

# **Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board**

## **2017 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:** Doug Miyamoto, ADMB Co-Chair  
Scott Talbott, ADMB Co-Chair

**DATE:** November 28, 2017

**SUBJECT:** 2017 Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board Annual Report

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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



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**WYOMING  
ANIMAL DAMAGE  
MANAGEMENT  
BOARD**

**Directory**

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**State Director, USDA/Wildlife Services**

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**Sportsmen/Outfitters/Hunters (2)**

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**Urban Representative**

Ron Cunningham  
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**WY Game & Fish Commissioner**

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**WY Board of Agriculture**

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**Ex-officio Nonvoting Members****United States Forest Service Representative**

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**United States Bureau of Land Management Representative**

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## **2017 Major Issue Overview**

### **Predator Management District Funding**

Due to budget reductions by the legislature, and later, Governor agency budget reduction requests, the biennial funding to local predator management districts was reduced from \$6.65 million to \$4 million, resulting in a 30% reduction. In addition, the \$4 million for the current fiscal year budget is \$1.5 million (29%) less than the original funding provided to the ADMB in 2006.

The ADMB and local predator management districts have been working together to manage this reduction in funding. Districts have used nearly all the reserve cash they have and have reduced personnel dedicated to reducing predator depredation in the state. In the last fiscal year, ten contracted personnel positions were eliminated and for the current fiscal year, another 5 positions were eliminated. This is a 30% reduction in positions across the state dedicated to predator management.

### **Gray Wolf Delisting**

With the gray wolf returning to state management at the end of April, management in the “predator” area of the state falls back to predator districts to provide management to Wyoming ranchers. From April until October 1, USDA Wildlife Services had funding through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to handle this predator management work load. Since October 1, there is no more federal assistance so predator districts will have to use their own funding for wolf management. This move puts the districts in a precarious position as their funds are already limited. Returning gray wolves to state management has certainly helped Wyoming ranchers in the “predator” area, allowing them to protect their livestock. They still need help with larger/continuing/chronic problems that they do not have the resources to handle on their own.

## ADMB “Predatory Animal” Educational Trailer

For a number of years, it has been a goal of the ADMB strategic plan to provide an educational component for Wyoming youth and adults on the predatory animals of the state. In 2017, a traveling educational trailer was completed and has been used during Agriculture Expos for the Laramie County and Natrona County School Districts. Plans for 2018 are to expand the events that the trailer exhibit will attend.





## **2017 Overview**

1. **Meetings:** The Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board (ADMB) met four (4) times over the course of the calendar year; January 3, May 9-10, June 6, and November

1. Agendas and meeting minutes are included in this report.

2. **Predator District Funding:** The ADMB received applications from 19 qualifying predator management districts across the state that totaled \$2.75 million. On May 10, the ADMB granted \$2.3 million for those districts.

3. **Projects:** Twelve different research/special project proposals were evaluated by the ADMB, that totaled \$280,490, at their June 6 meeting. The ADMB approved \$157,000 in funding for 7 projects (2 new, 5 renewing multiple year,). The ADMB had \$52,000 in remaining funds and distributed these funds to 3 projects that were presented at the November meeting. 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](http://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.

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 through the Teacher Rendezvous and the Stewardship project curriculum development. In addition, the ADMB developed a predatory animal education trailer that was used at educational events in 2017.

6. **Promotion & Funding:** As part of the promotion of the voluntary Wildlife Damage Management Stamp, the board has changed the printing of the stamp. Because of production costs exceeding the income for a number of years, the ADMB is using an

electronic stamp that can be purchased at the Game and Fish license outlets. Since starting four years ago, income has exceeded expenses.

7. **Public Relations:** Members and staff participated in the Wyoming State Fair, Wyoming Wool Growers summer convention and plan to participate in the Wyoming Stock Growers meeting in late November. Staff also worked with the Wyoming Association of County Predatory Animal Boards for continued board training.

8. **Legislative:** There were not any additions or changes to predatory statutes during this last legislative session. Outside of the ADMB, staff did complete emergency and regular rules for the Gray Wolf Depredation Compensation program and conducted the program.

9. **Information Dissemination:** The ADMB website at <http://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 23, 2018 at the Wyoming Game & Fish Dept. Headquarters in Cheyenne, 5400 Bishop Blvd.
2. Project applications for the June 2018 meeting will be accepted from March 15 to May 15, 2018.

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# ANIMAL DAMAGE MANAGEMENT BOARD

WYOMING

6607 Campstool Road, Cheyenne, WY 82002-0100

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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Wyoming Game & Fish Commission

**FROM:** Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board  
Scott Talbott, Co-Chair  
Doug Miyamoto, Co-Chair

**DATE:** July 25, 2017

**SUBJECT:** Request for Funds

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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, 2017 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 (\$100,000.00) 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 '17-18 ADMB Projects**

### **Standing Projects:**

- 1) Large Carnivore Livestock Depredation Prevention and Control – Funding \$15,000

Synopsis: Funding up to a maximum of \$15,000 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.

- 2) Ferris Mule Deer Coyote Control in Selected Fawning Areas–Funding \$12,000

Synopsis: The purpose of this project is to assist in coyote control in fawning habitats of the Ferris Mule Deer herd (Area 87) in northwestern Carbon County. Submitted by Carbon County Predator Management District.

- 3) Effects of predation on survival of newborn mule deer in the Wyoming Range – Funding \$50,000

Synopsis: This project will quantify the effects of predation on survival of young mule deer, which will 1) identify key regions where predation is a main limiting factor and thus, would benefit from targeted predator control, 2) directly evaluate the effectiveness of targeted coyote control implemented during spring 2017, and 3) understand the role that predators have played in reducing population performance of Wyoming Range mule deer. Submitted by Wyoming Game and Fish Department.

- 4) Coyote Removal to Enhance Stove Gulch Mule Deer Fawn Survival-Funding \$10,000

Synopsis: Remove coyotes in the Stove Gulch area through aerial gunning and ground removal to decrease coyote densities and thereby improving mule deer fawn survival. Submitted by Natrona County Predator Management District.

- 5) Coyote Control Targeted on Mule Deer Fawning grounds to protect SW Big Horn Mule Deer-Funding \$10,000

Synopsis: To provide coyote removal when it is most beneficial to protect mule deer fawns in Deer units 35, 39, and 40. Submitted by Washakie County Predator Management District.

### **New Projects:**

- 6) Fremont County Southern Bighorns Mule Deer Project- Funding \$15,000

Synopsis: Coyote control at critical times for the enhancement of mule deer in mule deer herd unit 208/hunt area 36. Submitted by Fremont County Predator Management District.

7) Effects of coyotes and coyote control on sympatric ungulates in SW Wyoming- Funding \$45,000

Synopsis: This project will quantify the effects of coyote demography, behavior, and space use on survival of young mule deer and elk, which will 1) identify factors influencing coyote predation on neonate mule deer and elk including primary prey abundance, population status, individual status, and parturient female behavior 2) identify key regions where predation is a main limiting factor and thus, would benefit from targeted predator control, 3) characterize what key habitat features may lead to reduced risk of predation, 4) with Wyoming Game and Fish Department, Wildlife Services, and ADMB to understand the effects of targeted coyote removal on neonate survival, and 5) understand the role that predators have played in reducing population performance of GLMA mule deer and the role, if any, they play in elk population dynamics.

*Note:* All projects were approved for G&F Commission funds. These approved projects total \$157,000. If Commission funds are approved, projects will be funded from the \$100,000 provided, in addition to funds from the regular ADMB account.

**The ADMB recommends the following projects for Commission Funds:**

- 1) Large Carnivore- Livestock Depredation and Control, \$5,000 (Total project is \$15,000. ADMB intends to fund the \$10,000 balance.)
- 2) Effects of Predation on Survival of Newborn Mule Deer in the Wyoming Range, \$50,000
- 3) Effects of coyotes and coyote control on sympatric ungulates in SW Wyoming, \$45,000

## **FY '17-18 ADMB Projects - Continued**

### **New Projects Selected at November 1 meeting:**

1) Coyote Control targeted in Mule deer fawning areas in the Wyoming Range Deer Herd – Funding \$15,000

Synopsis: Program of targeted predator control on key fawning ranges when it is most effective for mule deer in the NW part of Hunt Area 135, WY Range mule deer herd unit. Work will be targeted using data from radio collar study.

2) Coyote control targeted on mule deer fawning areas at Cedar Mountain –Funding \$15,000

Synopsis: Program of targeted predator control on key fawning ranges when it is most effective for the benefit of mule deer in the Uinta mule deer herd unit. Work will be targeted using data from the radio collar study.

3) Coyote control to enhance the Bates Hole area Mule Deer Herd – Funding \$22,000

Synopsis: Remove coyotes in the Bates Hole area via aerial gunning and ground removal to decrease coyote population densities and thereby improving mule deer fawn survival.



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# ANIMAL DAMAGE MANAGEMENT BOARD

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## **ADMB Meeting State Game and Fish Headquarters Meeting Room Cheyenne, WY**

### **Agenda**

**Tuesday, January 3, 2017**

- 9:00 a.m. - Call to Order – (Talbott)
  - Introductions of board, guests, & public
  - Additions/Corrections/Approval of Agenda
  - Approval of November 1, 2016 Minutes
- 9:10 a.m. - Update on Wildlife Services and Wolf Management in Wyoming, Mike Foster, Wyoming Wildlife Services Director
- 9:30 a.m. - Report from Ag in the Classroom, Jessie Defoe, Ag in the Classroom Executive Director
- 10:00 a.m. - Break
- 10:15 a.m. - Discussion on Predator District Funding for 2017-2018 Fiscal year, Co-chairs and Kent Drake, WDA Predator Management Coordinator
- 11:45 a.m. - Public Comment
- 12:00 p.m. - Adjourn

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



**ANIMAL DAMAGE MANAGEMENT BOARD MEETING – TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2017**  
**STATE GAME & FISH HEADQUARTERS MEETING ROOM, CHEYENNE, WY**

**Board Members Present:**

Co-Chair Scott Talbott	Co-Chair Doug Miyamoto	Shaun Sims
Kevin Kisicki	Richard Klouda	Bob Philips (via teleconference)
Sy Gilliland	Gene Hardy	Ron Cunningham
Mike Foster	Garret Falkenburg	

**Board Members Absent:**

Bill Taliaferro	Sandy Henning
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**WDA Support Staff:**

Kent Drake	Kelsey Hart	Hank Uhden
Stacia Berry		

**Public Attendees:**

Amy Hendrickson	Jessie Dafoe
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The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Scott Talbott at 9:15 a.m.

Board members were polled for attendance and introduction of new board members was completed. The agenda & minutes were reviewed and approved; Kevin moved, and Gene seconded. Motion carried.

Mike Foster reviewed the Wildlife Services & Wolf Management. Mike introduced Tyler Abbott as Mark Sattleberg's replacement for the U.S Fish and Wildlife Service in Wyoming. Mike discussed the removal of 111 wolves in the 2016 federal fiscal year which was an increase from 53 in 2015 and an increase from 22 in 2014. In 2016, nine out of the 111 wolves removed were in predator zone during the timeframe of July 1, 2016 to present. He explained the new contract with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for \$150,000 used mainly for aerial work for wolf management. The cost for aerial work is approximately \$850/hour for helicopter and \$160-170/hour for fixed wing airplane. The remainder is used for Wildlife Service specialists on the ground. Mike reviewed the savings for county predator boards for the wolf work done paid by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Jessie Dafoe reviewed the Ag in the Classroom report (Grades 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>). They had 60 participants over summer institute which included hands on lessons, interactions with ranchers and surveys on activities. This year they are taking a pause on the summer institute to be frugal and be able to focus on other important topics. The Wyoming Stewardship Project (WYSP) taking precedence this year; Jessie expounded on what the WYSP is- a group of talented educators were invited to participate in the project, developed the standards, created target map of topics for the classroom. WDE is fully supportive of this project and on board to ensure they are meeting the standards. They will be bring back educators and industry participants and debrief this summer and have the standards available this fall. Kent provided his feedback on his experience with the project. Eighteen of the twenty-three counties are represented in this project and are aiming for full participation of all 23 counties. Kent expounded on the predator management trailer that will be put together in the next month to be available at Ag Expos to educate on Wyoming predators.

Scott Talbott requested Mike to give an update on the current status of the Wildlife Service's fatal airplane crash that took place earlier this fall. Mike expounded on the loss of Grant Belden and how Miles Hausner is recovering well as could be expected. As a result to this crash, Wildlife Services fixed aircraft is grounded and will continue to be ground until January 9, 2017 at the earliest. There is talk about restrictions that may be applied on the use of aerial management moving forward for Wildlife Services.

**ANIMAL DAMAGE MANAGEMENT BOARD MEETING – TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2017**  
**STATE GAME & FISH HEADQUARTERS MEETING ROOM, CHEYENNE, WY**

Kent reviewed the Predator District Funding for 2017-2018 fiscal year. Currently there is \$2 million available for the next fiscal year. There will still be the required applications submitted by predator boards due April 1. Co-Chairs Scott Talbott & Doug Miyamoto continued discussion regarding budget cuts and restraints along with legislative response regarding ADMB program.

An in-depth discussion in conjunction to funding with efforts of predator management lead by Co-Chairs and supported by board members on the relevancy of budget restraints while maintaining appropriate efforts of managing coyote management throughout the state. Suggestions of county predator board donations/fundraising options were addressed.

There was discussion on whether to allow teleconference versus meeting in person for predator districts interviewing with the ADMB due to budget concerns. Feedback resulted in the importance of predator districts physically attending ADMB meetings. Co-Chair Talbott urged the importance of predator district members contacting and engaging with their legislative representatives regarding state funding and other concerns.

Co-Chair Doug Miyamoto addressed WDA Agency budget decrease; last year was an approximate 14.8% decrease.

Concern of wildlife moving into city limits was discussed. Co-Chair Talbott explained the nature of these creatures, i.e. deer & antelope and how the threat level is lowered in the city of their predators and in addition, there is an increase in people encouraging these wildlife behaviors by feeding these creatures. There is ongoing research on this matter.

Shaun Sims opened a discussion on the Special District Task force – a governor appointed group charged with reviewing current laws & regulations and possibly drafting bills for reporting requirements which is overflowing to smaller districts - i.e. predator, conservation and weed & pest board districts. There is proposed legislation for this year's legislature regarding requirements such as budgets, board training documentations, board minutes and agendas etc. and if not completed –penalties may apply

The meeting was opened for public comment.

Amy Hendrickson discussed funding for the predator management districts and asked for understanding of funding on the counties side of the funding process as there are some variations of funding resources and varying programs.

Co-Chairs Talbott & Miyamoto presented Richard Klouda a gift to say “thank you & farewell” for serving on the ADMB board for the past 5 years.

Upcoming Meeting dates: **May 9-10** – Regional Game and Fish Office, Casper; **June 6-7** – Location TBD; **November 1**- Location TBD.

Co-Chair Scott Talbott adjourned the meeting at 11:46 a.m.

## ADMB May 9-10, 2017

**May 9: Call to Order 9:00 a.m, Welcome, Interview Process, Approval of last minutes**

Start Time	End Time	Interview	Request
9:30	10:00	Goshen	\$50,000
10:00	10:30	Carbon	\$135,000
10:30	11:00	Weston	\$80,000
11:00	11:30	Albany	\$125,963
11:30	noon	Campbell	\$166,286 rabies \$25,000
noon	1:30	Lunch	
1:30	2:00	Uinta	\$176,867
2:00	2:30	Big Horn	\$193,763
2:30	3:00	Park	\$197,210
3:00	3:30	Crook	\$100,000
3:30	4:00	Sheridan	\$120,201 rabies \$10,000
4:00	4:30	Fremont	\$100,000
4:30	5:00	Public Comment	
Wednesday	May 10		
8:00 a.m.	8:30	Natrona	\$221,920
8:30	9:00	Converse	\$201,739
9:00	9:30	Johnson	\$135,000 rabies \$20,000
9:30	10:00	Hot Springs	\$140,000
10:00	10:30	Niobrara	\$150,000
10:30	11:00	Washakie	\$185,000
11:00	11:30	Sweetwater	\$155,000
11:30	noon	Lincoln	\$200,000
Noon	1:00	Lunch	
1:00	3:00	Discussion	
3:00	3:30	Public Comment and Adjournment	







**Animal Damage Management Board  
Meeting  
Wyoming Game & Fish Regional Office  
Casper, Wyoming  
May 9-10, 2017**

*Board Members Present:*

Co-Chair Doug Miyamoto  
Ron Cunningham  
Shaun Sims  
Bill Taliaferro  
Brad Jost

Co-Chair Scott Talbott  
Gene Hardy  
Sy Gilliland  
Pete Dube  
Kevin Kisicki (5/10/17)

Bob Phillips (5/9/17)  
Garret Falkenburg  
Mike Foster  
Tyler Abbott

*WDA Support Staff:*

Kent Drake

Kelsey Hart

*Guests Present:*

Amy Hendrickson , Rhonda Brandt, Alex Volk, Kyle Lange

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**Tuesday, May 9, 2017**

The meeting was called to order by Co-chair Doug Miyamoto at 9:00 am.

Introductions were made of all the Animal Damage Management Board Members and guests.

Kent Drake gave a brief discussion of the ADMB Educational Trailer that the Department of Agriculture put together. It features life-sized predator mounts which are displayed in a show case for educational purposes to take to Ag Expos and other events around the state.

Co-chair Miyamoto spoke about the Department of Agriculture budget cuts and how it pertains to the Animal Damage Board. He recommended the ADMB board propose \$2.3 million for allocation. Rabies requests were discussed with \$44,500 available for allocation.

Discussion took place regarding the delisting of wolves and the past wolf control program and how this would play out with the county reimbursement in the predator zones. As of today, there are no funds to help counties with reimbursement for expenses for wolf control in the predator zone. Doug M. is working with a joint discussion with Ag Committee to discuss restoring funds for the Wolf Control Program. Doug M. is making continued effort to keep the program.

Bill T. moved to approve the minutes from Jan. 2017 meeting; Shaun S. seconded the motion. Motion carried.

***County Budget Allocation Presentations***

Goshen – Stan Smith; Jim Angle

Goshen County has had a challenging year after losing their trappers, one to retirement and one to a fatal accident. This has caused them to cut back to one trapper. With the decrease of trappers Jim is keeping a very steady amount of request for trapping needs. Stan explained that they are receiving as many or possibly more contracts requests as when there were two trappers. The Goshen County Predator Board is working on the process of having the retired trapper to come on board, part time (up to 200 hours at \$35/hour) to help in the spring and fall seasons (primarily calving season) to assist with the extra requests.

- New Projects: with Game & Fish for predator reduction on habitat communities. Possible assistance with the Turkey Federation. Timeline next spring.

#### Carbon-Luke Spanbauer, Sharon O'Toole, Gary Georgen

Last year Carbon County had a budget of \$100,000 which was completely used with their program. They have reduced their trappers down to two full time and one part time trapper over the past year to reduce costs. They are seeing a rising concern with bird damage & disease. They plan to continue with the Farris project north east of Rawlins. There is rising wolf & black bear activity that are a large concern in the area.

