

Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board

2019 Annual Report



Compiled by the Wyoming Department of Agriculture



ANIMAL DAMAGE MANAGEMENT BOARD

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MEMORANDUM

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

FROM: Doug Miyamoto, ADMB Co-Chair
Brian Nesvik, ADMB Co-Chair

DATE: November 25, 2019

SUBJECT: 2019 Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board Annual Report

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

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

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

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**WYOMING
ANIMAL DAMAGE
MANAGEMENT
BOARD**

Directory

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2019 Major Issue Overview

Predator Management District Funding

The \$4.8 million for the current biennium budget is \$1.2 million less than the original funding provided to the ADMB in 2006 and a 28% decrease from the high of \$6.65 million. 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, 18 contracted personnel positions were eliminated and for the current fiscal year another position will not be replaced. Several County districts have worked together to keep a valuable trapper by reducing his contract to half time and sharing his contract costs between the two districts. Additionally the Niobrara board is looking at a 2 month, temporary layoff for their two contract trappers to make up for lack of funding. The cost of predator control continues to rise and the Districts struggle to maintain predator control at current funding levels.

Gray Wolf Management in the Predator Zone

With the gray wolf returning to state management in 2017, management in the “predator” area of the state falls back to predator districts to provide management to Wyoming ranchers. Returning gray wolves to state management has certainly helped Wyoming ranchers in the “predator” area, allowing them to protect their livestock. For the period between October 2018 and September 2019 11 wolves were removed having caused verified livestock damage as follows: 29 lambs, 6 ewes, 22 calves, 1 cow, and 1 calf injured. 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 \$300,000 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. **These losses are not reimbursable and are causing considerable financial losses to producers.**

ADMB “Predatory Animal” Educational Trailer

In 2018 the education trailer was damaged in a hail storm and had to be replaced. A new trailer was ordered and was rebuilt keeping in mind that trailers may need to be replaced in the future. The mounts can be removed and put in a new trailer in three pieces and the new handrails allow more visual access and can be removed if the trailer is damaged. This year the trailer was set up at the Laramie County Cowbelles and the Natrona County Cowbelles AG Expos and was seen by over 1200 students.



2019 Overview

1. **Meetings:** The Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board (ADMB) met five (5) times over the course of the calendar year; January 17th, May 7th-8th, June 13th, August 15, and November 1st. Agendas and meeting minutes are included in this report.

2. **Predator District Funding:** The ADMB received applications from 19 qualifying Predator Management Districts from across the state that totaled \$3.05 million. On May 12th, the ADMB granted \$2.56 million for those districts.

3. **Projects:** Nineteen different research/special project proposals were evaluated by the ADMB, that totaled \$473,214, at their June 13th meeting and The ADMB approved \$282,000 in funding for 13 projects (3 new, 10 renewing multiple years,). Project synopses are included with this report. Complete project reports are available upon request.

4. **Rabies Management:** Renewed the state-wide wildlife rabies management plan with a modified budget. Maintain a Wyoming rabies website at www.wyorabies.org. Continued a state-wide rabies surveillance program, with laboratory validation of rabies prevalence. Three on the ground management programs are in operation and were funded for \$50,000.

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. Jerry Johnson has continued the use of the education trailer for various events across the state.

6. **Promotion & Funding:** Legislation has moved forward for the Wildlife damage stamp but the

ADMB will continue to use an electronic stamp that can be purchased at the Game and Fish license outlets. The funding of stamp addresses both research and predator damage to wildlife.

7. **Public Relations:** Members and staff attended the Wyoming Wool Growers 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. Over the past year, The Joint Ag Committee has worked with the Department of Agriculture and the Wyoming Game and Fish to address the funding issue for the voluntary Wildlife Damage Management Stamp.

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 8, 2020 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, 2020.

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WYOMING

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Wyoming Game & Fish Commission

FROM: Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board
Brian Nesvik, Co-Chair
Doug Miyamoto, Co-Chair

DATE: June 24, 2019

SUBJECT: Request for Funds

In accordance with Wyoming Statute 11-6-307, the ADMB is requesting \$100,000.00 (one-hundred thousand dollars) from the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission. A synopsis of the projects selected for funding by the ADMB at the June 13, 2019 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 '19-20 ADMB Projects

Standing Projects:

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

Synopsis: Funding up to a maximum of \$25,000 with the Wyoming Game & Fish Commission 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 coyotes and coyote control on sympatric ungulates in SW Wyoming (DEER Project) - Funding \$30,000

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.

3) Effects of predation on survival of newborn mule deer in the Wyoming Range – Funding \$25,000

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

4) Gros Ventre Elk and Wolf Interaction Project-Funding \$10,000

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.

5) Bighorn Sheep lamb survival study-Funding \$15,000

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.

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

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

7) Coyote Control Targeted on Mule Deer Fawning grounds to protect SW Big Horn Mule Deer-Funding \$12,000

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.

8) 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.

9) Coyote Removal to Enhance Bates Hole mule deer fawn survival-Funding \$25,000

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.

10) 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:

11) Absaroka Carnivore-Livestock Interaction Study – Funding \$40,000

Synopsis: This project aims to improve our understanding of the key factors that influence the incidence of cattle depredation by large carnivores, providing information that can be used by wildlife managers, land managers, and livestock producers as they work to mitigate these conflicts. Submitted by Dr. Arthur Middleton and Clint Atkinson – Buffalo Bill Center of the West.

12) Coyote control on targeted mule deer fawning areas in the Uinta Mule Deer Herd – Funding \$15,000.

Synopsis: This project will be a program of targeted predator control on key fawning ranges when it is most effective for the benefit of mule deer in the Uinta mule deer herd unit. Work will be targeted using data from the radio collar study. Submitted by Uinta County Predator Management District and Jeff Short/Wyoming Game and Fish.

13) HD Ranch Electric Fence Project – Funding \$5,000.

Synopsis: The Wyoming Game and Fish Department would like to put an electric fence around one lambing pasture on the HD ranch to reduce human-carnivore conflicts where the WGFD have documented an increased distribution and density of grizzly bears, black bears, and mountain lions resulting in livestock conflicts in new areas. Submitted by Luke Ellsbury/Wyoming Game and Fish Department.

Note: All projects were approved for G&F Commission funds. These approved projects total \$232,000. 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 listed projects for Commission Funds.

- 1) Large Carnivore-Livestock project - \$25,000
- 2) Effects of Coyote and Coyote control on Sympatric ungulates in South West Wyoming - \$30,000
- 3) Absaroka Carnivore-Livestock Interaction study - \$40,000
4. Effects of depredation on mule deer in the Wyoming range \$5,000 (Total Project is \$40,000 the balance of \$35,000 funded with ADMB funds).



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MEMO

(Amendment)

TO: Wyoming Game & Fish Commission

FROM: Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board
Brian Nesvik, Co-Chair
Doug Miyamoto, Co-Chair

DATE: August 22, 2019

SUBJECT: (Amended) Request for Funds

In accordance with Wyoming Statute 11-6-307, On July 19th 2019 the ADMB requested \$100,000.00 (one-hundred thousand dollars) from the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission, during the meeting the Commission granted an additional \$50,000 for a total funding of \$150,000 (one-hundred fifty thousand dollars) for these projects.

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 '19-20 ADMB Projects

Projects that were chosen by the ADMB to be additionally funded:

- 1) Effects of predation on survival of newborn mule deer in the Wyoming Range – Original funding \$25,000 additional funding granted **\$15,000** for a total of \$40,000.
- 2) Absaroka Carnivore-Livestock Interaction study – Original funding \$40,000 additional funding **\$20,000** for a total of \$60,000.
- 3) Bighorn Sheep lamb survival study-Original funding \$0.00 additional funding **\$15,000** the balance to be paid with ADMB funds

Note: The approved projects total \$282,000 (two-hundred eighty-two thousand) with the G & F Commission funding a total of \$150,000 (one-hundred fifty thousand dollars).

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ANIMAL DAMAGE MANAGEMENT BOARD

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ADMB Meeting

State Game and Fish Headquarters Meeting Room

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

Agenda

Thursday, January 17, 2019

- 9:00 a.m. - Call to Order – Miyamoto
- Introductions of board, guests, & public
 - Additions/Corrections/Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of November 1, 2018 Minutes
- 9:10 a.m. - Request for funding for research paper publication for the special issue “Advancing the Science of Livestock Guardian Dogs” of the peer-reviewed journal, *Human-Wildlife Interactions* – Cat Urbigkit
- 9:30 a.m. - Carcass Management to curtail disease transmission in Wyoming, Scott Talbott, Director, Wyoming Game and Fish
- 10:00 a.m. - Rabies Testing and Data Update, Dr. Myrna Miller, Wyoming State Vet Lab
- 10:45 a.m. - Update on USDA/Wildlife Services Nationally and in the West – Janet L. Bucknall, Deputy Administrator
- 11:30 a.m. - Falconers’ Plan to monitor eagle depredation during spring lambing – Mike Barker, Chairman, International Eagle Austringers Association
- 11:45 a.m. - Public Comment
- Noon Adjournment

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

ADMB Meeting Minutes
Wyoming Game & Fish Headquarters Meeting Room
Cheyenne, Wyoming
January 17, 2019
9:00am

Board Members Present:

Co- Chair Scott Talbott	Co-Chair Doug Miyamoto	Ron Cunningham
Garett Falkenburg	Kevin Kisicki	Jeff Boner
Sy Gilliland	Mike Foster	Shaun Sims

Board Members Absent:

Bob Phillips	Sandy Underhill	Brad Jost
Bob Harlan	Tyler Abbott	

WDA Support Staff:

Kent Drake	Kelsey Hart
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Public Attendees:

Cat Urbigkit – via teleconference	Mike Barker
Janet Bucknall, USDA-Wildlife Services – via teleconference	
Dr. Myrna Miller	Amy Hendrickson

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Talbott at 9:01 a.m.

Introduction of members and guests were made.

The agenda was approved with no changes or corrections.

The minutes from the November 1, 2018 meeting were reviewed. Garrett F. motions to accept minutes, Kevin K. seconded the motion, motion carried.

Cat Urbigkit made a request for funding for publishing her research paper publication, “Advancing the Science of Livestock Guardian Dogs” in the journal, Human-Wildlife Interactions. She has sought out funds from other organizations and requested \$500.00 from ADMB. Ron C. moved to approve the amount of \$500 for Cat to publish in the Human-Wildlife Interactions, Mike F. seconded, motion carried.

Co-Chair Talbott discussed the issue of carcass disposal and the rising concern of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) in the western part of the state that is moving across the state. There are a few disposal options such as disposal in an approved landfill, incineration, or composting. WGF are looking into incinerators, however they are very expensive to purchase. He also

explained CWD and its affects and how it spreads. Co-Chair Talbott said that the ADMB should stay aware of this issue but the Game and Fish does not need ADMB support at this time.

Dr. Myrna Miller, Wyoming State Vet Lab, provided an update on their rabies testing and data collection. She explained how the rabies virus works in the body of mammals and how it can be transmitted, typically by bites. There are 8 variants (terrestrial) of rabies in the US, all which have similar onsets and are always fatal. Wyoming has one bat rabies variant and two skunk rabies variants, North-Central and South-Central. The State Vet Lab uses CDC protocol with direct fluorescent antibody testing. No clients are charged for testing. In 2018, the State Vet Lab received 940 samples. Of those samples, positive rabies was detected in: 9 bats, 29 skunks, 1 cattle, and 1 horse.

