding and WDA budget available was established.

Bryce Reece shared the proposed refund policy changes that were passed by the Jt. Agriculture meeting last month in Afton. It is going forward with changes except the cap on the 5% refund allocation was removed from the bill by the Jt. Agriculture committee. It was discussed that the legislature may put this line back in the statute, or rule-making by individual boards or the WDA may take place, to define that annual refund payout will have a maximum of 5% of previous year's predator fees received by the county PMD.

Dr. Julie Young, USDA-Wildlife Services, National Wildlife Research Center, provided an update on the sage grouse study in the Big Horn Basin and provided the board with the first year data of predation loss and the plans for next year's study.

Julie requested \$5,000 for LPD collars for a planned study involving use of new dog breeds to protect livestock from wolves and grizzly bears. She plans to test collars on Great Pyrenees

to see if the collar gets caught in fences or if they are safe to use on dogs in Wyoming. Jim Collins moved to fund the project at \$3,200. Shaun Sims seconded. Motion carried.

After receiving new information, Todd Ballard stated that the sheep inventory study will not be affordable at this time and he would request \$8,000 for the sheep loss survey. It was consensus that this item will be tabled until the January meeting.

Meeting dates were set for 2012. **January 12 – Casper, April 25-26 – Casper, June 8- Evanston, November 1- Casper.**

John Espy moved to adjourn the meeting. Jim Schellinger seconded. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned by Co-chair Talbott at 3:21 p.m.

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PREDATOR MANAGEMENT 1501	BUDGETED FY 11-12	EXPENDED		BALANCE	PERCENT OPTIMUM		NOTES
		YTD	ENCUMBERED		EXPENDED	62.50%	
<i>PERSONAL SERVICES</i>	<i>100.00</i>	\$161,333	\$109,164	\$52,169	67.66%		
<i>SUPPORTIVE SERVICES</i>	<i>200.00</i>						
Equipment Repairs & Mtn	202.00	749	16	733	2.16%		
Utilities	203.00	840	525	315	62.50%		
Freight and Postage	204.00	2,500	970	1,530	38.81%		
Employee Development	207.00	2,500	0	2,500	0.00%		
Travel In State	221.00	20,000	5,266	14,734	26.33%		
Travel Out of State	222.00	17,500	0	17,500	0.00%		
Permanently Assigned Vehicles	223.00	20,000	10,654	9,346	53.27%		
Board Travel	227.00	1,000	0	1,000	0.00%		
Office Supplies/Printing	231.00	14,900	5,191	9,709	34.84%		
Motor Vehicle Supplies	233.00	100	0	100	0.00%		
Other Repair Supplies	239.00	5,000	0	5,000	0.00%		
Office Furniture & Equipment	241.00	1,000	0	1,000	0.00%		
Data Processing Equipment	242.00	2,000	0	2,000	0.00%		
Food Service Equipment	244.00	0	0	0			
Real Property Rental	251.00	5,507	300	5,207	5.45%		
Equipment Rental	252.00	1,750	60	1,690	3.43%		
<i>200 SERIES TOTAL</i>		\$95,346	\$22,983	\$0	\$72,364	24.10%	
<i>DATA PROCESSING</i>	<i>400.00</i>						
Telecommunications A&I	420.00	2,051	1,152	899	56.15%		
<i>400 SERIES TOTAL</i>		\$2,051	\$1,152	\$0	\$899	56.15%	
<i>GRANTS & AID PYMTS</i>	<i>600.00</i>						
Grants	626.00	4,830,000	4,825,000	5,000	99.90%		
<i>600 SERIES TOTAL</i>		\$4,830,000	\$4,825,000	\$0	\$5,000	99.90%	
<i>CONTRACTUAL SRVS.</i>	<i>900.00</i>						
Professional/Consulting Fees	901.00	34,000	2,400	31,600	7.06%		
<i>900 SERIES TOTAL</i>		\$34,000	\$2,400	\$0	\$31,600	7.06%	
PREDATOR MANAGEMENT TOTAL		\$5,122,730	\$4,960,698	\$0	\$162,032	96.84%	

	YTD Transfers		DISCUSSION ITEMS
General Funds	5,122,730	4,960,698 97%	
TOTALS	\$5,122,730	\$4,960,698 97%	

0

ANIMAL DAMAGE MGMT 0317	BUDGETED		EXPENDED		PERCENT OPTIMUM		NOTES
	FY 11-12		YTD	ENCUMBERED	BALANCE	EXPENDED 62.50%	
Fund 047							
<i>SUPPORTIVE SERVICES 200.00</i>							
Real Property Repairs & Mtnc	201.00	600	0		600	0.00%	
Equipment Repairs & Mtnc	202.00	100	1		99	1.12%	
Utilities	203.00	50	0		50	0.00%	
Freight & Postage	204.00	750	24		726	3.15%	
Miscellaneous	210.00	100	0		100	0.00%	
Travel In State	221.00	500	0		500	0.00%	
Board Travel	227.00	10,000	7,409		2,591	74.09%	
Supplies/Printing	231.00	6,524	219		6,305	3.36%	
Educational Supplies	236.00	350	0		350	0.00%	
Data Processing Equipment	242.00	350	0		350	0.00%	
Real Property Rental	251.00	350	0		350	0.00%	
Equipment Rental	252.00	350	6		344	1.71%	
200 SERIES TOTAL		\$20,024	\$7,659	\$0	\$12,365	38.25%	
<i>DATA PROCESSING 400.00</i>							
Telecommunications - A&I	420.00	772	451		321	58.36%	
400 SERIES TOTAL		\$772	\$451	\$0	\$321	58.36%	
<i>GRANTS & AID PYMTS 600.00</i>							
Grants	626.00	284,217	362,655	4,903	(83,341)	129.32%	
UW Grants & Aid Payments	667.00	139,987	31,635		108,352	22.60%	
600 SERIES TOTAL		\$424,204	\$394,290	\$4,903	\$25,011	94.10%	
<i>CONTRACTUAL SRVS. 900.00</i>							
Professional/Consulting Fees	901.00	44,000	0		44,000	0.00%	
900 SERIES TOTAL		\$44,000	\$0	\$0	\$44,000	0.00%	
ANIMAL DAMAGE MGMT 0 TOTAL		\$489,000	\$402,400	\$4,903	\$81,697	83.29%	

		YTD Revenue	YTD %
General Funds	285,000	285,000	100%
Other Funds			
Livestock Brand Fee-5353	0		
Wildlife Damage Stamp-2634	0		
Landowner Coupons-6204	4,000	1,136	28%
Predator Boards - 6301	0		
Game & Fish - 5040	200,000	100,000	50%
TOTAL	\$489,000	\$386,136	79%

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Reduced by 318,396 to account for revenues not collected

0
Cash Balance 241,202.73

ADMB - RABIES 0313	BUDGETED		EXPENDED		PERCENT OPTIMUM		NOTES
	FY 11-12	YTD	ENCUMBERED	BALANCE	EXPENDED	62.50%	
<i>SUPPORTIVE SERVICES</i>	200.00						
Equipment Rep & Mtnc	202.00	0	0	0			
Utilities	203.00	100	0	100	0.00%		
Freight & Postage	204.00	100	1	99	1.42%		
Supplies/Printing	231.00	100	0	100	0.00%		
Equipment Rental	252.00	0	0	0			
200 SERIES TOTAL	\$300	\$1	\$0	\$299	0.47%		
<i>Grants and Aid Payments</i>	600.00						
Grants	626.00	161,700	136,700	25,000	84.54%		
0600 SERIES TOTAL	\$161,700	\$136,700	\$0	\$25,000	84.54%		
<i>CONTRACTUAL SERVICES</i>	900.00						
Professional/Consulting Fees	901.00	0	0	0			
0900 SERIES TOTAL	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0			
ADMB - RABIES 03.13	\$162,000	\$136,701	\$0	\$25,299	84.38%		

		YTD Revenue	YTD %
General funds	162,000	136,701	84%
	0	0	
	\$162,000	\$136,701	84%

DISCUSSION ITEMS



WYOMING GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

5400 Bishop Blvd. Cheyenne, WY 82006

Phone: (307) 777-4600 Fax: (307) 777-4699

Web site: <http://gf.state.wy.us>

GOVERNOR
MATTHEW H. MEAD

DIRECTOR
SCOTT TALBOTT

COMMISSIONERS
FRED LINDZEY – President
AARON CLARK – Vice President
MIKE HEALY
RICHARD KLOUDA
T. CARRIE LITTLE
ED MIGNERY
CHARLES PRICE

October 19, 2011

MEMORANDUM

TO: Kent Drake, Predator Management Coordinator, Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board

FROM: Kathy Frank, Asst Chief Fiscal Officer

COPY TO: Scott Talbott, Rich Reynders, file

SUBJECT: Animal Damage Management Board (ADBM) ANNUAL REPORT

In accordance with W.S. 11-6-305 (a) and 23-3-105(b), I provide the following information on the wildlife damage management stamp and landowner coupon designations to the ADBM for fiscal year 2011.

Landowner coupons designated to ADMB	\$649	
Funds transferred to ADMB (all)	\$649	
Wildlife damage management stamp		
Sales deposited through 7/1/2010/ 6/30/2011		\$1,290.00
(License agent reports through 6/30/2011)		
Costs of program administration		
Management stamp:		
Stamp printing	\$ 1,949	
Total administrative costs for fy 2011		<u>(\$1949.00)</u>
Excess (deficit) of collections over expenditures		(\$ 659.00)
Deficit collections previous years		(\$3,993.10)
Amount due to be transferred to ADMB for fy 11	=	<u>\$ 0.00</u>

In accordance with statutory provisions and to insure federal aid compliance, the Department can transfer funds collected only after administrative costs have been deducted. FY 11 printing costs exceed stamp sales and accordingly, no funds will be transferred this year and the deficit will be charged against fy 12 collections.

If there are questions related to the above information please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you.

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Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board

Regulations Governing the Granting of Predator Management Program Funds

Section 1. Authority. Pursuant to authority vested in the Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board (ADMB) in W.S. § 11-6-304(d) the following regulations are hereby promulgated and adopted.

Section 2. Purpose of rules. These rules govern the distribution of funding appropriated by the Wyoming state legislature through the ADMB to the county Predator Management Districts (PMD) created by W.S. § 11-6-201.

Section 3. Definitions. For the purpose of this regulation, definitions shall be set forth in Title 11, Wyoming Statutes and the board also adopts the following definitions:

(a) “Animal Damage Management Board or ADMB” means the statutorily created board under W.S. § 11-6-303.

(b) “Annual Report” means the final documentation the district must provide at the end of the state fiscal year (June 30).

(c) “Assess” means to fix or determine the amount and to impose a tax or other charge on.

(d) “Audit” means the unbiased examination and evaluation of the records, financial accounts, and financial statements of the district to verify their accuracy. The audit shall be performed in compliance with the State of Wyoming - Department of Audit, W.S. § 9-1-507(a)(iii) and Dept. of Audit Chapter 6 rules for special districts.

(e) “Budget” means an itemized summary of estimated or intended income and expenditures for a given period. For the purposes of this rule, the budget shall be compiled for the state fiscal year of July 1 – June 30.

(f) “Capital Equipment” means tangible equipment purchased for long term use by the district. For the purposes of these rules, capital equipment is a single piece of equipment and necessary attachments with a cost of more than \$1,000.00 (one thousand dollars).

(g) “Collect” means to receive or compel payment of.

(h) “Commercial Feedlot” means any place, establishment or facility commonly known as a feedlot conducted, operated or managed for profit or nonprofit for livestock producers, feeders or market agencies, consisting of pens and their appurtenances, in which livestock are received, held, fed, cared for or kept for sale or shipment in commerce.

