

# **Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board**

## **2018 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, 201:

**SUBJECT:** 201: 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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**Domestic Sheep Producer Representative**

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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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## **2018 Major Issue Overview**

### **Predator Management District Funding**

The \$4.3 million for the current biennium 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 two fiscal years, 15 contracted personnel positions were eliminated and for the current fiscal year, another 3 positions were eliminated. This is a 33% reduction in positions across the state dedicated to predator management.

### **Gray Wolf Management in the Predator Zone**

With the gray wolf returning to state management last year, management in the “predator” area of the state falls back to predator districts to provide management to Wyoming ranchers. From October 1, 2017 until July 1, 2018 gray wolf management fell to predator management districts and individual livestock producers. This move put the districts in a precarious position as their funds were 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 depredating, chronic problems that they do not have the resources to handle on their own. The Wyoming legislature understood this dilemma and provided \$250,000 for gray wolf management to the ADMB for the current biennium. As of today, this funding has been enough to fund wolf management in the “predator zone” during incidences of livestock depredation.

## 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 and the Outdoor Expo in Casper. Over the last two years more than 3,500 school age children have received education through the trailer’s use.





## **2018 Overview**

1. **Meetings:** The Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board (ADMB) met four (4) times over the course of the calendar year; January 23, May 10-11, June 8, 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 \$2.98 million. On May 11, the ADMB granted \$2.15 million for those districts.

3. **Projects:** Twelve different research/special project proposals were evaluated by the ADMB, that totaled \$347,708, at their June 8 meeting. The ADMB approved \$195,000 in funding for 9 projects (2 new, 7 renewing multiple year,). Project synopses are included with this report. Complete project reports are available upon request.

4. **Rabies Management:** Renewed the state-wide wildlife rabies management plan with a modified budget. Maintain a Wyoming rabies website at [www.wyorabies.org](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 2017-2018.

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 and Wyoming Association of Predator Animal Control Boards winter meetings and plan to participate in the Wyoming Stock Growers meeting in late November. Staff also worked with the local Predator Management Boards for continued board training.

8. **Legislative:** There were not any additions or changes to predatory statutes during this last legislative session. With guidance from the Attorney General's office, staff did complete regular rules for the ADMB for Chapter 3 Uniform Procedures, Fees, Costs, and Charges for Inspecting, Copying, and Producing Public Records.

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 17, 2019 at the Wyoming Game & Fish Dept. Headquarters in Cheyenne, 5400 Bishop Blvd.
2. Project applications for the June 2019 meeting will be accepted from March 15 to May 15, 2019.

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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:** June 11, 2018

**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 '18-19 ADMI 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 to contract with Wildlife Services to alleviate black bear, grizzly bear, wolf (where designated as a trophy game animal or in accordance with WS 23-1-901(g)), and mountain lion depredation to livestock, bees and beehives in all counties of the state. Submitted by Wyoming Game & Fish Department.

#### 2) Effects of predation on survival of newborn mule deer in the Wyoming Range – Funding \$40,000

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.

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

Synopsis: This project will 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.

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

Synopsis: This project will 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.

#### 5) Effects of coyotes and coyote control on sympatric ungulates in SW Wyoming-Funding \$40,000

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. Submitted by Wyoming Game and Fish Department.

6) Coyote Removal to Enhance Bates Hole mule deer fawn survival-Funding \$15,000

Synopsis: This project will remove coyotes in the Bates Hole area via aerial gunning and ground removal to decrease coyote densities and thereby improving mule deer fawn survival. Submitted by Natrona County Predator Management District.

7) Natrona County Raven Removal-Funding \$5,000

Synopsis: This project will remove ravens in Natrona County to decrease raven densities to enhance sage-grouse nest success and chick survival. Submitted by Natrona County Predator Management District.

**New Projects:**

8) Bighorn Sheep lamb survival study-Funding \$45,000

Synopsis: This project aims to take a multi-pronged approach to address multiple causal factors contributing to population dynamics of bighorn sheep in northwest Wyoming, and how that broadly will aid in future management of chronically infected sheep herds. Specifically, we will quantify the relative contributions of nutrition, disease, and predation on population performance, and assess the current state of forage on summer ranges. Submitted by Wyoming Game and Fish Department.

9) Gros Ventre Elk and Wolf Interaction Project-Funding \$15,000

Synopsis: This project will evaluate the interactions between wolves and elk in the Gros Ventre drainage near Jackson. Submitted by Wyoming Game and Fish Department.

*Note:* All projects were approved for G&F Commission funds. These approved projects total \$195,000. 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) Effects of Predation on Survival of Newborn Mule Deer in the Wyoming Range - \$40,000
- 2) Coyote Removal to Enhance Stove Gulch Mule Deer Fawn Survival - \$10,000
- 3) Coyote Control Targeted on Mule Deer Fawning grounds to protect SW Big Horn Mule Deer - \$10,000
- 4) Effects of coyotes and coyote control on sympatric ungulates in SW Wyoming - \$40,000





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**ADMB Meeting**  
**State Game and Fish Headquarters Meeting Room**  
**Video Conference**  
**Cheyenne, WY and other regional G&F offices**

## **Agenda**

**Tuesday, January 23, 2018**

- 9:00 a.m. - Call to Order – (Talbot)
- Introductions of board, guests, & public
  - Additions/Corrections/Approval of Agenda
  - Approval of November 1, 2017 Minutes
- 9:10 a.m. - Update on Wolf Management in Wyoming, Wyoming Game and Fish
- 9:30 a.m. - Predator Management Policy, Wyoming Game and Fish
- 10:00 a.m. - Eagle Management in Wyoming, A Historical Perspective – Bob Phillips, ADMB Sportsman/Outfitter Board member
- 10:45 a.m. - Public Comment
- 11:00 a.m. - Adjourn

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

**ANIMAL DAMAGE MANAGEMENT BOARD MEETING – TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2018**  
**STATE GAME & FISH HEADQUARTERS BIGHORN MEETING ROOM, CHEYENNE, WY AND VARIOUS REGIONAL**  
**GAME AND FISH VIDEO CONFERENCE SITES**

**Board Members Present:**

Co-Chair Scott Talbott	Co-Chair Doug Miyamoto	Shaun Sims
Kevin Kisicki	Pete Dube	Bob Philips
Sy Gilliland	Ron Cunningham	Brad Jost
Garret Falkenburg	Bob Harlan	Sandy Underhill
Tyler Abbott		

**Board Members Absent:**

Gene Hardy	Mike Foster
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**WDA and Game and Fish Support Staff:**

Kent Drake	Doug Brimeyer
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**Public Attendees:**

Scott Becker

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The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Scott Talbott at 9:00 a.m.

Board members were polled for attendance and introductions were completed. The agenda & minutes were reviewed and approved; Shaun Sims moved to approve the agenda and Kevin Kisicki seconded. Motion carried.

Co-chair Talbott provided an update on Wolf Management in Wyoming and was followed by Doug Brimeyer giving some history on wolf management. In hunting season 2012, 42 wolves were harvested, in 2013, 24 wolves were harvested, and the hunting season did not happen in 2014 due to relisting. By end of 2017 there are 192 wolves in the current state population, after various mortalities of 160 wolves during the year. Doug will distribute a copy of his presentation.

Doug provided another presentation on predatory animal and predacious bird management. He outlined the Game and Fish policies for desired big game population parameters and actions focused on specific species when analyzing for possible predator management to benefit these herd units. The parameters also include conditional criteria, i.e., habitat conditions, population objectives, big game damage, hunter access to big game. Doug will distribute a copy of his presentation.

Bob Phillips, ADMB member, provided a presentation on Eagle Management in Wyoming, A Historical Perspective.

In the absence of the co-chairs, Kevin Kisicki led the board covering the rest of the agenda.

There was no public comment.

Ron Cunningham moved to adjourn the meeting and Shaun Sims seconded. Meeting adjourned.

## ADMB May 10-11, 2018

**May 10: 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	\$62,560
10:00	10:30	Carbon	\$175,150
10:30	11:00	Weston	\$161,500
11:00	11:30	Albany	\$125,000
11:30	noon	Campbell	\$181,000 rabies \$25,000
noon	1:30	Lunch	
1:30	2:00	Uinta	\$177,861
2:00	2:30	Big Horn	\$190,268
2:30	3:00	Park	\$162,353
3:00	3:30	Crook	\$100,000
3:30	4:00	Sheridan	\$107,970 rabies \$10,000
4:00	4:30	Fremont	\$85,000
4:30	5:00	Public Comment	
Friday	May 11		
8:00 a.m.	8:30	Natrona	\$200,000
8:30	9:00	Converse	\$199,936
9:00	9:30	Johnson	\$176,500 rabies \$25,000
9:30	10:00	Hot Springs	\$195,064
10:00	10:30	Niobrara	\$150,000
10:30	11:00	Washakie	\$168,560
11:00	11:30	Sweetwater	\$162,500
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  
Thursday May 10, 2018 & Friday, May 11, 2018  
Casper Regional Game & Fish Office  
Casper, Wyoming**

Call to order 9:05a.m. – Co-chair Doug Miyamoto.

*Introductions*

**Board Members Present:**

Co-Chair Doug Miyamoto	Ron Cunningham
Scott Edberg (for Scott Talbott)	Tyler Abbott
Shaun Sims	Garret Falkenburg
Kevin Kisicki	Bob Harlan
Pete Dube	Sy Gilliland
Brad Jost	Bob Philips
Mike Foster	

**Board Members Absent:** Co-Chair Scott Talbott, Sandy Underhill

**WDA Support Staff:** Stacia Berry, Kelsey Hart, Kent Drake

**Public Attendees:** Paul Kokes, Amy Hendricks

Shaun Sims moved to approve the agenda, Kevin Kisicki seconded. Motion carried.

Garret Falkenburg moved to approve minutes from the January meeting, Kevin Kisicki seconded. Motion carried.

Ron Cunningham moved to grant an extension to December 31, 2018, for the UW predation survey grant to allow time to publish results, Bob Phillips seconded. Motion carried.

Kent Drake discussed public records requests and the rules and processes for these requests. He will have a set of rules for the board at the next meeting.

Chair Doug Miyamoto addressed the issue regarding last year's request from Alex out of Texas requesting an aerial hunting permit. Doug has taken this request to the Governor and will inform the board if there is any new information.

Wolf Funding- \$250,000 for wolf management will become available July 1, 2018. The rules used to distribute funds are the same rules that the ADMB used the last time this type of funding was available for wolf control in the predator area.

Chair Doug Miyamoto stated that there is approximately \$4.3 million for biennium; which when divided among the two years, will allow approximately \$2.15 million available for the year for funds going to the county predator management districts that qualify. There is \$44,500 available for rabies funding, an amount similar to last year.

## Presentations

*Goshen County: Jim Angel, WS (USDA Wildlife Services), Stan Smith*

*Request: \$62,560*

They have one person on the ground in the area for predator control. This year had an encounter with a black bear living in a corn field in Goshen County which is an unusual circumstance for that area. The loss and injury numbers are up from last year. Eighteen skunks turned in to the Wyoming State Veterinarian, all have been negative for rabies. They are continually keeping close eye on suspicious activity for rabies with neighboring county, Laramie County, having 8 confirmed cases already this year. They are receiving many new calls for cooperators. In addition, they are looking at a mule deer enhancement project this year. Budget is about the same- predator fees are down from last year. They are also seeing an increase in calls for coyote control in the fall with rise in fall calving.

*Carbon County: John Hansen & Dan Braig, WS*

*Request: \$175,150*

Hot spot with wolves around Farris Mountain, looking for more money to help with wolf funding with WS and aerial work. Dan Braig is their main wolf guy, 2018 is on track to with predicted predation as 2017. Several wolf sightings also in Sierra Madres, Green Mountain and Snowy Range so they are actively keeping an eye on those areas. They would like to extend their deer projects in the Farris Mountain area for another year. Continuation and a rise in coyote work due to increase of additional domestic sheep population. As well as continuation of raven work which is a county wide problem. Also they have seen an increase in mountain lion and bear work alongside of WY G&F.

*Weston County: Alan Todd, Alan Slagle, Kassie Swartz, Brad Troftgruben, WS*

*Request: \$161,500*

East part of the county is difficult to hunt as it is bordering the Black Hills with South Dakota. Coyote control is a struggle with the lack of control in South Dakota. Wolves have been spotted and videoed in the Black Hills area. Preventative control is primary focus, however they are also doing beaver and pigeon work as needed.

*Albany County: Roger Newkirk & Joel Moody, WS*

*Request: \$125,000*

Coyote work –took about 70-80 coyotes in the northern area of the county early on when they were starting to den. Producers are seeing a great difference. Have not had any run ins with wolves yet this year. They are working closely with WG&F on mule deer projects. They've seen an increase of mule deer with prevention control with mule deer. The raven issues have been hit and miss. The landfill has a great concern but the landfill has no desire in controlling them. Joel has done work at the Lime Plant and they have decreased significantly.

*Campbell County: Josh Ekhardt, Kendra Ford, Cory Study*

*Request: \$181,000*

*Rabies: \$25,000*

They have three trappers who also do rabies work. To date; 740 coyotes, 301 skunks have been taken which has put them on schedule with budgets for this year. They now have a helicopter available again. They currently have 122 signed agreements and had an additional 2 contracts as of this week. Deer and antelope population are down. They have submitted about 8 skunks since July to the Wyoming State Veterinarian and all cases have been negative for rabies.

*Uinta County: Steve Sims, Wade Larsen*

*Request: \$177,861*

They are continuing on the mule deer project. They would like to get the raven program going again. They have a lot of ravens making their way back into Uinta County. They are still running two trappers with additional help with WS. They would like to add addition aerial time if funding allows.

*Big Horn County: Mike Burell, WS, Kay Neves*

*Request: \$190,268*

Currently, they only have one full time trapper and would like to bring in one more full time employee to help with deficit of only have one person on the ground. Livestock protection is primary focus on coyote. No wolf issues this year and low bear & lion issues this year. A little raven work has been done when time allows. Not as much time allowance for preventative coyote work. They are working with bordering counties on coyote control.

*Park County: Mike Burell, WS, Shane Smith, Monty Nicholson, WS, Lloyd Thiel, Rori Renner, Tim Hockhalter*

*Request: \$162,353*

Park County only has one and ½ trappers with the half time trapper, primarily working as a gunner. They are responding to every livestock issue and work on preventative control. They will be working towards a wildlife program for mule deer on the Clark-Forks herd. Deer numbers are drastically low. They are leaning on neighboring counties for help. With the increase in predators in all areas, coyotes, lions, bears, wolf, raccoons, skunks, etc., 70 miles of Montana border with little control program and 140 miles of National Park bordering Park County which is very pro-predator and has zero predator control, they are really stretching themselves to keep up and really could use the extra help.

*Crook County: Jim Dacar, Darla West*

*Request: \$100,000*

Currently has one trapper on the ground, one pilot and gunner (WS). Livestock and preventative control are their primary focus. They'd like to add more flight time to private contractor and hope to add another full time trapper. Mountain lions numbers are going down, while coyotes seem to be about the same. The only work with WS will be aerial work.