Janet Bucknall, USDA/Wildlife Services Deputy Administrator, provided an update on Wildlife Services on the national level. She also provided an update on the Wildlife Services M-44 EPA registration, use of aerial hunting, and budget items. She expressed her disappointment that she could not have been at the meeting physically due to the shutdown of the federal government, but she hopes to get out to Wyoming and visit with the ADMB at some point in the near future, possibly at the next ADMB meeting.

Mike Barker, International Eagle Austringers Association, provided the board with the association's plans to assist sheep producers, from different locations across Wyoming, in monitoring golden eagle depredation on newborn lambs during lambing season in May 2019. He asked for contacts of any sheep producers who would volunteer to have their lambing monitored and he said that volunteers, at no cost to the sheep producers, were being lined up to do the monitoring. The possible results of the monitoring would be to witness the golden eagle depredation, which would lead to Wyoming USDA/Wildlife Services being contacted to then witness the depredation and if confirmed, completing the necessary forms that the sheep producer can submit to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for possible falconer permits to allow the taking of golden eagles for falconry purposes. Wyoming USDA/Wildlife Services has completed one of these forms for a rancher in Wyoming in December. Mike thanked the board for their help in this matter.

Public comment: Amy Hendrickson expressed that she had met with Governor Gordon and the Governor would like the ADMB to address a concern of a public display of an inhuman killing of a coyote. Co-Chair Miyamoto recommended board discussion on how we should address the concern. The board discussion led to Co-chair Miyamoto drafting an initial statement and it was decided that he would review it with Co-Chair Talbott and Kent D. and when ready, would send out the drafted statement to the board for review. Kent D. also let the board know that this may fall under ADMB policies already in place. He said that a review of all ADMB policies will be on the next meeting agenda.

Amy Hendrickson also requested that there should be a review of all the cooperative efforts with the different partners involved with predator management in Wyoming (USDA WS, ADMB, etc.) to evaluate effectiveness and where efficiencies might be increased.

The next ADMB meeting will be May 7-8, Casper WY at the WY Game and Fish Office.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:04 p.m.

ADMB May 7-8, 2019

May 7: Call to Order 9:00 a.m, Welcome, Approval of last minutes, review of policies, interview process

Start Time	End Time	Interview	Request
9:30	10:00	Goshen	\$64,955
10:00	10:30	Carbon	\$153,000
10:30	11:00	Weston	\$181,597
11:00	11:30	Albany	\$132,301
11:30	noon	Campbell	\$181,000 rabies \$20,000
noon	1:30	Lunch	
1:30	2:00	Uinta	\$220,600
2:00	2:30	Big Horn	\$166,619
2:30	3:00	Park	\$172,932
3:00	3:30	Crook	\$150,000
3:30	4:00	Sheridan	\$119,400 rabies \$10,000
4:00	4:30	Fremont	\$103,520
4:30	5:00	Public Comment	
Wednesday	May 8		
8:00 a.m.	8:30	Natrona	\$180,000
8:30	9:00	Converse	\$197,525
9:00	9:30	Johnson	\$150,000 rabies \$20,000
9:30	10:00	Hot Springs	\$183,431
10:00	10:30	Niobrara	\$150,000
10:30	11:00	Washakie	\$168,560
11:00	11:30	Sweetwater	\$165,649
11:30	noon	Lincoln	\$200,000
Noon	1:00	Lunch	
1:00	3:00	Discussion	
3:00	3:30	Public Comment and Adjournment	

ADMB Meeting Notes
May 7 & 8, 2019
Wyoming Game & Fish Office
Casper, WY – Pronghorn Room
9:00 AM

Board Members in Attendance: Doug Miyamoto, Brian Nesvik, Ron Cunningham, Mike Foster, Bob Phillips, Shaun Sims, Tyler Abbott, Garrett Falkenburg, Sy Gilliland, Jeff Boner, Bob Harlan

Board Members Absent: Brad Jost, Sandy Underhill, Kevin Kisicki

WDA staff: Jerry Johnson, Kelsey Hart, Kent Drake

Guests: Rod Krischke, Amy Hendrickson, Lisa Robertson, Lisette Patton

Co-chair Miyamoto called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

ADMB members, staff and guests were introduced.

Shaun Sims moved to accept the January 17, 2019 meeting minutes. Garrett Falkenburg seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Review of ADMB Policies

Co-chair Miyamoto led the ADMB through a review of current ADMB policies.

Public comments regarding ADMB Policies: Lisa Robertson – brought the point from the previous meeting regarding the chasing of coyotes and would like to know if the board has taken actions of the request to address the matter. Co-Chair Doug Miyamoto addressed Lisa's comment, stating that we have the language drafted and are planning to address it with the board at the next meeting.

Mike Foster discussed updates on finances from USDA Wildlife Services. They have begun looking at other expenses that they've had the counties responsible for and looking at ways to save counties some expenses. USDA has paid a percentage for GSA costs. They've committed to only charging \$500/month to counties for vehicle amounts for a maximum of \$6,000 per year.

Presentations:

Goshen County: Stan Smith & Jim Angal

Requesting: \$64,955

They have covered 490,847 acres, 10 employees, working with 89 cooperators. 67.3 hrs. fixed wing with two months left to go of the 100 hours available. They had \$2,436 reported livestock loss by predators. Rabies has also been noted as concern with multiple skunks and 1 raccoon testing positive recently.

Carbon County: Josh Peterson & Luke Spanbauer

Requesting: \$153,000

They have a new administrative expense for replacing their accounting person, new employee and equipment. Issues with ravens are increasing with several verifications of calves and sheep being depredated. They are continuing to have large issues with black bear in the area, many coming from

Colorado and affecting many sheep. They have taken a large number of skunks, no rabies cases have been found so far. Several wolf sightings, but no damages at this point, as the wolves appear to be passing through. However they foresee the wolf issues as a “to be continued” issue in the future.

Weston County: Carson Keeline, Brad Troftgruben, Kassie Swartz

Requesting: \$151,587

Change in request due to USDA Wildlife Services proposal for vehicle lease agreement. This reflects a drop in request of \$30,000, putting total request at \$151,587. Also they had an increase in losses that were not reported to them until after the books had been finalized; therefore they are concerned with the large number of predators in the county. They continue disease control with pigeon control at refinery. Using \$54,000 in reserves and will use more funds from savings to replace side by side and a trailer. Last year cut down from 2 to 1.5 trappers.

Albany County: Joel Modey, Todd Schlager

Requesting: \$132,301

No drastic change, they have been able to stay ahead on predation and have used about 18 hours of air time this spring for coyote control. Haven't had many aerial hours due to lack of personnel with transitions. Ravens haven't been a huge issue this year as they were in years past. About 40 Raccoons were taken, no rabies have been noted so far. Purchased a new vehicle this past year and plan to keep aerial about the same so no major changes in funding proposal. Newly transition in treasure/secretary so there are a few gaps in the budget that don't quite match what they are actually proposing.

Campbell County: Kyle Innes, Kendra Ford, Kevin Geis

Requesting: 181,000

Rabies: \$20,000

Campbell County has three full time trappers. Aerial is an important part of their program. They are very active in coyote work for regular predation control. They have a rabies program as well. The city previously has paid into the program and no longer is providing funds. No rabies cases have tested positive so far. In addition to the city no longer providing funding, they are not supporting any assistance with skunk trapping in the city. They are requesting extra funds for coverage of the rabies program as well as for private trappers. They have had 15 hours of helicopter time that private pilot has not charged the county.

Uinta County: Steve Sims & Wade Larson

Requesting: \$220,600

Suffered a huge loss in predations last spring, therefore there is an increase in funding request to try to prevent that from happening again. They're funds also get spread into the neighboring counties as they assist in control. They have been dealing with a large depredation in lambs totaling several hundred head. They've used up flying money last year and then went into reserve to contract with Wildlife Services out of Utah. They've dipped into reserves around \$80,000 over that past few years to meet the

deficit. Producers also paid into efforts as well to aid in control. Had two wildlife service's trappers but will go to one in June, and one contractor that will be part- time.

Big Horn County: Mike Burrell & Kay Neves

Requesting: \$166,619

One trapper until July of 2018 then hired a part time position shared with Washakie County. Producers and landowners are happy with the program. They are seeing more raven predation and part time position is allowing more time spent on these raven issues as well as smaller nuisance predators such as raccoons. They have no additional funding request and plan to keep program status quo from previous year. No refunds request.

Park County: Mike Burrell, Rori Renner, Jacob Jared, Monte Nicholson & Shane Smith

Requesting: \$172,932

They suffer from continued issues in predator and trophy areas with wolves and grizzlies. They are also seeing issues with raven kills. They have a pair of ravens that have killed 5 lambs in a 2 days' time frame. They reminded the board that Park County has 70 miles of Montana boarder that doesn't have strong predator control as well as has 103 miles with Yellowstone National Park of trophy area with no predator controls. At the rate they are spending to provide control, they will be completely out of savings by end of next year. They have more sheep and cattle than brand inspection fees cover. Their County has the highest payout with grizzly and wolf predation in State. They are the "buffer zone" for the rest of the state.

Crook County: Jim Dacar, Darla West, John Moline

Requesting: \$150,000

Dropped cost considerably, working with APHIS gunner & plane therefore asking additional funds to support APHIS trapper /Gunner. Crook County continues to have issues with predators coming down from Montana and South Dakota as both states have little to no predator control. As well, they are continuing to have issues with eagles and mountain lions. For this next year, they will keep one private trapper and one wildlife service gunner. One trapper would go from ½ time private contractor; it would be split contract with the PMD paying for half and USDA Wildlife Services providing half.

Sheridan County: Allen Plummer & John Auzqui

*Requesting: \$119,400
Rabies : \$10,000*

Things moving at this point, rabies work are always on high alert and the city still doesn't want to pay or be involved with skunk control in city limits. Working with Senators to try to get Mayor involved raising awareness with the city. Most flying has been done in March and April. They have 80 miles of Montana border from the Crow and Cheyenne Reservation and have no control or support. A lot of efforts are donated time and supplies to keep costs down. They would like to increase flying efforts/funding.

Fremont County: Tracy Frye, David Fowler, Gloria Phillips, Beth Evans, Rob Crofts

Requesting: \$103,520

They cover a large amount of ground with only 2 trappers. They no longer have a cash reserve to pull from. Grizzly and wolf issues, along with the normal predation of coyotes, raccoons, skunks, ravens, etc. continue. First year in several years that wolf work load was down, range operators are 60-80 miles apart, rely on aircraft. They'd like to make adjustments with their vehicle funding. Vehicles supplied by GSA don't allow trappers to get into many places because of low clearance. A plan to move away from those vehicles and purchase new vehicles is under consideration.

Board Comment: Crows/magpie depredation changes to Standing Depredation Order under Federal order under US Fish & Wildlife. – Mike Foster asked Tyler Abbott to follow up and see how this will affect our counties. Livestock feed remains, but livestock depredation was removed for crows/magpies. (50CFR.21.43)

Jeff Boner asked a question regarding the landowner coupons and if/how those landowner coupon monies could be donated to specific county predator board versus general ADMB board.

Public comments: Amy Hendrickson reiterated the need for educating those who don't understand what the predator boards do and suggested a partnership effort to get this information out.

Meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m. and will reconvene at May 8th at 8 a.m.