- (i) “District” means a predator management district created under W.S. § 11-6-201(a).
- (j) “District Board” means the board of directors of a district created under W.S. § 11-6-202.
- (k) “Encumbered Funds” means those funds which have been obligated for use by contract or invoice.
- (l) “Financial Statement” means a compilation of a district’s financial status. Such records shall include a balance sheet (statement of financial position), an income statement (income and expenditure statement), a cash flow statement, and supplementary notes and recorded significant financial management decisions.
- (m) “Grant Application” means the form and documents with which a request is made for funding. The form will be prescribed and distributed by the ADMB.
- (n) “Management Plan” means a proposed or tentative course of action, including programs or policies stipulating the proposed service and expected benefits.
- (o) “Predacious Bird” means any predatory avian species that is permitted to be taken under either Wyoming law or federal law.
- (p) “Predatory Animal” means coyote, jackrabbit, porcupine, raccoon, red fox, skunk or stray cat; and gray wolf as allowed by law.
- (q) “Standard Budget” means an annual or biennial request for funding from a district that provides for a base level of funding for general operational needs of the district.

Section 4. Applicability of rules. These rules shall only apply to districts that solicit or receive grant funding from the ADMB under the program as outlined in these rules.

- (a) No state funds awarded to a district by the ADMB shall be used to satisfy debt existing prior to the effective date of these rules.

Section 5. Qualifications for funding. To qualify for funding under these rules, the district shall:

- (a) Submit the following to the ADMB:
 - (i) Proof of compliance with W.S. § 11-6-202(a)(v).
 - (ii) Completed grant application on a form prescribed by the ADMB
 - (iii) Budget

(iv) Management Plan

(v) Financial Statement

(vi) Proof of having assessed and collected all available funds as required by W.S. § 11-6-210(o)

(A) Each district, in accordance with W.S. § 11-6-210(f) shall determine which facilities meet the definition of a commercial feedlot.

(B) Each district shall establish a method by which assessment, billing and collection for goats may be conducted.

(vii) Report stating the accomplishments or actions relative to the prior year's management plan. The requirement shall only pertain to districts that have previously received state funds under these rules.

(b) In addition, the district shall assure that:

(i) It is in compliance with applicable Wyoming statutes; and

(ii) All agreements with the ADMB are current or satisfied.

Section 6. Funding Distribution. Funding shall be applied for and justified through the grant application process as follows:

(a) An initial standard budget of \$50,000.00 shall be awarded by the ADMB to each qualified district whose application has been approved by the ADMB prior to May 1, 2007.

(b) The application must be received by the ADMB prior to April 1, 2007.

(c) Thereafter, the ADMB shall annually establish a standard budget amount that shall be provided to all qualified districts with an application submitted prior to April 1.

(i) Additional funds, including but not limited to operational expenses and capital purchases, may be applied for by the grant application and justified in the management plan and budget.

(d) A maximum of ten percent (10%) of the standard budget may be used to purchase capital equipment.

(i) Additional funds, including but not limited to operational expenses and capital purchases, may be applied for by the grant application and justified in the management plan and budget.

Section 7. Grant Applications. The grant application form shall be developed by the ADMB in accordance with the requirements of this regulation. The ADMB shall make a grant application form available to all districts.

- (a) A district requesting grant funds shall submit a new grant application, budget and management plan no later than the date specified on the initial grant application and not later than April 1 of future years.

Section 8. Financial Records. The district shall provide a budget with the grant application. A standardized form will be provided by ADMB.

- (a) The budget shall show all proposed income and expenses of the district.
- (b) The budget shall be accompanied by the district's current financial statement.
- (c) Audit Reports as required by W.S. § 9-1-507(a)(iii) and Chapter 6 rules for special districts shall be submitted to the state Department of Audit and a copy to the ADMB.

Section 9. Management Plan. The district shall include a management plan with the grant application. The management plan shall provide details of the proposed action and the expected results.

- (a) The management plan shall address the following, as applicable for the district or funding requested:
 - i. Wildlife issues and goals
 - ii. Livestock issues and goals
 - iii. Pre- and post-work monitoring
 - iv. Partnerships and cooperative agreements required to accomplish the management plan.
 - v. The criteria shall include but not be limited to the cost of full-time and part-time trappers and the cost of fixed wing aircraft and helicopters, for predator management for livestock and wildlife.
 - vi. Human health and safety issues.

Section 10. Reporting. The district shall submit an annual report, due to the ADMB, 2219 Carey Avenue, Cheyenne, WY 82002 by no later than July 1st of each year. This report

should be relative to the current fiscal year.

- (a) The annual report shall contain the following:
 - i. Actions taken.
 - ii. Identifiable and measurable results.
 - iii. Grant monies expended.
 - iv. Current financial statement.
 - v. Most recent audit report.
 - vi. Supplemental reports may be requested by the ADMB on any identified and targeted management or site specific projects, at the time funding is provided to the district to carry out such projects.

Section 11. Loss of eligibility. Any district that does not comply with all provisions of these rules shall not be eligible for additional grant funding until they have documented correction of all compliance deficiencies to the satisfaction of the ADMB. Districts that demonstrate correction of all deficiencies may submit a grant application for funding consideration for the next fiscal year.

Section 12. Authority to determine funding amounts. In all cases, the ADMB retains the authority to allocate funding to qualified districts in the amount determined by the ADMB to carry out the intent of W.S. § 11-6-201.

Section 13. Savings Clause. If any provision of this regulation is held to be illegal or unconstitutional, such a ruling shall not affect the other provisions of this regulation which can be given effect without the illegal or unconstitutional provision; and, to this end, the provisions of this regulation are severable.

Adopted: January 27, 2010

**WYOMING ANIMAL DAMAGE MANAGEMENT BOARD (WyADMB)
STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN
2010-2014**

MISSION STATEMENT:

The Governor appointed Animal Damage Management Board's (ADMB) mission is to coordinate and implement an integrated animal damage management program, based on best available science, for the benefit of human and natural resources throughout Wyoming.

GOALS:

1. To implement a Wyoming Animal Damage Management Policy.
2. To implement a coordinated, accountable, animal damage management program.
3. Obtain and distribute funds for the implementation of animal damage management programs.
4. Develop a public education and involvement plan.
5. Obtain credible information to enhance the Wyoming Animal Damage Management Program.
6. Develop and implement legislative strategies.

ACRONYMS USED IN STRATEGIC PLAN

ADMB – Animal Damage Management Board

ADM – Animal Damage Management

APHIS – Animal Plant and Health Inspection Service

G&F – Wyoming Game and Fish Department or Commission

MOU – Memorandum of Understanding

PMB – Predator Management Boards

PMD – Predator Management Districts

WDA – Wyoming Department of Agriculture

WS – USDA/APHIS/Wildlife Services

WAIC – Wyoming Ag in the Classroom

WLB - Wyoming Livestock Board

GOAL 1: To implement a Wyoming animal damage management policy.
STATUTORY AUTHORITY: W.S. 11-6-304

OBJECTIVE 1.1
W.S. 11-6-304(a)

By and through an executed memorandum of understanding with the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission and the Wyoming Department of Agriculture, manage crop, livestock and wildlife damage done by depredated animals; feral animals, predatory animals, rabid wildlife; predacious birds; and protect human health and safety.

STRATEGY 1.1.1: (W.S. 11-6-304(b)(i): Entertain requests for assistance to allow mitigation of animal damage.			
<i>ACTION</i>	<i>RESPONSIBILITY</i>	<i>DATE TO COMPLETE</i>	<i>DATE COMPLETED</i>
1. Review and update MOUs as needed.	1. WDA, G&F, ADMB, WLB, WS	1. As needed	
2. Review and amend project proposal guidelines and protocol.	2. ADMB	2. As needed	
3. Review and amend policy guidelines and application protocols.	3. ADMB	3. As needed	
STRATEGY 1.1.2: (W.S. 11-6-304(b)(ii): Specify programs designed to prevent damage by predatory animals, rabid wildlife, predacious birds and depredated animals to livestock, agricultural crops, wildlife, property and human health and safety.			
<i>ACTION</i>	<i>RESPONSIBILITY</i>	<i>DATE TO COMPLETE</i>	<i>DATE COMPLETED</i>
1. Complete an Annual Report to be presented to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Governor ➤ Agriculture, Appropriations, Travel, Recreation and Wildlife legislative committees ➤ Formal presentation to Wyoming Game and Fish Commission 	1. WDA	1. 12/31 each year	
2. Complete an Annual Report to be presented to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Joint Agriculture committee 	1. ADMB co-chairman 2. ADMB, staff	1. Annually 2. 10/1 each year	

<p>3. Rabies Management Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Review the Rabies Management Plan (REFERENCE RABIES MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR ACTION ITEMS) <p>4. Review programs effectiveness (50/50; 1501 grant program; 317, and 313.</p>	<p>3. ADMB</p> <p>4. ADMB</p>	<p>3. Annually</p> <p>4. Annually</p>	
<p>STRATEGY 1.1.3: (W.S. 11-6-304(b)(vi): Cooperate with Federal, State and County governments, educational institutions and private persons or organizations to effectuate agricultural and wildlife damage and rabid wildlife prevention policies.</p>			
<p><i>ACTION</i></p>			
<p>1. Review as needed and implement the MOUs.</p> <p>2. Coordinate programs in accordance with statutes.</p>	<p>1. ADMB</p> <p>2. ADMB</p>	<p>1. As needed</p> <p>2. As needed</p>	<p><i>DATE COMPLETED</i></p>

GOAL 2: Implement a coordinated, accountable animal damage management program.
STATUTORY AUTHORITY: W.S. 11-6-304; 11-6-308; 11-6-309 and 11-6-312

OBJECTIVE 2.1

W.S. 11-6-304(b)(iii)

Provide various degrees of predatory animal, predacious bird and depredating animal damage management services to individual agricultural livestock and crop producers, landowners, lessors or administrators, and to urban, residential and industrial property owners. Damage management services shall also be provided and conducted for the benefit of wildlife populations and human health and safety.

STRATEGY 2.1.1: (W.S. 11-6-304(b)(i): Entertain requests for assistance to allow mitigation of animal damage.			
STRATEGY 2.1.2: (W.S. 11-6-304(b)(iv): Specify methods for the prevention and management of damage and for the selective control of predatory animals, rabid wildlife, predacious birds and depredating animals.			
<i>ACTION</i>	<i>RESPONSIBILITY</i>	<i>DATE TO COMPLETE</i>	<i>DATE COMPLETED</i>
1. Accept project proposals with measurable outcomes.	1. ADMB, staff	1. On - going	
2. Foster relationships between PMBs and ADMB.	2. ADMB	2. On-going	
STRATEGY 2.1.3: (W.S. 11-6-304(b)(viii): Consider recommendations received from the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission and the Wyoming Department of Agriculture for projects funded by respective agencies.			
<i>ACTION</i>	<i>RESPONSIBILITY</i>	<i>DATE TO COMPLETE</i>	<i>DATE COMPLETED</i>
1. Project proposals. ➤ Requests submitted annually ➤ Wildlife projects will be reviewed by G&F and approved by the Commission.	1. ADMB	1. Annually	
2. 1501 budget monies ➤ Requests submitted annually	2. ADMB	2. Annually	

STRATEGY 2.1.4: (W.S. 11-6-304(e): The ADMB may elect to provide various degrees of predator damage management services to any other person pursuant to a separately negotiated cooperative agreement.			
<i>ACTION</i>	<i>RESPONSIBILITY</i>	<i>DATE TO COMPLETE</i>	<i>DATE COMPLETED</i>
1. ADMB will receive requests for assistance. Request will be submitted on form provided by ADMB. ADMB will work with the requester to develop a management plan that addresses the issue. ADMB will receive reports as required by contract.	1. ADMB	1. As required by contract.	
STRATEGY 2.1.5: (W.S. 11-6-312): The ADMB may enter into cooperative agreements with other governmental agencies, counties, associations, corporations or individuals for carrying out the purposes of W.S. 11-6-301 – 11-6-313.			
<i>ACTION</i>	<i>RESPONSIBILITY</i>	<i>DATE TO COMPLETE</i>	<i>DATE COMPLETED</i>
1. ADMB will receive requests for assistance. Request will be submitted on form provided by ADMB. ADMB will work with the requester to develop a management plan that addresses the issue. ADMB will receive reports as required by contract.	1. ADMB	1. As required by contract.	