*Sheridan County: John Auzqui, Kellen Little, Allen Plummer*

*Request: \$107,970*

*Rabies: \$10,000*

They've taken over 300 coyotes on the ground and around 350 from the air. Sheridan county has had one recent rabies skunk case confirmed so far this year. There is a large issue with coyotes on the Crow reservation in Montana with no control on the reservation; they are seeing affects in the coyote population.

*Fremont County: Garvice Roby, Beth Evans, Tracy Frye (WS)*

*Request: \$85,000*

Domestic sheep numbers are increasing. However, the coyote and raven have been about the same. They've taken 19 wolves and 400 coyotes. They have enough wolves to keep trapper busy. They continue working on the deer project on south end of Bighorns and have taken 70 coyotes since taking on the deer project last summer.

**Open to Public Comment.** Amy Hendricks shared a little on research.

Bob Phillips shared about upcoming ADMB meeting / tour on June 7-8.

Meeting will reconvene at 8am Friday, May 11, 2018

Adjourned at 4:26 p.m.



**Friday, May 11, 2018**

*Called to order— 8:04 a.m. by Chair Doug Miyamoto*

**Presentations continued.**

*Natrona County: Mary Owens, Brian Olsen (G&F)*

*Request: \$200,000*

Currently have 2 ¾ trappers. They have been able to increase their aerial work which in result has increased the number of coyote kills in the county. They are requesting the same amount to continue projects. They are working with WG&F on various projects and continuing projects with funds. Deer numbers are increasing due to predator control in the project areas. They also have been working on raven controls with producers and are reaching out to community to try to get control on ravens in the landfill areas to help in producer areas as well.

*Converse County: Jeff Boner, Tim Pexton*

*Request: \$199,936*

Nothing has changed as far as the program. They underestimated budget on predator fees by about \$7,000-8,000. Contract a private pilot which results in lower cost than working with WS. Coyotes/calf kills are increasing in the northern area of the county. They believe that pup numbers are a little lower but believe the coyote population is generally staying the same, despite decrease of rabbit population. They are seeing a large problem with eagle predation with lambing.

*Johnson County: Dave Hall & Gerald Fink*

*Request: \$176,500*

*Rabies: \$25,000*

Currently have two and half contractors, rabies mitigation employees, private and WS aerial use. Reduced from 3 to 2 ½ contractors, using semi-retired trapper. The loss numbers have increase due to increase in predator and decrease in staff. They would like to increase back to 3 full time contractors. Sheep producers in southern part of county are seeing great increase in losses due to predation. They've had a reported rabies case last month. Their rabies program is not only great in general for the skunks, but it has been a great public response in the community on predator control. A lot of producer and community support.

*Hot Springs County: Mike Burell, WS, Brett Belden, Jack Baird*

*Request: \$195,064*

Currently have two trappers, and a plane based in Worland. They've received a drone and hope to incorporate that to help locate coyotes and dens. They've taken 4 wolves in Hot Springs County. WG&F are not collaring or tracking these wolves so it's harder for to keep track of the true number of count. WS has collars on the pack where the 4 wolves were taken. Hot Springs County has a good relationship with the Wind River Reservation on wolf work. They have two full time employees and have gone thru the FAA and USFWS certification for drone use. The drone is also proposed for use of employee safety as well as helping with difficult access points.

*Niobrara County: Barb Kilmer & Kitson Boldon*

*Request: \$150,000*

They have 2 employees. Focus on fawning and lambing/calving areas. 1,300-1,400 coyotes per year. They continue to take more coyotes out and continue to find increase of coyotes coming in from non-controlled surrounding areas. Losses are about the same, trying to stay pro-active to keep the losses down. They have a balanced program with both aerial and ground work, however would like to have more availability on air time (fixed wing).

*Washakie County: Mike Burell, WS, Rolly Redland*

*Request: \$168,560*

They have two full time employees with coyote work being their primary species of concern. They also work on raccoon and skunk work as well. The county has decrease aerial work to save funds. This is their second year with the deer project with coyote removal on south end of Bighorns, they are seeing great results in removing coyotes in fawning areas. Combined forces counties in Basin on predator control; with the idea of combined forces is to run 2 employees in each county, each county in Basin shares the one plane and can work together on efforts in the Basin rather than competing and fair-share with payments/flat rates.

*Sweetwater County: Jim Burnett*

*Request: \$162,500*

Sweetwater County has been wintering sheep, therefore not receiving much from predator fees. They focused quite a bit on raven controls in efforts of protecting sage grouse. Currently have two employees contracted with WS, both about ¾ time. They have not done much aerial due to funding. Predators are flourishing due to wintering land areas, large area of public land and not much buy-in of private land/producers. Wolves have been present but no damages thus far and seem to be mainly passing through. They would like to see WG&F support and contract assistance on predator control.

*Lincoln County: Jon Child*

*Request: \$200,000*

Losses were way down with many producers. Predator kills have been down a little as well. WS took down 349 coyotes, 577 ravens and 4 wolves in 2017/2018. Ravens have become a big issue in the area. Wolves started reappearing again this past March and lost 23 calves at the beginning of season. They currently have 1 government trapper and one part time trapper. The county has taken 151 coyotes. They are flying critical areas for WG&F on fawning.

Kent Drake presented funds for available for this year's allocations. \$2,150,000 is available for allocations. The board discussed funding allocations.

Sy Gilliland moved to take the amounts granted in the 2017-2018 allocation and reduce every district by \$10,000. Kevin Kisicki seconded the motion. Sy Gilliland moved to amend motion to change from a flat \$10,000 per district to 10% reduction per district. Mike Foster seconded the amendment. The amendment and the main motion carried.

After discussion on how to add back funds, Shaun Sims moved to add back \$12,000 to Sweetwater, \$5,000 to Goshen, \$12,500 to Park, \$12,500 to Hot Springs, \$16,000 to Lincoln, \$12,000 to Carbon, and \$10,000 to Sheridan. Garrett Falkenburg seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Shaun Sims moved to accept the final allocations. Sy Gilliland seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Rabies: \$44,500 to allocate.**

Shaun Sims moved to allocate \$14,000 to Campbell, \$15,000 to Sheridan, and \$15,500 to Johnson . Pete Dube seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:52 p.m.



# ANIMAL DAMAGE MANAGEMENT BOARD

6607 Campstool Road, Cheyenne, WY 82002-0100

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## ADMB Meeting Game and Fish Regional Office Sheridan, WY

### Agenda

#### Friday, June 8, 2018

- 8:00 am - Call to Order – (Miyamoto, Talbott)
- Introductions of board, guests, & public
  - Additions/Corrections/Approval of Agenda
  - Approval of May 10-11, 2018 Minutes
- 8:15 am - Project Final Reports (15 minutes each)
- \* Wyoming Range Mule Deer Project – J. Child and J. Short
  - \* Coyote Control Targeted on Mule Deer Fawning areas at Cedar Mountain – J. Hickey and J. Short
  - \* Fremont County Southern Bighorns Mule Deer Project – T. Dockery and T. Frye
- 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, K. Monteith
  - \* 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 – R. Redland
  - \* Natrona County Raven Removal – M. Owens, B. Olsen
  - \* Coyote Removal to Enhance Stove Gulch Mule Deer Fawn Survival - M. Owens, B. Harlan, WY G&F
  - \* Effect of coyotes and coyote control on sympatric ungulates in southwest Wyoming - M. Zornes and K. Monteith
- 11:20 a.m. - Project Proposals – New (20 min. each)
- \* Coyote Removal to Enhance Bates Hole mule deer fawn survival - M. Owens, B. Olsen
  - \* Whiskey Mountain Bighorn Sheep Project – B. Evans, T. Frye
- Noon Break for Lunch

1:00 pm - Project Proposals – New (20 min. each) continued

- \* Bighorn Sheep lamb survival study – G. Anderson, A. Courtemanch, G. Fralick, T. Mong, H. Edwards, and D. McWhirter , K. Monteith
- \* Area 17 deer and antelope coyote control – W. Pollat
- \* Nuisance Beaver transplanting program – WY G&F, Cody region
- \* Temporary Electric Fence – D. Lasseter
- \* Gros Ventre Elk and Wolf Interaction Project – A. Courtemanch
- \* Researching the use of drones in Wildlife Damage Management, Hot Springs County PMD
- \* Laramie region bear trap – R. King
- \* Coyote Control targeted on mule deer wintering grounds within the Clark’s Fork mule deer herd –Park County PMD
- \* Improving fawn survival in mule deer by the removal of coyotes during the fawning season - M. Conover

4:00 pm - Break

4:10 pm - Discussion and determination of grant awards

4:30 pm - Public Comment / Board Comment

4:45 pm- Adjourn

**Animal Damage Management Board Meeting**  
**Friday, June 8, 2018**  
**Holiday Inn Conference Center**  
**Sheridan, Wyoming**

Call to order 8:00a.m. – Co-Chair, Scott Talbott

*Introductions*

**Board Members Present:**

Stacia Berry (for Co-Chair Doug Miyamoto)	Ron Cunningham
Co-Chair Scott Talbott	Tyler Abbott
Bob Philips	Bob Harlan
Pete Dube	Mike Foster

**Board Members Absent:** Co-Chair Doug Miyamoto, Shaun Sims, Garret Falkenburg, Sy Gilliland, Kevin Kisicki, Brad Jost, Gene Hardy, Sandy Underhill

**WDA Support Staff:** Kelsey Hart, Kent Drake

Additions to agenda -Co-Chair Scott Talbott explained the addition to the agenda: Intent to adopt rules for public record requests.

Pete Dube moved to approve the agenda and May 10-11, 2018 meeting minutes. Mike Foster seconded. Motion carried.

Scott Talbott explained the intent to adopt rules for public records request. Pete Dube moved to proceed with the adoption of rules for public record requests. Co-Chair Stacia Berry seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Presentations**

***Final Reports:***

➤ Wyoming Range Mule Deer Project- Jeff Short

➤ Fremont County- Southern Bighorn Mule Deer Project – Tracy Frye & Dave Fowler

Tracy Frye requested an extension on the contract to continue using current funds to continue working on this project.

Ron Cunningham moved to approve an extension for the contract with Fremont County PMD to extend their project to June 30, 2019. Bob Phillips seconded. Motion carried.

### ***Project proposals – Renewals with updates:***

- Large Carnivore - Livestock Depredation Prevention and Control – Scott Edberg
- Effects of predation on survival of newborn mule deer in the Wyoming Range – Kevin Monteith
- Ferris mule deer coyote control in selected fawning areas – Carbon County PMD – Roger Cox
- Coyote Control Targeted on Mule Deer Fawning grounds to protect SW Big Horn Mule Deer – Mike Burrell
- Natrona County Raven Removal – Mary Owens, Brian Olsen
- Coyote Removal to Enhance Stove Gulch Mule Deer Fawn Survival - Mary Owens, Brian Olsen
- Coyote Removal to Enhance Bates Hole mule deer fawn survival – Mary Owens, Brian Olsen
- Effect of coyotes and coyote control on sympatric ungulates in southwest Wyoming - Kevin Monteith

### ***New Project Proposals***

- Nuisance Beaver transplanting program – WY G&F, Cody region – Jerry Alterman
- Whiskey Mountain Bighorn Sheep Project – Tracy. Frye, Dave Fowler
- Gros Ventre Elk and Wolf Interaction Project – Aly Courtemanch
- Bighorn Sheep lamb survival study –Kevin Monteith
- Temporary Electric Fence – Dusty Lasseter
- Laramie region bear trap - Dusty Lasseter

The board broke for lunch at noon and reconvened at 1:00 p.m. to hear more new project proposals.

- Area 17 deer and antelope coyote control – Wayne Pollat, Erica Peckman
- Researching the use of drones in Wildlife Damage Management, Hot Springs County PMD– Mike Burrell
- Coyote Control targeted on mule deer wintering grounds within the Clark’s Fork mule deer herd –Park County PMD – Mike Burrell
- Improving fawn survival in mule deer by the removal of coyotes during the fawning season - Mike Conover

### ***Allocation & committee discussion:***

The board was reminded that there is \$213,000 available for 2018-2019 project funding.

Mike Foster moved to fund the first 5 project priorities on the WY G&F list in full. Ron Cunningham seconded the motion. Stacia Berry moved to amend the motion to include the first 7 priorities instead of the first 5. Ron Cunningham seconded the amendment. Ron Cunningham moved to amend the amendment to include the first 8 projects instead of just the first 7. Bob Phillips seconded the amendment to the amendment. The floor was opened up for the committee’s discussion. The motion to approve the amendment to the amendment was voted on and failed. The motion on the amendment to the motion was voted on and carried. The final motion as amended; to fund the first 7 priorities on the WY G&F list was voted on and carried. These 7 projects totaled \$175,000, leaving \$38,000 remaining to allocate.

Pete Dube moved to fund \$10,000 into the Natrona county raven control project. Stacia Berry seconded the motion. After discussion, Pete Dube withdrew his motion to request \$10,000 into raven control.

Bob Phillips moved to fund the Bates Hole project at \$15,000. Pete Dube seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mike Foster moved to fund Farris mountain mule deer project another year at \$10,000, and the Natrona county raven project at \$5,000. Pete Dube seconded the motion. Scott Talbott stated that due to the success of the Farris mule deer herd, it does not fall under the WY G&F parameters to approve predator management. Mike withdrew his previous motion and moved to fund \$5,000 for Natrona county raven project. Pete seconded to approve the Natrona county raven project. Motion carried.

Pete moved to not fund any other projects this year and carry the remaining funds forward. Mike Foster seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Ron Cunningham moved to fund \$8,000 for the Whiskey mountain bighorn sheep project. Due to lack of a second, the motion failed.

The board discussed recognizing Gene Hardy for his many years of serving and contributing on the ADMB. It was decided that a recognition for Gene Hardy's service to the Animal Damage Management Board will take place, Friday Aug 17 at 4:00pm at the Wyoming State Fair's Directors reception in Douglas, WY.

Meeting adjourned at 2:27 pm.



# ANIMAL DAMAGE MANAGEMENT BOARD

6607 Campstool Road, Cheyenne, WY 82002-0100

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## ADMB Meeting Teleconference

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

### Agenda

**Thursday, November 1, 2018**

- 9:00 am - Call to Order – (Miyamoto, Talbott)
  - Introductions of board, guests, & public
  - Additions/Corrections/Approval of Agenda
  - Approval of June 8, 2018 Minutes
- 9:10 am - Set price for Wildlife Damage Management Stamp
- 9:20 am - Wolf Management in the Predator Zone – Mike Foster, USDA-Wildlife Services, Kent Drake, WDA
- 9:40 am - Proposed Adoption of Chapter 3: Uniform Procedures, Fees, Costs, and Charges for Inspecting, Copying, and Producing Public Records
- 9:45 am - Set 2018 meeting dates
- 9:50 am - Public Comment / Board Comment
- 10:00 am - Adjourn



**ADMB Meeting Draft Minutes  
November 1 2018  
Teleconference  
9:00 AM**

**Board Members Present:**

Co-Chair Scott Talbott  
Kevin Kisicki  
Sy Gilliland  
Sandy Underhill

Co-Chair Doug Miyamoto  
Bob Philips  
Ron Cunningham

Garret Falkenburg  
Mike Foster  
Brad Jost

**Board Members Absent:**

Shaun Sims  
Tyler Abbott

Bob Harlan

Pete Dube

**WDA Support Staff:**

Kent Drake

Kelsey Hart

Shane Howe

**Public Attendees:**

Rene LaBare  
Jennifer Sherry

Saige Albert

Lisa Robertson

Called to order – Co-Chair Doug M. - 9:02 a.m.