Wednesday May, 8th

Presentations Continued:

Natrona County: Mary Owens, Brian Olsen & Justin Binfet

Requesting: \$180,000

Natrona County is operating off a bare bones budget. They still have the Bates Hole & Stove Gulch projects in effect. They are only flying in critical areas. They have three trappers and a bookkeeper. Trappers are responsible for certain areas of the county. They've increased landowner participation in the program. They are seeing a lot of success in Bates Hole project with a year and half of data collected. They are also seeing a growing rate of CWD at 29% in the mule deer population, survival over the year and half was really poor. Seeing some prey shifting with lack of cottontail rabbits causing increase in prey shift with coyotes to fawns. These two projects are the main source of their funding resources. Still having issues with migratory ravens.

Converse County: Casey Tillard & Tim Paxton

Requesting: \$197,525

Coyotes are continually an issue, but seeing a downward trend with depredation in livestock. They have had some issues getting aerial time in. They have two full time trappers, mainly on the ground, a part time trapper for denning operations in the spring. Program has been a success and continuing to stay on

that trend. They have bounty program where funds come from livestock brand fees. Haven't seen a major issue with ravens but they have seen them in the county, currently monitoring them.

Johnson County: Pete Camino & Dave Hall

*Requesting: \$150,000
Rabies: \$20,000*

Johnson County has seen an influx in coyotes. They also have obstacles of getting control on coyotes coming off the mountain due to timber. They are seeing natural kills from lions and bears on the mountains. Livestock losses are rising, especially on southern part of the county. They went from two full-time and one part-time trapper to two trappers. They've shifted funds from part-time trapper to aerial hunting.

Rabies program – confirmed rabies this past fall. Two part-time trappers for rabies program specifically (seasonal). They run a very effective rabies program with support from the city and county support for rabies control.

Hot Springs County: Mike Burrell, Brett Belden & Mark Phipps

Requesting: \$ 183,431

They are seeing new issues with eagles. They are operating with two full time trappers with a lot of wolf issues; three packs known in Hot Springs County- partially on the reservation. Wolves seem to bounce between predator, reservation and trophy areas, making it a challenge. Essentially one full-time trapper is up in the mountains areas pretty much all the time dealing with wolves, grizzlies and lions. Coyote numbers are below normal due to the control efforts. Raven issues continue.

Niobrara County: Barb Kilmer, Buttons Jackson, Dale Greenough, John Graham Requesting: \$150,000

No significant changes, county borders SD & NE with no predator control and none in Platte County. They operate with two contract trappers. Trappers are responsible for their equipment with limited supplies provided by county board. They have a balance between livestock and wildlife control efforts. They are seeing an issue with CWD in their county. They've seen an increase in losses which provides need for increase air time. Ninety-five percent of county has landowner's participation. They are also conducting deer counts annually as well with doe/fawn ratios. They have had a few refund requests each year.

Washakie County: Rolly Redland, Mike Burrell, Mark Dooley

Requesting: \$ 168,560

Washakie County is operating with one full-time and one part-time trapper, sharing their part-time trapper with Big Horn County. They are on the final year of their deer project. The need for two trappers will always be there for Washakie County. They have a great teamwork effort with Big Horn County and Hot Springs County. Great results in the doe/fawn work, results have doubled. Livestock predation has

been lower on coyotes; they've seen more lion kills than coyotes. Need for someone on the mountain is extremely important. There is a high density of predation coming from Big Horns. Not mentioned in proposal but would like to see an additional \$12,000 for fixed wings operations. They've cut their fixed wing time significantly with the reduction of ADMB funds in the past.

Sweetwater County: Gary Zakotnik, Jim Burnett, Aaron Draycott

Requesting: \$165,649

They would like to see increase in aerial time. Face unique demographic – wintering (migratory) sheep that don't pay into predator fees, therefore predator fees have been down significantly. They also have a large number of wildlife to protect. Previously had USDA Wildlife Service full-time trapper recently dropped to two part-time trappers trying to cover the area. No refund requests.

Lincoln County: Jon Child & Steve Noels

Requesting: \$200,000

Raven depredation on livestock did decrease and believed to have been result of getting energy plant ravens under control. Previously used chicken eggs with DRC1339 and had good results, have shifted to dog food and it has been very effective. Coyote density is high in the elk and deer population. Wolf problems in producer areas during summer migration ranges, as well as predation in calving, lambing, and fawning grounds. They don't believe they will have any funds in their reserves on July 1.

Allocations:

Shaun Sims moved to allocate available funds as outlined in the draft proposal. Bob Harlan seconded the motion.

- Sy Gilliland moved an amendment to move \$10,000 from Niobrara to Converse. Ron Cunningham seconded. Amendment carried.
- Sy Gilliland moved an amendment to move \$11,000 from Sweetwater to Lincoln. Shaun Sims seconded. Amendment carried.
- Bob Harlan moved an amendment to move \$10,000 from Niobrara to Hot Springs. Sy Gilliland seconded. Amendment carried.
- Mike Foster moved an amendment to move \$10,000 from Sheridan to Hot Springs. Sy Gilliland seconded. Amendment carried.
- Sy Gilliland moved an amendment to move \$5,000 from Weston to Converse. Bob Phillips seconded. Amendment carried.

Final amended motion carried.

Shaun Sims moved to allocate the rabies funding with all three requests fully funded for a total of \$50,000. Garrett Falkenburg seconded motion. Motion carried.

New Business:

Next meeting:

June –Buffalo, June 12-13th hosted by Bob Harlan, Meeting room TBD.

November – Teleconference Nov 1

Public Comment: Amy Hendricks reminded board of Joint Ag Meeting in Sheridan on June 11th with input on ADMB.

Meeting Adjourned at 2:15 pm.

MANAGEMENT BOARD

WYOMING

6607 Campstool Road, Cheyenne, WY 82002-0100

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ADMB Meeting Hampton Inn Buffalo, WY

Agenda

Thursday, June 13, 2019

- 8:00 am. - Call to Order – (Miyamoto, Nesvik)
- Introductions of board, guests, & public
 - Additions/Corrections/Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of May 7-8th, 2019 Minutes
- 8:15 am. - **Project Proposals-Renewals w/Updates** (20 minutes each)
- * Large Carnivore-Livestock Depredation Prevention and Control – S. Edberg
 - * Coyote Removal to Enhance Bates Hole mule deer fawn survival – M. Owen and B. Harlan
 - * Natrona County Raven Removal – B. Harlan and M. Owen
 - * Coyote Removal to Enhance Stove Gulch & Big Sulfur Mule Deer Fawn Survival – B. Harlan and M. Owen
 - * Fremont County Southern Bighorns Mule Deer Project – B. Evans and T. Frye
 - * Coyote Control Targeted on Mule Deer Fawning grounds to protect SW Big Horn Mule Deer – R. Redland
 - * Effect of coyotes and coyote control on sympatric ungulates in southwest Wyoming – M. Zornes and K. Monteith
 - * Gros Ventre Elk and Wolf Interaction Project – A. Courtemanch
 - * Bighorn Sheep lamb survival study – G. Anderson, A. Courtemanch, G. Fralick, T. Mong, H. Edwards, D. McWhirter and C. Class, K. Monteith
 - * Effects of predation on mule deer in the Wyoming Range 2019 – G. Fralick and K. Monteith
- Noon Break for Lunch

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

- * Whiskey Mountain Bighorn Sheep Project – B. Evans, T. Frye
- * Wyoming Stewardship Project, Educator Workshops – J. Dafoe
- * Sweetwater County Raven control – J. Burnett
- * Prairie dogs affecting sage grouse nesting area 2019 – J. Dacar
- * Absaroka Carnivore- Livestock interaction study – Dr. A. Middleton
- * Livestock_Predators_Grouse_ADMB -- J. Dinkins, J. Taylor and K. Ruth
- * Uinta mule deer predator control ADMB project proposal 2019 – J. Short
- * HD Ranch Electric Fence Project – L. Ellsbury
- * Damage Dump Trailer – D. Lasseter

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
Thursday, June 13, 2019
Hampton Inn
Buffalo, Wyoming

Call to order 8:00a.m. – Co-Chair, Brian Nesvik

Introductions

Board Members Present:

Stacia Berry (for Co-Chair Doug Miyamoto)	Ron Cunningham
Co-Chair Brian Nesvik	Kevin Kisicki
Bob Phillips	Bob Harlan
Gay Lynn Byrd	Mike Foster
Garret Falkenburg	Jeff Boner
Scott Becker (for Tyler Abbott)	

Board Members Absent: Co-Chair Doug Miyamoto, Shaun Sims, Tyler Abbott, Sy Gilliland, Brad Jost, Sandy Underhill

WDA Support Staff: Jerry Johnson

Public in attendance: Patty Johnson, Amy Hendrickson, Amanda Atkinson

Public in attendance via Call in: Renee' Lebear, Kristin Combs, Lisa Robertson.

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

Jeff Boner moved to wave the reading and approve the May 17-18, 2019 minutes Garret Falkenburg seconded. Motion carried.

Project proposals

- Large Carnivore - Livestock Depredation Prevention and Control – Brian DeBolt
- Natrona County Raven Removal – Mary Owens, Heather Obrien
- Coyote Removal to Enhance Bates Hole mule deer fawn survival – Mary Owens, Heather Obrien
- Coyote Removal to Enhance Stove Gulch Mule Deer Fawn Survival - Heather Obrien, Mary Owens
- Fremont County Southern Bighorns Mule Deer Project – Tracy Frye, Dave Fowler
- Effect of coyotes and coyote control on sympatric ungulates in southwest Wyoming - Kevin Monteith
- Bighorn Sheep lamb survival study – Kevin Monteith
- Effects of predation on survival of newborn mule deer in the Wyoming Range – Kevin Monteith
- Gros Ventre Elk and Wolf Interaction Project – Arthur Middleton
- Absaroka Carnivore- Livestock interaction study – Clint Atkinson
- Whiskey Mountain Bighorn Sheep Project – Brian DeBolt, Tracy Frye, Dave Fowler
- Damage Dump trailer – Brian DeBolt
- HD Ranch Electric fence Project – Brian DeBolt
- Coyote Control Targeted on Mule Deer Fawning grounds to protect SW Big Horn Mule Deer –Mike Burrell
- Wyoming Stewardship Project, Educator Workshops – Jessie Dafoe via conference call.
- Livestock_Predators_Grouse_ADMB -- Kayla Ruth

The board broke for lunch at 11:45 and reconvened at 12:45 p.m. to hear more project proposals.

- Sweetwater County Raven control – James Burnett via conference call
- Prairie dogs affecting sage grouse nesting area 2019 – Darla West

Allocation & committee discussion:

Brian Nesvik suggested that since we were ahead of schedule and the last presenter was not here yet, and given the large number of projects to be discussed that the board take this time to start the funding discussions and when the presenter arrived we would hear their proposal at that time. The board agreed and discussions proceeded.

Jerry Johnson informed the board that there is \$232,000 available for 2019-2020 project funding. Brian Nesvik stated that given the large amount of projects requesting funding the Game and Fish will consider funding the special projects at \$150,000 per year starting the next biennium.

Kevin Kisicki suggested that the Absaroka Carnivore-Livestock study be scaled down from the \$100,000 amount and Brian Nesvik agreed that even with the projects high ranking, given there were limited funds this project be scaled down to \$40,000.

Jeff Short arrived at 1:15 and was asked to present his Project.