GOAL 3: Obtain and distribute funds for the implementation of animal damage management programs. STATUTORY AUTHORITY: W.S. 11-6-304; 11-6-305; 11-6-306; AND 11-6-307

OBJECTIVE 3.1:
W.S. 11-6-304(b)(v)

Maintain responsibility and appropriate funds for the purpose of providing damage prevention and management to agricultural livestock and crops, wildlife, property and human health and safety caused by predatory animals, rabid wildlife, predacious birds and depredating animals.

STRATEGY 3.1.1: (W.S. 11-6-304(b)(vii): Develop memorandums of understanding between the Wyoming Department of Agriculture, the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission and the United States Department of Agriculture/Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service/Wildlife Services (USDA/APHIS/WS) to accommodate funding sources and administrative guidelines for the program.			
<i>ACTION</i>	<i>RESPONSIBILITY</i>	<i>DATE TO COMPLETE</i>	<i>DATE COMPLETED</i>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Review and amend MOUs as needed. Explore options for grants and/or pass through funds. Complete projects and assure that they are measurable and accountable through the proposal and reporting process. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> ADMB ADMB ADMB 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> As needed On-going On-going and as projects are submitted and being implemented 	
STRATEGY 3.1.2: (W.S. 11-6-307): The Board will request one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) from the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission to be expended for wildlife priorities.			
<i>ACTION</i>	<i>RESPONSIBILITY</i>	<i>DATE TO COMPLETE</i>	<i>DATE COMPLETED</i>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> ADMB will maintain a relationship with the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission. ADMB will submit a letter of request for funding to the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission. ADMB will assure Game and Fish federal aid criteria are maintained through WGFD review of submitted projects. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> ADMB ADMB G&F 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> On-going By 8/1 of year before funding is to be expended. By 7/1 of year before funding is to be expended. 	

STRATEGY 3.1.3: (W.S. 11-6-305: The Board will receive money from various sources to be expended for wildlife priorities. (Volunteer Funding).

<i>ACTION</i>	<i>RESPONSIBILITY</i>	<i>DATE TO COMPLETE</i>	<i>DATE COMPLETED</i>
<p>1. WILDLIFE DAMAGE MANAGEMENT STAMP Program</p> <p>2. LANDOWNER COUPON Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Board will continue to work with landowners to gain support of program. (REFERENCE MARKETING STRATEGY 4.1.1.) <p>3. VOLUNTARY BRAND INSPECTION Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Board will continue to work to secure funding and generate revenue. (REFERENCE MARKETING STRATEGY 4.1.1.) <p>4. GRANTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Search for grants that are applicable to program and apply. <p>5. DONATIONS FROM OUTSIDE SOURCES</p>	<p>1. ADMB</p> <p>2. ADMB</p> <p>3. ADMB</p> <p>4. WDA</p> <p>5. ADMB</p>	<p>1. 7/1 each year</p> <p>2. Annually</p> <p>3. Annually</p> <p>4. On-going and as available</p> <p>5. On-going and as contributions are made</p>	

**GOAL 4: Develop a public education and involvement plan.
 STATUTORY AUTHORITY: W.S. 11-6-301 – 11-6-313**

OBJECTIVE 4.1

W.S. 11-6-301 – 11-6-313

Establish broad based, comprehensive plan directed towards the public.

STRATEGY 4.1.1: (W.S. 11-6-301 – 11-6-313): Determine needs and expectations of various audiences.		
<i>ACTION</i>	<i>RESPONSIBILITY</i>	<i>DATE TO COMPLETE</i>
<p>1. Develop a marketing strategy for the ADM program. Strategy should include who to contact; method of contact; when to contact; and who will be contacted.</p> <p>2. Timely updating of the ADMB web site</p> <p>3. Promote successes of ADMB through news articles.</p> <p>4. Continue to market the ADMB program and educate the public through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Facilitating symposiums to share information about current issues ➤ Sharing ADMB booth at State Fair, Game and Fish Expo and other opportunities. ➤ Coordinate education activities through groups such as WAIC <p>5. Hire a WDA intern to assist with marketing efforts and other duties associated with ADM program.</p>	<p>1. ADMB</p> <p>2. WDA staff</p> <p>3. ADMB</p> <p>4. WDA staff and ADMB board</p> <p>5. WDA</p>	<p>1. On-going</p> <p>2. update as information changes</p> <p>3. & 4. On-going and as opportunities arise. State Fair and Expo are annual events.</p> <p>5. Annually (as funds are available)</p>

**GOAL 5: Obtain credible information to enhance the Wyoming Animal Damage Management program.
 STATUTORY AUTHORITY: W.S. 11-6-301 – 11-6-313**

OBJECTIVE 5.1

W.S. 11-6-301 – 11-6-313

Remain current with latest available research and emerging issues.

STRATEGY 5.1.1: (W.S. 11-6-301 – 11-6-313): Focus on applied research rather than basic (theoretical) research.			DATE COMPLETED
<i>ACTION</i>	<i>RESPONSIBILITY</i>	<i>DATE TO COMPLETE</i>	
1. Survey sources for specific research to stay abreast of new knowledge. 2. Apply limited dollars from available funds for applied research projects. 3. Critique project proposals to ensure credible information.	1. ADMB 2. ADMB 3. ADMB	1. As needed 2. As needed 3. As needed	

GOAL 6: Develop and implement legislative strategies.

OBJECTIVE 6.1

W.S. 11-6-313

Establish a plan to address the legislature to continue the Animal Damage Management Program.

STRATEGY 6.1.1: (W.S. 11-6-301 – 11-6-313)	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	DATE TO COMPLETE	DATE COMPLETED
	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Continue a strategy to ensure program continuation.2. Continue to develop and utilize performance measures for program.3. Identify and include citizen groups, county boards, predator districts, legislators and stakeholders to support the ADMB program.4. Increase visibility efforts5. Re-evaluate the statutes and programs to be included in legislation.<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Voluntary sources➤ Annual Report6. Maintain an open dialogue with the Governor7. Develop economic benefits analysis of program to State of Wyoming	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. ADMB2. ADMB3. ADMB4. ADMB5. ADMB6. ADMB7. ADMB	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. On-going2. On-going3. On-going4. On-going5. On-going6. On-going7. Completed and will update when necessary.	

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Overview of Activities to Date:

Funding for the statewide predator management program was approved by the Wyoming Legislature on March 23, 2006 and rules regulating the distribution of funds to the Predator Management Districts were filed with the Secretary of State on March 31, 2007.

To date, nineteen Predator Management Districts have qualified and applied for funding through the state program.

Through the work of the ADMB, over the last two years, the current biennium's \$4.83 million has been disbursed to the nineteen qualified districts. In 2011, the ADMB received \$3,092,839 in requests from these districts and \$2,423,711 was allocated to the 19 districts.

All districts have developed management plans that set annual livestock and wildlife goals, actions taken, and monitoring.

Livestock Goals center on keeping cattle, sheep, goat and other livestock losses to a minimum. The majority of the activity is preventive maintenance by doing work ahead of the busy lambing and calving season. In emergency loss situations, districts call in their professionals to take care of active problems.

Wildlife Goals center on a variety of big game and bird species that are deemed by the district and/or the Wyoming Game and Fish Department as below objective populations. Monitoring is done by the district, and often times, in conjunction with the Wyoming Game and Fish Department.

A majority of the Predator Management Districts are concerned with increasing predator fee refund requests from out of state livestock seasonal grazers, who lease Wyoming grasslands.

Western Wyoming Predator Management Districts are concerned with increasing predation from bears and wolves and a majority of the Predator Management Districts is concerned with increasing predation from mountain lions and the on-going status of endangered species protection for grey wolves.

This funding has allowed the districts to continue developing proactive predator management programs for the benefit of both livestock and wildlife, strengthen infrastructure, and provide a valuable service the citizens of Wyoming.

Following is a listing of funded districts, and the amounts distributed to each for the current biennium.

<u>PREDATOR MANAGEMENT PROGRAM ALLOCATIONS</u>		
First Year Funding		\$2,406,289
<u>County</u>	<u>Date Approved</u>	<u>Amount Allocated</u>
Albany	4/28/11	\$86,000
Big Horn	4/28/11	\$148,000
Campbell	4/28/11	\$148,000
Carbon	4/28/11	\$135,000
Converse	4/28/11	\$133,720
Crook	4/28/11	\$126,000
Fremont	4/28/11	\$140,000
Goshen	4/28/11	\$84,991
Hot Springs	4/28/11	\$140,000
Johnson	4/28/11	\$100,000
Lincoln	4/28/11	\$145,000
Natrona	4/28/11	\$163,300
Niobrara	4/28/11	\$134,000
Park	4/28/11	\$121,000
Sheridan	4/28/11	\$140,000
Sweetwater	4/28/11	\$151,700
Uinta	4/28/11	\$127,000
Washakie	4/28/11	\$103,000
Weston	4/28/11	\$97,000
		\$ 2,423,711

By July 1, 2011, each district provided to the ADMB a Year-End Report, detailing actions taken and results, monies expended, and the most recent audit report. The following contains some statistics from across the state, and a brief overview of wildlife projects being conducted in conjunction with livestock related management efforts.

Albany County –

Albany County PMD Responsibilities and Mission: To provide services to individuals, corporations, state and federal agencies and municipalities located in Albany County and surrounding areas with the following issues: Human Health & Safety Issues, Livestock Protection, and Wildlife Recruitment.

Albany County PMD has the desire to respond to all of the above issues that deal with the removal or manipulation of specifically predators and any other wildlife deemed necessary. This involves partnering with USDA/APHIS/WS (WS') as the lead agency to provide any actions/services needed.

Albany County is home to a variety of pertinent issues relevant to the responsibilities of the PMD and demand and variety of services requested has the ability to change drastically from year to year.

Identifiable and measureable actions:

Lands worked by WS' in Albany County and surrounding areas.

BLM Lands	54,640 sq mi.
USFS Lands	5,340 sq mi.
Private lands	860,108 sq mi.
State lands	36,500 sq mi.
Total lands	956,488 sq mi worked under WS' agreement.

Summary of operational activities:

5 individual WS' personnel worked in Albany County during FY period.

148.1 hrs. of aerial hunting time was spent. This includes fixed wing/helicopter aircraft hunting and ferry time spent.

1,095:25 hrs. WS' field work.

73:30 hrs. WS' outreach and administrative work.

1,168.55 hrs. WS' total hrs. worked.

Human Health & Safety in Albany County:

7 Striped Skunks were tested for rabies in Albany County by WS'. At the time of this writing there are rabies cases being found to the east and south of the county. Enhanced rabies

surveillance will be taking place in 2011-2012 to help detect if this disease becomes prevalent as time goes on.

Summary:

Albany County PMD is continuing to strive to provide quality services within the responsibilities it holds. The PMD looks forward to continuing to partner with WS' and will continue to be available to participate in any wildlife enhancement if the Wyoming Game and Fish Dept. requests or deems it appropriate.

Disease surveillance, livestock protection, nuisance animal control, and any other issues that might arise will continue to be addressed in 2011-2012.

With direction from the Albany County Predator Management Board, U.S.D.A. Wildlife Services has worked on 64 properties totaling 1,049,963 acres.