#### Weston- Brad Troftgruben

Weston County has taken actions of reductions by only using fixed wings at peak time or for depredation issues. Their main focus this upcoming year is to maintain a higher cattle count and to keep the coyote density down in the livestock areas. Another program Weston County is working on a community outreach with the 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes on predator management and disease education. They also have a pigeon removal project in the works. In efforts to reduce budget they have reduced their trappers down to one full time and one part time trapper.

#### Campbell-Ted Edwards, Calvin Taylor

Campbell County has reduced down to three trapper and they are sharing rabies control to help reduce expenses. In addition to reducing trappers, they have also cut their aerial program due to lack of funding. They noted it is very effective method in their area but too expensive to utilize at this time. They have previously worked with county and city districts on rabies control in preventative work; however they are unsure if they will have support from the city districts this year. Without full funding they will have to split all the current work and reduce or even cut the preventative work. They currently have a full time bookkeeper who maintains contracts, budget requests, taxes, etc. and is vital to the county.

#### Albany- Don Willis, Joel Modiff

Currently Albany County does not have any active wildlife projects. They have had a large raven problem they have been working on along with cow/calf operations and an increase in wolf activity coming over from the Sierra Madre area along with the North West corner with resident wolves coming from Carbon County. They currently only have one trapper that works the entire county. Joel explained the deficit that he and the ranchers are seeing in the calve and lamb loss due to coyotes and wolves. They do most work from the ground but do utilize helicopter for rougher terrain and major projects but typically stick to fixed wing aircraft.

#### Sweetwater-Bill Taliferro

Sweetwater County has hired helicopter services out of Utah in efforts to find more cost effective ways to keep them in the air. They are working with both sheep and cattle producers. They have 11% of their budget set aside for internal work. Their main focus right now is the concern with ravens and the safety and health as well as to the livestock. There are several food-grade facilities as well as soda-ash plants that are being affected by the ravens and causing a health concern with the potential contaminants from the ravens. They are working with the Weed & Pest as well as Wildlife Services on the raven project.

#### Uinta- Joe Hickey

Uinta County is using a part-time private trapper and two full time trappers. They are continuing with their aerial work however has limited it due to funding. They cut their helicopter completely out and are partnering with Utah to help with aerial control. They covered 80 miles into the county which had increased over the 14 miles they previously covered. There was also discussion regarding their brand inspection fees that they are only charging \$0.50 for cattle being brought in the county that are not residence/staying in Uinta county.

#### Big Horn- Kay Neves, Mike Burrell

Big Horn County eliminated one half time trapper which reduced them to two full time trappers. The majority of their work is on coyotes that are affecting cattle and sheep producers in the area. They have already had confirmed calf losses due to wolves, two years in a row now which seems to be rising. They currently have no pilots in the basin and have reduced their aerial program drastically due to funding. They have made a priority on livestock over crop work. They are also utilizing co-effort work in the basin area from surrounding counties.

#### Park- Shane Smith, Rori Renner, Mike Burrell, Lee Livingston

Park County has reduced their trappers from two full time and one half time trapper down to only two full time trappers. They are seeing a rising concern with the wolf population due to increase of wolves coming from Montana and Yellowstone National Park. They are also seeing a large impact due to coyotes in both the cattle and sheep productions due to the decrease in man and ground time. They have seen a huge loss in lambs this year than the last 5 years combined. The lack of aerial work has contributed to the numbers they are seeing as well. Park County is experiencing an unique scenario based on their geographic area with the predator and trophy boundaries. They are making effort of stopping them at the front line and that is what needs to be done to get a control on the wolves. They are seeing approximately 179 wolf complaints in Park County which is equivalent to one complaint every other day of a calendar year. It is a huge concern and issue for the county.

Sheridan- Cole Benton, Mike Connell, Alan Plummer

Sheridan County has a history with rabies and it is still a continued concern. They currently have a rabies mitigation program and are working with the state vet. Their main concern is controlling and testing the skunk population for rabies. Sheridan County was in support of having the ADMB divide the total allocated amount evenly among all the counties.

Crook- Darla West, Jim Dacar

The Crook County is still seeing the same numbers as previous years with coyotes and pups (12-14 pups). They also are seeing a growing issue with mountain lions in the area. The efforts of their two full time trappers are seeing about 500-700 kills in a given year on average. They have also seen a large loss in number of sheep over the past year.

During a break from county presentations, Mike Foster from the Wildlife Services discussed reducing their aerial aircraft from 5 to 4 planes, mainly due to the reductions in counties having available funds dedicated towards aerial work.

Fremont- Thad Dockery

Fremont County has two full time trappers. They are currently working on wolf trapping on the Lander slope. They as well, are seeing a rise in wolf presence and are trying to be active in controlling them in addition to their regular coyote work and other projects. They are seeing a reduced number of coyote kills due to the reduction of air time. They are putting in an application for a wildlife project focusing on mule deer and coyotes with pre-fawning and predator control. They also have their Bounty Program which allows the community involvement with what they are doing with the predator board. They are also facing concerns with the reservation and their contribution. They are allowing the trappers to trap on the reservation but they are not contributing financially to help

***Public Comment***

Rhonda Brandt from Wyoming State Statisticians presented their satellite data that calculates land use per area by satellite technology.

Meeting adjourned at 4:28 p.m.

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**Wednesday, May 10, 2017**

The meeting was called to order by Co-chair Doug Miyamoto at 8:04 a.m.

Natrona- Mary Owens, Bob Harlan

Natrona County has 3 full time trappers and one bookkeeper. They currently are not doing aerial work except for special projects due to funding. They are looking to continue working with the Game & Fish department on the Stove Gulch program that they have worked on previously. They have money set aside for the Raven control special project program; however the ravens seem to have left so the money for raven control is still available. The aerial work in the county is now up to the landowners due to funding. Landowners have taken the aerial component on without too much concern. However due to the fact their landowners are overseeing aerial predator control, they are uncertain of the count and are unable to validate the numbers accordingly. Kent is going to help communicate the numbers of kills he receives with Natrona County to help monitor more closely.

Converse-Tim Pexton, Jeff Boner, Casey Tillard, Richard Grant

Converse County has gone down to two full time and one half time trapper in efforts to reduce expenses. They currently are not using aerial time due to funding. They had noted they have 41 hours of aerial time with Wildlife Services. The concern of predator control for sheep and cattle producers is their main focus. Converse County is the number one county in the state for sheep producers and third largest cattle producer in the state. They are currently working with private pilots for their aerial program. It has been very effective working with trappers and landowners.

#### Johnson-Pete Camino, Dave Hall

Johnson County is down to two full time and one half time trapper. Depending on the upcoming years funding, they may have to reduce their trappers down to just two full time trappers. They currently are utilizing two season trappers to help with their rabies program. They have a unique situation with their rabies program with trapping on the outskirts of town. They have had 4 positive rabies counts in skunks in Buffalo. Wolf control money was discussed; Doug M. explained it was in the works through Wyoming Department of Agriculture (WDA) to get an exception budget in place for funding on wolf control. The aerial program for Johnson County is very important and effective, especially during breeding season, in Johnson County. They are using private contracts only for their aerial program.

#### Hot Springs-Jack Baird, Mike Burell, Josh Longwell

Hot Springs County is down to two full time trappers. They eliminated their half time trapper position. They are struggling with a balance of rising coyote and wolf work with smaller animal work (i.e. skunks, raccoons, etc.) The wolf population is a big concern in Hot Springs as the county is an intersection of multiple packs between the trophy zones, predator zones and reservation. There are already seeing a rising issue with kills. They are also seeing a concern with the grizzly population in the area as well. There is increasing amounts of damage; and the aerial program is really the only way they can keep a solid control on the predators.

#### Niobrara- Barb Kilmer, Kitson Boldon, John Graham

Niobrara County is working off a very bare-boned budget. They contract all work with private trappers. Their contract workers own all their own equipment so the County predator board only owns radios and a shot gun. They rely on aerial work, which is also contracted with APHIS and private pilots. Last year Niobrara County did their annual aerial deer count and stated they saw very positive results. They are seeing an increase in predators, primarily coyotes due to the neighboring states (South Dakota & Nebraska) as well as the river and Platte County to the South who does not have a predator management program.

#### Washakie- Rolly Redland, Mike Burrell

Washakie County has decreased their trappers by one half time trapper which has left them with two full time trappers. They have done less aerial work over the winter months. They have seen minimal loss in the county with their ground work efforts. They currently have a deer special project they are working on for mule deer fawn protection. They are also continuing will the raccoon projects they have been working on. They are still moving forward with it, however they have had to pull back some on it due to increasing coyote activity that has developed with the lack of aerial work over the winter.

#### Lincoln-Jon Child

Lincoln County is working with one full time trapper that covers the entire county. They do have one half time, seasonal trapper they have contracted with from the county that will be available for the summer months. They are seeing an escalating raven problem; one property has had over 200 ravens alone, among others throughout the county. They are also seeing a rise in wolf concern as well. They have had multiple sightings already in the northern part of the county. Lincoln County has killed 412 coyotes over the winter as well.

#### ***Public Comment***

Co-chair Miyamoto opened the floor to public comment. Two gentleman, Kyle Lange and Alex Volk presented their predator control business. Alex is out of Goshen County and Kyle is from Texas who has a helicopter. They presented the ADMB with options to work with them. There was a lengthy discussion about the concerns that many ADMB members saw with their presentation.

#### ***Discussion of Funding Recommendations***

*Rabies and Skunk Mitigation:*

Kent discussed the previous scenarios on how the budget played out. Kent proposed \$44,450 to allocate. Skunks are the number one cause of rabies in Wyoming and by reducing the skunks, the rabies outcome will be then reduced as well. Kent showed the trends over the past 5 years on rabid skunks in Wyoming. Sheridan County had had a great trend of rabies in skunks over the years. Discussion about why only a select few counties (Sheridan, Johnson & Goshen Counties) have seen rabies counts. As part of discussion, Shaun S. and Tyler A. both raised the concern that Sheridan County did not request enough money (based on other counties rabies funding requests) to fund the concern of rabies and posed the question of whether the board can allocate more to them than what was requested.

Shaun moved the allocation breakdown of Campbell County at \$19,000, Sheridan County at \$10,000 and Johnson County at \$15,450. Sy G. seconded the motion. Shaun requests that if Sheridan County is not providing complete information and reporting as the other counties are, than Sheridan County should be required to provide that information. Motion was carried.

*County Allocation:*

The board discussed the special allocations for wolf control that will take place with the result of delisting. Doug has requested funding (\$200,000) with the Governor to put back some of the money back for wolf monies. There are more wolves now and Wildlife Services and Game & Fish have also put in more time and money in efforts of wolf work.

Bottom line allocation number, there is \$2,190,000 with additional contingent \$110,000 for allocation.

Shaun speaking on behalf of Uinta County that the county needs to rectify predator fee funds they undercharged and hold funding until it's taken care of per eligibility requirements. Doug spoke on this concern as well and he agrees they are in-eligible to receive any funds until this is taken care of.

- Uinta County needs to have this in their board meeting minutes and send a written notice to brand inspector to collect \$1.00 fee as well, they will need to send a notice to Doug M.

Sy moved to reallocate \$20,000 from Crook County to Converse County based on the program and their cash reserve; Pete D. seconded the motion. Motioned was carried.

Mike F. moved to approve Weston County, Goshen County, Carbon County, and Johnson County to be funded fully per the preliminary recommendations noted by Kent on spreadsheet. The motion was seconded by Sy G. Motioned was carried. Bill T. moves to accept the balance of the preliminary recommendations, Sy 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motioned carried.

*Other business:*

Scott T. requested some sort of recognition go to the counties that have done what they were requested with their budgets as it really has helped the ADMB greatly with allocations.

Next meeting is scheduled for June 6, 2017 in Lander, WY at the CWC Outreach Building  
Meeting was adjourned @ 1:33 p.m.





# ANIMAL DAMAGE MANAGEMENT BOARD

6607 Campstool Road, Cheyenne, WY 82002-0100

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## ADMB Meeting CWC Outreach Center Lander, WY

### Agenda

**Tuesday, June 6, 2017**

- 8:00 am - Call to Order – (Miyamoto, Talbott)
- Introductions of board, guests, & public
  - Additions/Corrections/Approval of Agenda
  - Approval of May 9-10, 2017 Minutes
- 8:15 am - Project Final Reports
- \* Mountain Lion Traps – D. Lasseter
  - \* Range Camp Trailer Purchase – Z. Turnbull
  - \* Wyoming livestock predation trends and mitigation survey – J. Scasta
  - \* Laramie Region Bear Trap – R. King
  - \* Coyote Control Targeted on Mule Deer Fawning areas at Cedar Mountain – J. Hickey and J. Short
  - \* Assessing and Reducing Common Raven Impacts on Greater Sage Grouse Nesting Ecology – S. Cornell
- 9:00 am - Project Proposals- Renewals w/Updates (20 minutes each)
- \* Large Carnivore - Livestock Depredation Prevention and Control – S. Edberg
  - \* Effects of predation on survival of newborn mule deer in the Wyoming Range – G. Fralick
  - \* Impact of raven removal and eagle management on sage grouse populations in Wyoming – M. Conover
  - \* Ferris mule deer coyote control in selected fawning areas – Carbon County PMD
  - \* Coyote Control Targeted on Mule Deer Fawning grounds to protect SW Big Horn Mule Deer – C. Schmeltzer
  - \* Natrona County Raven Removal – M. Owens, D. Garrison, B. Olsen
  - \* Coyote Removal to Enhance Stove Gulch Mule Deer Fawn Survival - M. Owens, B. Olsen
- 11:20 a.m. - Project Proposals – New (20 min. each)
- \* Cody Landfill Electric Fence project – D. Lasseter
  - \* Comparison of Avian and Mammalian Predators in Sage Grouse Core and Non-core areas – J. Dinkins, C. Revekant, T. Christiansen
- Noon Break for Lunch

1:20 pm - Project Proposals – New (20 min. each) continued

\* Interactive Effects of Predators, Habitat, and Livestock Presence on Sage-grouse Demography – J. Dinkins

\* Effects of coyotes and coyote control on sympatric ungulates in SW Wyoming – M. Zornes and K. Monteith

\* Fremont County Southern Bighorns Mule Deer Project – T. Dockery

2:20 pm - Break

2:30 pm - Discussion and determination of grant awards

3:00 pm - Public Comment / Board Comment

3:15 pm Adjourn



**ANIMAL DAMAGE MANAGEMENT BOARD MEETING**  
**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6, 2017**  
**CWC, LANDER, WYOMING**

**Board Members Present:**

Co-Chair Doug Miyamoto  
Pete Dube  
Gene Hardy  
Ron Cunningham

Co-Chair Scott Talbott  
Bob Phillips  
Bill Taliaferro

Mike Foster  
Sy Gilliland  
Garret Falkenburg

**WDA Support Staff:**

Kent Drake

Kelsey Hart

**Board Members Absent:**

Tyler Abbott

Shaun Sims  
Sandy Henning

Kevin Kisicki  
Brad Jost

**Public Attendees:**

John Derek Scasta  
Jonathan Dinkins  
Jeff Short  
Brian Olsen  
Claire Revekant

Dusty Lasseter  
Mike Burell  
Dan Thompson  
Bob Harlan

Michael Conover  
Kevin Monteith  
Mark Zorn  
Greg Hiatt

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The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Doug Miyamoto at 8:14 a.m.

Co-chair Miyamoto had ADMB members introduce themselves and the agenda was approved.

Bill Taliaferro moved to approve the May 9-10, 2017 meeting minutes as presented. Ron Cunningham seconded. Motion carried.

A final report was provided by Dusty Lasseter, WY G&F, on the "Mountain Lion traps", "Range Camp trailer", and "Laramie Region Bear Trap."

A final report was provided by Derek Scasta, UW Cooperative Extension Service, on "Wyoming Livestock Predation Trends and Mitigation Survey."

A final report was provided by Jeff Short, WY G&F, on "Coyote Control Targeted on Mule Deer Fawning areas at Cedar Mountain."

A written progress report was provided by Steffen Cornell, Meeteetse Conservation District, on "Assessing and Reducing Raven Impacts on Sage Grouse Nesting Ecology." Jonathan Dinkins commented that the study in the current format is changing going forward and he will provide the new direction during his presentation to be given later in the day.

A progress report was provided by Dusty Lasseter, WY G&F, on "Large Carnivore – Livestock Depredation Prevention and Control." Dusty asked for \$15,000 in continued funding of the project.

A progress report was provided by Kevin Monteith, University of Wyoming, on "Effects of Predation on Survival of Newborn Mule Deer in the Wyoming Range." Due to the impact of the

severe winter the dynamics of this study will change. Kevin requested \$50,000 in continued funding of this project.

A progress report was provided by Dr. Michael Conover, Utah State University, on "Impact of Raven Removal and Eagle Management on Sage grouse Populations in Wyoming." Dr. Conover asked for \$50,000 in continued funding of the project with two changes. First, adding assessing impact of food removal and roost exclusion and second, changing eagle management to badger management.

Greg Hiatt, WY G&F, discussed the continuing project, "Ferris Mule Deer Coyote Control in Selected Fawning Areas." Greg asked for \$12,000 in continued funding of the program through the Carbon County Predator Management District.

Mike Burell, USDA Wildlife Services, on behalf of the Washakie County Predator Management District, provided a progress report on "Coyote Control Targeted on Mule Deer Fawning Grounds to Protect South West Big Horn Mule Deer." Mike asked for \$10,000 for continued funding for this project.

Brian Olsen, WY G&F, and Bob Harlan, Natrona County PMD provided a progress report on "Natrona County Raven Removal." They provided an update that they have a balance left in the current year project and that they would request a one year no cost extension for the project. They also asked for an additional \$15,000 for the next year for this project.

Brian Olsen, WY G&F, and Bob Harlan, Natrona County PMD provided a progress report on "Coyote Removal to Enhance Stove Gulch Mule Deer Fawn Survival." For the upcoming year they have expanded the project area to include some new areas. They are asking for \$10,000 for continuation of the project.

Dusty Lasseter, WY G&F, provided a presentation on a new project, "Cody Landfill Electric Fence project." He requested \$ 14,430 for the new project.

Jonathan Dinkins and Claire Revekant, Oregon State University, provided a presentation for a new project, "Comparison of Avian and Mammalian Predators in Sage Grouse Core and Non-Core Areas." They requested \$25,000 in funding for the project.

Kevin Monteith , University of Wyoming, and Mark Zorn, WY G&F, provided a presentation for a new project, "Effects of coyotes and coyote control on sympatric ungulates in SW Wyoming." They requested \$45,000 in funding for the project.

The ADMB took a break for lunch at 12:10 p.m. and then reconvened at 1:17 p.m.

Tracy Frye and Dave Fowler, USDA Wildlife Services, on behalf of the Fremont County Predator Management Board, provided a presentation for a new project, "Fremont County Southern Bighorns Mule Deer Project." They requested \$15,000 in funding for the project.

Jonathan Dinkins also provided a presentation for a new project, "Interactive Effects of Predators, Habitat, and Livestock Presence on Sage-grouse Demography." He requested \$50,000 in funding for the project.

The board discussed the projects with \$209,000 in funding available to be awarded. There is \$304,000 in requests which balanced out to \$95,000 in cuts that would have to be made.