- Uinta mule deer predator control ADMB project proposal 2019 – Jeff Short

Allocation & committee discussion continued:

Brian Nesvik suggested a Short List of projects totaling \$175,000 and Bob Harlan made some additions to the projects and Garret Falkenburg added the Sweetwater raven project also be funded at \$10,000 after more discussion the Sweetwater county Raven project was dropped with no funding.

Bob Harlan made a motion to fund the remaining projects totaling \$232,000 as follows:

Large Carnivore - Livestock Depredation Prevention and Control - \$25,000
Coyote Control Targeted on Mule Deer Fawning grounds to protect SW Big Horn Mule Deer - \$12,000
Natrona County Raven Removal - \$5,000
Coyote Removal to Enhance Bates Hole mule deer fawn survival - \$ 25,000
Coyote Removal to Enhance Stove Gulch Mule Deer Fawn Survival - \$ 10,000
Effect of coyotes and coyote control on sympatric ungulates in southwest Wyoming - \$30,000
Fremont County Southern Bighorns Mule Deer Project - \$15,000
Gros Ventre Elk and Wolf Interaction Project - \$10,000
Effects of predation on survival of newborn mule deer in the Wyoming Range - \$25,000
Bighorn Sheep lamb survival study - \$15,000
Absaroka Carnivore- Livestock interaction study - \$40,000
Uinta mule deer predator control ADMB project proposal 2019 - \$15,000
HD Ranch Electric fence Project - \$5,000

Mike Foster seconded the motion.

Brian asked for more discussion, with no more discussion Brian called for vote and motion passed.

Public comment

Brian Nesvik asked for Public comment from anyone left on the conference call, no comments were made via conference call, however Lisa Robertson and Kristin Combs sent emails stating that the reception on the call in was poor and asked if the meetings could be live streamed or recorded. There being no other comments via phone, Brian asked for comments from those attending the meeting.

Amy Hendrickson from the Wyoming Woolgrowers Association thanked everyone who participated in the tour the day before, stating that understanding what the mill does and represents, reinforces the importance of the ADMB's purpose, especially if wool producers go out of business because that cannot sustain the losses. Amy gave update on the Joint Ag appropriations meeting from June 11th and that they agreed to fund ADMB at a higher level and that this was tabled. They had a good deal of interest in the impacts to wildlife and express concern about the studies and how they are helpful to the management of predators. Amy suggested the Board get the information out to the public and that is important to have the presenters state their hypothesis on which the study is based and the results of the study to date address their hypothesis. She also asked if the Agenda could be changed for the Special Projects meetings so that comments from the public could come before the allocation discussions so that presenters could make any additional comments if needed, the board agreed that the change should be made. There were no additional comments from the public.

Meeting adjourned at 2:43pm.



ANIMAL DAMAGE MANAGEMENT BOARD

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**ADMB Meeting
Teleconference
Call In – 877-278-2734
Code: 811882**

Agenda

Thursday, August 15, 2019

- 2:00 pm. - Call to Order – (Miyamoto, Nesvik)
- Introductions of board, guests, & public
 - Additions/Corrections/Approval of Agenda
- 2:05 pm. - Discussion and decision on how to distribute the Additional \$50,000 in funding for special projects research awarded on July 19th 2019 by the Game & Fish Commissioners.
- 2:25 pm - Public Comment / Board Comment
- 2:30 pm- Adjourn

Animal Damage Management Board Meeting
Thursday, August 15, 2019
Teleconference

Board Members Present:

Co-Chair Doug Miyamoto	Sy Gilliland
Co-Chair Brian Nesvik	Kevin Kisicki
Bob Phillips	Bob Harlan
Gay Lynn Byrd	Shaun Sims
Garret Falkenburg	Jeff Boner
Sandy Underhill	

Board Members Absent: Tyler Abbott, Brad Jost, Mike Foster, Ron Cunningham

WDA Support Staff: Jerry Johnson

Public in attendance:

2 pm. Jerry Johnson announced that everyone that was expected to call in was on and that we did have a quorum.

Brian Nesvik called the meeting to order, and asked Jerry Johnson to review the agenda. Jerry stated that the Game & Fish Commission granted an additional \$50,000 for the special projects at the July 19th Commission meeting and that it was the intent for these funds to be an ongoing increase to \$150,000 for the Game & Fish funding on special projects, and that Julie Cook the Department of Agriculture administrator had been notified to have the additional funds be formally accepted by the B-11 process.

Allocation discussion:

Brian Nesvik gave an explanation of his staff recommendations for the projects to be additionally funded based on the rankings and that their recommendation was to increase the funding on the Wyoming Range project by \$15,000, and to increase the funding on the Absaroka Carnivore-Livestock study by \$20,000, and lastly to increase the Lamb survival study by \$15,000, and that this would use the entire \$50,000. Brian then asked for any other Discussion or recommendations on funding.

Bob Harlan made the motion to:

- Increase funding to the “Effects of predation on survival of newborn mule deer in the Wyoming Range” project by \$15,000.
- Increase funding to the “Absaroka Carnivore- Livestock interaction study” by \$20,000.
- Increase funding to the “Bighorn Sheep lamb survival study” by \$15,000.

Sy Gilliland seconded the motion. Co-chair Nesvik asked for discussion.

Co-chair Miyamoto asked Jerry about additional monies that Projects had received. Jerry stated that Aly Courtemanch had received an additional \$12,500 in funding and that her project on the Gros Ventre Elk Wolf study was now fully funded for this year, and that Kevin Monteith’ projects on the Wyoming range and the Bighorn sheep study were still short funded.

Shaun Simms asked Brian about the Priority for the “Whisky Mountain Bighorn sheep study. Brian stated that this project was a multi-faceted project and that concerns from the public had given this project a high priority that was being addressed by the Game & Fish. Shaun Simms asked to have the motion restated.

Co-Chair Nesvik restated the motion and with no further discussion called for the question, the motion was passed. All member in attendance on the Teleconference voted “Aye”.

Co-Chair Nesvik again stated that these funds would be available for the meeting next year, Co-Chair Miyamoto also stated that he would be addressing this at the Department of Ag Budget meeting with Budget office and the Governor’s office on how they want these funds handled in the future.

Public comment

No public comments.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:18 pm.



ANIMAL DAMAGE MANAGEMENT BOARD

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**ADMB Meeting
Teleconference
Call In – 877-278-2734
PIN Code: 811882**

Agenda

Thursday, November 1, 2019

- 9:00 am. - Call to Order – (Miyamoto, Nesvik)
 - Introductions of board, guests, & public
 - Additions/Corrections/Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of June 13, 2019 minutes
 - Approval of August 15, 2019 minutes

- 9:10 am - Set price for Wildlife Damage Management Stamp and update on HB from Joint AG committee

- 9:25 am - Wolf Management in the Predator Zone – Mike Foster, USDA-Wildlife Services, Jerry Johnson, WDA

- 9:40 am - Update on Predator Education Trailer, Jerry Johnson WDA

- 9:45 am - Set 2020 Meeting dates

- 9:50 am - Public Comment / Board Comment

- 10:00 am - Adjourn

Animal Damage Management Board Meeting
Thursday, November 1, 2019
Teleconference

Board Members Present:

Co-Chair Doug Miyamoto
Garret Falkenburg
Bob Phillips
Gay Lynn Byrd
Jeff Boner

Ron Cunningham
Kevin Kisicki
Bob Harlan
Shaun Sims

Board Members Absent: Co-Chair Brian Nesvik, Tyler Abbott, Brad Jost, Mike Foster, Sandy Underhill, Sy Gilliland

Support Staff: Jerry Johnson, Kelsey Hart, John Kennedy (for Brian Nesvik), Rod Merrill (for Mike Foster).

Public in attendance: Renee' Lebear, Kristin Combs, Erik Molvar, Lisa Robertson.

9 a.m. Jerry Johnson announced that everyone that was expected to call in was on and that we did have a quorum.

Meeting called to order – Co-Chair Doug Miyamoto 9:01 a.m., Doug asked Jerry Johnson to go over the people that were in attendance and ask if there were any additional people attending that were not mentioned.

Kevin Kisicki made the motion to accept the agenda and Shaun Sims seconded. Agenda was approved.

Doug Asked if there were any additions or corrections to the June 13th minutes, Ron Cunningham made motion to accept the minutes as written, Kevin Kisicki seconded. Motion carried.

Doug then asked for additions or corrections to the August 15th minutes, Shaun Sims made motion to accept the minutes as written, Kevin Kisicki seconded, motion carried.

Doug Asked Jerry to give an update on the joint Ag committee proposed legislative changes to the Wildlife Damage management Stamp funding. Jerry stated that the Bill to increase out of state licenses by \$4 was tabled indefinitely and that the other bill had several changes. Doug stated that other changes were in progress to add a “check box” similar to the rescue fee for online purchases.

Doug added that the board still needed to set the price for the Stamp until legislation is changed and made the motion to keep the price at \$10, Kevin Kisicki seconded motion carried.

Jerry Johnson gave an update to the number of wolves taken and the predation associated with these wolves, he then asked Rod Merrill from Wildlife Services to give a report on the Wolves. Rod stated that the number of wolves taken was down considerably from 30 in FY 2018 to 11 for the FY 2019, he stated that there were three chronic areas, Lincoln Co., Sublette Co. and Hot Springs

County and that the wolves have learned to stay outside the buffer zone for hot pursuit on the Reservation.

Jerry Johnson gave an update on the rebuilding of the Predator education trailer. The trailer was replaced for a total cost of \$10,077.91 and that it was designed to be able to be removed and put in a new trailer if damaged again. This allowed for future replacement to be done easier and at a cheaper cost. Jerry has taken the trailer to the Laramie county Cowbelles Ag Expo and will be attending the Natrona county Cowbelles expo later in November.

Meeting dates for 2020:

January 8th, at 9 a.m. Video Conference at the Game and Fish offices in Cheyenne.

May 12 and 13 at the Game and Fish office in Casper

June 10th and 11th Location TBD

November 2nd 9am Cheyenne Teleconference at WDA.

Doug Miyamoto asked for Public Comment.

Lisa Roberson asked if there could be a mailing list of interested parties added to the meeting agendas and Minutes. It was noted that these will be on the ADMB web site but that Jerry would be willing to add names to an email list if supplied to him by the interested parties.

Erik Molvar asked if the education trailer was used to inform people on the fact that hunting can cause predators to have larger litters, Doug stated the education trailer was used to inform the public about the ADMB's statutory obligations on the State's 7 Predators.

Being no further comments the meeting was adjourned at 9:35 a.m.