Big Horn County – Our mission is to provide high quality animal damage management support for all situations that require protection of agriculture, wildlife, natural resources, property, and human health and safety within Big Horn County. Our county, located in the northwest part of the state covers more than 3,100 square miles. Our environment consists of desert, irrigated farmland at 4,000 feet to sub-alpine regions that reach 10,000 feet in elevation. According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service, Big Horn County livestock numbers are approximately 7,000 sheep and 51,000 cattle. In addition there are a small number of goats and alpacas present.

Livestock Goals: Big Horn County experiences predation to livestock on a regular basis due to a healthy large predator base in the county. The Big Horn Predator Management Board is dedicated to minimizing livestock losses to predation by any and all means available: thereby enabling viability of the local producers.

Action Taken: We now have one full time large predator trapper and a second who moves between small and large predators where and when required. Our third part time trapper (essentially the small predator trapper) also moves between the large predators (secondarily) and the small predators (primarily).

Bighorn County has proven to be very effective at solving small predator problems through Bighorn County for many farmers, ranchers, residents, and sportsman. Field activities began again March 1 – January 20, 2011 and resumed March 1, 2011 and will remain active until October 31, 2011. This activity is conducted following direction of the Bighorn County Predator Management District (PMD) with the cooperation of United States Department of Agriculture-Wildlife Services (WS), State Veterinary Laboratory, Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD), and the Animal Damage Management Board (ADMB). The purpose of this activity is to improve the pheasant populations and to reduce damage for agricultural producers and residents of Bighorn County. By removing striped skunks, raccoons, feral cats, red foxes, and coyotes, our goal is to enhance the wildlife resources and reduce the damage caused by predators for farmers, livestock producers, and residents. As predators are removed, samples are collected for plague, tularemia, and rabies which provide information on zoonotic disease.

Success of the activity is determined from analysis of information gathered by WS specialists in the field and Wyoming Game and Fish Department information collected from sportsmen and field studies conducted in Bighorn County. Damage information is tracked by the MIS program

(WS Database) as problems were reported with damage confirmed where control actions are taken. Control actions are carried out using the best and most humane tools that provided immediate desired response for each situation and location. Live traps are the tool of choice by WS specialists due to the presence of pets and hobby animals in the areas.

A countywide program has developed due to the great success identified from wildlife projects conducted in the Otto and Byron areas over the last few years. Due to the demands and requests for this assistance by land and livestock owners, residents, and sportsman throughout Bighorn County the Bighorn County Predator Management District (PMD) has adopted this activity to help and assist where requests are made and problems are confirmed. Disease samples are collected and sent to the State Veterinary Laboratory for testing. As results are obtained they are released to the PMD and disease concerns are dealt with through the Centers for Disease Control and public health agencies. During the January PMD meeting in 2011, the program was reviewed voted for renewal.

The Bighorn County PMD has received positive feedback from numerous constituents with varying interests for this programs activity. There have been numerous reports from farmers and sportsmen about the positive impacts the project has had with reducing crop damage and improving pheasant production in all areas. Many farmers in the project areas have commented that since the first year this activity has been initiated they have raised a quality crop of sweet corn without extensive damage and have observed a noticeable decrease in the amount of damage and consequent maintenance to irrigation systems. Farmers and sportsmen have noticed more pheasant broods in the areas where activities have taken place throughout the summer and into the hunting season. For all these reasons, the Bighorn County PMD feels the projects is very beneficial to farm production and wildlife protection in Bighorn County.

Human Health and Safety: Health and safety to predator carried disease continues to be a concern. The control efforts used would be employed to minimize human exposure to predator borne diseases.

Goal: to monitor, track and report on any disease outbreaks in the predator populations.

Action: Testing of coyotes, raccoons, skunks for rabies, tularemia, plague and round worm; providing the community with a “heads up” if or when an outbreak may occur. The trappers obtain blood and other samples that may be required from random predators, or, those that appear to be sick and send them to the state lab for work up and reporting.

Monitoring:

As mentioned previously, captured animals were sampled for diseases such as rabies, plague, tularemia, canine roundworm, and heartworm. Samples were collected and sent to the State Vet Laboratory where they were analyzed and results were sent back to the county PMD's. Skunks were the primary source used for testing rabies along with one raccoon. Project personnel collected skunk samples which were sent to the State Veterinary Laboratory. At this time no positive rabies samples were documented from the Bighorn Basin. Due to the increase in positive rabies samples collected in Campbell, Johnson, and Natrona counties; Bighorn County PMD feels rabies surveillance efforts should be continued to identify when, where, and how rabies enters the Bighorn Basin.

Plague and tularemia samples were collected from coyotes by using Nobuto blood filter strips. These strips were sent to the Center for Disease Control (CDC) in Fort Collins Colorado where they were tested for blood serum titers that indicate exposure to plague bacteria or tularemia. Samples have indicated positive results for plague titers in the Bighorn Basin, but tularemia results are still pending. USDA-WS works with the CDC to track the plague. If the samples are found to have alerting elevated titer levels CDC will notify all relevant public and health officials. WS specialists will continue to collect samples and work with the CDC to monitor plague and tularemia in the Basin.

The monies provided by the state have been very beneficial to us in Big Horn County with the progress and results we have seen in our predator control programs and game bird project. We thank you all for the financial help and we appreciate it and treat it with respect. Again – Thanks!!

Campbell County – The Campbell County Predatory Board has been actively working to provide predator control for the benefit of livestock producers and wildlife populations. Our two trappers that are employed through the Wildlife Services have kept busy with the demands of the livestock producers. Calvin Taylor spent over 1500 hours in the field while covering 1,248,983 acres in Campbell County. Calvin was our only trapper for a few months as our other trapper, Andy McKinney had health issues. Andy even though he was out for a couple of months, he worked 1,050 hours in the field. We have been billed for 214.2 hours of aerial time as of June 1, 2011. The spring storms and the fact we only had one trapper able to fly made it difficult to utilize the planes for locating dens during the year. Our private helicopter was able to fly 3.2 hours, but the weather also shut him down during the spring.

Calvin Taylor, County Trapper, continues to be very beneficial in Campbell County. When we have two trappers, Calvin mostly works with livestock producers in the Southern part of Campbell County. His report shows that he eliminated 1 badger, 2 beavers, 11 feral cats, 505 coyotes, 8 dens, 8 red fox, 2 muskrats, 1 rabbit, 18 raccoons, 133 skunks, 1 snake, and 27 squirrels.

Andy McKinney, County Trapper, also is a huge asset to the Northern livestock producers of Campbell County. They work closely with him for their predator needs. His report from Wildlife Services showed that he had eliminated: 13 dens, 8 fox, 2 raccoons, 1 skunk, 83 coyotes, and 1 beaver.

Wade Jones, Wildlife Biologist, resigned in September 2010. We went a whole quarter without a new employee. We were not able to serve the City and County needs in the Public Health issues during this time. Jesse Lujan, new Wildlife Biologist, started working the end of January. He deals with the skunk/human conflicts and monitors rabies. Since Campbell County has continued in the methane industry, our skunk population continues to grow. This is due to the fact that every methane hut and building provides nesting habitat. This also applies to all small animals and rodents. Jesse has been busy introducing himself to City and County officials and organizations. The five months he has been employed in Campbell County he has eliminated 60 skunks, 47 squirrels, 2 raccoons and 2 muskrats. He has sent in 16 skunks for testing. At the time of reporting, results were not available. Along with dealing with the public health issues and nuisance calls that he is responsible for, he also at times is called to assist the other two

trappers.

Campbell County has had to respond to and address situations that have involved two bears and the introduction of the wolves in our County. Our trappers have assisted Game and Fish with the capture and relocation of the bears. They are working with livestock producers to address the wolf problem and their predation on livestock.

Wildlife populations have remained stable and have shown increases in areas, due to the efforts of our county trappers.

The financial statement that is attached shows a net profit, this is largely due to the fact that we have not received the last quarter billing from Wildlife Services and that we did not pay a Wildlife Biologist for 5 months.

Carbon County –

Mission: To maintain consistent levels of predator control through a cooperative service agreement with USDA/APHIS/Wildlife Services (WS') on the 8,000 square miles of Carbon County.

Wildlife Issue: To maintain a sustainable population of mule deer, pronghorn antelope, elk and sage grouse for years to come.

Livestock Issue: Insure the current level of control is not compromised causing the local economy to suffer through loss of agricultural sustainability/livestock predation.

Human Health & Safety Issue: Guarantee public safety from predators and non-predators as needed or requested.

Total land acres under agreement worked by Carbon County WS' personnel:

BLM lands	1,372,308
US Forest Service lands	63,472
Private lands	1,805,110
State lands	122,107
Other lands	10,241
Total acres	3,373,238

The Carbon County Predator Management District continues to oversee a diverse management program to address wildlife and livestock issues. We have a verifiable history of actively seeking cooperating agencies in projects to aid in maintaining a sustainable population of mule deer, pronghorn antelope, elk and sage grouse. Our on-going agreement with Wildlife Services is of great value to our current operation. Due to the added funds from ADMB, we employ three full-time and one half-time WS' Specialists which help maintain our high standard of predator control for livestock producers, while beginning new and continuing other wildlife projects.

We extend our operations into neighboring counties (Albany, Natrona and Sweetwater Counties as well Northern Colorado) from time to time. As many ranch properties cross county and state lines and predators do not know – nor care – where those lines are, we share our resources when we are conducting activities in an area.

Carbon County Wildlife Project #1: Completed in 2009 – in cooperation with Sweetwater and Lincoln - Flat Top Mountain- pronghorn antelope, mule deer, sage grouse – result: gain in doe/fawn ratio. Final results were reported by Sweetwater PMDB.

Carbon County Wildlife Project #2: Completed in 2009 – Shirley Mountain Mule Deer Herd – in cooperation with WG&F – result: an increase in mule deer fawn ratios was observed from 2007 to 2009 while we were conducting predator control. However, in 2010, postseason fawn ratios declined to 64 fawns per 100 does. We have been asked to resume work in this area and, if this task is undertaken, will add examination of stomach content and pregnancy status to our future reports.

Carbon County Wildlife Project #3: Seminoe Mountain Bighorn Sheep Release Project: as asked by Bill Brinegar, WG&F - Carbon County Wildlife Service Specialists did pre-release control for both the first and second releases of Bighorn Sheep in the Seminoe Mountains in Central Wyoming. All necessary agreements to conduct these activities on private and public lands were obtained by our specialists. Reports of the project by WG&F are showing a promise of success.

Carbon County Wildlife Project #4: Began in 2010 in cooperation with Will Schultz & Biff Burton, WG&F – Big Creek Antelope Project. Agreements have been signed with area ranchers. Predator control began in early May 2011, when the antelope migrated back into the area for the summer season. Will and Biff are tracking the results for this project. Our specialists worked several days as the ground crew during aerial hunting operations, and will continue with ground work as needed. Also, Plague and tularemia tests are being taken along with examining and recording stomach contents and pregnancy status as well as number of pups of adult coyotes taken.

Municipalities continue to ask for our professional help within their borders. Many skunks and several badgers were taken inside Rawlins city limits this year, suspect ones were submitted for rabies testing. Badgers were again removed from the cemetery in Hanna, as well as feral cats for the Dixon town council, and we continue to receive calls for beaver control.

Black bears continue to be a problem in Carbon County, and WS' Specialists are working with WG&F personnel to protect private property, wildlife and livestock. Last year 3 problem bears were taken in response to livestock losses and we continue being involved in addressing trophy game issues at the request of the local WG&F.