Kent Drake requested the board to approve a one (1) year, no cost extension on Natrona County's raven project monies. Motion was moved by Pete Dube and seconded by Garrett Falkenburg. Motion was approved and carried.

The ADMB Committee discussed the project requests.

Bill Taliaferro moved the Park County Landfill project to be dropped. Ron seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Bill Taliaferro also moved the new raven removal project in Natrona County to be dropped. Gene seconded the motion. Motion was carried.

Mike Foster moved to fully fund the first seven WG&F recommendations on the list. These requests equal \$157,000. Ron Cunningham seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Sy Gilliland moved to keep the remaining amount of available funds (\$52,000) in the ADMB account to allow an availability of funds for other application requests. Ron Cunningham seconded the motion. The \$52,000 would be then opened up for another set of application requests for special projects to be submitted by and selected at the November 1, 2017 ADMB meeting. Motion was carried.

Co-Chair Talbott opened the floor for other board comments. There were no other comments.

Co-Chair Talbott opened the room for public comment. There were no public comments.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:14pm.





# ANIMAL DAMAGE MANAGEMENT BOARD

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## ADMB Meeting Teleconference

Call in Number – 877-278-2734 PIN Number 811882

### Agenda

#### Wednesday, November 1, 2017

- 9:00 am - Call to Order – (Miyamoto, Talbott)
- Introductions of board, guests, & public
  - Additions/Corrections/Approval of Agenda
  - Approval of June 6, 2017 Minutes
- 9:15 am - Set price for Wildlife Damage Management Stamp
- 9:20 am - Project Proposals (10 minutes each)
- \* Continental Divide Pronghorn Antelope/Mule Deer Project – T. Frye
  - \* Coyote control targeted on mule deer fawning areas Wyoming Range Deer Herd – J. Child, J. Short
  - \* Coyote Removal to Enhance Bates Hole Mule Deer Fawn Survival - M. Owens, B. Olsen
  - \* Coyote control targeted on mule deer fawning areas at Cedar Mountain – J. Hickey, J. Short
- 10:00 am - Discussion and determination of grant awards
- 10:15 am - Set 2018 meeting dates
- 10:20 am - Public Comment / Board Comment
- 10:30 am - Adjourn



**ANIMAL DAMAGE MANAGEMENT BOARD MEETING**  
**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2017**  
**TELECONFERENCE**

**Board Members Present:**

Co-Chair Doug Miyamoto  
Pete Dube  
Gene Hardy  
Shaun Sims

Co-Chair Scott Talbott  
Bob Phillips  
Garret Falkenburg  
Kevin Kisicki

Mike Foster  
Ron Cunningham  
Tyler Abbott  
Bob Harlan

**Board Members Absent:**

Sy Gilliland

Sandy Underhill

Brad Jost

**WDA Support Staff:**

Kent Drake  
Hank Uhden

Kelsey Hart

Stacia Berry

**Public Attendees:**

Jeff Short  
Brian Olsen  
Mary Owens  
Richard Johnson

Justin Binfet  
Jon Childs  
Scott Becker

Joe Hickey  
Amy Hendrickson  
Tracy Frye

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The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Doug Miyamoto at 9:03 a.m.

Co-chair Miyamoto started with introductions of all who were attending.

Co-chair Miyamoto asked for the board members to review agenda. No changes or additions were made. Pete Dube moved to approve the agenda. Ron Cunningham seconded the motion. Motion was carried.

Ron Cunningham moved to approved the minutes. Pete Dube seconded the motion. Motion was carried.

Open discussion took place regarding setting the price of the Animal Management Damage Stamp at \$10.00. Tyler Abbott asked for explanation of the purpose of this stamp. Kent Drake explained the statutory purpose of the stamp and ADMB's partnership with Wyoming Game and Fish. This stamp helps to pay down the debt that ADMB owes towards the Wyoming Game and Fish for their work done in the partnership with ADMB. Gene Hardy moved to keep the fee for the stamp at \$10.00 for 2018. Pete Dube seconded the motion. Motion was carried.

**Project proposals:**

**Pronghorn/Mule Deer Continental Divide Project- Tracy Frye**

Tracy Fry explained their plan to run helicopter to control coyotes during fawning. Their request for this project is \$25,000 for the year for helicopter work. Gene Hardy asked the cost per hour. Tracy stated it was \$850/hour = approximately 29 flight hours (based out of Worland). Scott Talbott added that this project does not meet the policy of the Game and Fish predator control policy.

**Wyoming Range Mule Deer Herd- Jeff Short**

Jeff Short shared that the population of mule deer were down due to extreme winter last year. However, they still fall under the 65/100 ratio requirement for the Game and Fish predator control policy. They will be working on coyote control in the fawning season in the areas to help increase the mule deer population. They've also studied the area and know the best areas to target. For this project, they are requesting \$15,000.

**Bates Hole Mule Deer Fawn Survival – Mary Owens, Brian Olsen & Justin Binfets**

With this project, they have seen a loss of 10/44 deer (adult female does) which equates to about a 70% survival rate. This project falls under Department predator control policy. They are requesting \$25,000.

**Cedar Mountain- Mule Deer Fawning- Jeff Short**

The Cedar Mountain Mule Deer project has seen a drop in the fawn/doe threshold- also meets policy for Department's funding requirements. Jeff explained how they have been utilizing the GPS radio collar study to identify key areas of predation/fawning. They are requesting \$15,000. This project is an ongoing project which started about 8 years ago.

**Discussion of Grant Awards:**

Scott Talbott began a discussion explaining the Wyoming Game and Fish priority rankings of each of these projects:

- Wyoming Range Mule Deer Project- Priority for WG&F- extensive mule deer research in Wyoming Range, predator element added to the research about 1 year ago. - \$15,000
- Cedar Mountain- Long term WG&F project and priority of following up with this priority. - \$15,000
- Bates Hole – priority of partial funding to move forward in future. -\$22,000.

Doug Miyamoto restated that we have remaining \$52,000 to award today. Discussion was opened for awarding.

Bob Harlan moved to grant the remaining funding as described by Scott Talbott's discussion. Pete Dube seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Next meeting dates:

- **January 23, 2018** at the Cheyenne Wyoming Game and Fish office ,
- **May 8-9, 2018** at the Casper Wyoming Game and Fish office,
- **June 5-6, 2018** in Sheridan, location TBD,
- **November 1, 2018** via teleconference.

Co-Chair Doug Miyamoto opened for public comment. No comments presented.

There was not any new business for the board to address.  
Floor was open for other discussion. No discussion presented.

Co-Chair Doug Miyamoto entertained a motioned to adjourn. Shaun Sims moved the motion. Pete Dube seconded. Motion was carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:58 a.m..



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PREDATOR MANAGEMENT 1501	BUDGETED		EXPENDED		PERCENT OPTIMUM		NOTES
	FY 17 - 18		YTD	ENCUMBERED	BALANCE	EXPENDED 62.50%	
<i>PERSONAL SERVICES</i>	<i>100.00</i>	\$199,454	\$122,037		\$77,417	61.19%	(\$6,136 supplemental reduction)
<i>SUPPORTIVE SERVICES</i>	<i>200.00</i>						
Equipment Repairs & Mmc	202.00	749	0		749	0.00%	
Utilities	203.00	840	1,240		(400)	147.62%	
Freight and Postage	204.00	1,750	852		898	48.70%	
Employee Development	207.00	1,750	0		1,750	0.00%	
Advertising	208.00	0	95		(95)		
Travel In State	221.00	7,500	4,124		3,376	54.99%	
Travel Out of State	222.00	4,625	0		4,625	0.00%	
Permanently Assigned Vehicles	223.00	19,500	9,604		9,896	49.25%	
Office Supplies/Printing	231.00	8,000	3,243		4,757	40.54%	
Vehicle Supplies	233.00	0	1,910				
Educational Supplies	236.00	0	750		(750)		
Other Repair Supplies	239.00	3,000	123		2,877	4.09%	
Equipment Rental	252.00	1,000	368		632	36.80%	
<i>200 SERIES TOTAL</i>		\$48,714	\$22,309	\$0	\$28,315	45.80%	
<i>DATA PROCESSING</i>	<i>400.00</i>						
Telecommunications A&I	420.00	734	536		198	73.08%	
<i>400 SERIES TOTAL</i>		\$734	\$536	\$0	\$198	73.08%	
<i>GRANTS &amp; AID PYMTS</i>	<i>600.00</i>						
Grants	626.00	4,306,217	4,220,000		86,217	98.00%	(\$918,651 supplemental reduction)
<i>600 SERIES TOTAL</i>		\$4,306,217	\$4,220,000	\$0	\$86,217	98.00%	
<b>PREDATOR MANAGEMENT TOTAL</b>		<b>\$4,555,119</b>	<b>\$4,364,882</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$190,237</b>	<b>95.82%</b>	

		YTD Transfers	
General Funds	4,555,119	4,364,882	96%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$4,555,119</b>	<b>\$4,364,882</b>	<b>96%</b>

DISCUSSION ITEMS

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ANIMAL DAMAGE MGMT 0317	BUDGETED		EXPENDED		PERCENT OPTIMUM		NOTES
	FY 17 - 18		YTD	ENCUMBERED	BALANCE	EXPENDED 62.50%	
<b>Fund 047</b>							
<i>SUPPORTIVE SERVICES 200.00</i>							
Equipment Repairs & Mtn	202.00	0	0		0		
Utilities	203.00	0	0		0		
Freight & Postage	204.00	600	0		600	0.08%	
Board Travel In State	228.00	4,725	6,567		(1,842)	138.98%	
Supplies/Printing	231.00	1,424	1		1,423	0.07%	
Equipment Rental	252.00	150	0		150	0.00%	
<i>200 SERIES TOTAL</i>		<i>\$6,899</i>	<i>\$6,568</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$331</i>	<i>95.20%</i>	
<i>RESTRICTIVE SERVICES 300.00</i>							
Cost Allocation	301.00	72	0		72	0.00%	
<i>300 SERIES TOTAL</i>		<i>\$72</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$72</i>	<i>0.00%</i>	
<i>DATA PROCESSING 400.00</i>							
Telecommunications - A&I	420.00	0	0		0		
<i>400 SERIES TOTAL</i>		<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>		
<i>GRANTS &amp; AID PYMTS 600.00</i>							
Grants	626.00	530,830	352,752	16,082	161,996	69.48%	
UW Grants & Aid Payments	667.00	0	0		0		
<i>600 SERIES TOTAL</i>		<i>\$530,830</i>	<i>\$352,752</i>	<i>\$16,082</i>	<i>\$161,996</i>	<i>69.48%</i>	
<i>CONTRACTUAL SRVS. 900.00</i>							
Professional/Consulting Fees	901.00	25,000	0	5,000	20,000	20.00%	
<i>900 SERIES TOTAL</i>		<i>\$25,000</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$5,000</i>	<i>\$20,000</i>	<i>20.00%</i>	
<b>ANIMAL DAMAGE MGMT 0 TOTAL</b>		<b>\$562,801</b>	<b>\$359,320</b>	<b>\$21,082</b>	<b>\$182,399</b>	<b>67.59%</b>	

		YTD Revenue	YTD %
General Funds	244,301	356,311.96	146%
Other Funds			
Livestock Brand Fee-5353	0	#DIV/0!	
Wildlife Damage Stamp-2634	0	#DIV/0!	
Landowner Coupons-6204	8,500	3,008	35%
Predator Boards - 6301	0	#DIV/0!	
Game & Fish - 5040	200,000		0%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$452,801</b>	<b>\$359,320</b>	<b>79%</b>

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**  
 Reduced by 288,948 to account for revenues not collected  
  
 When will be receiving the G&F funding

Cash Balance 446,280.44

ADMB - RABIES 0313	BUDGETED		EXPENDED		PERCENT OPTIMUM		NOTES
	FY 17 - 18		YTD	ENCUMBERED	BALANCE	EXPENDED 62.50%	
<i>SUPPORTIVE SERVICES 200.00</i>							
Equipment Rep & Minc	202.00	0	0		0		
Utilities	203.00	0	0		0		
Freight & Postage	204.00	100	0		100	0.00%	
Supplies/Printing	231.00	0	0		0		
Equipment Rental	252.00	0	0		0		
<b>200 SERIES TOTAL</b>		<b>\$100</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$100</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	
<i>Grants and Aid Payments 600.00</i>							
Grants	626.00	121,455	90,007	13,943	17,505	85.59%	
<b>0600 SERIES TOTAL</b>		<b>\$121,455</b>	<b>\$90,007</b>	<b>\$13,943</b>	<b>\$17,505</b>	<b>85.59%</b>	
<i>CONTRACTUAL SERVICES 900.00</i>							
Professional/Consulting Fees	901.00	0	0		0		
<b>0900 SERIES TOTAL</b>		<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>		
<b>ADMB - RABIES 03.13</b>		<b>\$121,555</b>	<b>\$90,007</b>	<b>\$13,943</b>	<b>\$17,605</b>	<b>85.52%</b>	

		YTD Revenue	YTD %
General funds	121,555	103,950	86%
	0	0	
	<b>\$121,555</b>	<b>\$103,950</b>	<b>86%</b>

DISCUSSION ITEMS

RODENT & PREDATOR 0315	BUDGETED		EXPENDED		PERCENT OPTIMUM		NOTES
	FY 17 - 18		YTD	ENCUMBERED	BALANCE	EXPENDED 62.50%	
<i>PERSONAL SERVICES</i>	100.00	\$0	\$0		\$0		
<i>SUPPORTIVE SERVICES</i>	200.00						
Equipment Rep & Mtn	202.00	0	0		0		
Utilities	203.00	0	0		0		
Freight & Postage	204.00	50	4		46	7.80%	
Employee Develop & Training	207.00	0	0		0		
Miscellaneous	210.00	0	0		0		
Travel In State	221.00	0	0		0		
Travel Out of State	222.00	0	0		0		
Supplies/Printing	231.00	690	602		88	87.27%	
Medical/Lab Supplies	235.00	0	0		0		
Other Repair Supplies	239.00	0	0		0		
Equipment Rental	252.00	0	0		0		
<b>200 SERIES TOTAL</b>		<b>\$740</b>	<b>\$606</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$134</b>	<b>81.90%</b>	
<i>DATA PROCESSING</i>	400.00						
Telecommunications - A&I	420.00	0	0		0		
<b>400 SERIES TOTAL</b>		<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>		
<i>GRANTS &amp; AID PYMTS</i>	600.00						
Grant Payments	626.00	0	0		0		
<b>600 SERIES TOTAL</b>		<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>		
<i>NON-OPERATING EXP</i>	800.00						
Purchases for Resale	801.00	360	0		360	0.00%	
<b>800 SERIES TOTAL</b>		<b>\$360</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$360</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	
<i>CONTRACTUAL SRVS.</i>	900.00						
Professional/Consulting Fees	901.00	0	0		0		
<b>900 SERIES TOTAL</b>		<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>		
<b>RODENT &amp; PREDATOR 031: TOTAL</b>		<b>\$1,100</b>	<b>\$606</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$494</b>	<b>55.10%</b>	

81.90% excluding 600 and 800 series expenditures

	YTD Revenue	YTD %
General Funds	0	0 0%
Other Funds		
Rodent Control - Sales 5421	1,100	482 44%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,100</b>	<b>\$606 55%</b>

DISCUSSION ITEMS  
 Reduced budget by 32,281 for sales funding

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# WYOMING GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

5400 Bishop Blvd. Cheyenne, WY 82006

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

wgfd.wyo.gov

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MIKE SCHMID

October 23, 2017

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board

FROM: Meredith Wood, Chief Fiscal Officer

COPY TO: Scott Talbott, Director; File

SUBJECT: Animal Damage Management Board Annual Report

In accordance with W.S. 11-6-305 (a) and 23-3-105(b), the following information regarding wildlife damage management stamp and landowner coupon designations to the ADMB for fiscal year (FY) 2017 is being provided.

Landowner coupons designated and transferred to ADMB	\$ 2,608.00
Wildlife damage management stamp	
Sales deposited 7/1/2016 through 6/30/2017	\$ 652.00
(License agent reports through 6/30/2017)	
Costs of program administration	
Management stamp:	
Printing	\$ 0.00
Administrative time	\$ 433.72 (7 hours)
Total administrative costs for FY 2017	<u>(\$ 433.72)</u>
FY17 collections over expenditures	\$ 218.28
Deficit collections previous years	(\$2,561.67)
Amount due to be transferred to ADMB for FY2017	= <u><u>\$ 0.00</u></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. Total deficit to date exceeds collections and therefore, no funds will be transferred this year.

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

MW





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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 emergency 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.

(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.
- (b) The application must be received by the ADMB prior to April 1.
- (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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 14, 2016

**WYOMING ANIMAL DAMAGE MANAGEMENT BOARD (WyADMB)  
STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN  
2016-2021**

**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 depredating animals; feral animals, predatory animals, rabid wildlife; predacious birds; and protect human health and safety.

<b>STRATEGY 1.1.1: (W.S. 11-6-304(b)(i): Entertain requests for assistance to allow mitigation of animal damage.</b>			
<b><i>ACTION</i></b>	<b><i>RESPONSIBILITY</i></b>	<b><i>DATE TO COMPLETE</i></b>	<b><i>DATE COMPLETED</i></b>
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	
<b>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 depredating animals to livestock, agricultural crops, wildlife, property and human health and safety.</b>			
<b><i>ACTION</i></b>	<b><i>RESPONSIBILITY</i></b>	<b><i>DATE TO COMPLETE</i></b>	<b><i>DATE COMPLETED</i></b>
1. Complete an Annual Report to be presented to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Governor</li> <li>➤ Agriculture, Appropriations, Travel, Recreation and Wildlife legislative committees</li> <li>➤ Formal presentation to Wyoming Game and Fish Commission</li> </ul>	1. ADMB co-chairman	1. 11/30 each year 1. Annually 1. Annually	

<p>3. Rabies Management Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Review the Rabies Management Plan (REFERENCE RABIES MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR ACTION ITEMS)</li> </ul> <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><b>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.</b></p>			
<p><b><i>ACTION</i></b></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><b><i>DATE COMPLETED</i></b></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.