Introductions

Approval of agenda – Ron C. moved to approve agenda, Kevin K. seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Approval of minutes for June 8, 2018 – Ron C. moved to approve the minutes, Mike F. seconded the motion to approve minutes. Motion carried.

Set price for Wildlife Damage Management Stamp- Discussion took place regarding the price structure of the stamp. Historically the stamp has been set at \$10.00. Co-Chair Scott T. added that we still have a negative balance of about \$2,400 towards Wyoming Game & Fish for reimbursement. Co-Chair Scott T. recommended that the price remains at the \$10.00 amount. Kevin K. moved to keep stamp at status quo at \$10.00 for 2019. Garrett F. seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Wolf Management in the Predator Zone – Mike F. discussed updates of July 1 to date (November 1) that they've taken 9 wolves in the predator zone, and have had 37.47 hours in the air and approximately 200+ hours on ground. As of today, they have submitted approximately \$25,000 to the Wyoming Department of Agriculture for wolf management per agreement.

- Sy G. asked Mike F. what the Wildlife Services policy on when they can go after those wolves- Mike stated the policy is that they have to have an incident of livestock depredation before they go out in field. Sy mentioned there have been some issues in Washakie County with wolves near big game. Mike reiterated that until a livestock depredation is reported and confirmed they cannot remove the wolves according to their agency policy.
- Kent D. added July 1, 2018 the funding became available. Kent also reiterated that ADMB rules state that no funding will be provided until confirmation of livestock depredation is complete. To date, we have received Wildlife Service bills for approximately \$25,000 and no

requests or reports of wolf depredation from county predator management boards that have independent contract trappers.

Proposed Adoption of Chapter 3– Kent D. stated that rule making process has been done and public comment has been open for the required amount of time and no public comments were provided, so the rules are now up for final adoption. Garrett F. asked if these rules need to be voted on annually or how that process works. Kent stated that once approved, the new rule will be in place until changes need to be made and it will go through the rule making process again. Kevin K. moved to adopt Chapter 3 as proposed. Ron C. seconded the motion for adoption of Chapter 3. Motion carried.

2019 meeting dates we set by the board as follows:

- January 17th – Cheyenne at Wyoming Game & Fish
- May 7th -8th – Casper at Wyoming Game & Fish
- June 12th -13th – Tentatively in Buffalo
- November 1st – Teleconference

Additional Dates to Note:

- Wyoming Outdoor Expo – Casper May 9th-11th

Ron C. moved to set dates as discussed, Mike F. seconded. Motion carried.

Open for comment –

- ADMB Board: no comments
- Public: Lisa Robertson, *Jackson WY*, had a question on use of funds – use of alternative techniques for wolf management.
  - Kent D. explained the way the funds are dispersed.

Mike F. moved to adjourn the meeting. Kevin K. seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:33 a.m.

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Start up budget

PREDATOR MANAGEMENT 1501	BUDGETED		EXPENDED		PERCENT OPTIMUM		NOTES
	FY 19 - 20		YTD	ENCUMBERED	BALANCE	EXPENDED	
<i>PERSONAL SERVICES</i>	<i>100.00</i>	\$203,008			\$203,008	0.00%	
<i>SUPPORTIVE SERVICES</i>	<i>200.00</i>						
Equipment Repairs & Mtn	202.00	749			749	0.00%	
Utilities	203.00	840			840	0.00%	
Freight and Postage	204.00	1,750			1,750	0.00%	
Employee Development	207.00	1,750			1,750	0.00%	
Advertising	208.00	0			0		
Travel In State	221.00	7,500			7,500	0.00%	
Travel Out of State	222.00	4,625			4,625	0.00%	
Permanently Assigned Vehicles	223.00	19,500			19,500	0.00%	
Office Supplies/Printing	231.00	8,000			8,000	0.00%	
Vehicle Supplies	233.00	0					
Educational Supplies	236.00	0			0		
Other Repair Supplies	239.00	3,000			3,000	0.00%	
Equipment Rental	252.00	1,000			1,000	0.00%	
<i>200 SERIES TOTAL</i>		\$48,714	\$0	\$0	\$48,714	0.00%	
<i>DATA PROCESSING</i>	<i>400.00</i>						
Telecommunications A&I	420.00	665			665	0.00%	
<i>400 SERIES TOTAL</i>		\$665	\$0	\$0	\$665	0.00%	
<i>GRANTS &amp; AID PYMTS</i>	<i>600.00</i>						
Grants	626.00	4,556,217			4,556,217	0.00%	exception \$250,000 wolf predator fundings
<i>600 SERIES TOTAL</i>		\$4,556,217	\$0	\$0	\$4,556,217	0.00%	
<b>PREDATOR MANAGEMENT TOTAL</b>		<b>\$4,808,604</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$4,808,604</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	

		YTD Transfers	DISCUSSION ITEMS
General Funds	4,808,604	0 0%	
TOTALS	\$4,808,604	\$0 0%	

0

Start up budget

ANIMAL DAMAGE MGMT 0317	BUDGETED		EXPENDED		PERCENT OPTIMUM		NOTES
	FY 19 - 20		YTD	ENCUMBERED	BALANCE	EXPENDED	
<b>Fund 047</b>							
<i>SUPPORTIVE SERVICES 200.00</i>							
Equipment Repairs & Mtnc	202.00	0			0		
Utilities	203.00	0			0		
Freight & Postage	204.00	600			600	0.00%	
Board Travel In State	228.00	4,725			4,725	0.00%	
Supplies/Printing	231.00	1,424			1,424	0.00%	
Equipment Rental	252.00	150			150	0.00%	
<i>200 SERIES TOTAL</i>		<i>\$6,899</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$6,899</i>	<i>0.00%</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	685,970			685,970	0.00%	
UW Grants & Aid Payments	667.00	0	0		0		
<i>600 SERIES TOTAL</i>		<i>\$685,970</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$685,970</i>	<i>0.00%</i>	
<i>CONTRACTUAL SRVS. 900.00</i>							
Professional/Consulting Fees	901.00	48,808			48,808	0.00%	
<i>900 SERIES TOTAL</i>		<i>\$48,808</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$48,808</i>	<i>0.00%</i>	
<b>ANIMAL DAMAGE MGMT 0 TOTAL</b>	<b>\$741,749</b>		<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$741,749</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	

		YTD Revenue	YTD %
General Funds	244,301	0.00	0%
Other Funds			
Livestock Brand Fee-5353	1,000	0%	
Wildlife Damage Stamp-2634	1,000	0%	
Landowner Coupons-6204	20,000	0%	
Predator Boards - 6301	275,448	0%	
Game & Fish - 5040	200,000	0%	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$741,749</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>0%</b>

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Reduced by 288,948 to account for revenues not collected

Cash Balance 446,280.44

Start up budget

RODENT & PREDATOR 0315	BUDGETED		EXPENDED		PERCENT OPTIMUM		NOTES
	FY 19 - 20	YTD	ENCUMBERED	BALANCE	EXPENDED	0.00%	
<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	2,000	0		2,000	0.00%	
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	1,021	0		1,021	0.00%	
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>\$3,021</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$3,021</b>	<b>0.00%</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	30,360	0		30,360	0.00%	
<b>800 SERIES TOTAL</b>		<b>\$30,360</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$30,360</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>\$33,381</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$33,381</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	

0.00% excluding 600 and 800 series expenditures

	YTD Revenue	YTD %
General Funds	0	0 0%
Other Funds		
Rodent Control - Sales 5421	33,381	0%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$33,381</b>	<b>\$0 0%</b>

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Reduced budget by 32,281 for sales funding

0

Start up budget

ADMB - RABIES 0313	BUDGETED		EXPENDED		PERCENT OPTIMUM		NOTES
	FY 19 - 20	YTD	ENCUMBERED	BALANCE	EXPENDED	0.00%	
<i>SUPPORTIVE SERVICES 200.00</i>							
Equipment Rep & Mtnc	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		121,455	0.00%		
<b>0600 SERIES TOTAL</b>	<b>\$121,455</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$121,455</b>	<b>0.00%</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>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$121,555</b>	<b>0.00%</b>		

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

DISCUSSION ITEMS





## WYOMING GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

5400 Bishop Blvd. Cheyenne, WY 82006

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

wgfd.wyo.gov

**GOVERNOR**  
MATTHEW H. MEAD

**DIRECTOR**  
SCOTT TALBOTT

**COMMISSIONERS**  
MARK ANSELMINI – President  
DAVID RAEI – Vice President  
GAY LYNN BYRD  
PATRICK CRANK  
KEITH CULVER  
PETER J. DUBE  
MIKE SCHMID

November 6, 2018

### 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) 2018 is being provided.

Landowner coupons designated and transferred to ADMB	\$ 1,248.00
Wildlife damage management stamp	
Sales deposited 7/1/2017 through 6/30/2018	\$ 731.50
(License agent reports through 6/30/2018)	
Costs of program administration	
Management stamp:	
Printing	\$ 0.00
Administrative time	\$ 785.50 (20 hours)
Total administrative costs for FY 2018	<u>(\$ 785.50)</u>
FY18 collections over expenditures	(\$ 54.00)
Deficit collections previous years	(\$2,343.39)
Amount due to be transferred to ADMB for FY2018	= <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>➤ Wyoming Game and Fish Commission and Wyoming Board of Agriculture</li> </ul>	1. WDA staff	1. 11/30 each year	
2. Rabies Management Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Review the Rabies Management Plan (REFERENCE RABIES MANAGEMENT</li> </ul>	1. ADMB co-chairman 2. ADMB	1. Annually 2. Annually	

PLAN FOR ACTION ITEMS)			
3. Review programs effectiveness (1501 grant program; 317, and 313.	3. ADMB	3. Annually	
<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>			
<b><i>ACTION</i></b>			
1. Review as needed and implement the MOUs.	1. ADMB	1. As needed	<b><i>DATE COMPLETED</i></b>
2. Coordinate programs in accordance with statutes.	2. ADMB	2. As needed	

**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:</b> W.S. 11-6-304(b)(i): Entertain requests for assistance to allow mitigation of animal damage.			
<b>STRATEGY 2.1.2:</b> 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><i>ACTION</i></b>	<b><i>RESPONSIBILITY</i></b>	<b><i>DATE TO COMPLETE</i></b>	<b><i>DATE COMPLETED</i></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:</b> 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><i>ACTION</i></b>		<b><i>RESPONSIBILITY</i></b>	<b><i>DATE TO COMPLETE</i></b>
1. Project proposals.		1. ADMB	1. Annually
<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>			
2. 1501 budget monies		2. ADMB	2. Annually
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Requests submitted annually</li> </ul>			

**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><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.	

**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><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>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review and amend MOUs as needed.</li> <li>2. Explore options for grants and/or pass through funds.</li> <li>3. Complete projects and assure that they are measurable and accountable through the proposal and reporting process.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. ADMB</li> <li>2. ADMB</li> <li>3. ADMB</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. As needed</li> <li>2. On-going</li> <li>3. On-going and as projects are submitted and being implemented</li> </ol>	
<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>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. ADMB will maintain a relationship with the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission.</li> <li>2. ADMB will submit a letter of request for funding to the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission.</li> <li>3. ADMB will assure Game and Fish federal aid criteria are maintained through WGFD review of submitted projects.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. ADMB</li> <li>2. ADMB</li> <li>3. G&amp;F</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. On-going</li> <li>2. By 8/1 of year before funding is to be expended.</li> <li>3. By 7/1 of year before funding is to be expended.</li> </ol>	

**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. Annually</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 – 11-6-312**

**OBJECTIVE 4.1**

**W.S. 11-6-301 – 11-6-312**

**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>ACTION</b>	<b>RESPONSIBILITY</b>	<b>DATE TO COMPLETE</b>
<p>1. Develop a marketing strategy for the ADM program. Strategy should include who to contact; method of contact; when to contact; and who will be contacted.</p> <p>2. Timely updating of the ADMB web site</p> <p>3. Promote successes of ADMB through news articles.</p> <p>4. Continue to market the ADMB program and educate the public through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Facilitating symposiums to share information about current issues</li> <li>➤ Sharing ADMB booth at appropriate events.</li> <li>➤ Coordinate education activities through groups such as WAIC</li> <li>➤ Encourage local predator districts to do public education/relations as appropriate.</li> </ul> <p>5. Hire a WDA intern to assist with marketing efforts and other duties associated with ADM program.</p>	<p>1. ADMB</p> <p>2. WDA staff</p> <p>3. ADMB</p> <p>4. WDA staff and ADMB board</p> <p>5. WDA</p>	<p>1. On-going</p> <p>2. update as information changes</p> <p>3. &amp; 4. On-going and as opportunities arise.</p> <p>5. Annually (as funds are available)</p>

**GOAL 5: Obtain credible information to enhance the Wyoming Animal Damage Management program.  
 STATUTORY AUTHORITY: W.S. 11-6-301 – 11-6-312**

**OBJECTIVE 5.1**

**W.S. 11-6-301 – 11-6-312**

**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**

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



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### Overview of Activities to Date:

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

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

Through the work of the ADMB, \$2.15 million has been awarded to the nineteen qualified districts in the past year. In 2018, the ADMB received \$2.98 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 11 2018	\$90,000.00
Big Horn County PMD	May 11 2018	\$112,500.00
Campbell County PMD	May 11, 2018	\$130,500.00
Carbon County PMD	May 11, 2018	\$133,500.00
Converse County PMD	May 11, 2018	\$166,500.00
Crook County PMD	May 11, 2018	\$72,000.00
Fremont County PMD	May 11, 2018	\$54,000.00
Goshen County PMD	May 11, 2018	\$50,000.00
Hot Springs County PMD	May 11, 2018	\$125,000.00
Johnson County PMD	May 11, 2018	\$121,500.00
Lincoln County PMD	May 11, 2018	\$160,000.00
Natrona County PMD	May 11, 2018	\$180,000.00
Niobrara County PMD	May 11, 2018	\$117,000.00
Park County PMD	May 11, 2018	\$125,000.00
Sheridan County PMD	May 11, 2018	\$73,000.00
Sweetwater County PMD	May 11, 2018	\$120,000.00
Uinta County PMD	May 11, 2018	\$135,000.00
Washakie County PMD	May 11, 2018	\$112,500.00
Weston County PMD	May 11, 2018	\$72,000.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,150,000.00</b>

By July 1, 2018, 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 is currently working with wildlife services in the last year wildlife service employees have worked a total of 3280 acres of BLM, 758,642 acres of private and 20,260 acres of state lands. Wildlife services has one full time trapper based out of Laramie, five other wildlife employees worked in Albany County. In the past year from aerial hunting, to trapping and releasing ducks 2240 hours have been worked in 2017-2018.

A total of 95 hours of fixed wing aerial hunting hours were spent with 295 coyotes taken.

A total of 15.5 hours of helicopter time has been flew at this time for 23 coyotes, We also plan on flying another 15 hours of helicopter time in May.