Wildlife Services' Specialists located in Carbon County were invited to speak at the annual Ag Expo in cooperation with the Carbon County Stock Growers and Cooperative Extension Service. During the last week of April they shared their knowledge of predator identification and control with 124 fourth graders from Rawlins, Saratoga, Encampment, Little Snake River Valley, Wamsutter, Sinclair, Bairoil, Hanna, Elk Mountain, Medicine Bow and all home schooled children from Carbon County. Programs were also given for the Rotary, CCSGA and PEO.

WS' Specialists continue training annually and bi-annually in areas such as firearms safety, ground crew and crewmember safety, and driving safety. They also hold certifications in M-44 use and immobilization and euthanization drugs.

Converse County – The Converse County Predator Management District in the last year contracted with Wildlife Services to help with predator control.

In contracting with Wildlife Services, we had 2 full-time trappers and used 211 hours of our 300 hours proposed flying time. In this last year these services allowed us to take 374 coyotes in our county and skunks taken for rabies testing (none found). We have tightened up our flying program to offset our shortfall from the ADMB, trying to stretch our money as far as possible.

Contracting with Wildlife Services not only gives us great predator control for our wildlife and livestock, our public health and safety also benefits.

In addition to our Wildlife Services contract, we have 4 other aircraft performing contract hunting for our county -- 3 private airplanes and 1 private helicopter. These contractors took 276 coyotes.

In closing, our program is working very well by the response we received from livestock producers and sportsmen on our board and in our county.

Crook County – The Mission of the Crook County Predator Management District (PMD) is to provide predator control for the benefit of livestock producers and wildlife populations within 2800 square miles in northeastern Wyoming containing 65,000 beef cows/calves and 15,000 breeding sheep including goats.

Crook County has two trappers working with Wildlife Services (WS) full time and an additional trapper part time. They work with the approximate 120 active Cook County agreements between livestock producers and Wildlife Services. July 2010 through June 2011; 649,173 acres (including 14,530 BLM, 34,200 State, and 4,300 Forest Service) were covered by County trappers, reflecting 1773 day visits serviced by 958 landowner cooperative agreements.

Predation on cattle herds, most commonly occur during spring months, when new calves are born. Predating animals find this a prime time to catch a birthing mother helpless or a new calf still weak. Often, snow is still on the ground making it harder for the larger animals to get away.

Sheep herds are primarily hit in the spring when young lambs are first turned out to pasture or during lambing on the early green grass of May. Predatory mothers have pups to feed. They kill heavily again in mid-summer when the predators (primarily coyotes) begin teaching their young how to kill.

Ranchers suffer economic losses from wounded or dead livestock, as they are a primary source of income for these agricultural families. Many cattle and/or sheep ranchers have also looked to

hunting of wildlife, such as deer and turkey, for a means of income on their properties. Predating animals on wildlife herds also affect family income and the economic stability of WY rural communities.

Predatory/ damage animals for our district include, but are not limited to: coyotes, fox, badgers, raccoons, bobcats, mountain lions, skunks, porcupines, free range (feral) cats, wild (domesticated) dogs, and occasionally muskrats and beavers.

Crook County's Program focuses on three primary objectives:

- 1) Livestock Issues
- 2) Wildlife Issues
- 3) Safety and Human Resource Issues

Crook County has had a predatory management program since the mid 1940's. Since the inception of the granting process with WDA through Legislative action in 2006 the program has proven itself. Successes are determined by analyzing information gathered by Wildlife Service specialists as well as on-the ground information collected from sportsmen and agricultural producers. Wyoming Game and Fish Department numbers are also tracked in order to assess goals and objectives against outcomes and identify target areas.

Key Successes Include:

>The first six months of the grant process back in 2006, resulted in an even number of land owner/operators contacted as occurred in the whole of the previous calendar year. 2010 to 2011 contracts are at an all-time high with 958 cooperative agreements.

>The program has allowed trappers to upgrade equipment which has increased efficiency and improved results.

>Health issues such as rabies plague and tularemia have been addressed through 16 lab samples of possible carriers in 2010. These activities have become a constant to the program.

>Trappers take samples for canine heartworm, as part of a nationwide surveillance program to detect highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI). No positive results in FY 2010-2011.

This service has been made available to the public more readily since program implementation.

Livestock producers in the sheep and cattle industries have benefited from the current program. Economic losses were reported in 2010-2011 in 62 animal units with a value estimated at \$61,440 00. This compared to 2006 when 26 animal units were lost with a value of \$40,100.00; proving predatory animal management must continue!

Wildlife have benefitted through management efforts: Grouse, sage hens, pheasants, and turkey populations, (primary food sources of targeted predation animals), show management levels are satisfactory to meeting goals.

Predatory animals are keeping balance with wildlife and in some areas increased numbers of white-tail, mule deer, and antelope are detected. Unofficial counts by local trappers of fawn/kid numbers in two targeted areas are showing an unofficial 3%-5% increase.

The current contract system with the Wyoming Department of Agriculture has allowed additional man hours, helps with quantitative, quality reports for identifying issues and

measuring successes. The program has allowed testing for diseases to address health and human safety. Maintaining sufficient funding through the next Legislative session is of high importance to the people of Crook County.

Fremont County – Fremont County has two full time trappers. Since we are one of the largest counties, they are necessary. When they fly, one works as a gunner and the other does ground work, which studies have shown increases aerial hunting take by 30%.

We have had trouble for the last two years getting air time with planes. Two years ago we had an airplane in Fremont County but no pilot. This year we had trouble with a plane that went down for unknown reasons and waited to receive a new plane. However, it is here and trappers have been flying during these critical spring months. This has been a great help to ranchers and also to wildlife in the county. The money received from ADMB has greatly helped our aerial hunting program.

Most predator work was done on the coyote population this year. However, trappers also worked with badgers, beavers, crows, cats, raccoons, skunks, ravens, wolves, and flickers. This is a diverse population of predators, and the work has benefited the livestock and wildlife industries as well as human health and safety.

Fremont County continued to work on their ongoing wildlife projects. The sage grouse/mule deer project finished it's fifth year and showed great improvement in numbers of mule deer. The Board would like to continue predator work in that area to have a long term study of maintaining numbers. The Whiskey Mountain Bighorn Sheep Project has been in effect for several years, and has also shown a dramatic increase in the numbers of surviving newborns. Working with the Wyoming Game and Fish Department, we also have the project on enhancing pheasant population in the Ocean Lake area. Trappers and board members would like to continue all of these projects with ADMB monies.

Fremont County tried a bounty project last year. There was a large interest in this project, and funds were quickly used up. No ADMB funds were used for this work. The Board will continue with the bounty again this year, but have changed the dates from winter to spring through summer. So, far it appears that the allocated funds will be used.

The two trappers work the entire county as well as specific trouble spots. Trouble spots vary from year to year, however, coyotes continue to hit ranchers hard in the Jeffery City - Gas Hills area. Wolves caused damage to calves in the Sweetwater region two years ago, the Dubois area last year and are appearing in different areas this year. Our trappers work with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on wolf control. We also have signed agreements to perform predator work on the Wind River Indian Reservation and do quite a lot of work in that area.

USDA, APHIS has been told that they will not receive wolf monies in this budget year. This will take away our matching funds toward one trapper. That means that we will have to pay all of both trapper expenses in the upcoming year. They also charged us \$25 more per flying hour and 10% more on the trapper cost share last quarter. ADMB funding is of critical importance to us.

Since we won't be receiving a cost share on the one trapper, we will significantly run in the red next year and will use up some of our past carry over monies. We try to have a contingency fund that would pay expenses for our program for one year. As we expect that fund to go down quickly, we are very appreciative of ADMB funding. Our program depends on you.

Thank you for your continued support of our programs.

Benefits of ADMB Grants to Fremont County

Addition of one trapper

Additional ground crew personnel

Airplane based in Riverton, WY

Updated necessary equipment for the program

Ability to provide adequate predator management program without running in the red

Fifth year of sage grouse / mule deer grant showing an increase in numbers

Ocean Lake project in partnership with WY Game and Fish

Continuation of Bighorn Sheep project in Dubois area indicating a dramatic increase in herd numbers

Protection for both livestock and wildlife

Increases in fixed wing and helicopter hunting has had great effect in controlling predator numbers

Goshen County – With the grant monies received from the WY ADMB, we have been able to begin, maintain and improve our projects designed for the use of these funds. The employing of Wiley Cross as our second trapper, using these funds, was very beneficial. He has been instrumental in the designing and implementation of several wildlife projects, as well as assisting Casey Hunter, our other trapper, with livestock depredation. Casey also assists Wiley with wildlife enhancement projects. They work well together and provide valuable assistance to all residents of Goshen County.

The GCPMD, along with all the other county districts, the ADMB, the Wy Livestock Board, and other state and national agencies and individuals are quite concerned to say the least about funding cuts to Wildlife Services. Possibly the cuts proposed in the House Budget will be decreased by the Senate and hopefully a compromise can be reached that will not be as detrimental to those depending on this source of revenue. Budgeting for the next fiscal year will be difficult without knowing in advance what we will be receiving from WS. It appears to us that we will definitely see a decrease in funding from WS, but hopefully it will be small enough

that we can live with it.

Actions Taken:

A. Pheasant Project

Wiley, with help from Wildlife Services (WS) and the GCPMD board designed the initial project attempting to increase the pheasant population utilizing predator control, with emphasis being placed on raccoon removal. What was intended to be a two year project is now in the fifth year. Four areas were initially targeted for raccoon removal, and then expanded to five, plus working in specific areas where help was requested. Each year the number of raccoons trapped decreased which allowed more work around the core areas and freed up time to work other problem areas. We added to our inventory of traps this year, replacing some that raccoons destroy and gradually increased the total number of traps to allow our trappers to increase the areas they work so as to increase the number of raccoons taken.

B. Rabies Project

Goshen County was selected to assist with the WS National Rabies program to determine population densities for striped skunks. An area was chosen that encompassed about 750 acres and 50 traps were set there for a period of 10 days. Traps were moved after two to 4 days if nothing was captured at that set. A total of 500 trap nights were used. Of the skunks captured, two were submitted for rabies testing and all lower jaws were collected for study. Supposedly WS had funds to reimburse us for the time our trappers invested in this study, the payment to be a reduction in our last fiscal quarter payment to WS. Since this billing has not been received as of yet, we are hoping that the reduction to WS budget will not affect the payment.

C. Mule Deer Project

Wyoming Game and Fish personnel indicated that the mule deer population in Goshen County was below herd objectives so we instituted a program targeting depredation of fawns by coyotes and to a lesser degree foxes. This was an inexpensive project to implement as it could be incorporated with the existing program to eliminate livestock losses by coyotes. This spring we received information from WY GF biologists indentifying areas to be targeted for predator control. This information was well received by us as it is beneficial to have cooperation from them on a joint project. We assumed that in areas experiencing livestock losses, fawn losses would also be high because coyote numbers would also be higher than areas not experiencing losses. Coyote stomach contents are examined during the birthing and hatching seasons to identify what they are consuming. Most coyotes taken had deer and antelope fawn remains in their stomach, along with occasional game bird chick remains, either pheasant or sharp tail grouse.

D. Starling Control

Another project initiated with ADMB funding was starling control at local feed yards. Some winters these birds are extremely numerous numbering in the many thousands, and they potentially carry disease and ruin or consume large quantities of feed. On an as need, as called basis, both trappers work to bait the birds with DRC 1339 laced corn. This is somewhat successful, but almost a never ending task as there is a continual influx of new birds. Last winter we didn't receive nearly as many requests for starling control. And the last two winters we have only been called to one local feed yard. Because of town residents being alarmed at finding dead birds, we now put an announcement in the local newspaper prior to beginning baiting. This doesn't pacify those who think we should leave nature alone, but it greatly reduces the public

concern at finding dead birds. Thankfully most starlings roost places other than town so the public doesn't see the total scope of population reduction.