<b>STRATEGY 2.1.1: (W.S. 11-6-304(b)(i): Entertain requests for assistance to allow mitigation of animal damage.</b>			
<b>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.</b>			
<b>ACTION</b>	<b>RESPONSIBILITY</b>	<b>DATE TO COMPLETE</b>	<b>DATE COMPLETED</b>
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	
<b>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.</b>			
<b>ACTION</b>	<b>RESPONSIBILITY</b>	<b>DATE TO COMPLETE</b>	<b>DATE COMPLETED</b>
1. Project proposals. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Requests submitted annually</li> <li>➤ Wildlife projects will be reviewed by G&amp;F and approved by the Commission.</li> </ul>	1. ADMB	1. Annually	
2. 1501 budget monies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Requests submitted annually</li> </ul>	2. ADMB	2. Annually	

<b>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.</b>			
<b><i>ACTION</i></b>	<b><i>RESPONSIBILITY</i></b>	<b><i>DATE TO COMPLETE</i></b>	<b><i>DATE COMPLETED</i></b>
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.	
<b>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.</b>			
<b><i>ACTION</i></b>	<b><i>RESPONSIBILITY</i></b>	<b><i>DATE TO COMPLETE</i></b>	<b><i>DATE COMPLETED</i></b>
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.**

<b>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.</b>			
<b><i>ACTION</i></b>	<b><i>RESPONSIBILITY</i></b>	<b><i>DATE TO COMPLETE</i></b>	<b><i>DATE COMPLETED</i></b>
1. Review and amend MOUs as needed. 2. Explore options for grants and/or pass through funds. 3. Complete projects and assure that they are measurable and accountable through the proposal and reporting process.	1. ADMB 2. ADMB 3. ADMB	1. As needed 2. On-going 3. On-going and as projects are submitted and being implemented	
<b>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.</b>			
<b><i>ACTION</i></b>	<b><i>RESPONSIBILITY</i></b>	<b><i>DATE TO COMPLETE</i></b>	<b><i>DATE COMPLETED</i></b>
1. ADMB will maintain a relationship with the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission. 2. ADMB will submit a letter of request for funding to the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission. 3. ADMB will assure Game and Fish federal aid criteria are maintained through WGFD review of submitted projects.	1. ADMB 2. ADMB 3. G&F	1. On-going 2. By 8/1 of year before funding is to be expended. 3. 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).**

<b><i>ACTION</i></b>	<b><i>RESPONSIBILITY</i></b>	<b><i>DATE TO COMPLETE</i></b>	<b><i>DATE COMPLETED</i></b>
<p>1. WILDLIFE DAMAGE MANAGEMENT STAMP Program</p> <p>2. LANDOWNER COUPON Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Board will continue to work with landowners to gain support of program. (REFERENCE MARKETING STRATEGY 4.1.1.)</li> </ul> <p>3. VOLUNTARY BRAND INSPECTION Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Board will continue to work to secure funding and generate revenue. (REFERENCE MARKETING STRATEGY 4.1.1.)</li> </ul> <p>4. GRANTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Search for grants that are applicable to program and apply.</li> </ul> <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.**

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

**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.**

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

**GOAL 6: Develop and implement legislative strategies.**

**OJECTIVE 6.1**

**W.S. 11-6-313**

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

<b>STRATEGY 6.1.1: (W.S. 11-6-301 – 11-6-313)</b>	<b>ACTION</b>	<b>RESPONSIBILITY</b>	<b>DATE TO COMPLETE</b>	<b>DATE COMPLETED</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Continue a strategy to ensure program continuation.</li> <li>2. Continue to develop and utilize performance measures for program.</li> <li>3. Identify and include citizen groups, county boards, predator districts, legislators and stakeholders to support the ADMB program.</li> <li>4. Increase visibility efforts</li> <li>5. Re-evaluate the statutes and programs to be included in legislation.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Voluntary sources</li> <li>➤ Annual Report</li> </ul> </li> <li>6. Maintain an open dialogue with the Governor</li> <li>7. Develop economic benefits analysis of program to State of Wyoming</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. ADMB</li> <li>2. ADMB</li> <li>3. ADMB</li> <li>4. ADMB</li> <li>5. ADMB</li> <li>6. ADMB</li> <li>7. ADMB</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. On-going</li> <li>2. On-going</li> <li>3. On-going</li> <li>4. On-going</li> <li>5. On-going</li> <li>6. On-going</li> <li>7. Completed and will update when necessary.</li> </ol>		



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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, \$2.3 million has been awarded to the nineteen qualified districts in the past year. In 2017, the ADMB received \$2.75 million in requests from these 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 may be done by the district and most often, in conjunction with the Wyoming Game and Fish Department.

Western Wyoming Predator Management Districts are concerned with increasing livestock and wildlife predation from bears and wolves and are concerned with predation from ravens and other avian predators on sage grouse and their livestock. Five years of control measures on ravens has also lowered predation on livestock, along with other benefits to the citizens and businesses in Southwest Wyoming.

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 amount distributed to them for the current fiscal year.

**Predator Management Program Allocations**

<b>Grantees</b>	<b>Date Approved</b>	<b>Board Approved</b>
Albany County PMD	May 10 2017	\$100,000.00
Big Horn County PMD	May 10 2017	\$125,000.00
Campbell County PMD	May 10, 2017	\$145,000.00
Carbon County PMD	May 10, 2017	\$135,000.00
Converse County PMD	May 10, 2017	\$185,000.00
Crook County PMD	May 10, 2017	\$80,000.00
Fremont County PMD	May 10, 2017	\$60,000.00
Goshen County PMD	May 10, 2017	\$50,000.00
Hot Springs County PMD	May 10, 2017	\$125,000.00
Johnson County PMD	May 10, 2017	\$135,000.00
Lincoln County PMD	May 10, 2017	\$160,000.00
Natrona County PMD	May 10, 2017	\$200,000.00
Niobrara County PMD	May 10, 2017	\$130,000.00
Park County PMD	May 10, 2017	\$125,000.00
Sheridan County PMD	May 10, 2017	\$70,000.00
Sweetwater County PMD	May 10, 2017	\$120,000.00
Uinta County PMD	May 10, 2017	\$150,000.00
Washakie County PMD	May 10 2017	\$125,000.00
Weston County PMD	May 10, 2017	\$80,000.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,300,000.00</b>

By July 1, 2017, 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 and wildlife related management efforts.



**Albany County Predator Management District**

P.O. Box 2454

Laramie, WY 82073

# **Annual Report**

## **2016 - 2017**

### **Mission Statement**

The mission of the Albany County Predator Management District (ACPM) is to protect the livestock and wildlife interest in Albany County from predation by implementation of sound management Practices with in Albany County

#### **Board Members**

##### **President**

**Roger Newkirk**  
**307-378-2544**

##### **Vice Presedent**

**Don Willis**  
**307-322-4715**

##### **Secretary / Treasurer**

**David Kalco**  
**307-761-0063**

##### **Members**

**Todd Heward**  
**307-356-4612**

**Ryan Willson**  
**307-761-1522**

**Eric Anderson**  
**307-760-4448**



**Ryon Alexander**  
**307-760-9727**

**Cody Schlager**  
**307-760-5982**

**Todd Schlager**  
**307-760-0151**

**Trapper**  
**Joel Modey**  
**307-761-0126**

Albany County has one full time trapper working with wildlife services in Albany County for a total of 1726 hours worked in 2016 -2017.

A total of 103 hours of fixed wing aerial hunting hours were spent with 314 coyotes taken

In 2016 – 2017 our trapper provided 519 days visited 49 different cooperators, serving 885, 829 acres of agriculture lands. This also included 120 acres of Forest Service 4920 BLM acres and 40,917 acres of State Lands.



Albany County Predator Management District has maintained a good working relationship with all the livestock producers

for the 2016 – 2017 year. There was a total of \$7565.00 of livestock dollars lost, due to predation, 10 calves, 24 adult sheep, and 16 lambs, coyotes accounted for 7 calves, 3 adult sheep, and 5 lambs The common raven was to blame for 3 calves and 10 lambs, the red fox took 1 lamb, and the grey wolf he took 21 adult sheep.

The Albany county trapper offers a service, to the concerned citizens of the City of Laramie and smaller municipalities that lay with in the boundaries of Albany County. By using live traps and other trapping methods to catch potentially harmful animals, 38 Skunks, 11 Raccoons, 1 porcupine, 2 pelicans, 36 ravens, and 4 beaver.

ACPMD had the Wyoming State Vet Lab test 5 Skunks for the rabies virus with no positive results in the 2016 – 2017 work year, since 2006 we with WS to continually test and monitor haven't had a positive test come back.



have worked rabies, we identified, surfaced

However a new strain has been coming out of Nebraska that has with new concerns,

Aphis has removed the funding for the program. Co-operation with local municipalities for the removal of skunks, raccoons, porcupines, feral cats, and rogue dogs, etc. for removal and/or disposal.

testing

Monitoring of livestock will be easily attained as we have been doing that in the past. We monitor the loss of livestock and also the number of predators taken. As for the monitoring of the wildlife numbers, Albany County Predator Management District will work with the associations, departments, and companies, as to the time, methods, and costs of monitoring that needs to be done to measure the effects that predator control has on wildlife populations.

# Big Horn County Predator Management District

PO Box 613  
Greybull,  
Wyoming  
82426



## Board Members

### President

Randall Jones, Otto, Wy.

### Vice President

Terry Mueller, Shell, Wy.

### Secretary/Treasurer

Kay Neves, Hyattville, Wy.

Kay Neves, Emblem, Wy.

Carl Nielsen, Hyattville, Wy.

Nancy Joyce, Manderson,  
Wy.

Keith Hamilton, Hyattville,  
Wy.

Mike Patton, Greybull, Wy.

### WS Specialists

Brandon O'Brien, Full-time

Matt Hotovec, Full-time

The Big Horn County Predator Management District contracts with the United States Department of Agriculture, Wildlife Services (WS) to respond and resolve wildlife damage issues throughout Big Horn County.

Two full-time and one half-time WS trappers are assigned to Big Horn County. During this year, the half time WS employee moved to a full-time elsewhere in the state. The decision was made to not refill the position due to funding shortfalls. Bighorn County also received assistance from 9 other WS employees (pilots, additional trappers, and biologists). In the time frame from March 1st, 2016-February 28th, 2017 (the most recent 365 day period to generate activity data), the total hours worked in Big Horn County was 3776 man hours on 62 different properties totaling 2,290,353 acres.

In Big Horn County, 120 hours were flown by fixed-wing during the reporting period. Aerial hours were much lower than normal due to the aircraft accident in December.



***The table below is a report of animals taken during the reporting period, in response to conflicts with livestock, wildlife, property, nuisance, or human health and safety.***

- American Crow: 1,568
- Badger: 2
- Coyotes: 361
- Coyote Dens: 14
- Mountain Lion: 1
- Raccoons: 111
- Red Fox: 37
- Red Fox Dens: 8
- Striped Skunk: 18



## Big Horn County focuses on protecting 4 categories of resources from wildlife damage: 1) Livestock 2) Crop and Other Property 3) Wildlife, and 4) Human Health and Safety



**Livestock:** There was \$3,827 dollars in calf and sheep damage verified by WS in Big Horn County, including a wolf-killed calf in the Bighorn Mountains. Other predators that caused livestock damage include coyotes, free-range dogs, mountain lions, red fox, and raccoons,

- WS responded 2 times to reported wolf depredations within Bighorn County
- WS made 1,461 visits to protect livestock (cattle, sheep, horses, and goats) from coyotes.
- WS made 499 visits to protect livestock from red fox.
- WS responded 65 times to raven/crow/blackbird damage to lambs and cattle.



**Crop and General Property:** Corn, Irrigation systems, Buildings, Poultry, Landscape and Gardens would be some of the resources that fall under this category.

- WS responded 20 times to crop damage. Damaged was caused by raccoons, striped skunks, and porcupines.
- WS responded 177 times to protect irrigation/ditch systems from badgers, beavers, and raccoons.
- WS made 13 visits to protect buildings, both residential and non-residential from raccoons and porcupines.
- WS made 40 visits to protect poultry from coyotes, raccoons, red fox, and skunks.



### Wildlife:

Big Horn WS spent 60 hours in helping capturing sage grouse for the Meeteetse Conservation District and their new sage grouse/raven interaction research project.

WS responded 17 times to gamebird protection from red fox, skunks, and coyotes.

When 2.5 employees were available, it allowed WS to spend more time removing smaller mammals that predate on gamebirds. Over 1,000 raccoons were removed in the ag-lands of Big Horn County in the last two years, as well as hundreds of skunks and other egg-eating predators.



**Human Health and Safety:** Big Horn County offers a large inventory of live traps to trap and remove potentially diseased mammals, including raccoons and skunks.

- During this reporting period, 5 skunks, 3 red fox, 13 coyotes, 3 American crow, and 42 waterfowl samples were submitted for disease testing, including canine distemper, west-nile virus, echinococcosis, leptospirosis, plague, tularemia, avian influenza, and/or rabies.
- WS has been requested to reduce blackbird/crow/raven infestations in and around livestock operations throughout Big Horn County. These bird species directly impact livestock, livestock feed and, even more serious, create a major health risk as they can transmit diseases to livestock such as coccidiosis, transmissible enteritis virus (TGE), and tuberculosis. Humans exposed to the feces of these bird species are also at risk of histoplasmosis and salmonella.



## District Management Plan 2017-2018

Big Horn County Predator Management District's goal for 2017-2018 is to provide a professional wildlife damage management service through USDA's WS. The priorities and mission is to continue protecting the 4 resources outlined in this report.

1) **Livestock:** Through effective coyote removal, livestock depredations have been minimal. Overall, coyote numbers are up and the need to maintain a strong removal program is crucial. Wolf presence in the county is real and we may be facing some wolf issues this upcoming season, as well as black bear and mountain lion. We would like to continue working on crow and raven infestations where they have caused damage to cattle and lamb mortalities.

2) **Crop and General Property:** There has been a reduction in raccoon take this past reporting season, which has been a combination of effective removal and distemper that swept through the population. Corvid (crow and raven) numbers continue to be a big problem in parts of the county. We plan on using a combination of crow traps, DRC-1339, and shooting to alleviate bird problems. With our recent staff reduction, we've decided to reduce the amount of time spent on protecting these resources due to time constraints.

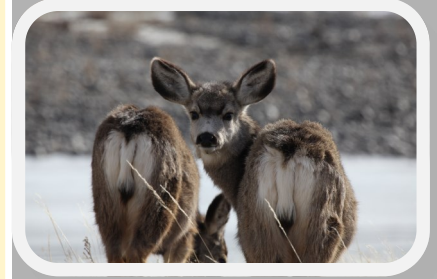
3) **Wildlife:** Big Horn County's involvement in assisting with sage grouse capture is done this year.



While there is no doubt the amount of predator removal county-wide directly benefits local wildlife populations, there is interest in the near future to identify a predator/wildlife project within the county where measures of success could be measured.

**Human Health and Safety:** With some disease outbreaks in recent years, we plan on taking samples from captured animals county-wide in 2017-18.

We strive to continue learning the most effective, efficient way to resolve corvid and blackbird disease threats to livestock and humans in the county with today's most updated science. The amount of funding available will determine how much bird work we will be able to conduct this upcoming year.



**Year End Report**  
**Campbell County Predatory Board**  
**June 30, 2017**

The Campbell County Predatory Board has been actively working to provide predator control for the benefit of livestock producers and wildlife populations. Along with the predator control we are also very proactive in the control of skunks in the city of Gillette and surrounding rural areas.

We have attached our financial report for the fiscal year of July 2016 – June 2017. Due to budget cuts last year we lost one of our trappers in the end of August. Since then our three trappers which take turns now taking care of the skunk issues for the city and surrounding area have been very busy. For the last year, our three contract trappers have spent over 8042 hours in the field while covering 1,380,356 acres in Campbell County. Our trappers worked with 118 individual landowner agreements over the year as they provided predator control. We budgeted \$35,000.00 all for fixed wing aerial time. We were able to utilize our flying time as much as budget permitted. As of the end of March, (we have not received the next quarter bill yet), we spent \$28,499.43 for fixed wing aerial. The number of animals that were harvested using aerial hunting was 318 coyotes. Aerial hunting is very beneficial with predator control in our county.

All three of our predator control trappers continue to be very beneficial in Campbell County. Calvin Taylor mostly works with livestock producers in the Northern part of Campbell County while Duke Campbell and Kory Study work directly with livestock producers in the Southern part. The North and South areas of Campbell County are very different. The Northern part of the county is primarily cattle producers. Calvin has been very successful in getting new ranchers to sign agreements with us. The Northern part is also a more rugged terrain so more aerial is needed in that area, wildlife population is affected more in this area as well. The southern part of the county is comprised mainly of sheep producers so Duke and Kory deal more with problem coyotes. The Southern part of the county is flatter and has better vehicle access, yet aerial is best when getting problem coyotes in the area. All of our trappers are very good at responding to trouble calls from our ranchers. Our trappers responded to 225 trouble calls where the calls were regarding problem coyotes that have caused livestock losses.

All of our trappers are very knowledgeable and are very precise when it comes to gathering information. The board has asked the trappers to continue recording GPS locations of traps,

snare and actual harvest location of the coyotes. The board has split the county into 6 regions. The trappers document their harvest per region for control purposes. Docking numbers on sheep seem to be at the same percentage than last year. Per the sheep producers report, shipping numbers are good and profitable. Even though coyote numbers are still steady, he has been working to keep the problem coyotes down. More coyotes seem to be moving into the southern half of the county and seem to be coming from the east. We don't know if that means that the counties to the east of us is having trouble controlling predators, possible lack of man power in these counties is the probable cause. All three trappers have been very successful in obtaining mine access for predator control. The trappers also had to attend MSHA training to access mine property.

Our three trappers have harvested 1029 coyotes, 162 fox, 4 bobcats, 7 raccoons, 12 badgers, 7 badgers, and 1 mountain lion. These numbers are down from last year but we are down a trapper, so man power is shorter.

Our Rabies program consists of all three of our trappers as they take turns with the position and answering calls from the public. They all deal with the skunk/human public safety issues and testing for rabies in "questionable" animals. Campbell County continues to deal with skunks coming into the city limits since there are so many small rural plots close to town. The trappers do an excellent job in the control of skunks in the city and surrounding rural areas. They have answered over 120 trouble call from the citizens. As of the end of June, they have harvested 360 skunks. The Board has been still been working with the County Commissioners and the City Council to reach an agreeable amount that would help the board continue their proactive stand with the nuisance/rabies program position. Unfortunately, like all organizations we continue to lose funding from the City. In years past when we have not had the funding to continue our present control, the number of skunks has almost doubled and we are working hard to prevent this from happening. Duke and bookkeeper, Kenda Ford has attended many County Commissioners meeting and City Council meetings and both boards are very pleased with our past proactive Rabies program. The County Commissioners are able to continue funding us but with some small cuts, yet the city continues to want the help from the board but not fund it. We still have not heard what their final budget is for the upcoming fiscal year. The Animal Control department does not want to handle the skunk control trouble calls, so they are trying to work with the board whenever they can so we can maintain our program. We have only needed to test 6 "questionable animals for rabies and fortunately they have all come back negative. The financial statement that is attached shows a net loss of **\$ -2,624.08**. We received \$150,000.00 from ADMB grant; we utilized that money to pay for trappers and part of the aerial which as totaled \$216,232.61. The expenses for the Rabies program are \$46,190.87. As you can see we are utilizing 100% of the Grant money and Rabies money that we are receiving. The income on the financial sheet from the City and County includes money that we



received during this fiscal year but it actual was accrued expenses for 2015-2016 budget year. This year as of date we received \$22,000 from the County and only \$7000 from the city, plus the grant money of \$16,735.00. The remaining money needed for our operation comes from our Livestock Predatory fees and from our reserves.

We are continuing as planned for the upcoming fiscal year. The Campbell County Predatory Board has been very diligent in trying to maintain a good faith effort to minimize our budget each and every year. With the help of the ADMB board the Campbell County Predatory Board has a very strong predator effective control program.



CARBON COUNTY

PREDATOR MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MANAGEMENT, ACTIONS, RESULTS

Our mission: to maintain a consistent level of predator control through a cooperative agreement with USDA/APHIS/WS' (Wildlife Services) and cooperate with game management entities with predator removal for the betterment of wildlife species in Carbon County.