### Number of Animals Taken

#### In 2017-2018

Badgers: 3

Beavers: 6

Coyotes: 441

Ducks Tested: 158

Raccoons: 7

Ravens: 42

Skunks: 18



Albany County Predator Management District has maintained a good working relationship with all the livestock producers and private entities for the 2017-2018 year. There was a total of 5150.00 dollars lost due to predation, 7 calves, 7 adult sheep, and 7 lambs. Coyotes accounted for 7 calves, 3 adult sheep, and 5 lambs. The common raven was to blame for 4 calves and 8 lambs. Ravens have also contributed to a total of \$21000.00 dollars of contamination to industrial equipment.

The Albany County trapper offers service to the concerned citizens of Albany County and local businesses. By using live traps and firearms to catch or kill the potentially harmful animals; the Albany County Trapper has taken out 3 badgers, 18 skunks, 7 raccoons, 42 ravens and 6 beavers.

Albany County Predator Management District had the Wyoming State Vet Lab test 6 skunks for the rabies virus with no positive results in the 2017-2018 work year. Since 2006 we have worked with wildlife services to continually test and monitor rabies; we haven't had a positive test come back.

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 ravens Albany County Predator Management District will work with WS and companies. As for the time, methods and costs of control that needs to be done to measure the effects that raven control has on the work place.



# Big Horn County Predator Management District

## 2017-18 Annual Report

PO Box 613  
Greybull,  
Wyoming  
82426



### Board Members

#### President

Randall Jones, Otto, Wy.

#### Vice President

Terry Mueller, Shell, Wy.

#### Secretary/Treasurer

Kay Neves, Emblem, Wy.

Carl Nielsen, Hyattville, Wy.

Nancy Joyce, Manderson,  
Wy.

Keith Hamilton, Hyattville,  
Wy.

Raymond Jolley, Lovell, Wy.

Skip Fox, Manderson, Wy

Mark Shlattmann, Basin, Wy.

#### WS Specialists

Brandon O'Brien, Full-time

2nd WS position, vacant

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.

Presently, there is one full-time WS employee that covers Bighorn County, but there are plans to fill the 2nd WS position, depending on 18-19 funding levels. Bighorn County also received assistance from 14 other WS employees (pilots, additional trappers, and biologists). In the time frame from March 1st, 2017-February 28th, 2018 (the most recent 365 day period to generate activity data), the total hours worked in Big Horn County was 3250 man hours on 54 different properties totaling 2,145,705 acres.

In Big Horn County, 173 hours were flown by fixed-wing during the reporting period.



***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: 24
- Coyotes: 445
- Coyote Dens: 7
- Common Raven: 5
- Raccoons: 78
- Red Fox: 19
- Red Fox Dens: 3.
- Striped Skunk: 8

## 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

**Livestock:** There was \$2,019 dollars in sheep damage verified by WS in Big Horn County.

- WS responded 3 times to reported wolf depredations within Bighorn County.
- WS made 908 visits to protect livestock (cattle, sheep, horses, and goats) from coyotes.
- WS made 417 visits to protect livestock from red fox.
- WS responded 13 times to raven/crow/blackbird damage to lambs and cattle.
- WS responded 32 times to reported black bear depredations
- WS made 57 visits to reported mt. lion depredation
- WS made 3 visits to feral dog depredation



**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 23 times to crop damage. Damaged was caused by raccoons.
- WS responded 115 times to protect irrigation/ditch systems from badgers, skunks, and raccoons.
- WS made 19 visits to protect buildings, both residential and non-residential from raccoons.
- WS made 16 visits to protect poultry from coyotes, raccoons, red fox, and skunks.

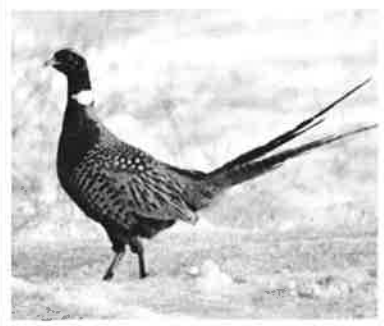


### Wildlife:

Big Horn WS was requested by WGFD to investigate a bighorn ram that was found dead. WS verified the ram was killed by a mountain lion.

WS responded 23 times to gamebird protection from red fox, skunks, and raccoons.

When 2.5 employees were available, it allowed WS to spend more time removing smaller mammals that predate on gamebirds. Presently, with one WS specialist, there is much less effort put directly on gamebird protection.



**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. These live traps can be loaned out to individuals throughout the County.

- During this reporting period, The WS Disease Biologist sampled 37 waterfowl from Bighorn County for disease testing for avian influenza.
- 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 2018-2019

Big Horn County Predator Management District's goal for 2018-2019 is to provide a professional wildlife damage management service through USDA's WS. This includes bringing back additional WS help. In 2017, one full-time employee resigned leaving the county with only one full-time WS position.

1) **Livestock:** Coyote numbers are stable and take numbers reflect that. Even with stable coyote numbers, predation events have been minimal. Wolves are now considered predatory animals county-wide, and we will keep close tabs on wolf presence within the county. We anticipate black bear and mountain lion predation on the summer allotments. 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 small mammal take county-wide and we expect lower take numbers this upcoming year. This is mostly due to priorities and limited staff. Corvid (crow and raven) numbers continue to be a big problem in parts of the county. We plan on using a combination of 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:** Important wildlife species that are valuable to the public inhabit the same areas where WS conducts predator removal.



There is no doubt the amount of predator removal county-wide directly benefits these local wildlife populations and the public.

The Bighorn County Predator Management District, WS, and WGFD are interested in the near future to identify a predator/wildlife project within the county where a wildlife species population can be identified and could benefit from predator reductions

**Human Health and Safety:** With some disease outbreaks in recent years, we, again, plan on taking mammal and bird samples from captured animals county-wide in 2018-19.

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.



**Year End Report**  
**Campbell County Predatory Board**  
**May 31, 2018**

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 2017 – May 2018. Since the reports are due June 30<sup>th</sup>, the financials do not include our June trapper expense or our aerial for the last quarter. 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 7089 hours in the field while covering 1,380,356 acres in Campbell County. Our trappers worked with 122 individual landowner agreements over the year as they provided predator control. We budgeted \$33,600.00 all for fixed wing aerial time. We have not received our final quarterly bill from Wildlife Services, but we are certain we remained within our budget for aerial. As of the end of March, we spent \$21,942.78 for fixed wing aerial. The number of animals that were harvested using aerial hunting was 260 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 131 livestock 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, trappers been working to keep the problem coyotes down. 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 trappers obtained new access to the Durham Buffalo Ranch and also a large ranch in the northern part of the county.

Our three trappers have harvested (as of May 31, 2018) 892 coyotes, 82 fox, 4 bobcats, 31 raccoons, 17 badgers, 7 badgers, and 1 mountain lion.

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 162 trouble call from the citizens. As of the end of May, they have harvested 318 skunks. The Board have tried to continue 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, 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 3 "questionable animals for rabies and fortunately they have all come back negative. The financial statement that is attached shows a net income of \$35,401.31 but again we have not paid any bills for June since they were not submitted prior to this report. We received \$145,000.00 from ADMB grant; we utilized that money to pay for trappers and part of the aerial which as totaled as of May 31, 2018 \$186,774.25. The expenses for the Rabies program are \$40,790.63 so far. 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 2016-2017 budget year. Of the total on the financial sheet for City and County contribution,

\$14,958.82 was used for the prior fiscal last quarter even though it shows on this report as being deposited into this fiscal year. This year as of date we received \$10,458.04 from the County and only \$6000 from the city, plus the grant money of \$19,000. 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.

PREDATOR MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MANAGEMENT, ACTIONS, RESULTS

2017-18 Goals

- 1) *Enable the Agricultural community to remain a viable industry which supports the local economy by maintaining a proper level of predator population for protection of livestock within our boundaries.*
- 2) *Help facilitate sustainable populations within wildlife species of particular concern (such as Sage Grouse, Mule Deer, Pronghorn and Big Horn Sheep) with predator damage management throughout the entire county.*
- 3) *Work with local municipalities and agencies for safety of the general public.*

“Living within our means” - the challenge for all agencies involved!!

**First:** ADMB received \$4.3 million for the biennium, which meant only \$2.15 million available to allocate to all asking entities for each of the next two years. They made many hard decisions on how to split that money fairly. We thank them for their time and dedication to all of us.

**Second:** WS’ has seen cuts within their agency as well. They have become very inventive with ways to help defray costs for local programs wherever they could. They requested and received the waiver of the 16.15% administrative fee previously charged and reduced other indirect costs for the employees, relieving the counties of those monetary burdens. Again, we thank them for time, money and dedication.

**Third:** Carbon County PMD boasts two and one half time very experienced specialists. Having 7,964 square miles to cover, they accepted the challenge of sharing responsibilities in reallocation of time and areas. Their area supervisor, Rod Merrell, was an added asset as he was a trapper in our county before he was promoted. However, the added threat of wolves made their task even more daunting, but they are working through those many obstacles.



Picture by Dan Braig, WS’ Specialist

Hunting wolves is sometimes a real adventure!

Board Members:

Cattlemen

- Josh Peterson
- J Stratton
- Lathern Withers
- John Hansen

Sheepmen

- Sharon O’Toole
- Scott Kerbs

Sportsmen

- John Engstrom
- Roger Cox
- Robert O’Connell

At Large

- John Strand

Secretary

- Charlene Abbott

WILDLIFE SPECIALISTS

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

## WOLVES TO REMAIN ON OUR AGENDA

At the beginning of 2017, we had no idea what managing the wolf, our new predator, would entail, let alone how much it would cost. We have learned—and spent—a lot in the last year!!

We used 6,000 truck miles, 500 man hours, 20 ATV hours and 22 flight hours. Besides the monetary cost of the hunt, the loss of livestock threatened the livelihood of several producers. Verified wolf damage included 11 cattle, 1 bred cow, 3 walking wounded cows, 1 dog and 16 sheep in adjoining Albany County.

Per the request of many producers, wolves will remain a major focus of work for the coming year.

In 2017, 8 or 9 wolves were spotted around Ferris Mountain, as well as reports from other parts of our county. Three ranches took 4 wolves and two hunters killed 3 or 4 more. We are expecting the same or greater predation in 2018. Our part time trapper became the “go to man” for wolf work. This spring he was fortunate to trap an Alpha female with 3 pups inside. Continuing reports, or rumors as the case may be, of wolf sightings in the Shirley Mountains, Snowy Range and Sierra Madre have been received. Wolves inhabit the rough terrain making fixed wing impractical—the helicopter will be greatly beneficial.



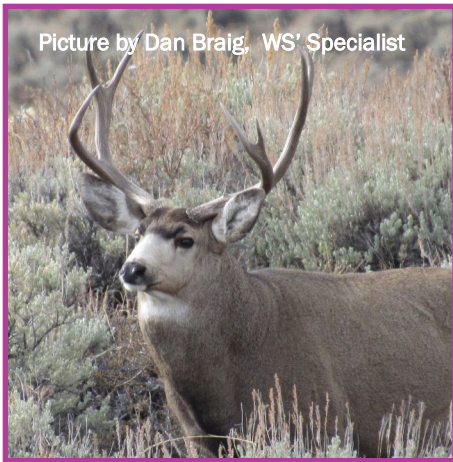
Wolf work will be, of course, in addition to our regular predator control and raven work is increasing exponentially. There seems to be more issues every year reported by industry, city residents, local municipalities and livestock producers. Coyote work remains high due to the addition of four new bands of sheep as well as more farm flocks and 4-H sheep in Carbon County.

Skunk control and rabies work will be done at a slightly reduced level, as we have had no cases of rabies reported for many years.

We aid municipalities, WGF and producers with beaver, bear and lion work as called upon.



## FERRIS MOUNTAIN MULE DEER PROJECT



Picture by Dan Braig, WS' Specialist

We have completed our 3rd—and final—year of our 7th Wildlife project since ADMB was established. We are gratified to see our work has had a positive result. Due to habitat improvement, cooperating weather and predator control, the Ferris Mountain Mule Deer project has been deemed a success by Wyoming Game and Fish as counts are now at 85% of objective.

In the 10 years prior to 2014, the mule deer herd in Area 87 experienced several severe winters, extreme drought and three major wildfires. The population was in a

declining trend with fawn ratios below 65:100 in 8 out of the previous 10 years. Fawn production was at near-record lows of 27 and 29:100 in 2012 and 2013.

Greg Hiatt, WGF biologist, reports the classification sample size increased in 2016, yielding the largest sample in at least 35 years, then increased again in 2017. Fawn production rose to a record 92:100 in 2016, followed by another record of 96:100 in 2017.

The transplanting of big horn sheep into this same area made our project twice as important. Bighorn sheep lamb production was excellent in 2015 and 2016 in both the Seminoe and Ferris herds. The 2017 numbers appeared somewhat lower, but still good compared to other herds in the state. With several years of good production and the additional transplant of 43 more sheep into the Ferris Mountains in December

of 2017 and February of 2018, the herd is estimated to be only 25% below objective. An additional transplant of bighorn sheep into the Ferris Mountains is being considered for late 2018.

From July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018, aerial operations logged a total of 50 hours, with 148 man-hours, removing 60 coyotes. ADMB donated \$8,000 for aerial costs and \$4,000 specialist support for a total of \$12,000 to this project. Agreements were signed with several large producers including Carbon County, BLM Ferris Mountain, ID Ranch, Pathfinder Ranch and Stone Ranch. The CCPMD ground crew logged 93.2 hours in 22 day-visits.



Picture by Beverly Braig

Wildlife Services provided gunner and expertise in reporting requirements, and administration of the grant.

The Wyoming Game and Fish will collect deer (and sheep) classification data to monitor the effectiveness of our completed project. Their 64 man and 10 helicopter hours will total \$10,120 to complete the in-kind donations contracted for the project.

**We look forward to seeing their final report!**



Picture by Dan Braig, WS' Specialist

## 2018 FACTS AND FIGURES



Ag in the Classroom—190 4th Graders

Total land acres worked by Carbon County WS' personnel

BLM lands	1,297,415
US Forest Service	31,060
County or City	850
Private Lands	1,308.160
State Lands	80,134
<b>Total acres</b>	<b>2,717,619</b>



Pictures by Dan Braig, WS' Specialist

The following animals were removed by our 3 WS' specialists, aided by 5 pilots, gunners, biologists and other WS' personnel with a total of 3,194 hours on 82 of our 89 active cooperative agreements. As of 6/15/18, we have used 177.2 aerial fixed wing hours and no helicopter time.

Badgers	17	Beaver	27	Feral Cats	3
Coyote Dens	4	Coyotes	558	Crows	55
Red Fox	11	Mountain Lion	1	Magpies	83
Porcupines	1	Raccoon	40	Raven	132
Skunk	96	Wolf	1		
Reported loss: \$33,274		Verified loss: \$8,055		Skunk rabies tests: 35	

In addition to normal problems for cattle, sheep, horse, rabbit, chicken (coyotes, mountain lion, bear, wolf, raven, crow, fox), WS' personnel resolved predator caused problems with aircraft (ravens nesting in the hanger), game birds (bob cat, fox, raccoon), residential and non-residential buildings, drainage/irrigation systems, roads/bridges, pastures/rangeland (badger, raccoon, beaver, skunk), equipment (ravens damaging gear boxes), landfills (ravens skunk, fox), as well as 4-H animal projects and human safety issues (feral cat, magpie, raccoon,

### CARBON COUNTY PREDATOR MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

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



Picture by Dan Braig, WS' Specialist

The horrific sight of a wolf kill



# CONVERSE COUNTY PREDATOR MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

# 2018 - 2019 MANAGEMENT PLAN

## MISSION

TO MANAGE ALL PREDATORS AND NUISANCE ANIMALS THAT ADVERSELY AFFECT OUR WILDLIFE, LIVESTOCK AND HUMAN HEALTH AND SAFETY, TO THE EXTENT THAT FUNDS ALLOW.