E. Vulture Control

Other calls for assistance come from homeowners experiencing problems with wildlife. This includes birds and mammals and the trappers help alleviate these concerns as best they can. The town of Torrington has requested help with vultures roosting within the town and also with feral cat problems. Late last summer they finally allowed us to use lethal control measures, after all other required non lethal control measures had failed. We did get the vultures moved on, but it was about time for them to migrate south anyway. This year they are back and we may be requested to provide assistance again. And the town has not done anything about their feral cat problem, so we have not been requested to assist in that area.

Identifiable and Measureable Results

A. Pheasants

We saw a significant increase in the pheasant population last fall, particularly in and adjacent to areas trapped, especially those trapped consecutively for all five years. Hunters had more success than in many years. Pheasants are being seen in areas where they were next to none. Crow counts were up again this year, and the data was gathered too early for this report to get an accurate brood count. Even locals, such as school bus driving sportsmen reported seeing more pheasants and hearing more crowing. More pheasants were seen along highways, and of course this leads to more road kill. Interestingly they also reported seeing more sharp tail grouse, but these were out of areas targeted for raccoon removal. So perhaps the weather is playing an important part in rejuvenating our game bird populations also. We had made arrangements with local WY G&F personnel to get some of the brood stock from the Downar Bird Farm released into areas that had been trapped in previous years. This would have been another boost to a recovering population, but then the bird farm was stricken with a disease and all eggs, chicks and adult pheasants were depopulated. Anticipations are that with the sanitary measures being taken, the premises can be made disease free and pheasants can be brought in from other places to get the facility up and running next year. We hope that this will just cause a one year delay in our restocking plans.

B. Rabies

We have only worked on the rabies project for one year. This is supposed to be ongoing but WS budget reductions may bring the program to a premature end. It did bring us the prospect of extra money for our trappers to do what they would have been doing anyway, just in a different time frame and with more data collecting requirements. While no rabies were detected in Goshen County, this year, it would be very beneficial to everyone to know if it does exist here.

C. Mule Deer

With the herd objective below desired levels and declining yearly, it is worthwhile for us to target deer predators, mainly coyotes. Coyote stomach content examination reveals considerable fawn depredation, both deer and antelope. As of this date, no data has been generated to show what percent of coyotes have fawn contents in their stomach, along with game bird chick remains. Later in the year this data should become available. To document increases in the mule deer population, we will rely on WY G&F data, along with our own aerial survey of both mule deer and antelope populations. Comparing our count with WY G&F count will be interesting.

The surveys will be done at a different time frame and probably in somewhat different areas, which could show a conflict in numbers. The antelope population is near herd objective so we aren't too concerned with them but statewide the mule deer population is decreasing and the reason is unclear. Locally the WY G&F is concerned with the Goshen Rim Herd, which is steadily declining. An article in a recent Wyoming Wildlife magazine discusses this as a statewide problem and there is no clear consensus as to the reason for the declining herd. Our efforts at coyote removal, and also fox removal will help deer numbers, but will it be enough to see an increase in the herd size remains to be seen.

D. Starlings

Starling control hasn't been requested as much as in past years. We aren't certain why. Our localized efforts surely can't impact a large regional migratory population. But fewer requests for assistance indicate we are having some success. And a big benefit is that when out of state cattle are fed in Goshen County and the owner objects to the 25 cents per head predator fee we can point to decreased costs accruing from our starling control work. That small cost can be recovered several times during the time required to finish a beef animal.

E. Vultures

It remains to be seen if we will be requested to again assist with vulture removal from Torrington. Now that we have performed the required non-lethal removal techniques, we can get right to lethal removal this year, much earlier than last year. This fact along with hanging vulture carcasses in the roost trees has caused vultures to move on in other cities and should work again in Torrington. Vultures are extremely filthy, and their droppings are a definite health hazard, so encouraging them to roost in rural areas will be of significant benefit to town residents.

Hot Springs County – The Hot Springs County Predator Management District (HSCPMD) consists of 1,060,031 acres, (the entirety of Hot Springs County), and involves the following entities; the Bureau of Land Management, the City of Thermopolis, Hot Springs County, the U.S. Forest Service, private landowners, the State of Wyoming and the Wind River Indian Reservation. In this fiscal year 53 contracts were written with producers and all 53 were assisted at some time during the year. This assistance was in the form of traditional on-the-ground methods, and aerial gunning.

The HSCPMD utilizes the personnel of Wildlife Services (WS), a division of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. This allows the HSCPMD to operate on Federal and Tribal lands by way of the cooperative agreements between these agencies. The HSCPMD funded 2.5 control agents to conduct the predator control in the District, plus 122.9 hours of aerial time. 19.8 hours of ferry time from the Worland airport were billed this year.

The verified livestock losses in this year were:

- 4 chickens to foxes
- 5 chickens to raccoons
- 4 sheep to coyote
- 1 calf to coyote
- 15 chickens to coyote
- 6 geese to coyote

1goat to coyote
1 sheep to dogs
9 sheep to foxes
1lamb to ravens

Once again our losses were minimal due to the competency and diligence of our control agents.

Our Mule Deer project is in its fourth year. The following table shows the number of coyotes removed compared to the number of deer counted during the March aerial survey.

2007 136 coyotes removed	2008 411 deer counted
2008 69 coyotes removed	2009 391 deer counted
2009 65 coyotes removed	2010 506 deer counted
2010 17 coyotes removed	2011 672 deer counted

Although there are several factors that can be attributed to the increase in Mule deer, we feel that our efforts have had the most impact. We hope to continue this program for several more years.

The Owl Creek Bird project is in its fourth year also. Actual counts are harder to do on birds, but area landowners and sportsmen say that numbers are up in this area, and the harvest of Pheasant was also up. Most of the respondents to our mailed questionnaire think that the numbers are low for the available habitat in the county. We will continue to control the number of predators in the area as long as funding will allow us to do so.

Major equipment expenditures for the year were \$3809.36. Most of our equipment is in good to excellent shape. A total of \$168,356 in grant funds was expended in FY 2010-2011.

This report was prepared in mid-June and could have amendments to the animal counts and flying hours until the July 1 year end.

Johnson County - The Johnson County Predator Management District continues to be very active carrying out our general management plan of providing a predation reduction in county livestock and wildlife herds as well as the protection of human health and safety to all residents of Johnson County.

The state management grant fees continue to enable us to carry out an active program spelled out in our management plan.

- Aerial hunting continues to be one of our largest expenditure and has been very successful with good numbers of coyotes taken from the air. Many were taken just before or during the denning season, thus population control was achieved by good timing. Private helicopters and planes as well as Wildlife Services fixed wing planes were used the majority of the time. This is not only advantageous to livestock producers, but great for the wildlife populations, county-wide. As funding become tighter, this is where the cuts are often made.

- We continue to “Contract for Services” with three control officers and employ part-time and bookkeeping personnel. A few slight changes to the contracts were made and it seems to be a better situation than dealing with allowances, keeping hours and dealing with overtime and vacation issues. A stringent reporting program and data collection is in place to verify needs and funding
- We’ve had a few requests for refunds of predator fees collected. We continue to educate and inform our producers about our program at every chance but also feel that, as the agricultural economy struggles, we may see more refund requests. Each year with the annual meeting notice, a report of coyotes take on each landowner is also distributed.
- Cooperative efforts continue with USDA Wildlife Services and Wyoming Game & Fish personnel continue and are invited to our annual meeting. Predation for bear, mountain lions, and wolves continues in our district and is important to keep all producers and employees up to date on protocol in recognizing and handling these cases in the field.

Johnson County continues its Rabies Mitigation Program with continued success. We have two seasonal employees for this program, one in Buffalo and one in Kaycee. Our contract employees also control and document rabies targeted animals. We’ve seen numbers lower and level off which might indicate a level of control. Both Buffalo and Kaycee city officials are very satisfied with the success of this program and have contributed financially to the program. We have had meeting with city officers as well as reporting of this special program to the State ADMB at it’s meeting here in Johnson County.

In summary, the livestock and wildlife of Johnson County as well as the residents of Buffalo and Kaycee are much safer due to the dedication of the members of the district board and the employees of the Johnson County Predator District. The success of the program is due, in great part, to the grant funding through the Wyoming Animal Management Board

Lincoln County – The Lincoln County ADMB goals remain basically the same as in past years. The objectives are to serve the needs of the livestock industry, to benefit wildlife including the sage grouse study, and providing for human safety such as raven control at the Shute Creek Exxon plant.

We are currently trying to replace a trapping position that has been opened since July. We are trying to employ a trapper that had worked in Sweetwater and Lincoln Counties for about 20 years. He was one of the best trappers in the district and knows all of the country. He would truly be an asset. We are not creating a new position, but filling an existing job. The County saved money from the opened position so we figure with money saved, some carryover and with ADMB funds, we can survive without wildlife services for a year. As you are aware we were told by Mr. Krischke not to count on any help from wildlife services. Lincoln County was paying 80% of the position salary.

Our plans are still to provide two full-time trappers and employ one 4-5 month person that we share with Sweetwater County. This person works Lincoln County during the lambing season and on the forest during the summer. In addition, we are contributing to the raven study on sage grouse that is being conducted by the Berryman Institution. It is amazing that there is up to 48% more grouse in the raven-removal area versus the non-control area. Southwestern Wyoming experienced a very harsh winter. This allowed for the removal of a large number of coyotes compared to the past several winters. This should help with livestock losses during the spring and summer. Due to the high snow packs in the mountains, the game animals were at the lower elevations drawing the coyotes lower as well, consequently taking more coyotes. Our aerial program both fixed wing and helicopter, saved a lot of predation on deer and should benefit sage grouse by coyote and fox removal. Wyoming Game & Fish personnel in Southwest Wyoming still do not believe predator control is benefitting wildlife for the most part, but the outfitters and many of the sportsman believe that our program is to help wildlife populations especially deer. The livestock industry is very satisfied. We only had one or two requests for refunds this past year and they were from non-residents.

It is Lincoln County's goal to provide the same service as in past years and to hire an excellent trapper back to actually improve service. It is imperative to be able to maintain monies to provide these services as in past years. In addition to the unpredictability of wildlife services funding makes our state funding even more important.

Natrona County –

Actions Taken: The mission of the Natrona County Predator Management District (NCPMD) is to provide predator control for the benefit of livestock producers and wildlife populations within Natrona County. The number of ravens, crows, skunks, raccoons, coyotes, and foxes in Natrona County are at healthy levels. The NCPMD would like to facilitate an increase in numbers of deer, antelope, and sage grouse.

The NCPMD has contracted with three (3) full time trappers who cover a very large geographical area compared to the other counties who have several full time trappers. The third full time trapper was hired on March 1, 2010. The purpose of hiring a third trapper was to assist our two full time trappers with ground work. Due to the large area of Natrona County, it was felt that the predator board add a third trapper to help in areas that have not been worked previously because of the limitation of the two ground trappers. Gene Heckel will work deer unit 66 in Southeast Natrona County, which is the Stinking Creek/Bates Hole area and its tributaries. The focus of requesting predator control in deer unit 66 is to bring the deer herd numbers back up. In addition to the wintering areas, the predator control will extend into this deer herds summer range. The Game and Fish asked for the NCPMD's assistance in trapping in this specific area and we agreed to assist with this project. The reason that the Game and Fish has requested this is because for over 8 plus years, the deer population has been chronically low. Previously we did not actively work this area that is affected because land owners have not requested or desired our services and a lack of personnel. The Wyoming Game and Fish Department requested and helped us secure access to these ranches for predator control to primarily help the mule deer population. Below are the deer numbers provided by the Game and Fish Department in this specific area:

Mule Deer – Per 100 Does (collected in Nov/Dec each year-postseason)

Herd Unit: MD 757 – Bates Hole/Hat Six (Hunt Area 66)

Year	Yearling Bucks	Mature Bucks	Total	Bucks	Fawns
2000	15	15	30	30	59
2001	10	18	28	28	66
2002	9	16	26	26	84
2003	10	13	23	23	77
2004	13	16	29	29	67
2005	13	12	25	25	75
2006	17	18	35	35	47
2007	12	19	32	32	58
2008	12	18	29	29	65
2009	8	15	23	23	57
2010	9	11	20	20	45

2010 postseason Population Estimate of 6,689 (44% below herd objective)

The NCPMD has utilized aerial time and the trappers for the hunting of predators before critical fawning and nesting periods. The activity for this has been concentrated in areas within the county that the Wyoming Game and Fish Department has designated as critical mule deer winter range.