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ADMB - RABIES 0313	BUDGETED		EXPENDED		PERCENT OPTIMUM		NOTES
	FY 19 - 20	YTD	ENCUMBERED	BALANCE	EXPENDED	62.50%	
SUPPORTIVE SERVICES 200.00							
Equipment Rep & Mnc	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			
200 SERIES TOTAL		\$100	\$0	\$0	\$100	0.00%	
Grants and Aid Payments 600.00							
Grants	626.00	121,455	98,010	16,490	6,955	94.27%	
0600 SERIES TOTAL		\$121,455	\$98,010	\$16,490	\$6,955	94.27%	
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES 900.00							
Professional/Consulting Fees	901.00	0	0	0			
0900 SERIES TOTAL		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		
ADMB - RABIES 03.13		\$121,555	\$98,010	\$16,490	\$7,055	94.20%	

YTD Revenue YTD %

DISCUSSION ITEMS

General funds	121,555	114,500	94%
	0	0	
	\$121,555	\$114,500	94%

RODENT & PREDATOR 0315	BUDGETED	EXPENDED		PERCENT OPTIMUM		NOTES
	FY 19 - 20	YTD	ENCUMBERED	BALANCE	EXPENDED 62.50%	
PERSONAL SERVICES	100.00	\$0	\$0		\$0	
SUPPORTIVE SERVICES	200.00					
Equipment Rep & Minc	202.00	0	0		0	
Utilities	203.00	0	0		0	
Freight & Postage	204.00	50	11		39	22.52%
Employee Develop & Training	207.00	0	0		0	
Miscellaneous	210.00	0	0		0	
Travel In State	221.00	0	0		0	
Travel Out of State	222.00	0	0		0	
Supplies/Printing	231.00	690	0		690	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	
200 SERIES TOTAL		\$740	\$11	\$0	\$729	1.52%
DATA PROCESSING	400.00					
Telecommunications - A&I	420.00	0	0		0	
400 SERIES TOTAL		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
GRANTS & AID PYMTS	600.00					
Grant Payments	626.00	0	0		0	
600 SERIES TOTAL		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
NON-OPERATING EXP	800.00					
Purchases for Resale	801.00	360	0		360	0.00%
800 SERIES TOTAL		\$360	\$0	\$0	\$360	0.00%
CONTRACTUAL SRVS.	900.00					
Professional/Consulting Fees	901.00	0	0		0	
900 SERIES TOTAL		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
RODENT & PREDATOR 0315 TOTAL		\$1,100	\$11	\$0	\$1,089	1.02%

1.52% excluding 600 and 800 series expenditures

		YTD Revenue	YTD %
General Funds	0		0 0%
Other Funds			
Rodent Control - Sales 5421	1,100	446	41%
TOTAL	\$1,100	\$446	41%
	0		

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Reduced budget by 32,281 for sales funding

ANIMAL DAMAGE MGMT 0317	BUDGETED		EXPENDED		PERCENT OPTIMUM		NOTES
	FY 19 - 20		YTD	ENCUMBERED	BALANCE	EXPENDED	
Fund 047							
<i>SUPPORTIVE SERVICES</i>	200.00						
Equipment Repair & Maint	202.00	0	0		0		
Utilities	203.00	0	0		0		
Freight & Postage	204.00	600	0		600	0.00%	
Board Travel In State	228.00	4,725	4,390		335	92.90%	
Supplies/Printing	231.00	1,424	278		1,146	19.50%	
Equipment Rental	252.00	150	0		150	0.00%	
200 SERIES TOTAL		\$6,899	\$4,667	\$0	\$2,232	67.65%	
RESTRICTIVE SERVICES							
<i>RESTRICTIVE SERVICES</i>	300.00						
Cost Allocation	301.00	72	0		72	0.00%	
300 SERIES TOTAL		\$72	\$0	\$0	\$72	0.00%	
DATA PROCESSING							
<i>DATA PROCESSING</i>	400.00						
Telecommunications - A&I	420.00	0	0		0		
400 SERIES TOTAL		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		
GRANTS & AID PYMTS							
<i>GRANTS & AID PYMTS</i>	600.00						
Grants	626.00	423,830	66,273	125,527	232,030	45.25%	
UW Grants & Aid Payments	667.00	0	0		0		
600 SERIES TOTAL		\$423,830	\$66,273	\$125,527	\$232,030	45.25%	
CONTRACTUAL SRVS.							
<i>CONTRACTUAL SRVS.</i>	900.00						
Professional/Consulting Fees	901.00	22,000	300		21,700	1.36%	
900 SERIES TOTAL		\$22,000	\$300	\$0	\$21,700	1.36%	
ANIMAL DAMAGE MGMT 0 TOTAL		\$452,801	\$71,240	\$125,527	\$256,034	43.46%	

		YTD Revenue	YTD %
General Funds	244,301	68,216.26	28%
Other Funds			
Livestock Brand Fee-5353	0		#DIV/0!
Wildlife Damage Stamp-2634	0		#DIV/0!
Landowner Coupons-6204	8,500	3,024	36%
Predator Boards - 6301	0		#DIV/0!
Game & Fish - 5040	200,000	100,000	50%
TOTAL	\$452,801	\$171,240	38%

DISCUSSION ITEMS
 Reduced by 288,948 to account for revenues not collected

Cash Balance 758,823.92

PREDATOR MANAGEMENT 1501	BUDGETED		EXPENDED		PERCENT OPTIMUM		NOTES
	FY 19 - 20		YTD	ENCUMBERED	BALANCE	EXPENDED 62.50%	
PERSONAL SERVICES	100.00	\$203,008	\$137,140		\$65,868	67.55%	
SUPPORTIVE SERVICES	200.00						
Equipment Repairs & Mtrac	202.00	749	217		532	28.98%	
Utilities	203.00	840	1,217		(377)	144.89%	
Freight and Postage	204.00	1,750	443		1,307	25.30%	
Employee Development	207.00	1,750	1,093		657	62.44%	
Advertising	208.00	0	79		(79)		
Travel In State	221.00	7,500	4,697		2,803	62.63%	
Travel Out of State	222.00	4,625	0		4,625	0.00%	
Permanently Assigned Vehicles	223.00	19,500	4,701		14,799	24.11%	
Office Supplies/Printing	231.00	8,000	2,725		5,275	34.06%	
Vehicle Supplies	233.00	0	30				
Educational Supplies	236.00	0	677		(677)		
Other Repair Supplies	239.00	3,000	907		2,093	30.22%	
Transportation Equipment	243.00	0	7,590		(7,590)		
Real Property Rental	251.00	0	350		(350)		
Equipment Rental	252.00	1,000	49		951	4.90%	
200 SERIES TOTAL		\$48,714	\$24,773	\$0	\$23,971	50.85%	
DATA PROCESSING	400.00						
Telecommunications A&I	420.00	665	480		185	72.24%	
400 SERIES TOTAL		\$665	\$480	\$0	\$185	72.24%	
GRANTS & AID PYMTS	600.00						
Grants	626.00	4,806,217	4,748,922	57,294	1	100.00%	exception \$250,000 wolf predator fundings
600 SERIES TOTAL		\$4,806,217	\$4,748,922	\$57,294	\$1	100.00%	supplemental \$30,000 wolf predator fundings
PREDATOR MANAGEMENT TOTAL		\$5,058,604	\$4,911,315	\$57,294	\$89,994	98.22%	

		YTD Transfers	
General Funds	5,058,604	4,968,610	98%
TOTALS	\$5,058,604	\$4,968,610	98%

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DISCUSSION ITEMS

PREDATOR MANAGEMENT 1501	BUDGETED		EXPENDED		PERCENT OPTIMUM		NOTES
	FY 19 - 20		YTD	ENCUMBERED	BALANCE	EXPENDED	
Fund 047							
<i>PERSONAL SERVICES</i>	100.00					\$0	
<i>SUPPORTIVE SERVICES</i>	200.00						
Equipment Repairs & Maint	202.00					0	
Equipment Rental	252.00					0	
200 SERIES TOTAL		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		
<i>DATA PROCESSING</i>	400.00						
Telecommunications A&I	420.00					0	
400 SERIES TOTAL		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		
<i>GRANTS & AID PYMTS</i>	600.00						
Grants	626.00	200,000	20,149	79,851	100,000	50.00%	supplemental \$200,000 wolf predator fundings
600 SERIES TOTAL		\$200,000	\$20,149	\$79,851	\$100,000	50.00%	
PREDATOR MANAGEMENT TOTAL		\$200,000	\$20,149	\$79,851	\$100,000	50.00%	

		YTD Transfers	
General Funds	200,000	100,000	50%
TOTALS	\$200,000	\$100,000	50%

DISCUSSION ITEMS

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WYOMING GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

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MIKE SCHMID

October 29, 2019

MEMORANDUM

TO: Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board

FROM: Meredith Wood, Chief Fiscal Officer *MW*

COPY TO: Brian Nesvik, 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) 2019 is being provided.

Landowner coupons designated and transferred to ADMB	\$ 3,040.00
Wildlife damage management stamp	
Sales deposited 7/1/2018 through 6/30/2019	\$ 925.50
(License agent reports through 6/30/2019)	
Costs of program administration	
Management stamp:	
Printing	\$ 0.00
Administrative time	\$ 1,152.85 (25 hours)
Total administrative costs for FY 2019	<u>(\$ 1,152.85)</u>
FY19 collections over expenditures	(\$ 227.35)
Deficit collections previous years	(\$2,397.39)
Amount due to be transferred to ADMB for FY2019	= <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 1st of each year. This report should be relative to the current fiscal year.

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

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

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

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

Adopted: January 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.

STRATEGY 1.1.1: W.S. 11-6-304(b)(i): Entertain requests for assistance to allow mitigation of animal damage.			
<i>ACTION</i>	<i>RESPONSIBILITY</i>	<i>DATE TO COMPLETE</i>	<i>DATE COMPLETED</i>
1. Review and update MOUs as needed.	1. WDA, G&F, ADMB, WLB, WS	1. As needed	
2. Review and amend project proposal guidelines and protocol.	2. ADMB	2. As needed	
3. Review and amend policy guidelines and application protocols.	3. ADMB	3. As needed	
STRATEGY 1.1.2: W.S. 11-6-304(b)(ii): Specify programs designed to prevent damage by predatory animals, rabid wildlife, predacious birds and depredating animals to livestock, agricultural crops, wildlife, property and human health and safety.			
<i>ACTION</i>	<i>RESPONSIBILITY</i>	<i>DATE TO COMPLETE</i>	<i>DATE COMPLETED</i>
1. Complete an Annual Report to be presented to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Governor ➤ Agriculture, Appropriations, Travel, Recreation and Wildlife legislative committees ➤ Wyoming Game and Fish Commission and Wyoming Board of Agriculture 	1. WDA staff	1. 11/30 each year	
		1. Annually	
	1. ADMB co-chairman	1. Annually	
2. Rabies Management Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Review the Rabies Management Plan (REFERENCE RABIES MANAGEMENT 	2. ADMB	2. Annually	

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

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

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

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

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

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

STRATEGY 3.1.1: W.S. 11-6-304(b)(vii): Develop memorandums of understanding between the Wyoming Department of Agriculture, the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission and the United States Department of Agriculture/Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service/Wildlife Services (USDA/APHIS/WS) to accommodate funding sources and administrative guidelines for the program.			
<i>ACTION</i>	<i>RESPONSIBILITY</i>	<i>DATE TO COMPLETE</i>	<i>DATE COMPLETED</i>
1. Review and amend MOUs as needed. 2. Explore options for grants and/or pass through funds. 3. Complete projects and assure that they are measurable and accountable through the proposal and reporting process.	1. ADMB 2. ADMB 3. ADMB	1. As needed 2. On-going 3. On-going and as projects are submitted and being implemented	
STRATEGY 3.1.2: W.S. 11-6-307: The Board will request one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) from the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission to be expended for wildlife priorities.			
<i>ACTION</i>	<i>RESPONSIBILITY</i>	<i>DATE TO COMPLETE</i>	<i>DATE COMPLETED</i>
1. ADMB will maintain a relationship with the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission. 2. ADMB will submit a letter of request for funding to the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission. 3. ADMB will assure Game and Fish federal aid criteria are maintained through WGFD review of submitted projects.	1. ADMB 2. ADMB 3. G&F	1. On-going 2. By 8/1 of year before funding is to be expended. 3. By 7/1 of year before funding is to be expended.	