Before ADMB was established, we had only two specialists. In the beginning, we were asked what our "pie in the sky" desires would be, and we suggested adding one full and one part time employee to cover wildlife projects. ADMB generously fulfilled that wish, and we began building the tremendous program we have now. We feel a very productive relationship with the Wyoming Game and Fish and other cooperators has been built.

This past year, funding cuts mandated our mission to be handled differently. We lost one full time specialists—Troy Aleshire. Fortunately, Wildlife Services was able to find another position for him as a gunner in the plane based in Rock Springs. Unfortunately, the move required we pay his first quarter salary, benefits and expenses until the move could be complete. This depleted some of our carryover funds. Our board felt the loss of Troy very deeply, as he had brought a wealth of knowledge and trapping expertise to our county for the past 9 years.

In order to retain the other two full and one part time specialists, our board made the decision to use what was left of our carryover funds to keep them on our payroll. Unfortunately, our specialists have become more reactive, as opposed to proactive as they have been the past. The board sees the necessity of this action, but realizes our program may not be as strong going forward. Our remaining specialists scramble to cover the area previously handled by Troy, while trying to keep up with their own duties.

In 2018, we will complete our 7th Wildlife Project. However, we will be forced to analyze future wildlife programs with the specialists' workloads in mind. Understandably, a peak time for both wildlife and livestock protection is lambing/calving time. We are in hopes that we will be able to continue helping with these special projects, even if we must lower the amount of hours that we can provide.



Picture by Beverly Braig

Board Members:

Cattlemen

- Josh Peterson
J Stratton
Lathern Withers
John Hansen

Sheepmen

- Sharon O'Toole
Scott Kerbs

Sportsmen

- Robin Blake
Garry Goergen
Larry Kmoch

At Large

- John Strand

Secretary

- Charlene Abbott

WILDLIFE SPECIALISTS

- \* Tracy Villwok
\* Luke Spanbauer
\* Dan Braig, PT
\* Rod Merrell, Super.

## WOLVES COME TO CARBON COUNTY

Picture by Dan Braig,  
WS' Specialist



Manager of Buzzard Ranch shot the first wolf in Carbon County after the delisting.

A major problem has “reared its ugly head” in Carbon County, as we are sure it has in many other counties. In March, wolves invaded the Ferris, Seminoe and Shirley Mountains in northern Carbon County. Before the delisting, three grays were observed feeding on calves at the Bar V Ranch and 3 cows were verified as wolf kill on the Cardwell Ranch. Rick Jones verified a single wolf track on the Korkow Ranch. To date, we have verified kills of 8 cows, 16 sheep and 4 walking wounded cows and one seriously injured dog. One of our specialists spent over 109 hours and 1,032 miles tracking the offending animals before another joined in the hunt.

Many of these hours were spent before the delisting, which meant the bill was paid by the US Fish and Wildlife. Upon delisting, the burden now falls to our local board.

**CARBON COUNTY PREDATOR  
MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**

814 Illinois St  
Rawlins, WY 82301  
307-324-3161

Second wolf killed in Carbon County after the delisting.

This invasion is of great concern to wildlife in the area, as the Wyoming Game and Fish have transplanted big horn sheep into the Ferris Mountains.

Shown in both pictures is the manager of the Buzzard Ranch in northern Carbon County, with his two separate kills in the past month. As per protocol, both wolves were presented to WGF within 10 days along with a GPS reading of the kill site. Another producer witnessed a pair of wolves breeding and made the decision not to kill at that moment. He believed it would be more effective to remove the whole pack by tracking them back to their den.

At this time, telemetry tracking collars are being discussed. A wolf would be trapped, tranquilized, collared and released. Hopefully it would lead us to the pack. This action will require searching for independent financing.

Our major focus of control may very well be the wolf this year. As we lost one full time and cut the hours of our part time specialist, it may greatly change our normal day-to-day operations.



Picture by Dan Braig, WS' Specialist

## FERRIS MOUNTAIN MULE DEER PROJECT



Picture Courtesy of WS'

We have completed the second of a three year project in conjunction with Wyoming Wildlife Services and Wyoming Game and Fish. Thus far, results have been promising.

Greg Hiatt, WGF biologist, states, " the Ferris Mountain-Seminole big horn sheep crop looks good this year, and the deer numbers are better than they have been since 1985. Due to improved fawn production and survival last year, the current estimate of the Ferris mule deer herd is 2,500. This is due to increased precipitation, vegetative response to fires and predator control. Fawn production rose to a record 92:100, exceeding the previous record of 91:100 recorded in 1985. Despite improved production, the mule deer herd is still more than 30% below objective.

The 2016 estimate for the Ferris-Seminole bighorn sheep

herd was 130, but that was made prior to the last transplant in February, so we should be closer to 150 now. Lamb production was excellent in 2016, in both the Seminoe and Ferris portions of this herd. With good production and the additional transplant of 22 more sheep into the Ferris Mountains in February of 2017, this herd is estimat-

ed to be ~50% below objective. A third transplant of bighorn sheep into the Ferris Mountains is proposed for 2018. Both deer and bighorn hunting licenses were increased."

From July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017, 12 aerial operations logged a total of 62.5 hours, with 203.3 man-hours. They removed 118 coyotes. ADMB donated \$12,000 (\$10,020 aerial costs and \$1,980 administrative support fee) to this special project. The CCPMD paid \$4,165 for ground crew time. Since our budget was cut, WS" picked up the extra expense of the gunner and hazardous duty pay. The Wyoming Game and Fish will furnish 64 man and 10 helicopter hours for a total of \$10,120 for the project before the end of the year when they make their yearly report.



Picture Courtesy of WS'

## 2017 FACTS AND FIGURES

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



BLM lands	1,549,825
US Forest Service Lands	61,800
Unassigned Property	229
County or City Land	800
Private Lands	1,215,182
<u>State Lands</u>	<u>87,274</u>
Total acres	2,914,881

The following animals were removed by our 3 WS' specialists, aided by 6 pilots, gunners, biologists and other WS' personnel with a total of 3,765 hours on 88 of our 92 active cooperative agreements. As of 6/15/17, we have used 174.9 aerial fixed wing hours and no helicopter time.

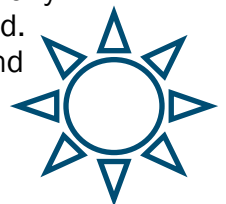
Badgers	21	Beaver	21	Bobcats	1
Feral Cats	5	Coyote Dens	2	Coyotes	700
Crows	74	Red Fox Den	2	Red Fox	105
Magpies	24	Muskrats	2	Porcupines	2
Raccoon	41	Raven	64	Skunk	66

Verified (not all reported losses are verified) losses include:

Forestry	\$1,450	by beavers & porcupines
Pen Raised Pheasant	\$ 903	by bobcats & foxes
Cattle	\$9,716	by wolves & coyotes
Chickens	\$ 7	by foxes
Sheep	\$1,158	by black bear, ravens & coyotes
Range - Flooding	\$1,333	by beavers
Mule Deer	\$1,647	by coyotes
Property	\$ 325	by badgers - digging/burrowing
Structures	\$ 451	by skunks, woodchucks & beavers
Landfills	\$2,000	by red foxes

Ravens remain a BIG concern to area producers, energy companies and municipalities throughout our entire county. Our specialists spend many hours battling this predator, as they cause damage to wildlife, livestock, solar panels and machinery. Wyoming Rents called for help when an enormous expense was incurred when ravens pecked control boxes on their large cranes. In response, ravens were hung from several machines in effigy. A bird farm in Saratoga had major problems with foxes which demanded a great deal of time and effort. We continue to serve municipalities dealing with skunks, pelicans, raccoons, pigeons, badgers and coyotes.

With a long stretch of very bad weather this year, our specialists spent time accomplishing many required trainings. All three specialists were present for the annual Ag Exo sponsored by the Carbon County Extension Service and Carbon County Stockgrowers. The program invited 182 fourth graders and all home schooled students from the surrounding area to learn about the many facets of Agriculture and why it is so important to Carbon County, Wyoming and the world. In July of 2017, our entire board will be given a training as required by the legislature and newly appointed committee on Special District boards.



# CONVERSE COUNTY PREDATOR MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

## 2017-2018 MANAGEMENT PLAN ADDENDUM

The Converse County Predator Management District's (CCPMD) mission will be to manage all predators and nuisance animals that adversely affect our wildlife, livestock, and human health and safety, to the extent that funds allow. ,

Converse County suffered a 53% cut in fiscal year 2016-2017 from fiscal year 2015-2016, third highest cut of all counties! As a result we went from three full time trappers to two full time trappers and we renegotiated our payment structure with our private pilot. Being the largest sheep producing county in the state our trappers are stretched very thin traveling more miles and working more hours with no increase in pay. We have continued our bounty system for coyotes and fox which we fund from predator assessment fees collected during brand inspections. Our bounty is a very modest amount accounting for a small percentage of our overall budget. A majority of our predator fees go to funding our aerial hunting program.

For the 2017-2018 fiscal year CCPMD will plan to employ two full time and one part time trapper. We will contract with WS for the use of their airplane, gunner, and pilot for up to 41 hours. With the increased use of our private pilots and reduction in state funding, we haven't had the funding to use the WS plane as much, but we do need to have it available for hunting on Federal lands and in the event of breakdowns. The WS plane along with our private trappers ground crewing are a very effective way to target problem coyotes. The CCPMD Board (the Board) will be asking the ADMB for funds for this expense as well as for the salaries of the trappers.

The trappers are contract workers and answer directly to the Board with detailed monthly reports. They account for every predator taken, where and methods used. The trappers are required to have landowner permission and do not work on that land without notification. Ears from the predators taken are presented and counted at CCPMD's monthly meetings.

Converse County is split by the North Platte River. The bulk of the county's area lies north of the river and is generally less steep and with little timber. The vast majority of the county's sheep herds are in this area as well as antelope and sage grouse habitat. For trappers, it is a huge area to cover effectively.

Our personnel, trapping and snaring as well as working with the airplanes are extremely effective and are taking care of problem coyotes that have become educated and are very difficult to find. They also address other problem animals like beaver, skunks, and raccoons that require ground time to target. Our trappers along with the private aircraft have been instrumental in the success we had in last two years. Their contracts are reviewed annually and will be renegotiated in June before the start of the fiscal year. In the event we do not receive the requested funding and the shortfall is too much to take from

our savings we will need to make some hard decisions regarding salaries and/or number of employees.

We have seen a severe decline in cattle prices over the last two years and a down trend in lamb prices. At a time like this, it is imperative to keep predation to a minimum. The reduction in losses to predation last year was very impressive and we would like to keep the momentum going.

Livestock producers are not the only ones to reap the benefits of predator management. Hunters and outfitters have noticed a rise in the number of Mule Deer. With drought and disease taking its toll on Converse County's wildlife, we feel it is imperative to keep predation to a minimum.

With the increased use of aircraft, both from WS and private entities, many coyotes have become extremely "aircraft wary" and virtually impossible to take by aircraft alone. While we have always realized that ground crew working with the aircraft is absolutely essential, we have also concluded that a good trapper can get the coyotes that the aircraft cannot. Generally these coyotes are the ones doing the damage to sheep. Folks on the ground are also the only way to take care of dens.

The Board will continue to work with city and county officials to control skunks and raccoons. Crow and raven numbers continue to increase with reports of damages to baby calves and other nesting birds including Sage Grouse. Since poisoning these birds is only authorized for WS personnel, we will be monitoring the situation closely to further decide if and when to ask for their assistance.



# Crook County Predatory Animal District Annual Report 2016-2017



June 2016  
PO Box 344

Hulett WY 82720

## Executive Summary

# Crook County Management Plan

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

*The Mission of the Crook County Predator Management District (CC PMD) is to provide predator control for the benefit of livestock producers and wildlife populations within Crook County.*

### **Summary:**

- The Crook County Predatory Management District Board (CC PMD) has worked with **Wildlife Services** (APHIS) to supply **two full time trappers** since 2009 when the Wyoming Department of Agriculture (WDA) first implemented its grant program.
- **Two additional contract trappers are used**; one year around for hunting by air, the other an on-the-ground trapper. Both report directly to the Board.
- Our trappers work with cooperative agreements between land owner/operators and Wildlife Services or cooperative agreements.
- Moving into 2017 -2018 fiscal year, the Board has prepared a budget with the overall concept of continuing the contract with APHIS.
- Currently, APHIS reports 125 actively served cooperative agreements for Crook County. Landowner that are less than 5 years old in their signing.
- In 2016-2017 WS worked directly with 95 of these landowner/operators to take 468 predatory animals.
- Take numbers, despite APHIS aerial hunting being grounded for several key months this fiscal year increased from 2014-2015's total of 370 predators.
- **July 1, 2016 to present**, 95 of those landowner/operators have been served with 1041 person-day visits recorded.
- Contracted trappers have worked with an additional 46 owner/operators aerially and 35 landowners/operators on the ground; resulting in 343 takes since July 1 2016.
- Crook County is located in the northeast corner of the state, bordered by South Dakota and Montana, with a land mass of just over 2800 square miles.



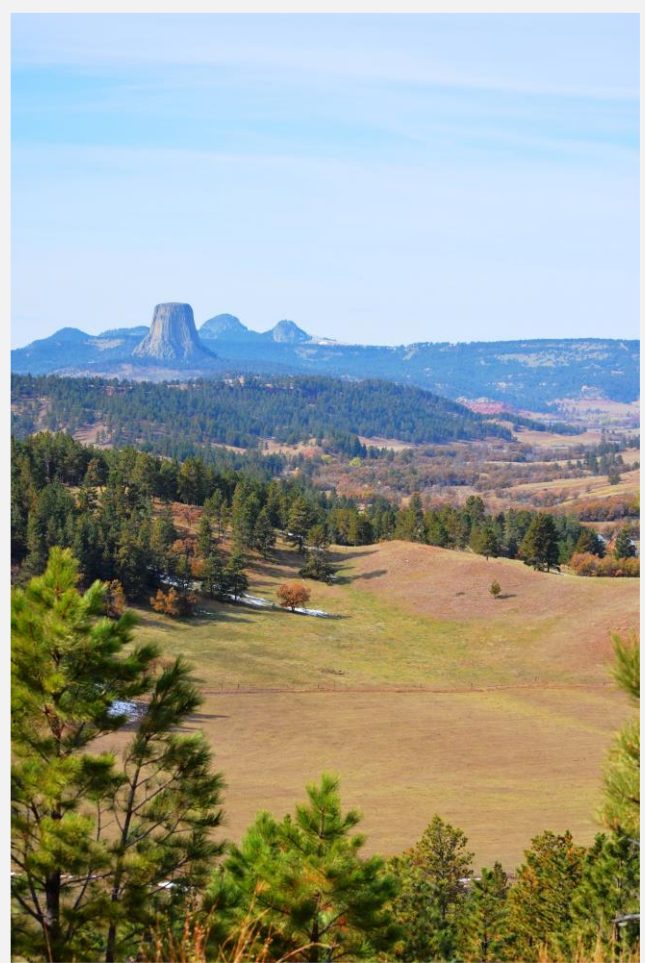
**Three issues continue to be targets for the CC PMD; wildlife issues, livestock issues; human health and safety issues. All three can be linked together when it comes to economic viability, our environment, and sustainability the communities in which we serve.**

Crook County has had a predatory management program since the mid 1940's. Since the inception of the granting process with Wyoming Department of Agriculture 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 & objectives against outcomes and identify future target areas.

Positive working relationships with Wildlife Services and with WY Game and Fish Department are crucial to on-going efforts of the County Predator Management Board.

The current contract/ grant system with the Wyoming Department of Agriculture has allowed additional man hours; help with quantitative/ quality reports for identifying issues and measuring successes. The program has allowed testing for diseases to address health and human safety. Program benefits help the local board to meet their objectives and serve our communities.



**BOARD MEMBERS:**

President:  
**Jim Dacar**  
307-896-6274

Vice President:  
**John Moline**  
307.896.9135

Treasurer:  
**JW Nuckolls**  
307.467.5590

**Dennis Williams**  
307.756.9350

**Larry Fowlkes**  
467-5596

**Dan Redding**  
281-2943

**Mike Dirks**  
467-5929

**Mike Smith**  
307.290-0241

**Dallas Rolf**  
290-1920

**Mike Idler**  
307.283-4303

Secretary:  
Darla West  
307.467.5609

The Predator Board is comprised of three representatives for sheep, three for cattle, three are appointed sportsmen by County Commissioners, and one representative is appointed as "at large. Terms are staggered and three year appointments.

The Board of Directors holds meetings at least three times annually. These meetings include, but are not limited to: Public Meeting for financials and approval of budget in July, prior to the third Thursday as is required by State Statutes. The Board meets in December for their annual election of officers, usually the second week of the month.

The Board also meets in March to establish a budget for the next fiscal year, establish parameters for grant application should they deem necessary.

Other meetings are called periodically to handle special programs, any concerns that arrive and relative program administrative duties.

All meetings are open to the public.

Income to operate the predator management program in Crook County comes from fees assessed from every sale of cattle and sheep in our County. The Livestock Board collects these fees at a rate of \$1.00 per head. Crook County averages between \$50,000 to \$56,000 annually collected from the livestock producers in which the program serves.

The second source of income comes from a grant process through the Wyoming Department of Agriculture. Funds brought into the County through this Legislative course have been as high as \$150,000. The 2016-2017 fiscal year brought \$85,000. The program, as is, would not be possible without these funds.

Additional income is derived from interest on savings and occasional pelt sales.

## FREMONT COUNTY SAGE GROUSE/MULE DEER PROJECT

In the summer of 2005, the Fremont County Predator Animal Board applied for funding for a sage grouse and mule deer project through the Animal Damage Management Board. The available funding was for grouse projects only and we were only partially funded. This funding allowed us to buy the equipment we would need (trail cameras) and do a preliminary mule deer count. We were fully funded in 2006. The goal of the project has been 3-fold:

To identify which predators/animals depredate sage grouse nests. This has been accomplished using infrared motion sensing trail cameras on artificial sage grouse nests.

Measure, if possible, the differences in nesting success of sage grouse in areas of low predator control verses areas with intense predator control.

To enhance a struggling mule deer population.

The project has been conducted in Wyoming Game and Fish deer hunt area 90. The Kirby creek portion of Wind River Indian Reservation was also included. USDA Wildlife Services (WS) and Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD) personnel selected this area because it contained excellent habitat and viable populations of sage grouse. This area was also an excellent choice as the Gas Hills Highway (Wyoming State 136) provides an almost identical split of the area letting us have both “treatment” and “control” portions of the project area. The treatment area simply means that this area received intense predator control and the control area limited predator control. This area of central Wyoming consists of mostly sagebrush covered rolling hills. Although the area seems relatively “desert like” at first glance, it contains abundant water, cover and food for an array of animals. It is a very popular big game hunting area for elk, deer and antelope. It is approximately 80% BLM with private ranches, reservation and state land accounting for the remaining 20%.