Natrona County is experiencing regular depredation to livestock as a result of a healthy coyote population. The NCPMD has minimized the loss of livestock to predation, thereby enabling viability of the local producers. The addition of strategic flying time has had a tremendous impact on prevention of livestock losses, as this method is often one of the best tools for coyote control. Other control methods used to remove predators that are preying upon or threatening livestock and are creating hazards to public safety, or are damaging crops or property is the use of leg hold and cage traps, foot snares, neck snares, shooting, trail and decoy dogs, aerial hunting and M-44 devices.

The Natrona County Predator Management District continues to participate and display its booth at various sport shows within Natrona County to promote predator control. The booth has pictures of sheep and antelope taken by coyotes and other predators, various traps used by the trappers, statistics and predator method control. The booth will be displayed at the Wyoming Association of Taxidermy Artists (WATA) in April and at the Wyoming Game and Fish Expo in September plus other state association banquets in 2011.

In May, the NCPMD contracted with Reno Air Service, LLC to assist our trapper Rock Buckingham to fly in the Kaycee area.

Fixed Fly Time:

The following were contracted to conduct aerial removal of coyotes for fiscal year July 1, 2010-June 16, 2011:

USDA-APHIS: 57.6 hours

Cheney Flying Service: 77.1 hours

Reno Air Service, LLC: 5.6 hours

Total for fixed fly time is 140.3 hours

The NCPMD has renewed its contract with Wildlife Services from July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011. The new contract was for 200 hours of ground work @ \$35.00 per hour totaling \$7,000.00. Aerial costs for fixed wing, ferry time and helicopter aerial hunting for 200 hours is \$33,000.00. Trapper and aerial expenses total \$40,000.00. A 5% administrative support fee was applied for \$2,000.00. The total budget was \$42,000.00. Wildlife Services has only flown 100 hours for NCPMD. At the districts monthly meeting on March 2, 2011, a motion was made and passed unanimously that we would amend the contract and cut Wildlife Services contract for 2011 to 100 hours. A second motion was also made and passed unanimously that Wildlife Services would only fly at the request of our trappers.

Helicopter Fly Time:

The NCPMD contracted with Holmes Helicopters to fly for the NCPMD from March 10, 2011-June 16, 2011. In the contract it was also stated that they would fly for four months and/or not exceed \$80,000.00. A motion was made to reflect that we cap Holmes Helicopters contract to \$80,000 and we cap fixed wing to \$12,000 from now until the end of the fiscal year. This will use up all of our funding and we will have no carry over for fly time. Our aerial flying from March 10, 2011-June, 16, 2011 used up the remainder of the grant funding for fiscal year 2010-2011. Total Helicopter Fly time is: 249 hours

With additional predator control, loss of livestock is at its lowest in recent times. Lamb loss is down by 35%-40%. Natrona Counties pronghorn population is at historically high levels. The NCPMD is working closely with the Wyoming Game & Fish to assist with the Bates Hole and Sage Grouse projects. In preparation of our budget a motion was made the districts March 2, 2011 meeting that the board budget flight appropriations of \$30,000 for the sheep producers, \$30,000 for cattle producers and \$20,000 specifically for the Bates Hole Mule Deer Project. This motion was passed unanimously. The NCPMD has built a working relationship with the Game and Fish and any projects that we can receive funding for to help protect our wildlife and sage grouse, we are eager to help with.

Niobrara County – The foremost goal of the Niobrara County Predator Management District Board has always been to use the funding provided by our producers to implement a program of livestock protection through predator control. With the addition of funding provided by the state, we have been able to enlarge our program to include wildlife concerns. Although there is increased administration required by state funding, prudent spending allows us to send about 97 cents of each dollar to field operations. Predator removal is of mutual benefit to livestock and wildlife, and operations are tailored to provide control at critical times and places to maximize those benefits. The trappers are directed to focus on calving grounds in early spring, with a result of little reported calf loss due to predators. Later the focus shifts to lambing and fawning areas. States on our eastern border provide a steady supply of coyotes, so we are never afraid of running out of them.

Litters this spring are large. Post-mortem of one pregnant female yielded a record number of fourteen pups nearly full-term. A pregnant female coyote taken before the pups are born is an efficient alternative to the grueling chore of finding the den later. Removal of dens is crucial because predation increases in order to feed the young and then train them to kill on their own.

Our privately-contracted trappers are taking far more predators using ground methods than has been the case for many years. It eases the reliance on aerial hunting a bit. Aerial hunting is an

excellent tool, but is extremely difficult to get enough aerial hours given the shortage of airplanes and abundance of inclement weather. We currently contract with three private pilots as well as with Wildlife Services.

We had only one full-time trapper from mid- August, 2010, until the second man was replaced in March, 2011. To make up some of the lost ground, we coaxed a venerable veteran out of retirement and teamed him up with a rookie for some short-term denning help and on-the-job training.

Our annual deer count was conducted in November, 2010. It showed mule deer in the two targeted areas to be doing well. Fawn to doe ratios were phenomenal in the 2009 count and, though somewhat lower in 2010, are still good, and well above the ratios at the beginning of the projects. In the Rawhide Mule Deer Project area, it was notable that there were over three times as many does and fawns present as the previous year. The fawn to doe ratio was 75% even with many yearling does included in the count. As these young does from the 2009 90% fawn crop begin to bear in the spring of 2011, we hope to see excellent numbers this fall.

The Rawhide Recovery Mule Deer Project was actually begun in 2000 at the request of landowners and cost-shared through the ADMB. Prior to our predator control project, the Wyoming Game & Fish no longer even conducted a count in the area because there were so few deer there. After four years of predator control the numbers had doubled and there was a near 100% fawn to doe ratio. The benefit to cost ratio was estimated at better than \$23 benefit per \$1 cost. The original project ended in 2004. With the increase of funding from the state, the Rawhide Recovery project was resumed in 2007. Though landowners reported the population had again decreased during the three years of little predator control, we have regained a lot of the lost ground. Overall, since 2000, the mule deer population has multiplied greatly and the fawn to doe ratio has increased from 20% to above 75%. No other habitat enhancement has been done, just predator removal. A producer who has a hunting enterprise in the area has reported that trophy mule deer are more plentiful and of better size and quality. He gives sole credit to predator control.

The other mule deer emphasis area is in the northwestern part of the county. It is large, remote, and of very rough terrain. We have shown improvement in the deer population and believe sage grouse are benefitting as well. Trapper analysis of scat shows the coyotes in the area are feeding primarily on deer. The rabbit cycle has moved from a recent peak to a lower population, and the coyotes have turned to deer. Since several sheep producers are also in this area, we have increased the focus of operations here to keep sheep losses to a minimum.

Park County – Park County Nuisance Predator Activities Annual Report

Field activities began March 15 - September 2010 and resumed March 14, 2011 and will continue through September 2011. Due to success and positive results from the Wildlife Project conducted to reduce damage and increase pheasant populations around the Powell area in northern Park County nuisance predator removal has been expanded county wide where request for this service is made and damage is confirmed. All activity are conducted under the direction of the Park County Predator Management District (PMD) with the cooperation of United States

Department of Agriculture -Wildlife Services (WS), State Veterinary Laboratory, Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD), and the Animal Damage Management Board (ADMB). By removing striped skunks, raccoons, feral cats, red foxes, and coyotes, our goals are to enhance the wildlife resource, and to reduce the damage caused by predators for farmers, livestock producers, and residents. As predators are removed, samples are collected for plague, tularemia, and rabies which provide information on zoonotic disease.

Success of the project is determined by analyzing information gathered by WS specialists in the field and field studies conducted in the same area. Damage information is tracked by the MIS program (WS Database) as problems are reported with damage confirmation where control actions are taken. Control actions are carried out using the best and most humane tools that provide an immediate desired response for each situation and location. Live traps are the tool of choice by WS specialists due to the presence of pets and hobby animals in the area.

The Park County Predator Management District (PMD) decided to expand nuisance predator activities across the county as requests for assistance are made to deal with the impacts of these species. Control actions are best received where the PMD feels wildlife and wildlife enthusiasts will benefit the most, as well as where damage is confirmed and known to be a significant issue. Disease samples are collected and sent to the State Veterinary Laboratory for testing. As results are obtained they are released to the PMD and disease concerns are dealt with through the Centers for Disease Control and public health agencies. During the January 2011 Annual PMD meeting, activities and results will be discussed for renewal.

There have been numerous reports from farmers and sportsmen about the positive impacts of this activity for reducing crop damage and improving pheasant production in all areas. Many farmers in the area have commented that this project has allowed them to harvest a quality crop of sweet corn without extensive damage. They have also benefitted from a decrease in the amount of damage and consequent maintenance to irrigation systems. Farmers and sportsmen noticed and report seeing more pheasant broods in the area throughout the summer and into the hunting season. For all these reasons, the Park County PMD feels this activity has been very beneficial to farm production and wildlife protection and will continue county wide where damage is reported and confirmed.

As WS personnel worked in Park County they documented damage to residences, private property of many types, livestock feed buildings, irrigation systems, crops, leaf cutter bee hives, bird feeders, and pet food storage areas. The total monetary value of documented damage by the targeted predators was significant. Damage and value has been documented and tracked using the MIS system.

Project personnel were able to remove a considerable number of target animals from the all areas requesting assistance using a variety of methods and techniques. This type of work becomes very labor intensive and time consuming due to the sensitive nature of these activities in close proximity of residences and surrounding urban areas. The most damage confirmed for farmers is caused by raccoons. Raccoons and skunks are effective at raiding bird nests and can cause a significant reduction in the wild bird population as well.

Wildlife Services personnel conducted pheasant crow count surveys in the Powell area to document benefits to the pheasant population from WS activities. The survey was performed

prior to the predator removal activities. WS personnel recorded pheasant crows during a specific length of time at locations counting pheasant crows four three minute periods the same time and day each year to track population trends. This exact survey will be conducted every spring while activities are in progress. Pheasant Crow Surveys will be conducted in all areas where significant activities are requested and have taken place. Understanding there are numerous factors to take into consideration when managing an upland game bird population, we would like to make note that immediate results are found favorable to the pheasant population as a result of project efforts

As mentioned previously, captured animals were sampled for diseases such as rabies, plague, and tularemia. Samples were collected and sent to the State Vet Laboratory where they were analyzed and results were sent back to the county PMD's. Skunks were the primary source used for testing rabies. Project personnel collected skunk samples which were sent to the State Veterinary Laboratory. At this time, no positive rabies samples documented from the Bighorn Basin. Due to the increase in positive rabies samples collected in Campbell, Johnson, and Natrona counties; Park County PMD feels rabies surveillance efforts should be continued to identify when, where, and how rabies enters the Bighorn Basin.

Plague and tularemia samples were collected from coyotes by using Nobuto blood filter strips. These strips were sent to the Center for Disease Control (CDC) in Fort Collins Colorado where they were tested for blood serum titers that indicate exposure to plague bacteria or tularemia. Samples have indicated positive results for plague titers in the Bighorn Basin, but tularemia results are still pending. USDA-WS works with the CDC to track the plague. If the samples are found to have alerting elevated titer levels CDC will notify all relevant public and health officials. WS specialists will continue to collect samples and work with the CDC to monitor plague and tularemia in the Basin.