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

<i>ACTION</i>	<i>RESPONSIBILITY</i>	<i>DATE TO COMPLETE</i>	<i>DATE COMPLETED</i>
1. WILDLIFE DAMAGE MANAGEMENT STAMP Program	1. ADMB	1. Annually	
2. LANDOWNER COUPON Program ➤ Board will continue to work with landowners to gain support of program. (REFERENCE MARKETING STRATEGY 4.1.1.)	2. ADMB	2. Annually	
3. VOLUNTARY BRAND INSPECTION Program ➤ Board will continue to work to secure funding and generate revenue. (REFERENCE MARKETING STRATEGY 4.1.1.)	3. ADMB	3. Annually	
4. GRANTS ➤ Search for grants that are applicable to program and apply.	4. WDA	4. On-going and as available	
5. DONATIONS FROM OUTSIDE SOURCES	5. ADMB	5. On-going and as contributions are made	

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.

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

GOAL 5: Obtain credible information to enhance the Wyoming Animal Damage Management program.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: W.S. 11-6-301 – 11-6-312

OBJECTIVE 5.1

W.S. 11-6-301 – 11-6-312

Remain current with latest available research and emerging issues.

STRATEGY 5.1.1: W.S. 11-6-301 – 11-6-313: Focus on applied research rather than basic (theoretical) research.			
<i>ACTION</i>	<i>RESPONSIBILITY</i>	<i>DATE TO COMPLETE</i>	<i>DATE COMPLETED</i>
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.

STRATEGY 6.1.1: W.S. 11-6-301 – 11-6-313			
<i>ACTION</i>	<i>RESPONSIBILITY</i>	<i>DATE TO COMPLETE</i>	<i>DATE COMPLETED</i>
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	
➤ Voluntary sources			
➤ Annual Report			
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, \$2.56 million has been awarded to the nineteen qualified districts in the past year. In 2019, the ADMB received \$3.05 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.

Depredation by eagles was a major concern in several areas of the state and Wildlife Services along with U.S. Fish and Wildlife worked with ranchers to help solve this problem. Harassment permits were issued in some areas. USFW allows for six eagles to be taken for falconry purposes nationwide, and five of these “falconry take” permits were issued to Wyoming.

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

Grantees	Date Approved	Board Approved
Albany County PMD	May 8 2019	\$105,000.00
Big Horn County PMD	May 8 2019	\$112,500.00
Campbell County PMD	May 8, 2019	\$140,000.00
Carbon County PMD	May 8, 2019	\$138,000.00
Converse County PMD	May 8, 2019	\$180,000.00
Crook County PMD	May 8, 2019	\$135,000.00
Fremont County PMD	May 8, 2019	\$103,520.00
Goshen County PMD	May 8, 2019	\$50,000.00
Hot Springs County PMD	May 8, 2019	\$180,000.00
Johnson County PMD	May 8, 2019	\$150,000.00
Lincoln County PMD	May 8, 2019	\$171,000.00
Natrona County PMD	May 8, 2019	\$180,000.00
Niobrara County PMD	May 8, 2019	\$120,000.00
Park County PMD	May 8, 2019	\$172,932.00
Sheridan County PMD	May 8, 2019	\$95,000.00
Sweetwater County PMD	May 8, 2019	\$110,020.00
Uinta County PMD	May 8, 2019	\$185,000.00
Washakie County PMD	May 8, 2019	\$130,000.00
Weston County PMD	May 8, 2019	\$100,000.00
	Total	\$2,557,972.00

On May 8, 2019 the Board also granted \$50,000 to fund rabies program in three Counties: Campbell Co. \$20,000.00, Johnson Co. \$20,000.00 and Sheridan Co. \$10,000.00.

By July 1, 2019, 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, 644,012 acres of private and 21,940 acres of state lands. Wildlife services has one full time trapper based out of Laramie, nine other wildlife employees worked in Albany County. In the past year from aerial hunting, to trapping and airport safety 2295 hours have been worked in 2018-2019.

A total of 66.8 hours of fixed wing aerial hunting hours were spent with 197 coyotes taken.

A total of 4 hours of helicopter time has been flew at this time for 19 coyotes, we also plan on flying another 15 hours of helicopter time in May.

Number of Animals Taken

In 2017-2018

Badgers: 8

Beavers: 2

Coyotes: 382

Raccoons: 35

Ravens: 20

Skunks: 8



Albany County Predator Management District has maintained a good working relationship with all the livestock producers and private entities for the 2018-2019 year. There was a total of 6116.00 dollars lost due to predation, 17 calves, 4 adult sheep, and 33 lambs. Coyotes accounted for 16 calves, 4 adult sheep, and 25 lambs. The common raven was to blame for 1 calve and 1 lamb. Raccoons have also contributed to a total of 1500.00 dollars of damage on livestock feed.

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, 8 skunks, 35 raccoons, 20 ravens and 2 beavers.

Albany County Predator Management District had the Wyoming State Vet Lab test 3 skunks for the rabies virus with no positive results in the 2018-2019 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.

The Albany Country Trapper found out that the U.W Laramie Research & Extension Center did not know about the Predator Management program. They lost 2500.00 dollars' worth of premium livestock feed to raccoons and 1800.00 worth of sheep to coyotes. The deficit was about 4300.00 dollars due to predators during the summer months. The trapper started working the property on September 25 2018, by setting up 4 live traps and 20 snares. By working the ground equipment the trapper took 11 coyotes, 34 raccoons and 2 skunks. The personnel at the U.W research center were glad to see that the Predator Management district works with all the livestock producers in Albany County.

The Wildlife Services airplane pilot and gunner retired June 30th 2018. It's been long going to replace the pilot and gunner as a result, we haven't been able to use aerial predator control last summer and fall that often. In Albany County we had to get the pilot and gunner out of Crook County. Wildlife Services has hired a pilot and gunner to replace the crew members that were out of Casper.

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 predator numbers in the Albany County Predator Management District we will also work with Wildlife Services, associations, departments and companies. Our goal as a predator management district is to provide assistance and services to all persons that reside in Albany County.



Big Horn County Predator Management District

2018-19 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, Hyattville, Wy.

Raymond Jolley, Lovell, Wy.

Carl Nielsen, Hyattville, Wy.

*Nancy Joyce, Manderson,
Wy.*

*Keith Hamilton, Hyattville,
Wy.*

Skip Fox, Manderson, Wy.

WS Specialists

Brandon O'Brien, Full-time

Josh Zimmerman, Half-time

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

Presently, there is one full-time and one half-time WS employee that covers Bighorn County. Bighorn County also received assistance from 8 other WS employees (pilots, additional trappers, and biologists). In the time frame from February 1st, 2018-January 31st, 2019 (the most recent 365 day period to generate activity data), the total hours worked in Big Horn County was 3148 man hours on 55 different properties totaling 2,120,705 acres.

In Big Horn County, 120 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: 2
- Coyotes: 375
- Coyote Dens: 5
- Common Raven: 16
- Raccoons: 95
- Red Fox: 22
- Red Fox Dens: 3
- Striped Skunk: 5
- Black bear: 1



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 \$1,994 dollars in livestock damage verified by WS in Big Horn County.

- WS responded 1 times to reported wolf depredation within Bighorn County.
- WS made 1259 visits to protect livestock (cattle, sheep, horses, and goats) from coyotes.
- WS made 366 visits to protect livestock from red fox.
- WS responded 96 times to raven/crow/blackbird damage to lambs and cattle.
- WS responded 42 times to reported black bear depredations
- WS made 49 visits to reported mt. lion depredation
- WS made 2 visits to skunk (disease) threat to livestock



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 10 times to crop damage. Damaged was caused by raccoons.
- WS responded 54 times to protect irrigation/ditch systems and buildings from skunks and raccoons.
- WS made 143 visits to protect poultry from coyotes, raccoons, red fox, and skunks.



Wildlife:

WS responded 53 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 1.5 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 1 striped skunk for rabies.
- WS has been requested to reduce blackbird/crow/raven infestations in and around livestock operations throughout Big Horn County. These bird species directly impact livestock, livestock feed and, even more serious, create a major health risk as they can transmit diseases to livestock such as coccidiosis, transmissible enteritis virus (TGE), and tuberculosis. Humans exposed to the feces of these bird species are also at risk of histoplasmosis and salmonella.
- WS responded, along with WGFD, to grizzly bears (sow and two cubs) in Bighorn County. WS worked on crowd control and assisting the WGFD biologist in capture of the bears.



District Management Plan 2019-2020

Big Horn County Predator Management District's goal for 2019-2020 is to provide a professional wildlife damage management service through USDA's WS. It has been beneficial to bring in a half-time position to help the full-time employee. Ideally, this county needs two full-time employees for coverage.

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:** The trend in the past five years has been a reduction in small mammal take county-wide but we saw an increase of take this year with additional help. 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. Corvid take increased this reporting period but present staff levels still do not allow us to do much corvid work, unless it becomes a larger priority to our customers.

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.

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 2019-20.

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, 2019

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 2018 – May 2019. Since the reports are due June 30th, the financials do not include our June trapper expense, bookkeeper's 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 7097.5 hours in the field while covering 1,380,356 acres in Campbell County. Our trappers worked with 125 individual landowner agreements over the year as they provided predator control. We budgeted \$25,523.00 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 \$23,491.89 for fixed wing aerial. The number of animals that were harvested using aerial hunting was 155 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. One of the ranchers in the Northern part of Campbell County leased their land for 2000 head of sheep to graze for the summer. Calvin was very busy controlling the predators on this ranch. 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 105 livestock

trouble calls where the calls were regarding problem coyotes that have confirmed livestock losses. 31 lambs, 16 ewes and 2 bucks are among the 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, snares 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 three trappers have harvested (as of May 31, 2019) 895coyotes, 39 fox, 2 bobcats, 18 raccoons, 13 badgers, and 1 bat that we tested for rabies.

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 for Campbell Couty. They have answered over 150 trouble call from the citizens. As of the end of May, they have harvested 178 skunks. The Board has been very successful in working with the County Commissioners, but the city of Gillette has not been funding our efforts in being proactive with the nuisance/rabies program position. 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. Board members and bookkeeper, Kenda Ford has attended many County Commissioners meeting and they are very pleased with our 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. 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 7 “questionable animals for rabies and fortunately they have all come back negative. The financial statement that is attached shows a net income of \$22,085.88 but again we have not paid any bills for June since they were not submitted prior to this report. We received \$130,500.00 from ADMB grant; we utilized that money to pay for trappers and part of the aerial which as totaled as of May 31, 2019, \$203,587.27. The expenses for the Rabies program are \$25,794.52 so far. As you can see we are utilizing 100% of the Grant money and Rabies money that we are receiving. Some of the income on the financial sheet from the County and all of the cities amount includes money that we received during this fiscal year but

it actual was accrued expenses for 2017-2018 budget year. Of the total on the financial sheet he \$6,568.15 from the City and \$6,644.25 from the County for a total of \$13,212.40 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 \$25,257.96 from the County and zero from the city, plus the grant money of \$15,490. The remaining money needed for our operation comes from our Livestock Predatory fees and from our reserves if needed.

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. We appreciate the opportunity to receive funding from the ADMB board, and with that help the Campbell County Predatory Board has a very strong effective predator control program.