### **Sage grouse-**

Considerable interest has developed in recent years regarding the biology of sage grouse. Because of a proposal to list a T&E species, the sage grouse has been the focus of considerable concern, debate and speculation in regards to habitat, predation and the future of healthy populations. Many studies have been done in regard to habitat manipulation, effects of controlled burns, sagebrush height and density and chaining. Little has been done on the effects of predation and its effects on sage grouse populations. Some argue that predation has little effect on grouse populations while others argue that predation is the main factor in the decline.

As mentioned above, the first part of the project was to use infrared, motion sensing trail cameras on artificial sage grouse nests to determine predation on eggs. Care was taken to model the artificial nests after actual grouse nests. Studies have shown that most sage grouse nest within 3 miles of the spring lek locations. This was not a problem as there was even distribution of leks in the project area. Gentle sloping sagebrush draws with adequate sage canopy, distribution and heights were selected. Most nest sites contained active grouse "sign". Sage grouse prefer 6-10" of grass in front of nesting sites. Whenever possible, these were the areas/conditions we set up our nest sites in. Nests were created using small, brown chicken eggs. Each cam was stationed at a nest site for a week and then rotated to a different site. Each cam was placed at 4 different nest sites, giving us a total of 40 different nest sites. The cameras were checked twice weekly for activity, picture downloading and maintenance during the entire month of May. The results and findings are as follows:

#### *2006-*

Of the 40 artificial nest sites, 13 were raided/predated. 4 of these 13 sites had re-occurring damage, giving us 17 actual damaged nests (42.5%).

The species responsible were as follows:

Common raven – 3 damaged nests (17.6%)

Magpie – 11 damaged nests (64.7%)

Red fox – 2 damaged nests (11.8%)

Other (wild horse) – 1 damaged nest (5.9%)

#### *2007-*

Of the 40 artificial nest sites, 18 were raided/predated. 5 of these had re-occurring damage, giving us 23 actual damaged nests (57.5%).

The species responsible were as follows:

Common raven – 14 damaged nests (61%)

Magpie – 6 damaged nests (26.1%)

Coyote – 1 damaged nest (4.3%)

Red fox – 1 damaged nest (4.3%)

Other (domestic cow) – 1 damaged nest (4.3%)

#### *2008-*

Of the 40 artificial nest sites, 14 were raided/depredated. 3 of these had re-occurring damage, giving us 17 actual damaged nests (42.5%).

The species responsible were as follows:

Common raven – 15 damaged nests (88.2%)

Magpie – 1 damaged nest (5.9%)

Red fox – 1 damaged nest (5.9%)

2009-

Of the 40 artificial nest sites, 7 were raided/depredated (17.5%).

\*Due to inclement weather (late spring blizzard), trail cams were under snow for approximately half of the time frame.

The species responsible were as follows:

Common raven – 7 damaged nests (100%)

2010-

Of the 40 artificial nest sites, 20 were raided/depredated. 7 of these had re-occurring damage, giving us 27 actual damaged nests (67.5%).

The species responsible were as follows:

Common raven - 21 damaged nests (77.6%)

Magpie – 2 damaged nests (7.4%)

Coyote – 3 damaged nests (11%)

Badger – 1 damaged nest (4%)

2011-

Of the 40 artificial nest sites, 16 were raided/depredated. 2 of these had re-occurring damage, giving us 18 actual damaged nests (45%).

The species responsible were as follows:

Common raven - 14 damaged nests (77%)

Magpie - 1 damaged nests (6%)

Coyote - 3 damaged nests (17%)

2012-

Of the 40 artificial nest sites, 26 were raided/depredated. 4 of these had re-occurring damage, giving us 30 actual damaged nests (75%).

The species responsible were as follows:

Common raven - 21 damaged nests (69%)

Magpie - 2 damaged nests (7%)

Coyote - 2 damaged nests (7%)

Striped skunk - 3 damaged nests (10%)

Unverified - 2 damaged nests (7%)

2013-

Of the 40 artificial nest sites, 7 were raided/depredated (17.5%).

The species responsible were as follows:

Common raven - 5 damaged nests (71%)  
Magpie - 1 damaged nest (14.5%)  
Coyote - 1 damaged nest (14.5%)

*2014-*

Of the 40 artificial nest sites, 6 were raided/depredated (15%)

The species responsible were as follows:

Common raven - 4 damaged nests (67%)  
Skunk - 1 damaged nest (16.5%)  
Unverified - 1 damaged nest (16.5%)

*2015-*

Of the 40 artificial nest sites, 11 were depredated (27.5%)

The species responsible were as follows:

Common raven - 6 damaged nests (55%)  
Red fox - 2 damaged nests (18%)  
Unverified - 3 damaged nests (27%)

*2016-*

To be determined May/June 2016

Over the course of our project (excluding 2016 which does not yet have data available) of 400 artificial nest sites, 157 of them had damage/predation, which is equivalent to 39%. The breakdown of species over the same time frame shows that the common raven damaged the most nests with 110 (70%). Magpies damaged 24 nests (15%). Coyotes damaged 10 nests (6%). Red foxes damaged 6 nests (4%) and the "other/unverified" category had 8 damaged nests (5%).

It is of interest that in 2013, WS started a raven control program at landfills in several Wyoming counties. Fremont County was one of them. Starting in that same year, raven predation on the artificial nests dropped fairly significantly.

The second part of the proposed project was to determine whether intense predator control (mammalian) could enhance sage grouse nesting success. Given the opportunity to study the species and related percentages of damage on artificial nest sites, it is obvious to see that the most abundant predator in the project area, the coyote, is taking a relative low numbers of nests. Given the fact that there has been a much higher coyote population



in the “control” area, coyotes should have had ample opportunity to raid/damage the nest sites. This information makes the second part of our project somewhat “moot” as there simply is not enough data to make any type of comparison. Coyotes may very well be taking a percentage of chick and adult grouse in the area as our coyote stomach analysis shows, but that objective is not part of this project. One thing that has been observed during the project is coyote tracks around nests after they have been raided by birds. It is quite possible that with the high raven population, the birds simply beat other animals to the nests.

### **Mule deer-**

WGFD deer area 90 has been struggling to increase deer numbers to department objectives. The harsh winters of 1991 and 1992 decimated populations of big game animals in central Wyoming. It is our belief that when a population of big game animals is down and predator numbers are high, it becomes extremely hard for that population to rebound. Whereas, if a big game population is high and predator numbers are high, predation has a smaller impact on herd populations. This part of the project has been to try and reduce predation on deer in the “treatment” portion of the project area allowing doe/fawn ratios to rise enough to rebound the population. WS personnel have done yearly (late December/early January) aerial deer counts in the “treatment” (southern) portion of the project area. In December 2005, we did our first population survey prior to any control work. 232 total mule deer were counted. After this first deer count, it became clear that although the fixed wing would provide an excellent and accurate count of deer in the area, trying to separate fawns and yearling does from adult does would be an extremely time consuming and probably an inaccurate task. It was decided that we would count total number of deer. This system has allowed us to be much more effective.

#### *2006-*

289 field hours were worked  
69.8 aerials hunting hours were flown  
323 coyotes removed  
316 mule deer aerial surveyed

#### *2007-*

381 field hours worked  
74.8 aerial hunting hours flown  
374 coyotes removed  
489 mule deer aerial surveyed

#### *2008-*

347 field hours worked  
87.6 aerial hunting hours flown  
410 coyotes removed  
598 mule deer aerial surveyed

*2009-*

178 field hours worked  
61.9 aerial hours flown  
239 coyotes removed  
652 mule deer aerial surveyed

*2010-*

316 field hours worked  
60.2 aerial hours flown  
171 coyotes removed  
518 mule deer counted

*2011-*

350 field hours worked  
78 aerial hours flown  
131 coyotes removed  
366 mule deer surveyed

*2012-*

326 field hours worked  
84 aerial hours flown  
149 coyotes removed  
508 mule deer surveyed

*2013-*

354 field hours worked  
82 aerial hours flown  
193 coyotes removed  
356 mule deer surveyed

*2014-*

319 field hours worked  
82 aerial hours flown  
101 coyotes removed  
318 mule deer surveyed

*2015-*

394 field hours worked  
87 aerial hours flown  
194 coyotes removed  
588 mule deer surveyed

2016-

Data pending year end results

A look at the totals from 10 years of work on the mule deer project shows the following:

3,254 field hours worked.

767.3 aerial hunting hours flown.

2,285 coyotes removed.

Averaging the deer population over the life of the project, the number comes to 523 animals.

\*Special thanks to Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board, Wyoming Game and Fish Dept. and USDA Wildlife Services personnel for assisting in this project.

\*\*Pictures and data from this project are available on Power Point. I will be available to give presentations to any interested parties.

Tracy Frye  
USDA Wildlife Services  
Riverton, WY



# **Goshen County Predatory Management District**

## **Annual Report**

**FY 2016-2017**



### **GCPMD Board Members:**

Brodie Mackey – President (Sheep)  
Gary Kirchhefer – Vice President (Sportsman)  
Stan Smith – Treasurer (Cattle)  
Dan Heilbrun – (Sportsman)  
Travis Grosz – (Sheep)  
John Maier – (At- Large)  
Jason Norris – (Sportsman)  
Doyle Meyer – (Sheep)  
Jennifer Scheer – (Cattle)  
Miles Daily – (Cattle)

**Cover Photo:** Two-week-old angus calf killed and consumed by coyotes in Goshen County.

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## **Goshen County, Wyoming**

Founded in 1911.

Seat-Torrington (also largest city).

Population- 13,249 (2010 census). Density-6/sq mi(2.3/km<sup>2</sup>)

Area- 2,232 sq mi (5,781 km<sup>2</sup>) total. Land- 2,225 sq mi (5,763 km<sup>2</sup>)

Water- 36 sq mi (93 km<sup>2</sup>)

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### **Goshen County PMD (GCPMD) Responsibilities and Mission:**

To provide services to individuals, corporations, state and federal agencies and municipalities located in Goshen County and surrounding areas with the following issues: Human Health and Safety, Livestock Protection, Agricultural Damage, and Wildlife Recruitment.

GCPMD has the desire to respond to all 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/Wildlife Services (WS) as the lead agency to provide any actions/services needed.

Goshen County is home to a variety of offending species that require ever evolving methods to successfully limit monetary losses to livestock and agricultural producers. The demand and variety of services requested has the ability to change drastically from year to year.

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**Identifiable and Measurable Actions:**

Lands worked in Goshen County in Acres:

BLM: 2240

Private: 434,115

State: 15,540

Total lands worked Under WS agreements: 451,895

Eight Wildlife Services Employees worked a total of 1,698.19 hours helping 81 different Cooperators.

45.4 Total Hours of Fixed Wing Aerial was used this year.

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**Summary of Damage and Loss**

\$4,824.00 of Reported Livestock Injuries and Loss by Predators.

\$1,287.00 of Verified Livestock Injuries and Loss by Predators.

No property damage or Health/Human Safety data was recorded.

Damage by nuisance species was reduced by the rabies outbreak in 2014, however skunk and raccoon populations are rebounding.

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## **Take Summary**

Coyotes: 226  
Burrow/Dens: 4  
Red Fox: 1  
Raccoons: 40  
Opossums: 3  
Feral Cats: 6

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## **Accomplishments**

Our new trapper Jim Angal is off to a good start. His response to damage calls has been timely, and he has been able to successfully limit losses for livestock producers this past year. Additionally, many new property agreements have been signed for the first time and several expired cooperative agreements have been renewed.

---

## **Summary**

Last year the program underwent drastic changes. One of our veteran trappers was killed in an auto collision and the other retired several months later. To fill the vacancies, we hired a new trapper from out of area, WS Jim Angal. Due to budget restraints, GCPMD will be moving forward using only this one trapper instead of two. Furthermore, the aerial program was suspended for several months, which led to a reduction in total used hours. GCPMD expects to pick up a new wildlife enhancement project for the up-coming year, and as always is committed to providing service to the community in a prompt, professional manner, and is strongly dedicated to our mission statement.



# HOT SPRINGS COUNTY PREDATOR MANAGEMENT DISTRICT



Annual Report

July 2016-June 2017

There are 1,294,080 acres of land in Hot Springs County. These acres are split approximately 38% private land and 62% public land and are owned/controlled by the Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, the State of Wyoming, local governments and private landowners.

This report will outline the '16-17 management plan which lists our County's wildlife issues and goals. The report also includes the results for the '16-17 year ( the reporting period being June 1st-May 31, 2017).

## HOT SPRINGS COUNTY PREDATOR MANAGEMENT DISTRICT MANAGEMENT PLAN 2016-2017

At present the HSCPMD provides animal damage control to 60 co-operators and the municipalities within Hot Springs County.

### I Mission Statement:

The Hot Springs County Predator Management District, (HSCPMD) by statutory authority, assumes the responsibility to the citizens of Hot Springs County to protect agriculture, game birds and animals, and human health and welfare.

### II. a) Wildlife Issues:

Several species with Threatened or Endangered Species issues are found in Hot Springs County. These species range from Grizzly, Bears, and Wolves to Sage Grouse and other sage brush obligates.

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### HSCPMD Board Members

President: Jack Baird

Vice Pres.: Shawn Smith

Treasurer: Shannon

Chuck Bunch

Everett Jones

Josh Longwell

Bob Blacketer

Scott Miller

Earl Jackson

Robert Aguiar

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The wildlife populations in Hot Springs County are important to our western way of life and economy. Informal reports in 2015 from hunters and landowners suggest the following: 1) Elk populations are stable, 2) Deer and Antelope populations have increased slightly, 3) Bird populations had a great year, with many pheasant surviving the winter, 4) Both cottontail rabbit and whitetail jackrabbit populations are rapidly increasing.



**b) Wildlife Goals:**

Hot Springs County wishes to provide both recreational and economic opportunities by maintaining the populations of big game, upland game, waterfowl and small game through predator management within the county.

Actions taken: The HSCPMD has 2 full time control agents and shares one agent with Washakie County, our neighbor to the north. These agents are employed through Wildlife Services, a branch of the U.S Dept. of Agriculture. Their control efforts address all predators that impact our wildlife populations.

The HSCPMD is attempting to increase nesting success of pheasant, turkey, Hungarian partridge, chukar, sage grouse, ducks and geese. Most of these species are preyed upon by canines, but some have additional pressure from raccoons, skunks, feral cats, crows and ravens. Methods of controlling these predators include shooting, trapping and using EPA registered chemicals. Raccoons and skunks have been removed by using the live traps purchased by the HSCPMD for use in populated areas.

**III. a) Livestock, Farming and Small Acreage Issues**

The recent increases in agricultural prices have allowed expansion in cattle herds and sheep flocks. Also there is an increase of farmed acres and improved acres (new land leveling, gated pipe, etc.) every year, which has resulted in more grain crops being raised. All commodities in the county need protection from large and small predators.



There are more small acreages and subdivisions every year. Many of these landowners keep chickens, goats, and other small types of livestock which attract predators.

Predacious birds are a problem in the county. Ravens and crows impact calf and lamb crops.

There is more livestock loss and damage due to increased numbers of wolves and bears. In 2014 and 2015 at least \$226,000 in verified loss claims were made by Hot Springs County producers. With no Federal funding to address these conflicts HSCPMD will have to pay cost of control with State and County dollars.



#### **Livestock, Farming and Small Acreage goals:**

Agriculture is a vital part of our area economy and HSCPMD strives to prevent and minimize losses to crops, livestock and pets due to predatory animals and birds.

Actions taken:

HSCPMD personnel use ground and aerial control methods. Ground control methods include trapping, snaring, shooting and use of M-44 and EPA registered chemicals. At certain times of the year aerial control may be the best method due to snow cover. HSCPMD logged 208 aerial hours in 2014-2015, and anticipates slightly exceeding our budget again in 2015-2016.

HSCPMD continues to try to address any control situation and has added equipment to be able to meet that challenge. Our night vision equipment is an excellent tool for targeting specific problem animals that have proven to be elusive or unresponsive to other control methods. It also adds a level of safety to our field personnel when doing control work in grizzly bear and wolf areas. Due to increased damage by raccoons and skunks HSCPMD purchased additional live traps. These have been used in crop fields, along irrigation pipelines, around buildings and within the city limits. Our Polaris side by side has allowed increased mobility in rough terrain, mud and snow. It also cuts down on costs to maintain other vehicles.

#### **IV. a) Human health and safety issues:**

A large portion of Hot Springs County consists of riparian/lowland areas that attract birds, small mammals, game animals and predators. These areas also support human endeavors such as farming and ranching, recreation and various urban activities. This results in ongoing human/predator conflicts that are addressed by the HSCPMD

There are a number of diseases that are carried by wildlife, which include rabies, plague, tularemia, tick fevers and West Nile virus. These diseases can be transmitted to people, pets and livestock. Rabies is transferred from wild animals to domestic animals and to humans.

Skunks, raccoons and badgers have caused damage to buildings and other structures. Raccoons have caused damage to public electric transmission equipment.

#### **b) Goals:**

To protect the citizens and domestic animals in Hot Springs County by reducing the numbers of predators. This will result in a lower incidence of disease and property



### **Actions taken:**

All field personnel assist in disease prevention as a result of normal day to day activities. They are on call for any immediate safety issues that may arise. The HSCPMD monitors the presence of rabies by sending all bats collected and a number of skunks chosen at random to the state laboratory for testing. Hot Springs County has had no positive results in 2015-2016

Rifle mounted suppressors have allowed control work near populated areas. Live traps are also a necessary tool in these areas.

Air rifles have been used within the city limits to disperse crows, ravens and roosting vultures.



### **V. 2016-2017 Special Project**

In 2016-17, Wildlife Services (W.S.) field personnel will conduct a disease surveillance project for the Hot Springs County PMD. The number of Tularemia cases has dramatically increased in Wyoming in the past few years. Tularemia is a potentially fatal bacterial disease and a Big Horn county man was infected and consequently died in August 2015. Tissue samples from canids, (coyotes, foxes, wolves, and badgers), will be submitted to the Wyoming State Veterinary Laboratory, and blood samples will be tested in the field using test strips. In addition W.S. will sample for plague, canine distemper, rabies, and other diseases that may pose a threat to humans or domestic animals. Other wildlife species such as skunks and raccoons may also be sampled. Special precautions and additional sampling will be done if an animal is found to be exhibiting abnormal behavior.

HSCPMD plans to sample at least 30-50 animals during FY 2016-17. The field tests for Tularemia, using blood, are \$6 per test and the tissue sample tests for rabies, distemper and other diseases will be about \$12 per test. HSCPMD dollars will be used to fund the project at the \$1000 to \$2000 level depending upon field conditions.

### **VI. Additional Information:**

The HSCPMD will maintain cooperative agreements to work with USDA, APHIS and WS personnel.

### # of problem

### animals removed:

Bats: 1

Beavers: 5

Feral cats: 11

Coyotes: 250

Coyote dens: 17

Red Fox: 44

Red Fox dens: 7

Raccoons: 99

Striped Skunks: 41

Turkey Vultures: 4

Wolves: 14



During this reporting period, Hot Springs County reduced their staff from 2.5 FTE to 2 FTE positions, due to budget constraints.

Still, Hot Springs County's duties were conducted with the teamwork and cooperation of 14 WS employees during this last year to cater to the increasing requests to our program for assistance involving such wildlife species as: grizzly bears, black bears, beavers, coyotes, fox, raccoons, skunks, feral cats, feral dogs, porcupines, badgers, grey wolves, mountain lions, sage grouse, pigeons, ravens, golden eagles, muskrats, ravens, and American crow complaints. There was over \$19,000– in livestock damage verified by the Hot Springs County Specialist's time since June 1, 2016.