We have completed the third year of nuisance predator activities in Park County. Results of the project have made this type of activity a necessary as part of the workload for USDA- Wildlife Services requested by the PMD to provide assistance to the producers and sportsmen of Park County. Wildlife Services will continue to provide service to requests for assistance as damage is confirmed or known to be a problem. We hope this summary provides an idea of what has been accomplished to date with the Park County nuisance predator activities to reduce crop and irrigation damage, reduce damage to human residences and structures, detect and monitor diseases, and provide enhanced opportunities for outdoor enthusiasts to enjoy Wyoming's wildlife resources.

Park and Washakie County Cooperative Wildlife Project Annual Report

The Park and Washakie County Cooperative Wildlife Enhancement Project designed to improve mule deer and antelope recruitment in deer hunt area 125 has proven positive result for the third straight year. We are very excited to see results following this year's activities due to it being the first year 2008 doe/fawns will potentially produce fawns themselves. Although many environmental stresses affect this wildlife population, only a relative few can be manipulated. Predator management can and has been used to help limit mortality in this ungulate population and enhance fawn recruitment, improve doe survival, and help increase the portion of breeding bucks in this area. Although predation is rarely the sole factor limiting populations, it can play significant role in suppressing populations below herd objectives. The goal of this project has been to help boost ungulate populations towards a more self sustaining level. This project has

progressed into the fourth year, and due to positive results to wild ungulate populations it has been agreed the project and activities will continue at least one more year. This population will continue to be monitored very closely by the WGFD and United States Department of Agriculture Wildlife Services (WS).

Sheridan County – Sheridan County is just too large of a county with too many acres for one man to cover, especially during the spring and summer when the sheep and cattle are on the mountain. We are getting more and more requests for our trapper's services and have decided to add another trapper to our budget. We have increased the budget amount for another predator trapper and the equipment that is necessary for that individual.

We have started a skunk eradication program. The entire Sheridan County is infested with rabid skunks. We are supplying traps to the cities and towns in Sheridan County for their use in the city limits. Our predator trappers will be trapping the rest of the county. We will be sending in samples of suspected skunks for rabies testing. We will also be keeping records on this.

We are going to try to utilize the fixed wing more this year. However, if we are unable to, we will move some of our fixed wing budget to the helicopter budget and use the helicopter.

Sweetwater County – During the past year we have been attempting to limit livestock losses from predators in Sweetwater County with the cooperation of U.S.D.A. Wildlife Services. We contracted with the Berryman Institute of Utah State University to study the impacts of predators on deer and antelope fawns and the predatory impacts upon sage grouse in southwestern Wyoming and we carried out predator control in various wildlife areas to see how the wildlife populations responded to control areas as compared to non-control areas.

Surveys of these populations were conducted plus sage grouse have again been caught and fitted with electronic collars in order to follow their nesting and the predation that takes place in these nests.

Uinta County –
Actions Taken

This year we again tried to utilize some of the same methods employed last year. The trappers made an attempt to clear designated areas of coyotes before the sheep were moved into the specific areas. We have found that pre-emptive work before the livestock arrives is one of our most beneficial methods.

This last fall (2010) we worked the standard areas where our producers normally utilize. We had a slight increase in trouble calls. We were able to work some of these areas with our contract trapper and he was able to use the ultra-lite plane with good weather conditions to limit our producer's losses. Some pre-emptive work was accomplished late in the fall before it snows on the winter ranges.

This winter we experienced extreme snowfall beginning about mid to late December. Producers

moved near accessible roads to feed the animals until mid to late March. Predation was very limited as the animals were confined to feed grounds during the winter.

Helicopter flying time was used primarily during the spring time this year. We were able to take advantage of the extra snow cover and therefore afford better protection to the sheep ranges utilized in the first part of the summer. These areas are hard to access in the summer and therefore we utilized the late spring snows to work these hard to get areas this year.

With the helicopter time we are able to cover more wooded areas and inaccessible areas to fixed wing measures as the sheep are moved to higher summer ranges.

During the lambing season, we were able to put both fulltime trappers and our contract trappers covering the lambing herds. Extreme snow conditions this winter made it difficult to access the spring lambing and calving areas to accomplish much pre-emptive work.

We have continued with some limited raven control projects which have benefitted the producers in our area. We have had some problems to both cattle and sheep producers resulting from the ravens. Our efforts have provided an additional measure of control.

Identifiable and Measureable Results

Lamb counts, according to producers were less than last year. This was mostly attributable to severe spring weather that accounted for substantial losses during lambing season. Some predator problems were reported, with higher predation from eagles noted this spring.

In some areas deer counts were down slightly as assessed from the previous year. The severe winter was also attributable to these decreases. The antelope surprisingly fared well through the hard winter. Winter mortality was significantly less than expected given the substantial amount of snow we received this winter.

Sage grouse counts have increased again slightly. More leks are being reported overall and in some areas leks have been reported where they had previously not existed.

The new equipment has given our trappers increased ability to access previously hard to access areas and an added fuel savings has been recognized. Trapper effectiveness has also been enhanced with the addition of the new equipment.

Washakie County – The Washakie County Nuisance Predator Project is a two year project. Field activities began March 1, 2010 - September 2010 and will continue March 1, 2011 – September 2011. This project is conducted under the direction of the Washakie County Predator Management District (PMD) with the cooperation of the United States Department of Agriculture -Wildlife Services (WS), the State Veterinary Laboratory, the Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD), and the Animal Damage Management Board (ADMB). This project's purpose is to improve the pheasant population and to reduce damage for agriculture producers and residents. We have documented positive results from the project by removing striped skunks, raccoons, feral cats, red foxes, and coyotes. Our goals are to enhance wildlife resources, reduce the damage caused by predators for farmers, livestock producers, and residents. As predators are removed, samples were collected for plague, tularemia, raccoon roundworm, and rabies which

provide information on zoonotic disease that can affect human populations and are a concern in the Bighorn Basin.

Success of the project is determined by analyzing information gathered by WS specialists in the field and Wyoming Game and Fish Department information collected from sportsmen and field studies conducted in the project area. Damage information is tracked by the MIS program (WS Database) as problems are reported with damage confirmation where control actions are taken. Control actions are carried out using the best and most humane tools that provide an immediate desired response for each situation and location. Live traps are the tool of choice by WS specialists when there is a presence of pets and hobby animals in areas.

A predetermined project area has been delineated by the Washakie County Predator Management District (PMD) where WS concentrated their efforts to deal with the impacts of these species. These areas are where the PMD feels wildlife and wildlife enthusiasts would benefit the most, as well as where requests for assistance with crop and irrigation damage has been confirmed or known to be a problem. Disease samples were collected and sent to the State Veterinary Laboratory for testing. Results of testing are sent to the Centers for Disease Control. During the January PMD meeting 2011, the project was reviewed and, due to positive results, Washakie County PMD accepted this project for renewal.

Prior to treatment in the project area by WS Specialists, pheasant crow surveys were conducted by the WGFD department. We requested this activity to show base line population information for wild birds utilizing this area and provide cause and effect information following treatment. We plan to perform surveys annually to document population changes.

Park and Washakie County Cooperative Wildlife Project Annual Report

The Park and Washakie County Cooperative Wildlife Enhancement Project designed to improve mule deer and antelope recruitment in deer hunt area 125 has proven positive result for the third straight year. We are very excited to see results following this year's activities due to it being the first year 2008 doe/fawns will potentially produce fawns themselves. Although many environmental stresses affect this wildlife population, only a relative few can be manipulated. Predator management can and has been used to help limit mortality in this ungulate population and enhance fawn recruitment, improve doe survival, and help increase the portion of breeding bucks in this area. Although predation is rarely the sole factor limiting populations, it can play significant role in suppressing populations below herd objectives. The goal of this project has been to help boost ungulate populations towards a more self sustaining level. This project has progressed into the fourth year, and due to positive results to wild ungulate populations it has been agreed the project and activities will continue at least one more year. This population will continue to be monitored very closely by the WGFD and United States Department of Agriculture Wildlife Services (WS).

Weston County – Weston County is located in the northeastern corner of Wyoming with its eastern boundary against the Black Hills of South Dakota. The northern areas of the county encompass portions of the lower lying areas of the Black Hills containing evergreen forest, steep limestone canyons to intermediate hills with scattered evergreens. Newcastle and Upton are the incorporated cities in the county, and are located on Highway 16. As you go west and south of

these populated areas, the land opens up to large areas of sage brush plains, deep washes, and some rough ridges of evergreen trees, giving plenty of space for wildlife and predators. The terrain and vegetative cover is an issue in predator control in the county.

Weston County's predator program's mission is focused on wildlife protection, livestock protection and on human health and safety. As the years vary in weather, Weston County's management program also varies in its main focus on predator control.

Wildlife Protection and Enhancement:

Historically, Weston County has seen times of plenty with game populations, abundant deer, antelope, rabbits and some upland birds. As intensive predator control began to decline for livestock protection, beginning in the 1980's, a severe decline became apparent in the game populations. Landowners and sportsmen alike became worried about game populations in decline. In Fiscal 2001 the WCPMD embarked on an intensive predator control study to try to recover some of the wild game populations in the county. These studies have shown that predator control work, mainly during spring months, greatly enhanced the recruitment of the game animals in the study area. It became quite apparent that the coyote, the primary predator in the county, was having a major impact any where it resided.

The WCPMD has had the support of sportsmen since the study was done and with the addition of the 3 sportsmen appointments to the district board, the sportsmen have had direct influence as to predator control work done in the county. They have helped identify areas of concern in which control work might need to be done and have brought fresh ideas to the table.

As for deer and antelope, WCPMD recognizes that **intensive** predator control work is no more important in most portions of the county as control work done at the **proper time**. Coyotes are opportunists, and if a meal is presented to the coyote, no matter where it is or what it is, the coyote will take it.

WCPMD contracts with APHIS for the employment of contract trapper positions to provide well qualified and trained wildlife professionals to aid the goals to protect and enhance the overall wildlife population in the county. These professionals are also in charge of the aerial program that the county uses.

Deer, Pronghorn antelope and Greater Sage Grouse are the primary wildlife species that the WCPMD are concerned about. Protection of Sage Grouse leeks are done mainly through aerial hunting of predators during the spring. Deer and antelope recruitment work is done, more as opportunity control work throughout the county, during the spring time.

The WCPMD is also working in conjunction with the Elk Mountain Bighorn Sheep Project on a Big Horn Sheep project in Weston County. The WCPMD is managing the flying time funds that that has been awarded this project. One contract trapper is also being used as specified in this Elk Mountain Bighorn Sheep Project proposal.

Livestock Protection:

WCPMD's goal is to protect all the livestock resources in Weston County from excess predation and therefore provide an enhanced economic return to the livestock producers in the county. Due to various reasons including change of management, predators, and the economy, during the 1980's and 1990's, the sheep numbers in the county declined drastically.

Most sheep herds are now located in an area in the northwestern portion of the county where predator control work is more productive due to the lay of the land and terrain. With the reduced sheep numbers, predation on calves during the spring is becoming a major concern among cow/calf producers. As the sheep and cattle producers are very aware of the losses incurred and economic value of those losses, the two full time contract trappers continue to be overloaded with trouble calls. Although losses occur, the trappers have had good results in stopping those losses within a reasonable time frame.

Human Health and Safety:

At the present time, the Striped Skunk population is in decline. Numbers are down in large areas however there are small pockets with higher numbers. As calls come to remove the skunk, the trappers react to those calls. Over the year, as the trappers have time, they continue to educate the public as to the importance of "skunk proofing" buildings, and the continued possibility of rabies contact.