PREDATOR MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

2018-2019 PROPOSED ACTIONS

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

Livestock: Management using all available aerial and ground methods will be done within reduced budget constraints. Flying will be done during the winter when snow cover is abundant and conditions are favorable. Control will be intensified during calving/lambing seasons. In response to urgent, abundant requests from our livestock community we will continue our raven control program within our mandated constraints. As delisted wolves have migrated into Carbon County, our specialist have expanded their expertise to handle current problems. Helicopters will need to be used in areas that cannot be controlled with fixed wing planes.

Wildlife: At the request of, and in cooperation with WGF, we hope to continue our Carbon County Wildlife Project #7 for another year to provide coyote control in select locations within the Ferris Mule Deer Herd Unit (Area #87) fawning areas and the big horn sheep release area. Aid in other special wildlife issues for area industries. Continue requested raven control program near municipal landfills within our current budget constraints which have had the cascade effect of benefits to song and migrating birds as proven by documented studies.

Human Health & Safety: Within reduced budget constraints, WS' Specialists will provide the proper predator assistance at the request of any Carbon County municipality or agency. Education information will be provided at Ag in the Classroom and through local service organization presentations if personnel are available. All pertinent disease testing will be done as needed or requested and surveillance rabies testing within the county shall continue. Continue raven control near municipal landfills as requested by municipalities and Industry partners.



Ag in the Classroom—161 4th Graders

WILDLIFE SPECIALISTS

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

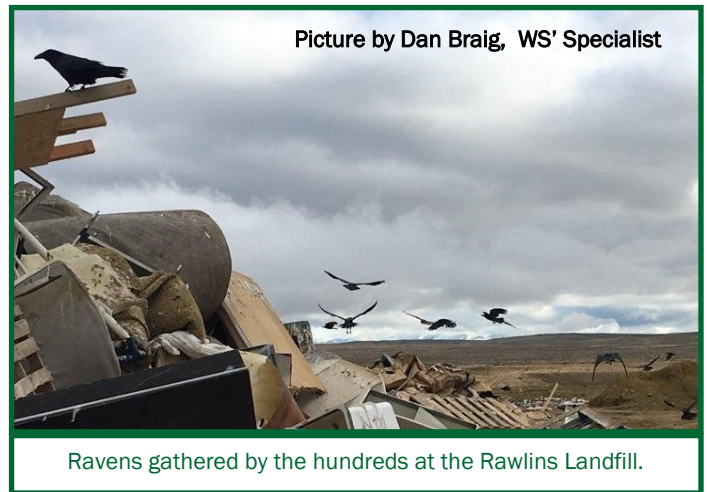
“WHERE DID THEY GO- WHAT DID WE DO”

Where did the wolves go? We are not sure, but are thankful that they seemed to have moved away from Carbon County. You might recall last year we spent a lot of money and many hours in pursuit of an established pack. A total of 8 wolves were killed and it is believed the Alpha male and female were among them. This left the remaining in search of a new pack located elsewhere. This year there have only been a few sightings - all of lone wolves.

What did we do? We continued our normal routine of predator management as well as responding to any specialized calls we received.

Carbon County continues to be plagued with ravens. We get calls almost daily for their control by livestock producers, residents, wildlife personnel, industry companies and local municipalities.

One of our trappers responded to a call from the Carbon County Buildings and Grounds Manager. He reported an excessive number of ravens roosting in the rafters of the grandstands at the fairgrounds. As you can see in the picture below, they have caused a definite human



Picture by Dan Braig, WS' Specialist

Ravens gathered by the hundreds at the Rawlins Landfill.

health and safety problem. Before the stands can be used, they will have to be power washed and the entire area disinfected. This will be done at a great expense to the County.

After monitoring the situation, our trapper found the ravens living at the fairgrounds were eating at the Rawlins landfill. He contacted the City Manager and the landfill superintendent and all three entities agreed to a plan to help resolve the problem. Although in lesser numbers, ravens are still present at the landfill, but management efforts have removed a major concern at the fairgrounds.



Picture by Dan Braig, WS' Specialist

Major infestations as stated above will be handled when calls are received, but regular preventative control is done on a daily basis!

2019 MANAGEMENT-ACTIONS-RESULTS

Total land acres worked by Carbon County WS' Personnel

<u>Land Type</u>	<u>Total Acres</u>
BLM Lands	976,221
US Forest Service	31,060
County or City Land	51
Private Land	744,880
State Land	47,000
TOTALS	1,799,212

Two full and one part time Carbon County specialists worked on 53 of our recorded 55 agreements totaling 765 person-day-visits. They were directly aided by 8 WS' pilots, gunners, biologists, supervisors and other personnel.

We normally use 200 hours of fixed wing flying, but this year were budgetarily decreased to 150. The extra 50 would have been provided by our Ferris Mountain Mule Deer and Big Horn Sheep project. WGF asked us to apply for one more year in the project. However, as the project was deemed a success after the original 3 years, it was decided a 4th year was unnecessary. The specialists worked to budget the flying time wisely but all 150 hours will be expended well before we reach the end of our budget year.

The following species were addressed by our specialists in varying degrees:

- | | | | | |
|------------|---------------|------------|------------------------|-----------|
| Badgers | Beavers | Bobcats | Feral Cats | Coyotes |
| Crows | Foxes | Magpies | Skunks | Mule Deer |
| Porcupines | Raccoons | Ravens | Yellow-bellied Marmots | |
| Pronghorns | Mountain Lion | Black Bear | | |

Reported Loss: \$6,537

Verified Loss: \$7,862

CARBON COUNTY PREDATOR MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

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



Black bear and mountain lion numbers are trending upward in the Little Snake River Valley. Several lion incidents with Elk hunters were reported, one of which ended in a close range shooting in self defense. Lion tracks and sign are becoming commonplace as well as sightings near area ranches. Sheep producers have bands in the forest which puts them in conflict with Black Bear. Our specialist typically responds quickly to verily loss and works closely with the area Game Warden to resolve conflicts. Both spring and fall hunter harvest mortality quotas close before the season's deadline.



CONVERSE COUNTY PREDATOR MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

2019 - 2020 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 2019-2020 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 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:

- **Three private contract trappers are used;** one year-around for hunting by air, the other an on-the-ground trapper, both full time. The third individual is part-time private and part-time APHIS. All three report directly to the Board.
- 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.
- Due to budgets/finances the plan for 2018-2019 changed to reflect only an aerial agreement with APHIS. This includes one person as the gunner part-time APHIS and part-time on the ground private contract.
- Denning Season has been addressed by budgeting for seasonal on-ground trapper help to keep coyote/fox numbers in check. When targeted take numbers require additional man hours for effectiveness, CCPAD will add temporary contracted person or persons to assist our full time trappers.
- Our trappers work with cooperative agreements between land owner/operators and Wildlife Services or separate cooperative agreements between the local Board and land owner/operator.
- Private Contractor(s) working with land owner/operators improving customer service, education and awareness of services.
- 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.

2016-2017	811 predator takes	Cost per take - \$266	Aerial Cost/Take \$110
2017-2018	945 predator takes	Cost per take- \$296	Aerial Cost/Take \$89
2018-2019 To date	427 pred. takes	Cost per take - \$263	Aerial Cost/Take -\$108

•

Even with 800 to 900+ predatory animal takes in Crook County annually for multiple years, (primarily being coyote), we continue to see that their survival is not being jeopardized by trapping activities. Predator numbers remain strong, and their confirmed/non- confirmed kills on both livestock and wildlife warrant a strong program to continue in our county.

A - I- Wildlife Issues

- Weather, disease and predation continue to have a significant impact upon some regional wildlife species.
- Antelope numbers have decreased this winter, many starving to death along road ditches where there is best chance of finding vegetation.
- Deer numbers vary increase or decrease depending on the area in the county and whether or not they have been affected by the chronic wasting disease. This winter, many have found themselves to the cattle/sheep feed grounds. These animals, too are starving within yardage of cattle fences and feed lanes. Elk herds continue to grow and pockets of smaller herds are occurring across the county.
- Crook County, having a season for deer a month later than other counties in the area, has only drawn a larger crowd with the “must kill” mentality that has reflected in the taking of more animals and more fawns. The take numbers, according to the WY Game and Fish, continues to reflect that 20% of the state’s kills still come from Crook County the last week of hunt season on deer. White tail numbers have survived the season mentality, but Mule Deer are heavily affected.
- Ongoing efforts to increase legalized mountain lion hunting quotas persist and even with the increase over the past five years, local agricultural producers and fellow residents believe it is not enough based on sightings, tracks, and kills (confirmed and non-confirmed.)
- Fox numbers have been on a significant rise.
- Skunks and coons are also on the rise.
- Eagles are just showing up this year which is late seasonally. They are serious predators on sheep and on deer fawns and antelope kids.
- Eagle numbers have increased over the last three winters and are impacting turkey numbers from Moorcroft to Rocky Point and around Hulett.
- Herd/Flock numbers of sage grouse are declining – ‘Mother Nature’ taking its toll.
- Rabbit numbers are small which lends predatory animals toward domestic livestock for rations.

- Bee keepers have reported bear damage on Sunny Divide and there was a bear sighting on property near Hulett last fall.
- Mountain lions continue to move into our county from Montana and SD where numbers are unchecked.

A - II- Goals

Crook County PMD Board will strive to achieve and maintain healthy numbers of common predators. Support constituents of Crook County regarding hunt areas and wild life numbers (hunt quotas).

- III - Action Steps

- a. Provide proactive and immediately reactive responses to predator management to preserve wild life and livestock to a growing number of sportsmen, producers for the benefit of the citizens of Crook County and Wyoming. To utilize standardized methods to record and assess data relating to field activities in order that numbers can be monitored and evaluated.
- b. Provide constant predatory control measures through strategic flying time, ground work, and denning crew/private contracted trapper availability to producers.
- c. Provide our trappers with the tools needed for predatory control methods such as, but not limited to leg hold and cage traps, foot snares, neck snares, shooting, trail and decoy dogs, aerial hunting and M-44 devices.

B - I – Livestock Issues

- Predation in livestock occurs in the few sheep herds left in our county. However, as sheep numbers dwindle, cattle and wildlife have become targets of these predators. Much of the County is covered in timber which increases the difficulty of hunting. Healthy packs with females carrying 12 to 14 pups in each of their litters has been trending. This is an increase over the 2 to 4 pups trappers were seeing just a couple years ago. With voracious appetites and rabbits being few, the coyote and fox packs have intensified their attacks on and kills on, local livestock.
- This past winter the grounding of aerial hunting during the prime flight months resulted in an increase in coyotes that can already be seen on the ground. Even with private aerial time increased showing better than one coyote per hour over three month time frame coyote and fox numbers have increased.
- Although management methods are implemented year around they are intensified April through July when control of coyotes is ground hunting, calling and denning. This time frame coincides with the need to protect new born lambs and calves as well as fawns and kids thus the requirement of additional manpower in the field.

- Along with agricultural impacts, sportsmen (and women) are also affected because of predatory animals feeding on turkeys, deer, elk, antelope, small game birds, and other small wildlife. All these factors lay on the agricultural producer in hunt licenses/ hunters on their private property and have an effect on local producers' economic bottom line.
- Undocumented kills of sheep/lambs in Crook County for the 2018 calendar year is 875+ with the majority coming from the NE corner, grazing association; Rocky Point area. Followed closely by the Moorcroft, Pine Haven area and the North timbered area near the Montana line. There were 5 documented calf kills due to predators in the spring of 2018.