The special project (disease monitoring) outlined in the management plan was set aside as reduced staff and funds required additional prioritizing. Still, 16 samples were taken from Hot Springs County skunks and bats for disease monitoring.

The majority of the agents time was spent answering these complaints and providing assistance:

1,355 daily tasks for coyote predation or threats of predation on calves, sheep, goats, sage grouse, and livestock guarding animals;

448 tasks dealing with raccoons on chickens, sheep, pheasants, chukars, sage grouse, crops, irrigation damage, residence damage, livestock feed & buildings, and human health & safety concerns;

112 Calls for assistance for grizzly predation on cattle;

6 beaver calls for damage to private property and irrigation systems;

163 daily tasks for skunk complaints involving chickens,, sage grouse, pheasants, chukars, human health and safety, and property damage on residences or outbuildings;



41 mountain lion tasks for cattle, horses, sheep, and human and health safety;

437 daily tasks for grey wolf complaints involving cattle, sheep, and guard animals;

450 tasks for fox complaints with chukars, sage grouse, pheasants, chickens, cattle and sheep;

247 tasks for feral/free ranging cat complaints with chukars, sage grouse, pheasants, and health and human safety;

31 tasks for ravens complaints with sage grouse, cattle, and sheep;

1 task for bats with disease threat

13 tasks for turkey vultures complaints with human health and safety



Johnson County Predator Management District  
FY 2016-2017 Year-End Report

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 expenditures and has been 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. We have added a private fixed winged pilot, as a contractor in southern Johnson County which allows quick access when conditions are right. We have done extensive analysis of our flying program and its cost per coyote costs. Adjustments may have to be made as to which aircrafts can be used in certain locations and at certain times. With funding cuts this budget line is where the cuts are often made, although it remains a vital part of our control program. .
- We continue to “Contract for Services” with two and a half control officers and employ two part-time persons in the rabies program and bookkeeping personnel. As personnel request more dollars for their services, the district struggles to continue the level of protection the residents have come to expect. As more counties go to the contract method, we are pressured to keep up with a higher contract structure and are in a position where raises are necessary. Coyote numbers continue to accelerate, thus notice to us that control must, somehow, be increased. A stringent reporting program and data collection has shown that we have excellent control in the interior of the county while the exterior boundaries show incoming predator from lesser control by our neighboring districts.
- 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 and feel that they understand the need and value of the control program. Each year with the annual meeting notice, a report of coyotes taken 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. Continued meetings regarding kill confirmations and timely control activity are planned. 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. We have completed the Wyoming Game & Fish and Big Horn Environmental Consultants sage grouse nest predation study. We are now beginning a project to mark each predator 'take' with a GPS. These will be mapped and the data shared with others, such as Wyoming Game & Fish and sage grouse working groups. An educational presentation to the high school ag classes is in the planning stages and would be instrumental in proving the worth of predator control to young producers.
- The District has adopted an electronic payroll and bill paying system that will save time as well as postage and mailings.

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. Johnson County continued its pledge of \$10,000 to this program, to make up for ADMB cuts in this area. This program continues to be a great public relations tool for the District, especially with the urban residents.

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.

Dave Hall  
Secretary/Treasurer  
Johnson County PMD



March 29, 2017

Dear Kent & AMDB Members,

As stated in previous years the goals and objectives of the Lincoln County AMDB is to provide services to prevent excessive economic losses to the agriculture industry, human health issues, and wildlife management in Lincoln County. Lincoln County had 2 full time trappers but because of budget cuts we had to let 1 trapper go last summer, so now we only have 1 full time trapper, and 1 part time contract trapper, from the 1<sup>st</sup> of April to the 1<sup>st</sup> of Sept. We also pay for flying both on fixed wing and helicopter. The helicopter is used to fly rough country higher elevation, lambing areas, and wildlife wintering areas. The fixed wing is used for winter ranges and lambing ranges where problems occur.

Aerial gunning is an important tool in South Lincoln County. Most sheep lambing areas overlap with deer and antelope wintering area especially for the Wyoming Range wintering areas. For instance, 503 coyotes were killed on the wintering areas here in South Lincoln County. This includes helicopter and ground crew use. The total coyotes took from December 2016 to March 3<sup>rd</sup> 2017 using the helicopter and ground crew was 412. The total coyotes took from the federal trappers were 373, this also includes the fixed wing and trapping and calling from July 2016 to March 2017, total coyotes taken was 785 out of Lincoln County.

There are other factors affecting fawn survival of deer and antelope, and sage grouse broods. Some factors are weather, drought, cover, and forage quality and quantity. Regardless, predation is a big factor as more sheep men go out of business. Flying, trapping, and denning become less, and so predation increases and wildlife population decreases. Wyoming is being scrutinized because of sage grouse and the threat of reevaluation occurs and they could be put on the threatened and endangered list.

Livestock numbers lost to predators were down last spring and summer. Southwestern Wyoming has had several light winters that have also helped deer survival. I personally believe the light winters and coyote control have greatly aided the mule deer population and it seems to be on an upward trend until this winter. Due to the harsh winter this year a lot of deer and antelope will be lost, so that is why it's even more important to have a predator program in place to help relieve some of the mortality rate with the wildlife. Needless to say if Game & Fish request predator control in some areas, our PAB stated that we would participate wherever they would like.

It has really helped the past several years, not only on livestock but sage grouse. Since raven control has taken place, sage grouse numbers have greatly increased in Southwest Wyoming. Our trapper is doing a lot of work in the Star Valley area where coyotes are killing calves. This is a hard area to work because of sub-divisions and hobby ranchers. We are trying to get people to sign up to perhaps be able to do more flying in the winter. This would also help on the sheep summer ranges. As you can see we try to service all of Lincoln County where there is a need and work one of the most important wintering areas for the Wyoming Range mule deer population. Deer migrate more than 100 miles south using habitat from the Hoback and Pinedale areas.

The LCAMD is able to stay even with the coyotes and fox, but wolves and bear are a big problem. Our hands are tied with wolves. By the time we get the trapper to verify and contact the Fish and Wildlife Service and get a short-time removal permit, the wolf has moved out of the area or has kept killing. For instance last summer we only had 1 government trapper for Lincoln County. As soon as the sheep arrived in the Grey's River Allotments the wolves started killing sheep. The government trapper was sent there to try and solve the problem, but dealing with the wolf in that terrain proved to be very difficult, so as is, he spent most of the summer working with the wolf problem and as a result, was not able to spend much time on the coyote problems on the other allotments throughout the rest of the county.

We know funding is going to be tight this year. The Bridger Teton National Forest is the only forest in the state that has a large population of sheep still grazing. The Kemmerer Ranger District is using every allotment. Predators are more difficult to manage on forest service lands due to terrain, timber, and lack of roads. Not often will a trapper take on a ten-hour horseback ride and have time to spend two or three days on one allotment to completely solve the problem when he has at least 15-20 additional allotments to cover.

From this discussion I hope that the board will realize how important a good predatory is to Lincoln County, its agriculture and wildlife. As previously stated, the Bridger Teton Forest is the largest UNSF to have a large amount of sheep utilizing its ranges. Believe me when I tell you that not very many ranches can stay viable when they lose ten-plus percent of their crop to predators year after year.

We know that dollars are short. Ranchers know from their bankers the prices we are receiving for our goods, lambs, wool, and calves. What we cannot absorb is excess losses especially to predators. It can be the difference between breaking even or losing.

We thank the ADMB for their support in the past and hope you will be able to give us as much support as you can this coming year.

Sincerely,

Jon Child, President

Lincoln County PAB

## 2016-2017 Year End Report

### Outline:

- I. Actions Taken
- II. Identifiable or Measurable Results
- III. Grant Monies expended
- IV. Current Financial Statement

### District Management Plan

- I. **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 the 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. (Clint Cummings, Will Roberts, Rock Buckingham.)

Last year we received funding from the Wyoming Game & Fish for the Stove Gulch area. This is an area that the Wyoming Game and Fish asked for the NCPMD's assistance in controlling coyotes to help optimize a greater number of game to offer a greater hunting experience for resident hunters. The board decided to budget \$5,000 dollars or half of the awarded project with the remainder to be used for trapper expenses in the area.

Natrona County continues to experience regular depredation to livestock as a result of a healthy coyote population. The NCPMD has worked to minimize the loss of livestock to predation, thereby maintaining the viability of a healthy livestock industry in Natrona County. 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, however, due to financial constraints, land owners will be responsible for all flying for predator control. Control methods used to control predator populations are the

trappers and aerial flying have harvested **1,237** coyotes.

III.

The following is a breakdown of the coyotes taken per calendar year by the trappers and aerial program:

**Coyotes taken for the following calendar years:**

<b>Calendar Year</b>	<b>Coyotes Taken</b>
2008	2,658
2009	1,493
2010	2,186
2011	1,788
2012	1,568
2013	1,355
2014	1,544
2015	1,728
July 1,2016-Present	1,237

IV. **Grant Monies expended for Fiscal Year 2016-2017:**

Expenses	
Fly Time:	\$ 6,580.00
Raven Control & Supplies:	\$ 0.00
Office Supplies:	\$ 0.00
Postage and Delivery:	\$ 53.65
Contract Services:	\$202,281.88
Meeting expenses:	\$ 617.40
Liability Insurance:	\$ 300.00
PO Box Fee:	\$ 112.00
Preparation of tax forms:	\$ 1,201.90
Membership (LGLP):	\$ 500.00
Livestock Predator Fees:	\$ 0.00
Reimbursement to Wool Growers for loan:	\$ 1,500.00
Bank Service Charge:	\$ 17.97
(Automatic deposit of checks)	
Stove Gulch Project:	\$ 2,090.00
Total Expenses Incurred: 7/1/16-6/21/17	<b><u>\$215,254.80</u></b>
Available Income:	<b><u>\$115,584.15</u></b>

Please note that we have not paid our contract services for the month of June as this will be paid July 1, 2017. The amount paid will be \$16,885.99 leaving the NCPMD with \$98,698.16 for available income until the grant check is disbursed.

Without legislative backing and the ADMB grant money, the NCPMD would not be able to function to the capacity that it has been operating at.

Dated this 21<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2017

*Mary H Owens* 6-21-17  
Mary Owens, President NCPMD



## Niobrara County PMD Grant Activities Report Narrative

June 30, 2017

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 for the past several years we have been able to enlarge our program to include wildlife concerns. Prudent spending allows us to spend over 95 cents of every dollar on field operations. Predator removal is of mutual benefit to livestock and wildlife, and operations are timed to provide control at critical times and places to maximize those benefits. The trappers are directed to focus on calving grounds in early spring to reduce calf losses due to predators. Later the focus shifts to lambing and fawning areas. April and May are vital denning months. Although we remove large numbers of coyotes each year, there is never a shortage of coyotes in our county. There is a constant influx from states and counties neighboring us who do no predator control.

The privately-contracted trappers took more predators this year than last year on the ground. They also assisted in the huge number of the coyotes taken aerially. Once again calls from livestock producers who have heard coyotes or had loss of livestock from coyotes have increased this year, especially from sheep producers. It seems the trappers rid an area of coyotes and then a new bunch moves right in that same area.

Our aerial program consists of two private contract pilots as well as an aerial contract with Wildlife Services. Most of our flying this year has been done by our two contract aerial providers, as Wildlife Services was grounded for three months, due to a plane crash. Thankfully, our contracted aerial providers stepped it up and got as many pregnant females as possible during this crucial time before the litters were in the den.

Our 2016 annual deer count was conducted in November as usual. Total deer count numbers are up. Once again there is a very high rabbit and prairie dog population this year which may have decreased the predation on fawns. Also a few areas are under new ownership which is allowing the deer numbers to continue to increase.

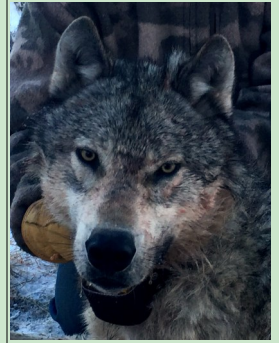




# Park County Predator Management District



## 2016-2017 Annual Report



Park County Predator Management District's (PCPMD) contracts with United States Department of Agriculture-Wildlife Services (WS) to provide a high-quality wildlife damage management service for all those that reside in Park County.

The PCPMD had 2.5 full-time WS agents. The half-time position was shared with Big-horn County. Half way through the 16-17 year, the half-time position employee found a full-time position within WS. The half-time position was eliminated at that point with the looming budget forecast. Most duties within the county were conducted by the 2.5 employees; however, ten other WS employees (including pilots, gunners, and biologists) helped out within Park County during this reporting period. The data for this report is from March 1st, 2016-February 28th, 2017. There were 57 different properties totaling 1,983,347 acres of public and private land that requested services from WS during this reporting period. The total man hours worked in the county was 4,888 hours.

A total of 150 hours of fixed wing and 9.1 hours of helicopter time were spent in Park County during the reporting period. More aerial hrs were anticipated but weren't reached due to the unfortunate aircraft accident in December. WS removed the following animals in response to damage conflict:

- Beavers: 3
- Coyotes: 256+ 4 dens
- Fox, Red: 13+ 2 dens
- Feral Pigeons: 12
- Raccoons: 116
- Striped Skunks: 34
- Mountain Lion: 1
- Wolves, Gray: 34

### Board Members

- \* President  
Tod Stutzman,  
Powell, Wy.
- \* Vice President  
Allen Hogg,  
Meeteetse, Wy.
- \* Sec/Treasurer  
Regan Smith,  
Powell, Wy.
- \* Daniel Bergum  
Cody, Wy
- \* Rori Reener  
Meeteetse, Wy.
- \* Shane Smith  
Powell, Wy.
- \* Zane Bryan  
Cody, Wy.
- \* Lloyd Thiel  
Powell, Wy.
- \* Keith Schuebel  
Cody, Wy.
- \* Lee Livingston  
Cody, Wy.
- \* Tim Hockhalter,  
Cody, Wy.





## Livestock Protection

Park County sits adjacent to vast wilderness and Yellowstone National Park, where large carnivore species are managed for healthy, abundant populations. Gray wolves and Grizzly bears frequent livestock operation areas regularly and damage occurs annually.

Presently, United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) oversee the management of the wolves in Wyoming, and WS assists the USFWS in Park County when wolves cause damage by removing specific wolves. During the reporting period, WS responded 179 times to wolf complaints involving livestock, and 34 wolves were removed on damage. 27 of those 34 were removed conducting ground work (shooting), while the other 7 were taken by aerial hunting (4 from fixed wing, 3 from helicopter).

With wolves potentially becoming delisted and back under state management, the future of wolf depredation management and how it will be funded is largely unknown. What is known is the number of wolf take continues to increase and wolf depredations will be a regular occurrence,

Park County WS assists Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD) responding to damage by black bear, mountain lion, and can assist as well in some grizzly bear issues. The WS agents in Park County made 658 visits responding to coyote predation or threats to livestock, and 162 visits to red fox predation.

## Wildlife Protection

Park County agreed to use WS personnel as the primary sage grouse capture crew for the Bighorn Basin Sage Grouse Project during the 16-17 season. This capture project was successful with WS capturing all the needed sage grouse for the Meeteetse Conservation District's new research project on raven/sagegrouse interaction. 262 hours were spent on the project.

We continue to learn through GPS collar research that Park County is major wintering grounds for big game, as far as Jackson Lake. With the decline in mule deer populations, the removal of big game predators will certainly have positive impacts on these wintering big game populations.



### Crop, Irrigation, and Human Health and Safety Resources Protection

There are important resources in need of protection from wildlife damage and diseases. The Park County WS Specialists spent a large amount of time working to resolve these requests. With the reduction of WS staff, these resources will most likely see less protection due to time constraint.

- WS responded 353 times to corn damage by raccoons and striped skunks
- WS responded 36 times to irrigation/ditch systems by raccoons, beavers, and skunks
- WS made 162 visits in response to public safety from coyotes, raccoons, and striped skunks.
- WS responded 15 times to building (residential and non-residential) protection from raccoons and pigeons
- Samples from coyotes, red foxes, raccoons, striped skunks, and wolves were submitted for disease testing. 30 total samples were submitted to the state vet laboratory.

Starlings and other blackbirds carry a plethora of diseases. Large infestations of these species can create a disease threat that is transmissible to both livestock and humans. WS provided assistance in Park County with the use of DRC-1339, a black-bird-specific avicide, and successfully reduced bird infestations where livestock feed was damaged and where there were real threats of disease to both livestock and producers.



### Park County Predator District's Management Plan for 2017-18

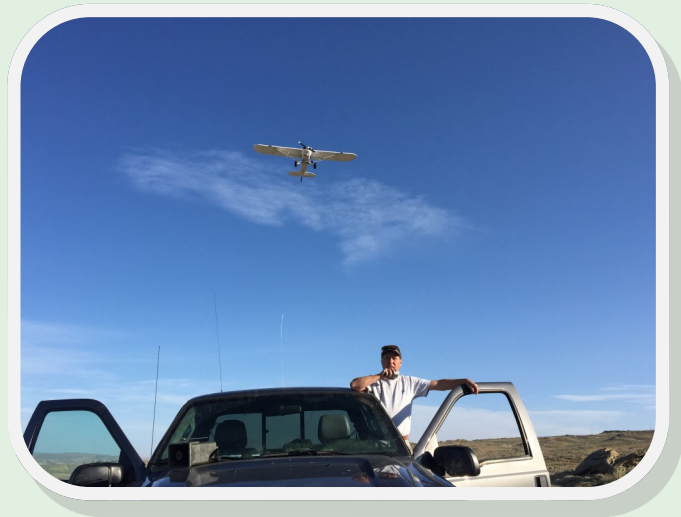
Park County Predator Management District's management plan is to continue working with USDA- Wildlife Services. WS enters into agreements, on an annual basis with Shoshone National Forest, the District BLM office, WGFD, and USFWS. WS also cooperates with other government agencies and private landowners county-wide. The cooperation puts our PMD in a position to best deal with all species and localities of our county regardless of state and federal protections with professionally-trained personnel.



Our goal is to respond to all damage complaints within 48 hours after our personnel are contacted. Services will include pro-active, non-lethal, as well as lethal approaches to solve wildlife damage problems, along with technical assistance to reduce or avoid future damage issues by wildlife. All activities performed by the PCPMD and WS will be performed in a professional manner, following all federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

With wolves on the brink of potentially becoming delisted in Wyoming under the WGFD authority, WS will work closely with both USFWS and WGFD to ensure compliance and cooperation from all entities when resolving wolf issues.

Disease samples from mammalian species will be taken throughout the county and sent in to the State Lab for testing, particularly from those animals that appear sick or abnormal behavior. Animal samples will help gauge the prevalence of diseases in our populations.



# TRAPPERS REPORT FOR 2016-17

## Area 1

Coyote predation on lambing grounds was down. Most of our predation on lambs and grouse was from eagles. Grouse numbers remained steady. Eagle numbers were up from last year, possibly due to a colder and snowier winter.