Being the largest sheep producing county in the state our trappers are stretched very thin traveling more miles and working more hours to get their job done. 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 2018-2019** 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 25 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

Predator Management District

## BOARD MEMBERS

Jeff Boner – Chairman  
Casey Tillard – Vice Chairman  
Bob Hageman – Treasure  
Tim Pexton – Budget Officer  
Gene Hardy – Secretary  
David Moore – Producer  
Corey Larson – Non-Producer  
John Wolfe - Wildlife  
Dave Banzhof - Wildlife  
Bret Frye - Wildlife

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 three 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 2017-2018



June 2017  
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 2018 -2019 fiscal year, the Board has prepared a budget with the overall concept of contract with APHIS for aerial purposes, with a gunner. The Board will increase private contracts to include a second trapper on the ground that will work part time along with our full-time trapper and has allowances in the budget to add a couple seasonal trappers to help during the denning season.
- Currently, APHIS reports (first three quarter numbers available at present) 125 actively served cooperative agreements for Crook County. Landowner that are less than 5 years old in their signing. The first three quarter numbers reflect 593 coyote and fox kills.
- In 2017-2018 Private trappers directly with 77 of landowner/operators to take 331 predatory animals since July 1 2017.
- 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.



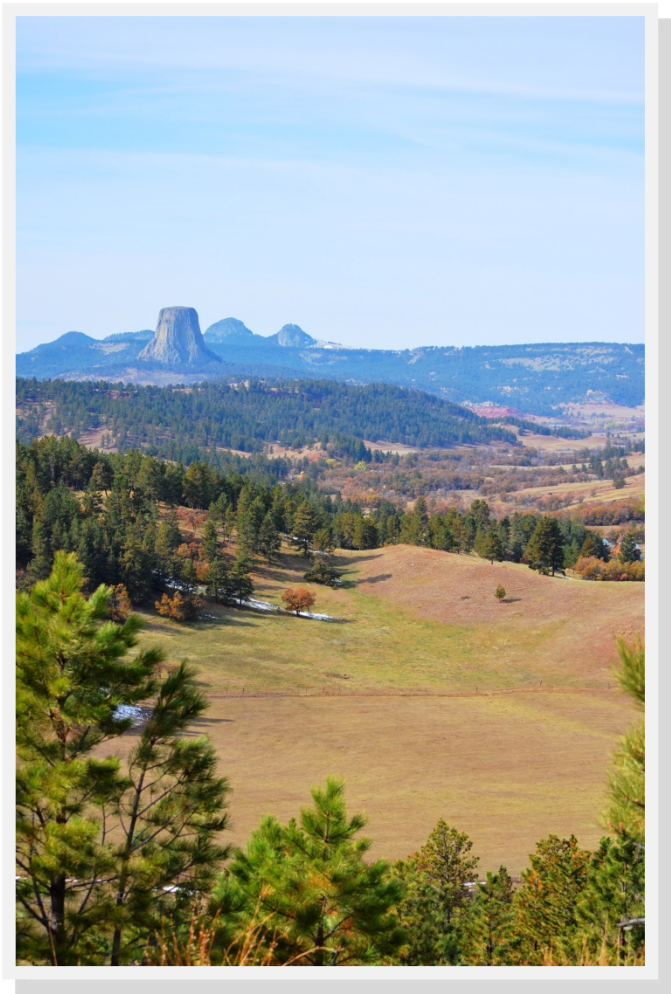
**Three issues continue to be targets for the CC PMD; wildlife issues, livestock issues; human health and safety issues. All three can be linked together when it comes to economic viability, our environment, and sustainability the communities in which we serve.**

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:(deceased)  
**JW Nuckolls**  
307.467.5590

New Treasurer:  
**Dennis Williams**  
307.756.9350

**Larry Fowlkes**  
467-5596

**Will West**  
467-5609

**Mike Dirks**  
467-5929

**Lloyd Jolley**  
307.281-0571

**Dallas Rolf**  
290-1920

**Mike Idler**  
307.283-4303

**Wade Dennis**  
680-3813

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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. Minutes to the meetings are available for public view at the County Courthouse, Clerks Office.

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

## Annual Report 2017-2018

### Mission Statement

It is the mission of Fremont County Predatory Animal Management Board to implement a cooperative and coordinated plan to limit and control damage done by predatory animals and predacious birds which are destructive to livestock, wildlife, or other domestic animals or are detrimental to feed and foodstuffs, crops and forage production, and human health using environmentally responsible management techniques and methods. Fremont County Predatory Animal Management Board will exercise general supervision in determining local priorities for the management of predatory animals and predacious birds.

### Board Members

#### Cattleman

Beth Evans, President

Justin Jameran

Rob Crofts

#### Sheepmen

Rob Philp

Hearley Dockham

Colleen Jennings

#### Sportsmen

Garvice Roby, Vice President

Vic Mosbrucker

Albert Herbst

#### Treasurer/Bookkeeper

Gloria Philp

#### Secretary

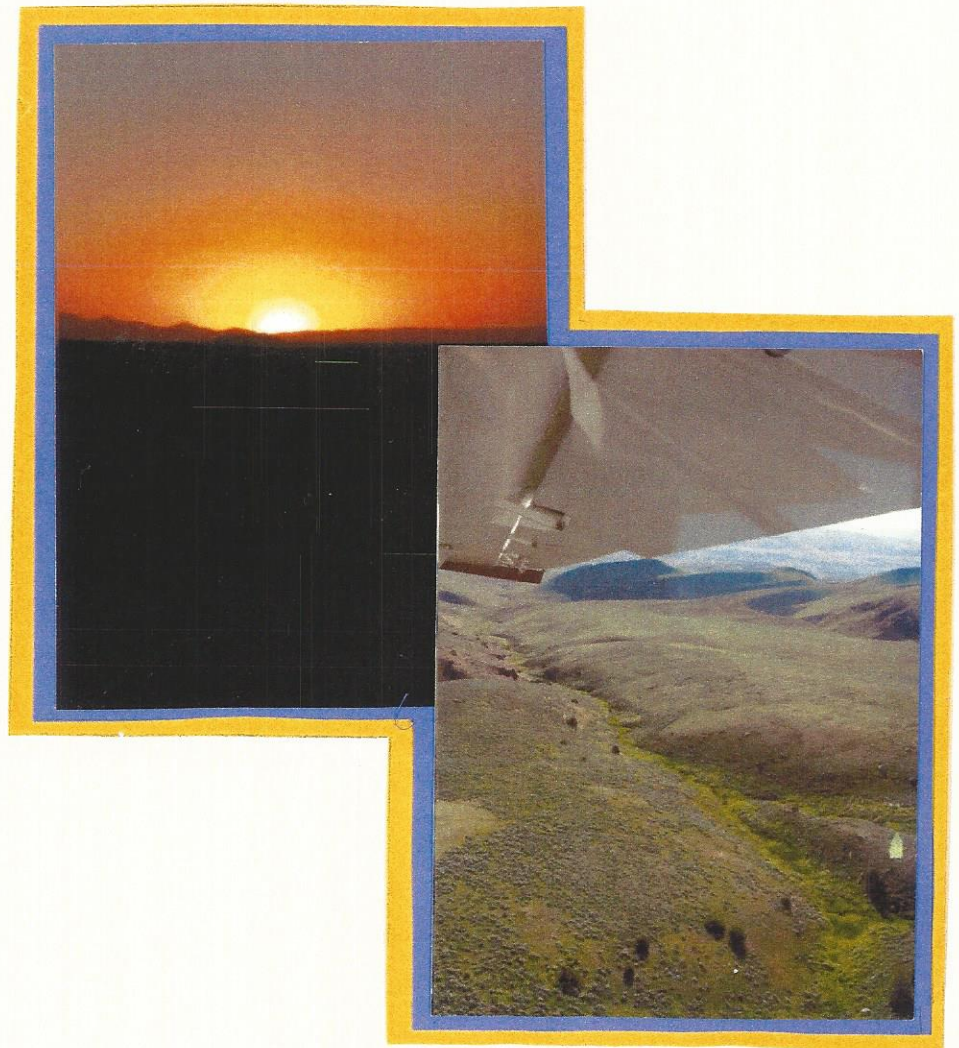
Chance Marshall

#### Wildlife Specialists

Tracy Frye

David Fowler

Rod Merrell, Supervisor



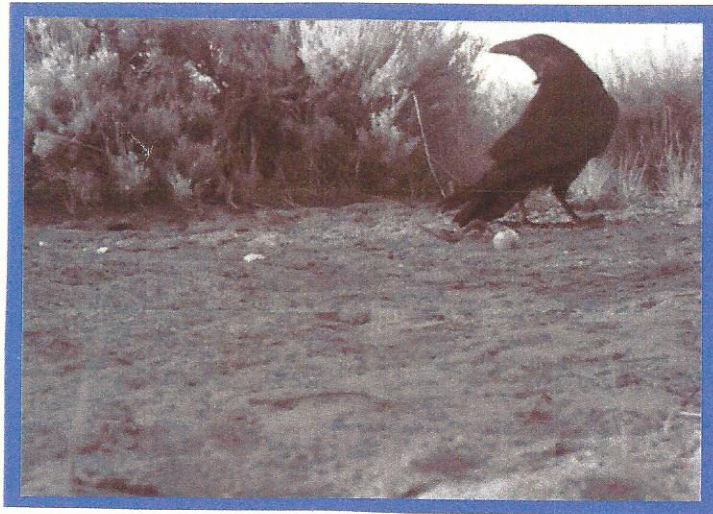
## FACTS AND FIGURES

Fremont County geographically is one of the largest counties in Wyoming with 9266 square miles and has the greatest number of farms and ranches. We are unique with BLM, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, Department of Defense, Forest Service, Private, State, and Water acres.

## PROJECTS

### Completed

We completed a 10 year project for sage grouse/mule deer in hunt area 90. Sage grouse numbers didn't change significantly but predators were identified with the use of trail cameras, and mule deer numbers increased from a count of 232 the first year to an average number of 523 the last year.



### Continuing

The Ocean Lake Pheasant Project was started in cooperation with the FCPAMD and the WY Game and Fish. We reduce predator numbers each year just prior to the WGFD releasing pheasants for bird hunters. Red foxes are the predominant predator in the area.

The Dubois BigHorn Sheep Project is ongoing through FCPAMD and the WGFD also. The project was started by FNAWS and when dropped taken over by Fremont County. The purpose is to help increase bighorn sheep numbers and ewe/lamb percentages in the Whiskey and Spring mountain areas.

### New

The Southern BigHorns Mule Deer Project was started this year with funding of \$15,000. Fremont County will perform coyote control through trapping and aerial hunting at critical times of the year such as pre-fawning. This is to enhance the mule deer herd in unit 208/hunt area 36.

## Bounty Program

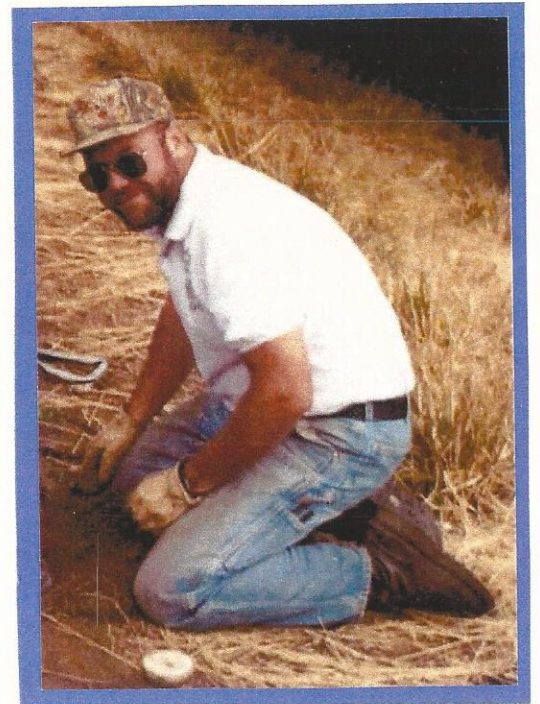
This is an ongoing program that allows community involvement in predator control.

## UNIQUE PROBLEM PREDATORS

### Wolves

Fremont County has seen a rise in wolf presence and have been very active in controlling them in addition to controlling coyotes and other predators. Our wildlife specialists have done work in adjoining Teton County at times and are always busy in the Dubois and Lander slope areas.

Fremont County has two full time wildlife specialists. They often work together as one works aerial while the second does ground work. This increases take significantly.



# **Goshen County Predatory Management District**

## **Annual Report**

**FY 2017-2018**



### **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: 3481  
Private: 429,402  
State: 11,820  
County or City Land: 50

Total lands worked Under WS agreements: 444,753

Seven Wildlife Services Employees worked a total of 1,830.35 hours helping 86 different Cooperators. This means that we had one less WS employee working on five more properties than we had the year before. The retired wildlife services trapper has a limited contract with GCPMD. His hours and take are included in the totals.

57.6 Total Hours of Fixed Wing Aerial have been used so far this year out of a total of 90 hours available. GCPMD has approved adding an additional 10 hours of aerial for the next fiscal year.

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**Summary of Damage and Loss**

\$5,478.00 of Reported Livestock Injuries and Loss by Predators this year which is a \$654 increase over last year.

\$0.00 of Verified Livestock Injuries and Loss by Predators compared to \$1,287 last year which is due to a lack of timely reporting by cooperators.

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.

- 18 skunk heads were submitted to the state vet lab, none of them tested positive.
- In the previous year, no samples were recorded.

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## **Take Summary**

Coyotes: 283; This take is up by 57  
Burrow/Dens: 0  
Red Fox: 0  
Raccoons: 90; This take is up by 50  
Opossums: 13; This take is up by 10  
Feral Cats: 4  
Skunks: 25; This take is up by 25

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## **Accomplishments**

Our new trapper Jim Angal is getting a better grasp of the county and forming strong relationships with landowners. His response to damage calls has been timely, and he has been able to successfully limit losses for livestock producers this past year. Additionally, Jim has continued working to get many new property agreements signed for the first time and expired agreements renewed. Since he started in Goshen County, Jim has signed or re-signed 79 properties out of the 136 agreements total for the county.

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## **Summary**

Jim Angal has been talking to the area Game and Fish Biologist about creating a new or resuming a previous wildlife enhancement project for the up-coming year. However, the project may be restricted because the county only has one trapper. As always GCPMD is committed to providing service to the community in a prompt, professional manner, and is strongly dedicated to our mission statement. GCPMD has expressed some interest in picking up and potentially adding a part-time WS employee to help during early and late spring when losses are the heaviest.

# HOT SPRINGS COUNTY PREDATOR MANAGEMENT DISTRICT



**Annual Report**

**July 2017-June 2018**

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 '18-19 management plan which lists our County's wildlife issues and goals for the upcoming year. The report also includes the results for the '17-18 year ( the reporting period being March 1, 2017-Feb 28, 2018).

## **HOT SPRINGS COUNTY PREDATOR MANAGEMENT DISTRICT MANAGEMENT PLAN 2018-2019**

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.

## **HSCPMD Board Members**

President: Jack Baird

Vice Pres.: Robert Aguiar

Secretary/Treasurer: Brett Belden

Chuck Bunch

Everett Jones

Josh Longwell

Bob Blacketer

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## **WS Employees**

Steve Richins

Dusty Southworth



The wildlife populations in Hot Springs County are important to our western way of life and economy. Informal reports in 2017 from hunters and landowners suggest the following: 1) Elk populations are stable, 2) Deer and Antelope populations have increased, 3) Bird populations are stable, with many pheasant and partridge surviving the winter, 4) Both cottontail rabbit and whitetail jackrabbit populations are decreasing.



#### 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. These agents are employed through Wildlife Services, a branch of the U.S Dept. of Agriculture. Their control efforts address all predators that directly impact our big and small game 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 predated 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.

A large portion of Hot Springs County falls within the predator zone, where state compensation for wolf depredations is non-existent. We anticipate wolf depredations and rely on WS and their collaring efforts to help track these wolves throughout the year. During this reporting period, \$15,198 of livestock loss was verified by WS alone in Hot Springs County.



#### b) **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 163.1 aerial hours during this reporting period (144.7 of fixed wing and 18.4 helicopter). The aerial numbers were lower than average due to the airplane accident. We anticipate higher fixed-wing hours in 18-19.

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. 17 specimen from Hot Springs County were sent to the lab during this reporting period. Hot Springs County has had no positive results in 2017-18



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.

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

The HSCPMD will maintain cooperative agreements to work with USDA, APHIS and WS personnel. WS maintains annual Work Plans and MOU's with Forest Service, BLM, USFWS, WGFD, and other entities.

### # of problem

### animals removed:

Bats: 2

Beavers: 5

Feral cats: 18

Coyotes: 373

Coyote dens: 12

Red Fox: 39

Red Fox dens: 6

Raccoons: 214

Striped Skunks: 49

Turkey Vultures: 5

Wolves: 4



During this reporting period (March 1, 2017-Feb.28th, 2018), Hot Springs County currently maintains 2 FTE positions, down half a position due to budget constraints.

Still, Hot Springs County's duties were conducted with the teamwork and cooperation of 13 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 \$15,000– in livestock damage verified by the Hot Springs County Specialist's during this reporting period.

The special project (disease monitoring) outlined in the management plan was set aside as reduced staff and funds required additional prioritizing. Still, 17 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:

1,437 daily tasks for coyote predation or threats of predation on calves, sheep, goats, sage grouse, and livestock guarding animals;

235 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;

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

1 task for bats with disease threat

19 tasks for turkey vultures complaints with human health and safety



# **Management Plan -- Johnson County Predator Management District**

## **Updated 3-26-18**

### *Mission Statement*

The mission of the Johnson County Predator Management District is to implement and coordinate an animal damage management program for the benefit of sportsmen and livestock producers, as well as the protection of human health and safety to all residents of Johnson County.

### *General Issues --*

Predator control is hampered in several ways. Johnson County's topography includes the Big Horn Mountain range on the west and the rough country of Crazy Woman Creek and the Powder River on the east. A large plain between these features is intersected by an Interstate Highway. These factors make aerial hunting one of the most effective means of control.

The population and activity associated with oil and methane gas exploration and production within the county has created some un-natural movement of animals and a difficult situation for control due to heavy activity and, in cases, tampering of equipment and theft.

### *Wildlife Issues –*

In several areas of Johnson County mule deer and antelope herds are experiencing fawn mortality due, in some part, to predation. Population decreases have caused lower licensing rates for some areas in recent years. However, our predator control efforts have aided in the increase of several wildlife species.

### *Wildlife Goals and Actions –*

Although management methods are implemented year around they will be intensified May through July in these areas to enhance wildlife fawn survival. Control of primarily coyotes will be ground hunting, calling and denning. This time coincides with the need to protect new born lambs and calves as well, thus the requirement of additional manpower in the field. Success in this area will need to include the cooperation of sportsmen and the Wyoming Game & Fish. Work is being done with Wildlife Services and Wyoming Game & Fish to expedite kill confirmations and timely removal of predators, especially in the Big Horn Mountains. Big Game outfitters of the county are showing great signs of cooperation in our efforts by contributing to our aerial hunting program.

### *Livestock Issues –*

Most of the predation in livestock occurs in the few sheep herds left in our county. However, as sheep numbers dwindle, cattle and wildlife will become targets of these predators. Much of the livestock moves to rougher mountain and river breaks areas of the county for spring and summer grazing, thus increasing the difficulty of protecting them from predation, mainly due to long distances of travel by contractors.

### *Livestock Goals and Actions –*

Our goal is to maximize livestock production by minimizing losses by predators. This control is most effective by winter and spring time control, while coyotes are paired and denning. Aerial hunting, although expensive, is very effective if snow conditions are right. Trapping, snaring, calling and M44's are other tools used for effective control. Success in this area includes private fixed wing and helicopter as well as cooperative use of aircraft with Wildlife Services and working closely with livestock producers. We changed from 3 to 2 ½ full time trappers, one in the north and 1 ½ in southern Johnson County and livestock losses increases considerably, thus we are looking to increase man power again to cut losses. Producer meetings were held and training and education on methods and help on the ground for aerial hunters will increase.

### *Pre and Post-work monitoring –*

For years, each of our management employees have reported diligently the numbers of each species taken in the field, along with the method used. Thus, a base line has been established and trends in populations and controls can be easily identified. Our reporting forms can be changed to collect additional information, if needed. Because of the hours spent in the field these employees could also get some wildlife counts, if needed.

### *Human Health and Safety issues –*

The Johnson County Management District has, for the past eight years, conducted a successful rabies mitigation project. This project targeted skunks, raccoon, feral cats, and red fox as rabies carrying animals. The emphasis of the project was in the areas immediately surrounding the towns of Buffalo and Kaycee. With the use of two part-time employees we have nearly eliminated the 'problem animal' calls by the Buffalo and Kaycee police departments.

*Health and Safety Goals and Actions –*

Our goal is to continue this program as a service to the urban populations of Johnson County. Cooperation with local law officials, county and town landfills, for disposal, and Wyoming State Veterinary Lab, for testing, is components of the success for this program. In the early years of our project we had several rabies positive animals taken. Several in the past three years tested positive.

*Cooperative Efforts-*

We are now beginning to implement a program to identify the location, by GPS points, of each predator “take”. This information may be mapped and these maps overlaid to those of the Game & Fish, Sage Grouse working groups and others. Our goals are to prove the worth of predator control to those and the general public.

*Other District Goals -*

The district has implemented electronic payroll and bill paying methods to save time and eliminate postage and mailings. Nearly all reports are made by contractors and distributed to board members via email.

March 29, 2018

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, 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.

Arial 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.

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.

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. 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.

Another problem we have with the Grey's River wolves is, in the winter time they go back to the east side of the Wyoming Range in Sublet County, or head north to Teton County. Trying to locate them prior to March 1<sup>st</sup> in the predator area of the Grey's River is very difficult; when the whole Grey's River drainage opens up March 1<sup>st</sup> for predator it is still difficult. Due to the cost of flying we have to pick and choose what days we can fly and when we can go. And if the wolves are not there we can only control

coyotes. Also come summer the elk and deer move back into the Grey's River and so does the wolves, right back into the sheep herds and wildlife.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jon Child", written in a cursive style.

# Natrona County Predator Management District

P.O. Box 1462  
Casper, WY 82602

## 2017-2018 Year End Report

### Outline:

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

### Year End Report

- 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, the NCPMD 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. In 2017, the NCPMD worked with the Wyoming Game and Fish on another wildlife project for the Bates Hole area. The NCPMD was granted \$22,000 for this project. The NCPMD has contracted with Wyoming Helicopters to fly this area. Once the funds for this project are received, we will begin flying this area and anticipate using the entire amount before the end of the fiscal year.

The NCPMD is striving to facilitate increases in fawn numbers through management of special projects such as our Bates Hole Project, Stove Gulch Project and Raven Control Project. We are working in close proximity with the Wyoming Game and Fish and use their "Best Practice" procedures which prescribes specific times and areas for aerial management. We also continue to work with Wildlife Services to decrease the number of ravens which prey heavily on sage grouse eggs and young along with song birds which help reduce the number of mosquitos.

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.

- II. **Identifiable or Measurable Results:** From July 1, 2017 to date, the three trappers and aerial flying have killed **1,640** coyotes. Weather is a main factor for the aerial program. The aerial program has proven to be extremely beneficial with coyote harvesting.

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>Fiscal 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
2016	1,555
2017-2018	1,640

**Fixed Fly Time:**

The following flight time has been conducted to date for the aerial removal of coyotes for July 1, 2017-present:

USDA-APHIS: **40.46hours**  
 Bob Cheney: **8.7 hours**

Total for fixed fly time is **49.16 hours**

Total coyotes harvested: 14 coyotes harvested (**does not include coyotes harvested from APHIS**).

Helicopter Fly Time: **18.72 hours**

Total coyotes harvested: **26**

The board of directors have given each trapper a flying budget of \$3,000 each for flying this summer until the grant funding is received. Flying will also be based on weather conditions.



Additional funding will be distributed as needed to harvest coyotes and protect the producers livestock throughout the next fiscal year.

III. **Grant Monies expended for Fiscal Year July 1, 2017-Present:**

Income/Expense

Income

Livestock Account:	<b>\$116,300.06</b>
Grant Account:	<b>\$ 6,540.22</b>
Refund Savings Account:	<b>\$ 2,510.69</b>
Income Available:	<b><u>\$125,350.97</u></b>

Expenses

Office Supplies:	\$ 30.95
Postage and Delivery:	\$ 104.70
Contract Services:	\$202,981.88
Meeting expenses:	\$ 435.06
Liability Insurance:	\$ 300.00
PO Box Fee:	\$ 120.00
Preparation of tax forms:	\$ 1,275.00
Membership (LGLP):	\$ 500.00
Livestock Predator Fees:	\$ 0.00
Reimbursed expenses: (computer, QB)	\$ 1,098.23
Stove Gulch Wildlife Project:	\$ 8,417.00 (Fly Time)
Bates Hole Wildlife Project:	\$ 20,216.00 (Fly Time)
Fly Time:	\$ 46,609.50 (Regular flying)
Raven Control & Supplies:	\$ 0.00
Board Mileage:	\$ 232.34
Total Expenses Incurred: 7/1/17-6/30/18	<b><u>\$282,320.66</u></b>
Available Income:	<b><u>\$125,350.97</u></b>

IV. **Current Financial Statement:** For the current Fiscal Year 2018, NCPMD has a grant account balance of **\$6,540.22**. We have a livestock tax account balance of **\$116,300.06**. A Refund Saving Account was setup which has a balance of **\$2,510.69**. For a total of **\$125,350.97**.

We understand that because of the economic times our state is facing, we greatly appreciate the efforts of the Governor and the legislators to provide us with the amount they have. 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.

We appreciate the previous support we have received and will continue to strive to meet your expectations.

## **2019 Grant Narrative and Program Overview –Niobrara County**

The Niobrara County PMB continues to direct operations according to our original Management Plan. Our program is built around two independently contracted trappers. We implement a cyclical program of general control through the fall and winter, then work the calving areas in early spring before shifting the focus to preventing lamb losses and over predation of both antelope and deer fawns. We not only work our entire county, we also are requested to do a lot of work for northern Goshen County producers. Another neighbor, Platte County, has no predator program at all, and we do predator control work on ranches there, that are adjacent to Niobrara County from time to time. We have the added burden of our eastern border being shared with Nebraska and South Dakota, each a willing supplier of fresh predator seedstock. So we have a lot of work to do. We expect a lot of our guys, and being talented professionals, they come through for us every year.

In addition to our full-time trappers we also utilize a special contractor who works primarily in the wildlife emphasis areas, and receives what amounts to only a partial reimbursement of expenses. Obviously this is a very low-cost way to provide extra work in the wildlife areas.

Aerial services are provided by both private contractors and Wildlife Services. We have always felt we needed 250 hours of aerial hunting per year to accomplish adequate predator control, early spring being the most critical time. The efficiency of the year's program hinges on taking as many pregnant females as possible before the litters are in the den. It has been difficult to accomplish enough aerial time for several years. This year we have not been able to use Wildlife Services since December due to a plane crash, so we have had to rely solely on our private contractors. Since we only budgeted for 200 hours of flying time we are trying to get as much flying as possible done this spring, especially since recent examination of females taken show large litters of 7-10 pups to be expected. However, no matter how many coyotes we take this spring it seems like they are always replaced with new ones, and we rely on aerial hunting throughout the entire year.

Niobrara County PMD would like to request \$150,000 in grant funding for 2019. We are continuing to use up a large portion of the "cushion" we were careful to build up when funding was more plentiful. Operation costs are increasing, especially aerial costs, while income remains at unchanged. For this reason, we ask for this amount to continue our program, *planning to use some of our retained funds as well*. We are confident that you will not find our program to have any waste that necessitates further cuts to our request, and you may be confident that we will use the money responsibly.

# Park County Predator Management District



## 2017-2018 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 funds 2 WS employees. Most duties within the county were conducted by these 2 employees; however, 14 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, 2017-February 28th, 2018. There were 41 different properties totaling 1,272,748 acres of public and private land that requested services from WS during this reporting period. The total man hours worked in the county was 4,665 hours.

A total of 131 hours of fixed wing and 6.9 hours of helicopter time were spent in Park County during the reporting period. The fixed wing hours were lower than normal due to a lack of a permanent airplane in the basin until August, 2017 after the airplane accident. WS did bring in multiple pilots and airplanes from other areas of Wyoming to help fill-in during that time period, which was appreciated. WS removed the following animals in response to damage conflict: during the reporting period:

- Beavers: 3
- Coyotes: 428+ 13 dens
- Fox, Red: 11
- Raccoons: 58
- Striped Skunks: 5
- Wolves, Gray: 14

### 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.





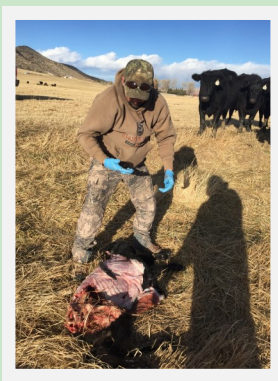
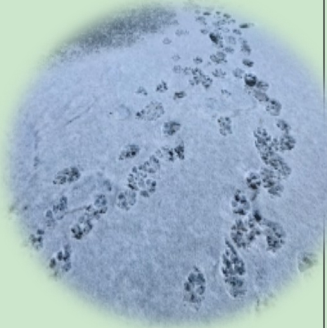
## Livestock Protection

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

In April of this reporting period, wolf management was turned over to the Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD). WS assists WGFD with wolf depredations when requested. During the reporting period, WS made 50 visits in response to potential wolf depredations involving livestock, and 14 wolves were removed on damage. 7 of those 14 were removed conducting ground work (shooting), while the other 7 were taken by aerial hunting (all from fixed wing)

There was \$9,921 of verified livestock damage caused by predators in Park County during this reporting period. Coyote densities have increased this past year. Several livestock producers experienced lamb and calf loss to coyote during this reporting period, which WS responded to preventing further livestock mortalities.