## Area 2

We did more aerial hunting in this area to alleviate pressure on the calving grounds. The beaver creek hills have shown a large decrease in predation for the past four years due to a increase in aerial hunting. The problems on the calving grounds are down this spring. Deer numbers are way up along with antelope. We have trapped a large number of skunks from this area with rabies. Four the second year, rabies seems to be County wide.

## Area 3

We have seen slight decreases in the numbers of grouse. Eagles show up on the leks in large numbers in this area. We have stepped up our aerial hunting in this area. Overall in this area the sage grouse seem to be holding their own. The eagle numbers are still up dramatically in this area. Coyote numbers have grown in this portion of the County considerably.

## Area 4

In this area we put a high emphasis on trapping and snaring as well as aerial hunting. The mule deer numbers are holding steady. Fawn numbers are up slightly. The coyote numbers have again increased this past year due to coyotes coming across the Montana and Campbell County line. We have moved our aerial hunting to mid-March and April to coincide with calving time.

## Area 5

We continued work in this area the same as we are doing in area 4. Again the mule deer numbers are holding steady and the fawn numbers are up slightly. Coyote numbers have steadily increased due to no control work to speak of on the Montana side of the border. With the hard winter we

experienced this year, we have seen coyotes moving across the border in larger numbers than before.

### **Area 6**

We mainly do aerial hunting in this area from fall to late spring. In the summer we work this part of Sheridan County on the ground with calling and dogs. We have a large population of lions in this area. What we have seen is a drop in coyote numbers and an increase in mule deer. We feel all the aerial work that has been done in this area has made a big difference from a year ago. This year we have killed more coyotes in this area than in previous years. The coyote numbers in this area is caused by a growing coyote population on the Crow Reservation.

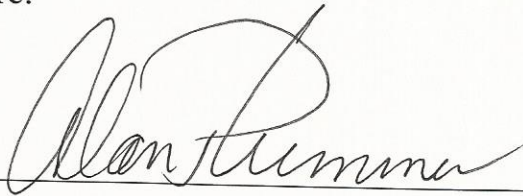
### **Area 4, 5, & 6**

In the past year we have increased our efforts along the Montana border on coyote control. Our damage calls for this area are down from the past year mainly because of more calling in the summer and trapping & snaring in the winter and by moving aerial hunting to mid-March and April to knockout pregnant females' before whelping time.

### **All Areas**

We are seeing a resurgence of skunk numbers, above what we saw last year. Also our skunk problem calls from the ranchers outside of the towns are up this spring. We are assisting the City of Sheridan on more skunk calls. The Towns of Dayton and Story Wyoming are becoming hot beds of skunk activity. The town of Big Horn has seen a huge increase in skunks with rabies. The towns within Sheridan County are seeing more skunk activity than ever before. We have several requests from local Veterinarians requesting us to send in animals in for rabies testing.

The Wyoming Game & Fish Department has provided data showing the doe-fawn ratio is way up. They also said they have never seen the ratio this high before.



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**ALAN PLUMMER  
67 UPPER Rd.  
SHERIDAN, WY 82801**

**JUNE 30, 2017**

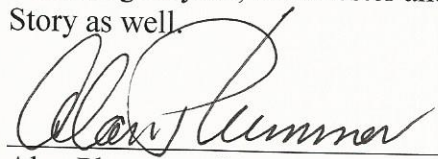
**RABIES MITIGATION REPORT**

From July 2016 thru June 2017 we have shot or live trapped **171 skunks** in Sheridan County. They were taken from all parts of Sheridan County. They were from subdivisions, ranches, along county roads and around culverts.

Dayton, Ranchester and Clearmont were provided traps to do the trapping themselves.

There were a total of **12 skunks** that were positive for rabies.

As stated above we do all skunk control for the city of Sheridan and the County, excluding Dayton, Ranchester and Clearmont. We have done work in the community of Story as well.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Alan Plummer, County Trapper





## Sweetwater County Predator Management District

March 30, 2017

Mr. Kent Drake – Wyoming Department of Agriculture

Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board

1. The mission of the Sweetwater County Predator Management District has been and is to provide predator control throughout the county for the benefit of livestock producers and wildlife populations within Sweetwater County.
2. Sweetwater County encompasses 10,500 square miles and provides winter range for about 52,000 sheep and winter and summer range for about 14,000 cattle. This is also one of the best areas in Wyoming for antelope, deer and elk populations.
3. a) *Wildlife Issues* - The numbers of predatory animals in Sweetwater County have been at healthy levels. Areas south of Rock Springs have experienced a decline in deer and pronghorn fawning ratios, due to the fact that the sheep production that used to exist in the area is now gone. However, last year and again this year we have increased predator control by having a full time trapper within the county during the winter/spring months and dedicated more funds to aerial control through the use of a helicopter to supplement the aerial control program throughout Sweetwater County.  
b) *Wildlife Goals* – The Sweetwater County Predator Management District is committed to increasing wildlife reproductive rates through effective management of those predator species have the most negative impact on wildlife reproduction and survival.
4. *Proposed Actions* – We are working on protecting wildlife within Western Wyoming and have received information from the Game and Fish Department on areas that they are concerned with low fawn numbers and have targeted these areas to help improve these ratios.
5. *Livestock Issues* – Predators have always been a great problem for livestock producers and our Board is dedicated to minimizing the loss of livestock due to predation, thereby enhancing Sweetwater County and its ability to produce livestock and their by-products.  
a) We are presently using tools that have proven to be selective and effective in the past. We are using more helicopter services, especially in the rugged areas of the county where fixed winged aircraft is somewhat limited, and we plan to expand the helicopter effort as it seems to be very effective, especially in some of the wildlife areas.
6. We have a very active Board made up of concerned ranchers, sportsmen and the public. We believe there have been some dramatic results and benefits evident for both wildlife and livestock within this County.
7. We plan on additional aerial control of coyotes this spring to help with the predation on both domestic animals and on our wildlife. We feel we had some positive impacts on both the last year and plan on doing some more this spring or fall depending on the information we receive from producers and/or wildlife groups.
8. With the tight funding, we were able to maintain our contract with Wildlife Services last year. This was accomplished by moving funding we reserved for aircraft to cover this deficit. We are only requesting funding to cover the proposed Wildlife Services contract. Without this funding, we will be unable to enter into this contract for the coming year.

9. In the event that the board lacks the funding to contract with Wildlife Services, the board will have to come up with an alternative plan for predator control. We have contracted with Wildlife Services for many years so this could have an impact on the level of service we can provide to the producers in Sweetwater County.

William R. Taliaferro - Chairman

# ***Uinta County Predator Management District***

## **2017-2018 Management Plan**

The mission of the Uinta County Predator Management District is to provide predator control for the benefit of livestock producers and wildlife populations within Uinta County, Wyoming.

Uinta County is located in the southwest corner of the state with a total of 917,734 acres. The County is home to some of the premier wildlife populations in the State. The 335 farms and ranches within the county provide critical habitat for these populations, as well as significant agricultural benefits to the residents of Uinta County and the State of Wyoming. According to the 2012 USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service, Uinta County ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> in sheep numbers and 18<sup>th</sup> in cattle numbers in the State.

### **I. Wildlife Issues**

***Sage Grouse*** – (*Centrocercus Urophasinus*) The Greater Sage Grouse is facing the possibility of being listed as threatened or endangered.

- The district will provide specialists to conduct predator control efforts necessary for successful predation reduction and subsequent increases of the Greater Sage Grouse. Control work will be targeting coyote, red fox, and ravens.
- Site specific methods will be utilized to concentrate the work and increase efficiency. i.e.; fenceline snares, trapping.
- The goal of these efforts will be to achieve a reduction of the targeted predators, thereby allowing for an increase in Sage Grouse numbers.

***Mule Deer*** – (*Odocoileus hemionus*) The UCPMD is working with the Wyoming Game and Fish Department on a Mule Deer radio collar study in the Cedar Mountain area.

- Study continues with radio collars being affixed to 20 plus Mule Deer does.
- Predator control work will be handled by Uinta County Predator Management District with the contracting of aerial helicopter work in critical fawning areas just prior to fawning season. Attempt to schedule timing of work to achieve best conditions for benefit of both wildlife and livestock.
- A grant from the State ADMB for \$10,000.00 will provide the funding for helicopter work.

- The goal is to determine seasonal habitats and migration patterns as well as mortality.

## II. LIVESTOCK ISSUES

***Fall Sheep Range*** - There has been increased predation on the fall sheep range of all the sheep producers' areas within the last 3 years.

- The goal is to reduce predation on sheep during the fall season after leaving the summer range in the Uinta Mountains. This area is right on the Utah-Wyoming State Line.
- The district proposed contracting helicopter work on both sides of the State line. The Utah Department of Wildlife Resources will provide the helicopter and the gunner.
- Producers funded the flight time on the Utah side with contributions to a fund administered by the Utah Woolgrowers Association.
- The UCPMD will fund the work on the Wyoming side of the State Line. Funding will be provided privately by producers with a matching program by Utah for flight augmentation.

## III. Health and Human Safety

***Sampling*** -Random samples are conducted on take by specialists to determine the presence or absence of mange. Last year there were two cases of mange in producer herd dogs. This was quickly dispatched and there have been no further cases to report.

#### **IV. Pre and Post Work Monitoring**

- The stated goals and proposed actions will be monitored following the work performed, to determine if desired results were accomplished.
  - Take numbers from aerial flights (primarily coyotes)
  - Surveyed take numbers from pesticide application (ravens)
  - Samples from take sent to lab for analysis (rabies etc.)
  
- Reports to the UCPMD will be furnished to determine if the proposed actions have achieved the expected results.
  - Flight log and flight paths (If available from GPS tracking)
  - Specialist reports and time logs.
  - Annual Wildlife Service's summary.
  
- Reports and summaries will be included in the district's Annual Report to be provided July 1, 2017.
  - Subsequent to report analysis, the Board will determine the successfulness of the management actions undertaken.
  - Ascertain budget requirements for next fiscal year.
  - Future management plan based on the conclusions

#### **V. Budget Request**

The Uinta County Predator Management District is requesting \$176,867 for the fiscal year; July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018. This amount is significantly below last year's request of \$214,867.

**Personnel** - Uinta County works contracts with Wildlife Services and employs;

- 2- full time specialists (trappers) cost:\$171,690.
- 1- “roving specialist” who works collaboratively in Uinta, Sublette, Lincoln and Sweetwater Counties cost:\$22,520.

**Aeiral** – District flying

- Wildlife Services provides a fixed wing aircraft for aerial assistance cost: \$25,752.
- The district also contracts with a local private contractor to provide aerial assistance. Cost: \$10,000.
- Helicopter
  - Wyoming Game and Fish request is \$10,000.
  - No Helicopter work budgeted for District.

**District Costs** – Accounting, Audit, Mileage, Dues

- (Per above) \$7,755.
- Refunds \$2,150.

**Use of Reserves** – The Uinta County Predator Management District has received significant reductions from \$30,000 to \$114,000 in the last 5 years. This upcoming fiscal year we will use the remaining Unreserved Fund balance. The Restricted Prior Reserve Fund Balance, are funds that were NOT received from the State Legislature.

Respectfully submitted,  
UCPMD.



# Washakie County Predator Management District



## 2016-2017 Annual Report

The mission of the Washakie County Predator Management District (PMD) is to provide reasonable solutions to wildlife damage issues county-wide. This includes agricultural protection, disease testing and monitoring of zoonotic diseases, and conducting projects to ensure the protection and conservation of natural resources. The District plans to meet all challenges to solve wildlife damage in the most cooperative, efficient, and cost effective manner.

Washakie County contracts with United States Department of Agriculture—Wildlife Services (WS), who is professionally trained to respond to all damage complaints. WS has agreements and strong working relationships with federal, state, and local government which helps facilitate an effective wildlife damage program.

Washakie County started the year with 2.5 FTE's. Due to budget constraints, personnel has dropped to 2 FTE WS trappers working within the county. 11 other WS employees, including pilots, gunners, wildlife specialists from neighboring counties, and WS biologists also assisted in Washakie. This data report was created mid-March, so the most recent 365 day period was used (March 1st, 2015–February 28th ,2016) to generate the number of hours worked/hours flown, and animals taken. The total hours worked in the County during this time period is 4,059hours on 59 different properties county-wide totaling 1,499,705 acres.

During this reporting period, 114 hours were flown fixed-wing and 6.5 hrs were flown by helicopter. The following animals were taken in response to conflicts with livestock, wildlife, nuisance, property, or human health and safety.

Beavers: 10

Coyotes: 522 + 10 dens

Foxes, Red: 30+ 4 red fox dens

Raccoons: 177

Striped skunk: 39

Ravens: 22

Muskrat: 5

## Board Members

**President:** Rolly Redland,  
Ten Sleep, Wy

**Vice President:** Mark  
Dooley, Worland, Wy

**Sec/Treasurer:** Chris  
Schmeltzer, Worland, Wy

Mark Brewster, Ten Sleep,  
Wy

Aaron Anderson, Ten Sleep,  
Wy

Kirk Tolman, Worland, Wy

Joe Winkler, Worland, Wy

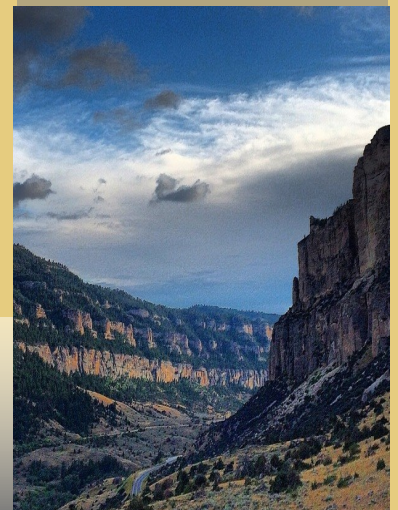
Bob Eisle, Worland, Wy

## WS' Specialists:

Brad Seaman—Full time

Josh Zimmerman—Full time

**Please Contact Wyoming USDA/  
APHIS/Wildlife Services if more  
information is needed**



## Coyotes

WS responded 1,849 times to address coyote predation or threats to both livestock and wildlife.

Coyote numbers responded to increased prey populations with larger numbers this season. Coyote livestock depredation was minimal due to aggressive removal in and around livestock operations.



## Mule Deer Fawn Protection Project

Washakie County was granted \$10,000 by the ADMB for aerial operations to remove coyotes to protect southwest Big-horn mule deer fawns in the spring of 2017.

WS, Washakie PMD, and Wyoming Game and Fish are working together to identify major fawning areas, coordinate coyote and deer observations, and to ensure the project is successful.



## Response to Trophy Game Depredations:

Washakie County WS, under the direction of Wyoming Game and Fish, responded to complaints of livestock depredations from both black bear and mountain lion in Washakie and Johnson county during the reporting period:

WS responded 6 times to mountain lion/sheep complaints in Washakie Co.

WS responded 1 time to black bear/sheep and cattle complaints in Washakie Co.

WS responded 3 times to black bear/sheep complaints in Johnson Co.

WS responded 3 times to mountain lion/sheep complaints in Johnson Co.

## Human health, crop, gamebird, general property protection, and disease monitoring program

Resources throughout Washakie County that needs protection from wildlife species includes: Public/private road infrastructure, dikes, ditches, and dams, crop commodities such as corn, buildings (including residences), beehives, livestock feed, gamebirds, as well as human health safety (disease monitoring in mammals).

WS made 131 visits to address game bird protection from red fox, raccoon, striped skunk, feral cat, and coyote.

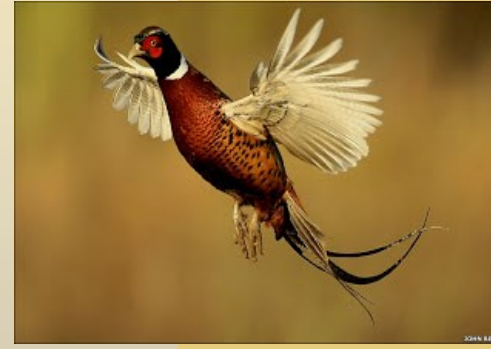
WS made 25 visits protecting buildings (including residential) from raccoons, striped skunks, and European starlings.

WS responded 234 times to address dikes, ditch, irrigation systems from beaver, muskrat, and raccoon.

WS responded 311 times to address crop damage from raccoon and striped skunk.

WS made 274 visits to address general property damage (gardens, landscape, livestock feed, etc) from beavers, raccoons, striped skunks, ravens, European starlings, and coyotes.

13 skunk and coyote samples were submitted to the state lab from suspected animals for testing of rabies and other diseases.



### District Management Plan for 2017-18 year:

Washakie County Predator Management District (WCPMD) and its cooperation with Wildlife Services plan to offer assistance to all those in the county with wildlife damage issues.

WS works, through MOU's and property agreements, to maintain strong working relationships with the BLM Worland Office, Bighorn USFS, Wyoming Game and Fish (WGFD), public health and safety agencies, local government, and private landowners county-wide.



WCPMD depends on the 2 FTE's to continue a combination of ground and aerial work county-wide to alleviate wildlife damage. Washakie County's plan is to continue with an effective livestock protection program county-wide. We suspect there will be wolf depredations on the Bighorn Forest in either/both Washakie and Johnson Counties following some damage issues and recent sightings, as well as black bear and mountain lion depredations.



For the 2017-18 year, WCPMD plans on requesting funds again from the ADMB to help with the coyote removal project on key fawning ranges to help augment doe:fawn ratios in the southwest Bighorn mule deer population.

With reducing employees from 2.5 to 2 FTE, the amount of time spent protecting resources such as crop/property/gamebird project and targeting smaller mammals like red fox, raccoons, beavers, and striped skunks may decrease. This is a valuable service that also allows for the sampling of diseases from these mammals including rabies, tularemia, and distemper. WCPMD plans to submit wildlife samples to the Vet Lab to test for these diseases within the county.



# **Weston County Predatory Management**

## **District**

### **Annual Report**

**07/1/2016 – 06/30/2017**



### **WCPMD Members**

**Alan Todd (Pres.) Upton, WY**

**Nick White (V. Pres.) Upton, WY**

**Mike Davis (Treasure/Sec.) Upton, WY**

**Shane Sweet, Rob Taft, Gary Lawrence, Corbin Timberman, Justin Stephson, Jason Williams**

**Allen Slagle**

**Weston County PMD (WCPMD) responsibilities and mission:**

To provide services to individuals, corporations, state and federal agencies and municipalities located in Weston county with the following issues: Human Health & Safety Issues. Livestock Protection, and Wildlife Recruitment. WCPMD has the desire to respond to all the above issuers that deal with the removal or manipulation of specific predators and any other wildlife deemed necessary. This involves partnering with USDA\APHIS\Wildlife Services and Private Contractor as lead agency to provide any actions\services needed.

The following is a quick summary of activities that have taken place in Weston County during the time frame of 07/1/2016 thru 06/30/2017.

**Identifiable and measurable actions:**

Land worked by WS and Private Contract in Weston County

Private Lands	749,237 ac.
Forest Service Land	50,880 ac.
State Lands	1,200 ac.
<b>Total Lands</b>	<b>801,317 ac. Worked under agreement</b>

**Summary:**

The current program that is administered by the WCPMD is primarily targeted at removing offending predators from depredate on livestock and/or livestock and/or wildlife and human health/safety issues involving predators.