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, 93 visits to red fox predation. 40 visits for feral/free-roaming dogs, and 13 responses to raven/livestock issues.



## Wildlife Protection

WS participated in efforts to protect a new black-footed ferret population near Meeteetse in Park County. WS hires seasonal help for this project with funds coming from other government agencies. These WS employees broadcast DeltaDust, an insecticide, to protect the prairie dogs, the ferrets food source, from sylvatic plague.



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.

We are working with sportsmen's groups, WGFD, and WS to come up with some potential mule deer enhancement projects on the winter ranges in the near future.



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

There are important resources in need of protection from wildlife damage and diseases. In recent years, the Park County WS Specialists spent a large amount of time working to resolve conflicts between Park County residents and the wildlife species that commonly are a nuisance or cause damage. These species include raccoons, striped skunks, beavers, and blackbirds.

With the reduction of WS staff, these resources see less protection due to time constraint. WS will respond if there is a disease risk, direct threat to human safety, or a higher-monetary damage issue but cannot respond to each nuisance issue with existing staff.

- WS responded 96 times to corn damage by raccoons and striped skunks
- WS responded 7 times to irrigation/ditch systems by beavers
- WS made 5 visits in response to public safety from mountain lion and skunks
- WS responded 1 time to pet damage by coyote

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 provides 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 2018-19

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.



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.

It appears that wolves will continue to have strong numbers in western Park County and we anticipate wolf predation this upcoming year to be on the same level as the last few years. WS and WGFD have a strong working relationship and plan to respond to trophy game carnivore conflicts in a timely manner.

WS will make a focus to target coyotes in and around calving and lambing pastures and overall keep coyote densities at lower levels.

Park County PMD, WS, and WGFD are looking to propose a wildlife project to help augment Park County's migratory mule deer populations, stay tuned!



# **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 are down. Eagle numbers were up from last year, possibly due to a colder and snowier winter. This year leks had very few birds on them. The eagles were in large numbers this winter. I have seen 15-20 eagles in some groups.

## **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. For the third year, rabies seems to be County wide. With the arrival of spring skunks have shown up in large numbers.

## **Area 3**

We have seen big 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 having a harder time due to a snowier winter and coyotes coming from Montana. The eagle numbers are still up dramatically in this area. Coyote numbers in this area have increased dramatically due to no control across the state line in Montana.

## **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. By moving aerial hunting to March and April we have harvested more coyotes in this area. However with no help from Montana and Campbell County the numbers have increased twofold. I have had days of over twenty coyotes snared on one 8000 acre ranch.

## **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, which in part was due to the fire in the area north in Montana.

## **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. We had a good harvest of coyotes due to aerial hunting. 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. We were requested by ranchers on the Campbell County border for help. We spent more time trapping and snaring this past winter in these areas.

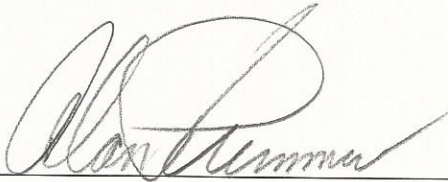
## **All Areas**

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 which have increased dramatically this spring and summer. The City of Sheridan has not yet reached a agreement with us although the Sherriff Department has been a big help to us. We have had a number of skunks in and around schools with rabies this year. 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, 2018**

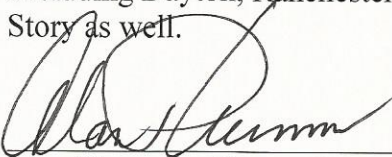
**RABIES MITIGATION REPORT**

From July 2017 thru June 2018 we have shot or live trapped 151 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 18 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.



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Alan Plummer, County Trapper

## Sweetwater County Predator Management District

March 30, 2018

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, the largest county in Wyoming, 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. Sweetwater County contains a very large percentage of public lands. These lands allow the public access for hunting, fishing, and other outdoor activities. Maintaining our wildlife populations is essential to these activities.
4.
  - 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, the G&F had a project where they conducted predator control in this area to help the wildlife. .
  - 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.
5. *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.
6. *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.
  - b) We are seeing the success rate of fixed wing aircraft hunting diminishing. The predators are adapting to this technique and we feel that our use of a helicopter is showing good success. Although the rates to use a helicopter are far greater than fixed wing, the board feels this needs to be expanded to keep the predator numbers in check.
7. 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.
8. We plan on additional aerial control of coyotes utilizing a helicopter this spring/summer to help with the predation on both domestic animals and on our wildlife. We feel there were positive impacts of past usage based on the information we receive from producers and/or wildlife groups.

9. With the reduced funding the past couple years, we had to redo our contract with Wildlife Services last year. This was accomplished by reducing the man-hours that are provided. We focused the efforts on the time of the year that we felt would give us the greatest protection/control of predators.
10. The board feels this reduction in efforts could dramatically affect the population of predators in Sweetwater County. The proposed plan for the upcoming year includes utilizing a helicopter to offset the reduced manpower of Wildlife Services.
11. With the mild winter, we are hearing of an increased predator population across Sweetwater County. If these additional efforts are not implemented, the board feels the past efforts to keep the predator population under control will be lost.

Gary Zakotnik - Chairman

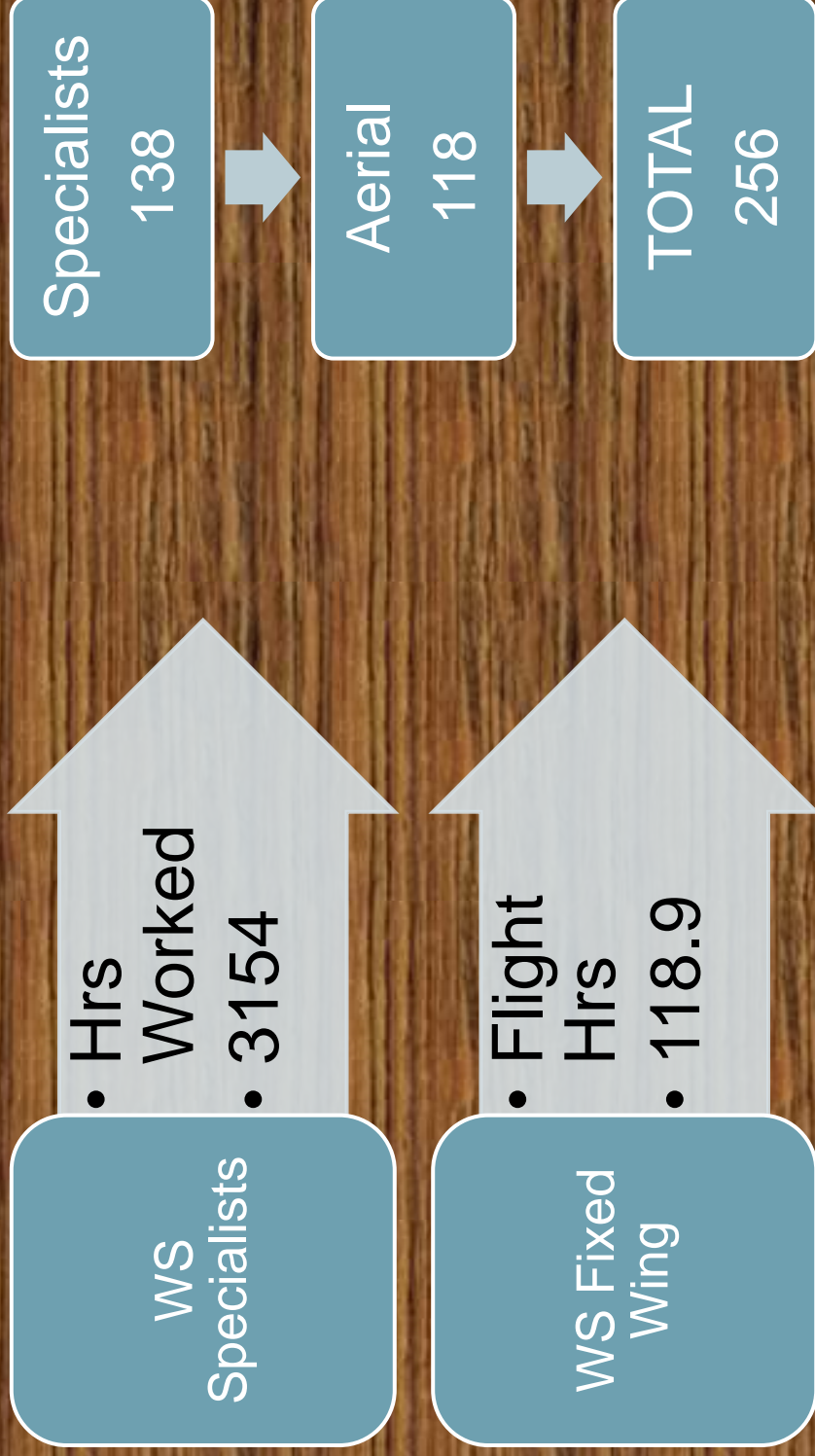
2017-2018

Annual Report

*UINTA COUNTY  
PREDATOR  
MANAGEMENT  
DISTRICT*

2016-17

# District Actions & Results



*Results*

*Actions*

2017-18

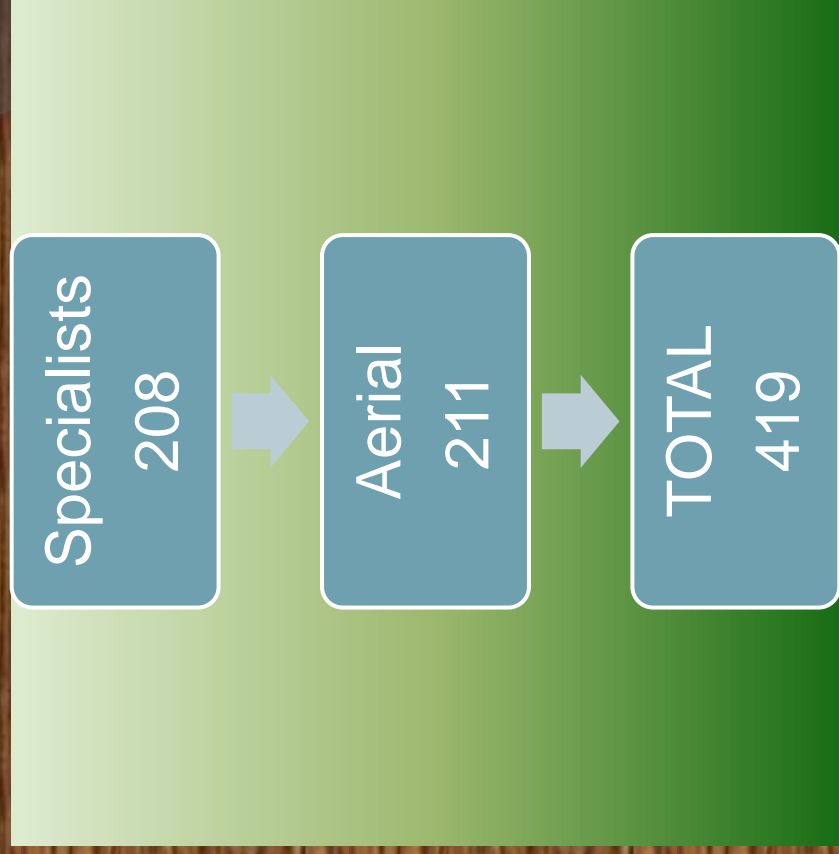
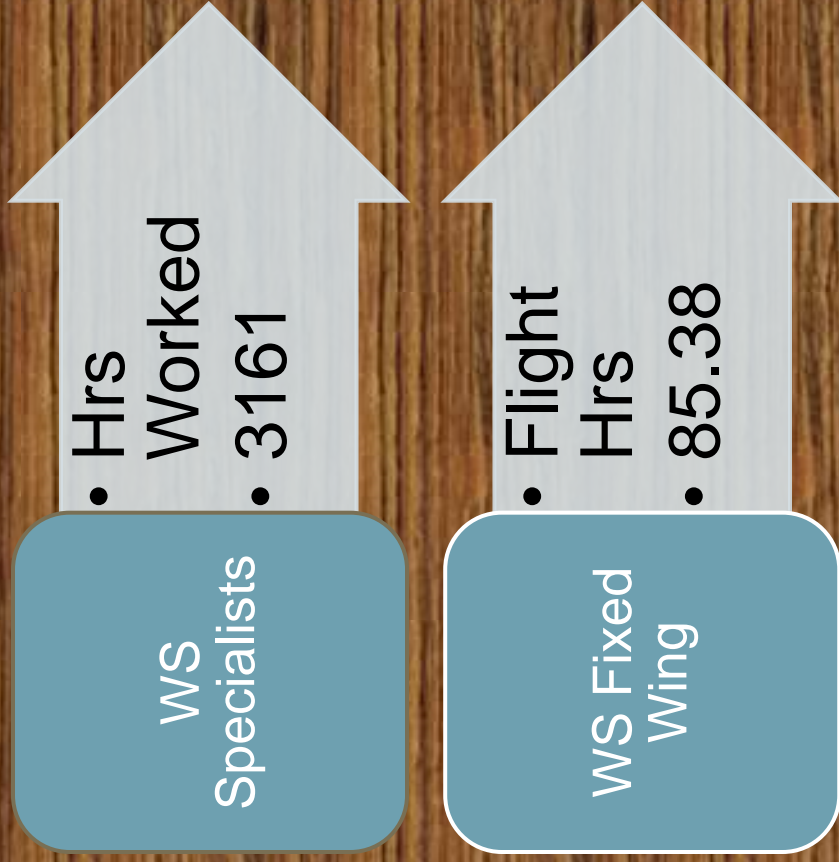
# District Actions & Results



Actions

2017-18

# District Actions & Results



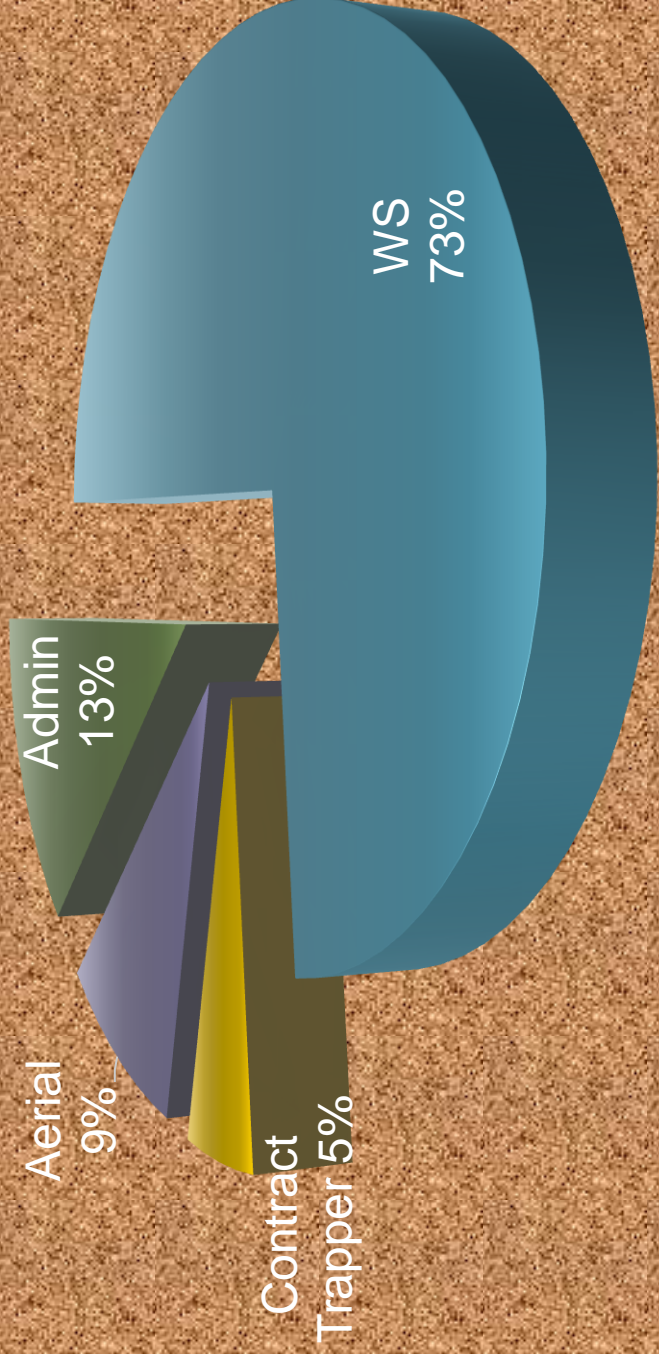
Results

Actions

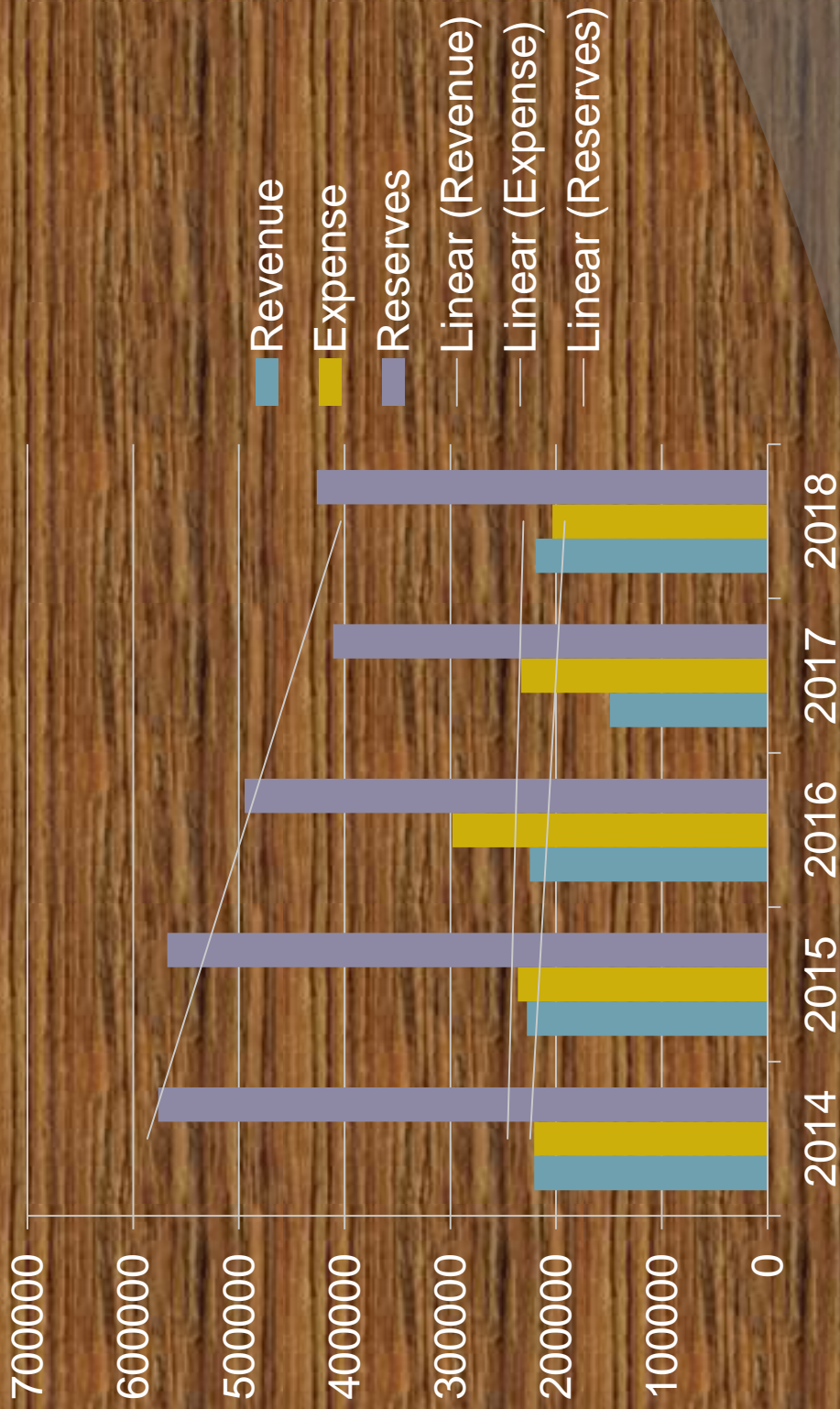


# Program Costs

2017-2018 Breakdown



# Financial Aspects



# Damage Summary 2016-2017

## Loss Reported

<u>Livestock</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>Loss</u>	<u>Value</u>
Sheep (adult)	Bears (black)	1	\$150
Sheep (lambs)	Coyotes	<u>220</u>	<u>\$25,490</u>
TOTAL		<u>221</u>	<u>\$25,640</u>

# Damage Summary 2017-2018

## Loss Reported

<u>Livestock</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>Loss</u>	<u>Value</u>
Sheep (adult)	Bears (black)	11	\$9,512
Sheep (lambs)	Coyotes	<u>333</u>	<u>\$35,237</u>
TOTAL		<u>344</u>	<u>\$44,749</u>

# Damage Summary 2016-2017

## Loss Verified

<u>Livestock</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>Loss</u>	<u>Value</u>
Sheep (adult)	Coyotes	3	\$244
Sheep (lambs)	Badgers	1	\$106
Sheep (lambs)	Bears (black)	3	\$357
Sheep (lambs)	Coyotes	58	\$6,511
Sheep (lambs)	Foxes (red)	8	\$850
Sheep (lambs)	Ravens	4	<u>\$425</u>
TOTAL		<u>77</u>	<u>\$8493</u>

# Damage Summary 2017-2018

## Loss Verified

<u>Livestock</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>Loss</u>	<u>Value</u>
Sheep (adult)	Coyotes	22	\$6,673
Sheep (lambs)	Coyotes	34	\$13,126
Sheep (lambs)	Foxes (red)	3	\$951
TOTAL		<u>59</u>	<u>\$20,750</u>

# Washakie County Predator Management District



## 2017-2018 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 has dropped to 2 FTE WS trappers working within the county. 10 other WS employees, including pilots, gunners, wildlife specialists from neighboring counties, and WS biologists also assisted in Washakie during this reporting period. This data report was created mid-March, so the most recent 365 day period was used (March 1st, 2017– February 28th ,2018) to generate the number of hours worked/hours flown, and animals taken. The total hours worked in the County during this time period is 4,334hours on 46 different properties county-wide totaling 1,457,854 acres.

During this reporting period, 116 hours were flown fixed-wing and 9.7 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: 7

Coyotes: 723 + 17 dens

Foxes, Red: 23+ 3 red fox dens

Raccoons: 73

Striped skunk: 6

## 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

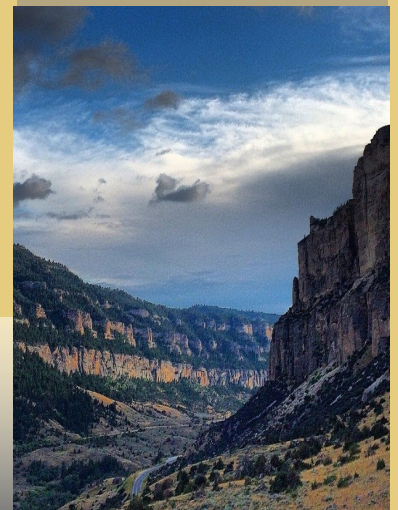
Bob Eisle, Worland, Wy

## WS' Specialists:

Brad Seaman—Full time

Josh Zimmerman—Full time

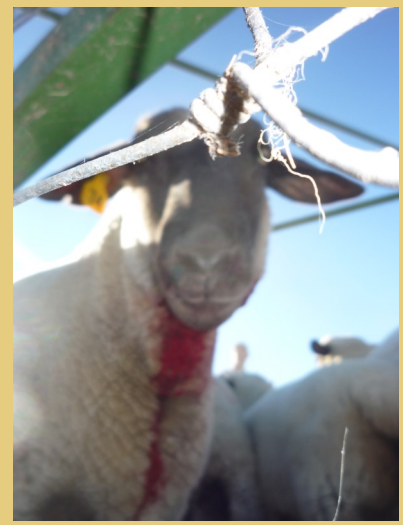
**Please Contact Wyoming USDA/  
APHIS/Wildlife Services if more  
information is needed**



## Coyotes

WS responded 1,855 times to address coyote predation or threats to both livestock and wildlife.

Coyote densities responded to an increased prey population with larger numbers this past spring. Coyote livestock depredation was still minimal due to aggressive removal in and around livestock operations.



## Mule Deer Fawn Protection Project

There was \$10,000 received from the ADMB to remove coyotes to protect southwest Bighorn mule deer fawns in the spring of 2017. These funds were spent on 9.7 hours of helicopter time (\$6,630) and 18 hours (\$3,000) of fixed-wing time. Additionally, another 216 hours were spent on the ground conducting operational work by 4 different Wildlife Service employees. The results were 82 coyotes removed and a 5 fawn:100 doe increase from the previous year. The study will continue in Spring 2018.

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 36 times to mountain lion/sheep complaints in Washakie Co.

WS responded 15 times to black bear/sheep and cattle complaints in Washakie Co.

WS responded 1 time to black bear/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 337 visits to address game bird protection from red fox, raccoon, striped skunk, feral cat, and coyote.

WS made 4 visits protecting buildings (including residential) from raccoons and striped skunks.

WS responded 21 times to address dikes, ditch, irrigation systems from beaver, muskrat, and raccoon.

WS responded 31 times to address crop damage from raccoon and striped skunk.

WS made 37 visits to address general property damage (gardens, landscape, livestock feed, etc) from beavers, raccoons, striped skunks, ravens, and coyotes.

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



### **District Management Plan for 2018-19 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.

Wolf are now considered predators within Washakie County. While there hasn't been any reported livestock kills by wolves, we are vigilantly keeping tabs on reports or observations. For the 2017-18year, WCPMD requested 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 Big-horn 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 Predator  
Management Board  
Program Overview  
2017-2018



## Weston County Predator Management Board

The Weston County Predator Management Board has strived to deliver a Predator management strategy that serves everyone in Weston County. We have developed a program that has looked at all the facets that predators affect. We strive to help everyone from the large livestock producer to the big game hunter on public land to the shop owner in downtown Newcastle.



We have keyed our coyote management program on major dispersal routes. We concentrate our preventive maintenance lines on these routes which assists in keeping the surplus localized before it spreads throughout the county. One key to this being effective is being diversified in the tools used. The Weston County program uses all the tools available including Neck Snares, M-44's, Leghold Traps, Denning, Calling and Shooting and when needed Fixed Wing Aerial Operations. We strive to use fixed wing only when it is at its peak effectiveness or a necessity to stop livestock depredation. Basing a program on being diversified on major dispersal routes keeps our program less dependent on aerial operations. The advantage of keeping the dispersal down county wide is that when a trouble call

does come in it is much easier and economical to dissect the problem and remove the offending animal or animals and get the depredation stopped quickly. The main objective we strive to achieve is keeping predator densities down in livestock and wildlife birthing areas and keeping the average age of the predator under three years of age.



We have always made sure to observe stomach contents and litter sizes on a yearly average and converse with our state disease biologist (Mike Pipas) and Game and Fish officers (Troy Acterhoff and Joe Sandrini) of Weston County on what we are finding. Keeping in touch with these individuals keeps us well informed on where we can help the local big game herds and local hunters. We have helped Mike with a nationwide surveillance program dealing with the testing of raccoons for Raccoon Roundworm which we had the highest count of roundworms found in one raccoon in the state of Wyoming. We have in the past helped the Game and Fish officers to help with Mountain Lion issues in Newcastle and the surrounding housing communities. We have also helped the Wyoming Game and Fish in conjunction with the ADMB with a study on depredation of the local Big Horn Sheep herd in the Elk Mountain area. We are getting very positive feedback about our Mule Deer numbers from our producers showing the positive impact of denning and late winter work in our Mule Deer wintering areas and fawning grounds.

Recently we have also expanded our program with more beaver work in the county when available from our normal predator issues. Beavers have been expanding in the Skull Creek and Oil Creek areas causing problems for both livestock getting bogged down and flooding roads and hay fields. We have been able to quickly assess and remove the problem beavers using both foothold and coniber traps and get the water flowing where it should be as soon as possible so that the rancher has the least amount of their operation affected.

The Weston County Predator Management Board also maintains a pigeon removal program in partnership with The Wyoming Refining Company to help with the spread of multiple diseases. This project also keeps the destruction of property to a minimum in downtown Newcastle and helps keep a safe working environment at the Newcastle Refinery. We use a combination of both toxicants and shooting to be the most effective.

We also continue to deal with multiple skunk issues and maintain a rabies monitoring program with any abnormal activities. We have not had a positive test result but are going to continue sending in skunk samples for testing.

Our trappers are also in constant surveillance of reported wolf and wolf track sightings. We have had a confirmed sighting and pictures of a wolf 13 miles east of Newcastle near Jewel Cave in the Black Hills of South Dakota so it is inevitable that we will be dealing with wolves in the near future.

In our ongoing attempt to keep the community involved with the program our trapper puts on youth classes each year. He puts on a three day class for the fifth graders of Newcastle at Mallo Camp on predator management and management tools used. These have been going on for multiple years and are very well received. This is a way to connect with the youth and their parents on why predator management and disease surveillance is used and needed.

**Summary of Duties performed by Wildlife Services in Weston County  
7/1/2017- 5/10/18**

56 Properties worked

646,760 acres included in these properties (very conservative)

**Verified Loss**

- 4 Lambs and 4 Calves

**Reported Loss**

- 2 Lambs and 2 Calves

**Aerial Hours flown**

- 64 Hours with WS
- 8.1 Hours Contract Pilot
- Total of 73.4 hours used (hours based on WS rate)

**Predators removed**

- Adult coyotes on the ground – 191
- Adult coyotes taken from the air – 197
- Total Adult Coyotes removed – 388
- Red Fox – 13
- Bobcat – 7
- Badger – 4
- Raccoon – 1
- Total Predators removed - 413

We would like to thank you for this opportunity and consideration on our budget.

(Pictures courtesy of Nickalina Groenwold)