B - II – Goals

To maintain or enlarge our presence on the ground and in the air in order that trappers working cooperatively with owner/operators in Crook County will provide protection of livestock and wildlife, increasing their profitability and viability. Utilizing a combination of W/S trappers with private contracted trapper(s), including denning crew to intensify effective hunting at key times.

B – I I- Actions To Be Taken

- a. Build upon current programs in order to keep current and/or obtain landowner/operator cooperative agreements.
- b. Provide constant predatory control measures through strategic flying time, ground work, and denning crews along with control methods of leg hold and cage traps, foot snares, neck snares, shooting, trail and decoy dogs, aerial hunting and M-44 devices.
- c. ATV/Four-wheeler usage and snowmobile allowance as necessary for field work minimizing footprints.
- d. To provide landowner and agricultural producers' assistance and support in establishing and amending regulatory and legal issues associated with the functions of the Board.
- e. To utilize standardized methods to record and assess data relating to field activities in order that numbers can be monitored and evaluated.

C - I- Human Health and Safety

- Trappers' time and resources have been allocated to assist endeavors thought to be potentially harmful in the manner of predators/pests, along with a certain amount of animal management control fitting with their overall objectives in Crook County. CCPMD offers, on an on-going basis, live traps to municipalities and concerned citizens for the use of trapping and removing potentially harmful animals.
- The Board recognizes the contracting trappers' on-going issue of access to properties in order to do

their assigned duties. Ownership changes and most especially absentee landowners and foreign ownership has reduced acres accessible to them. Lands are also being taken out of the agricultural sector and being sold in small parcels. This too creates issues of management of predatory animals, while providing habitat for the increase in nuisance animals such as skunks and raccoons. This logistic transition in Crook County has increased time spent by contracting trappers to address.

C - II- Goals

Offer trapper time and resources to assist endeavors thought to be potentially harmful in the manner of predators; along with a certain amount of animal management control, fitting with overall objectives in Crook County.

C - III - Actions To Be Taken

- a. To offer, on an on-going basis, live traps to municipalities and concerned citizens for the use of trapping and removing potentially harmful animals.
- b. To utilize standardized methods to record and assess data relating to field activities.

D - Pre-and Post-Work Monitoring

- a. Strive to increase the number of cooperator agreements signed in Crook County by a min. of 10.
- b. Wyoming Game and Fish numbers and trends in wildlife are used as third party source for trends in deer, antelope, and turkey populations as well as health issues to the public and to the wildlife.
- c. Crook County PMD Board meets at least three times annually; every December for election of officers and in March to address refund requests; a July meeting is held for budget hearing. These meeting are held in accordance with State Statutes. All meetings are open to the public.
- d. The Board receives trapper reports monthly and at each of their meetings in order to monitor progress. This includes but is not limited to air time and ground time, information on agreements with landowner/operators, successes and problematic areas in accomplishing their tasks. Trapper reports between meetings are received monthly and are tallied by trappers on a month-to-month basis and available to the board. These are available to the public upon request.
- e. Budget expenditures are examined at each meeting and evaluated through the State Department of Audit twice annually in two different formats. Minutes and budgets are provided to County Commissioners according to State Statutes. Minutes are available upon request to the general public.
- f. Reports annually, include a Calendar year report, which is provided to the County Commissioners; financial Audit report is provided to the Wyoming Department of Audit based on a July 1 through June 30th Fiscal Year, Wildlife Services (APHIS) reports are generated on both a fiscal year and on a calendar year. A report to the Wyoming Department of Agriculture gives progress of the previous grant applications successes every grant cycle ending June 30th of each year.
- g. A contracted Secretary, bookkeeper, and grant assistant is part of the team and records meeting minutes, budget records, and assists the Board with other assigned tasks.

Fremont County Predatory Animal Management District

Annual Report 2019-2020

Board Members:

President: Beth Evans

Vice President: Garvice Roby

Treasurer: Gloria Philp

Secretary: Chance Marshall

Cattle: Justin Jammerman
Rob Crofts
Beth Evans

Sheep: Rob Philp
Colleen Jennings
Ivan Laird

Sportsman: Garvice Roby
Albert Herbst
Alan Sinner



Goals:

Fremont County Predatory Animal Management District plans to continue their cooperative plan with USDA, APHIS and to keep their two Wildlife Specialists, Tracy Frye and David Fowler. Their goal is to limit and control damage to livestock, wildlife, and human health and safety by using environmentally responsible management techniques and methods.

Facts and Figures

Fremont County is the second largest county in Wyoming with 9266 square miles

Has the greatest number of farms and ranches with over 1000 units

Ranks first in the state in hay and alfalfa production

Ranks fourth in cattle numbers with 82,000 head

Ranks ninth in sheep production with 16,700 sheep

Has the most diverse land types in the state with 1,823,259 acres BLM land, 340 acres County or City land, 457,857 acres Forest Service land, 446,351 acres Private land, 276,088 acres State land and 2,200,000 Tribal land; with 5,203,895 total acres

Projects

Ocean Lake Pheasant Project

This project was started in cooperation with Fremont County PMD and the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission. Ocean Lake west of Riverton, WY, is a public land resource owned by WGFD. An array of public activities take place there. In the fall WGFD releases pheasants for bird hunters and the projects aim is to reduce predators just prior to the open bird season. Red fox are the dominant predator but raccoons, skunks, and feral cats are also present.

Southern BigHorn Deer Project

This project was started last year and was proposed as a 3 year project with funding of \$15,000 per year. FC will perform coyote control through trapping and aerial hunting at critical times of the year in unit 208/hunt area 36 to enhance mule deer. This has 81,280 acres in rough terrain and has received less predator control because ground hunting and fixed wing are difficult. A helicopter has been tantamount to the success of this project.

Predators

Fremont County has unique and diverse types of predators: 7 beaver were taken this year, 6 coyote dens, 438 total coyotes, 1700 crows, 1 red fox, 1 magpie, 394 ravens, 2 skunks, 1 rattlesnake, 4 grey timber wolves, and 1 bobcat was released.

We have seen a rise in wolf presence and have been very active in controlling them. Our Wildlife Specialists have done work in adjoining Teton County also at times and are always busy in the Dubois and Lander slope areas. Bears are a continuing presence also.



Bear tracks



Bear kill

Damage Summary

Reported Losses:

- Field Crops was reported at \$18,394
- Livestock losses including calves, sheep, and lambs was \$24,831
- Guard animals reported at \$20
- Verified Losses:
- Field Crops was \$7,068
- Livestock losses including calves, sheep, and lambs was \$24,832

Human Health and Safety



Disease Prevention



Coyote mange



Wolf mange

Goshen County Predatory Management District

Annual Report

FY 2018-2019



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.

Goshen County, Wyoming

Founded in 1911.

Seat-Torrington (also largest city).

Population- 13,249 (2010 census). Density-6/sq mi(2.3/km²)

Area- 2,232 sq mi (5,781 km²) total. Land- 2,225 sq mi (5,763 km²)

Water- 36 sq mi (93 km²)

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.

Identifiable and Measurable Actions:

Lands worked in Goshen County in Acres:

BLM: 1,680

Private: 475,267

State: 13,900

Total lands worked Under WS agreements: 490,847

Ten Wildlife Services Employees worked a total of 2,087.43 hours helping 89 different Cooperators.

67.3 Total Hours of Fixed Wing Aerial was used so far this year with two months left to go out of a total of 100 hours available. GCPMD has approved adding an additional 10 hours of aerial for the next fiscal year.

Summary of Damage and Loss

\$2,436.00 of Reported Livestock Injuries and Loss by Predators. This is a decrease of \$3,042.00 from last year. Decrease could partially be due to a lack of reporting by cooperators.

\$0.00 of Verified Livestock Injuries and Loss by Predators 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. Several cases of rabies positive animals have been confirmed this spring through submissions from myself and cooperators.

Take Summary

Coyotes: 340; This take is up by 57
Burrow/Dens: 1; This take is up by 1
Red Fox: 1; This take is up by 1
Raccoons: 90; This take is the same as the previous year
Opossums: 1; This take is down by 12
Striped Skunk:7; This take is down by 18
Badger: 2; This take is up by 2

Accomplishments

Our trapper Jim Angal is still learning 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, many new property agreements have been signed for the first time and several expired cooperative agreements have been renewed. Total acres worked and total number of cooperators is continuing to grow.

Summary

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. GCPMD is increasing the amount of hours for aerial hunting to help offset a lack of personnel on the ground. We have seen a recent resurgence in rabies in southwest Goshen County. Jim has been working hard to try to contain and manage the outbreak. Currently, the virus seems localized to that particular 5 square mile location in the southwest portion of the county.

HOT SPRINGS COUNTY PREDATOR MANAGEMENT DISTRICT



Annual Report

February 2018-February 2019

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 '19-20 management plan which lists our County's wildlife issues and goals for the upcoming year. The report also includes the results for the '18-19 year (the most current reporting period being Feb. 1, 2018- January 31, 2019).

HOT SPRINGS COUNTY PREDATOR MANAGEMENT DISTRICT MANAGEMENT PLAN 2019-2020

At present the HSCPMD provides animal damage control to 51 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 issues of concern or threatened are found in Hot Springs County. These species range from grizzly bears, wolves to sage grouse and other sage brush obligates.

HSCPMD Board Members

President: Jack Baird

Vice Pres.: Tom Anderson

Secretary/Treasurer: Brett Belden

Chuck Bunch

Everett Jones

Josh Longwell

Rudy Kowlok

Mark Phipps

Leif Polson

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 USDA Wildlife Services. 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 preyed upon by canines, but some have additional pressure from raccoons, skunks, feral cats, crows and ravens. Methods of controlling these predators include shooting, trapping and using EPA registered chemicals.

Raccoons and skunks have been removed by using the live traps purchased by the HSCPMD for use in populated areas.

III. a) Livestock, Farming and Small Acreage Issues

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

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



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

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.

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 139 aerial hours during this reporting period. Our long-time pilot has retired and we now have a new pilot set-up and flying. We anticipate higher fixed-wing hours in '19-'20.

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

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

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

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

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

b) **Goals:**

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



Actions taken:

All field personnel assist in disease prevention as a result of normal day to day activities. They are on-call for any immediate safety issues that may arise. The HSCPMD monitors the presence of rabies by sending all bats collected and a number of skunks chosen at random to the state laboratory for testing. Hot Springs County has had no positive results during the 2018-19 reporting period.

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

Also, we've recently purchased a drone for operational work. The drone will be used to:

- 1) Check trap equipment without physically approaching sets
- 2) To search for individual animals (or dens) from the sky
- 3) To look into bird nests (ravens, birds of prey) to determine whether a nest is active
- 4) To approach predated livestock carcasses in search of nearby potential danger (grizzly bear)

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:

Beavers: 3

Feral cats: 8

Coyotes: 311

Coyote dens: 10

Mink: 1

Ravens: 25

Red Fox: 21

Red Fox dens: 7

Raccoons: 109

Striped Skunks: 20

Turkey Vultures: 3

Wolves: 13



During this reporting period (Feb.1, 2018-January 31, 2019), Hot Springs County currently maintains 2 FTE positions,.

Hot Springs County's duties were conducted with the teamwork and cooperation of 10 WS employees during this reporting period 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 \$19,185 in livestock damage verified by the Hot Springs County Specialist's during this reporting period, most of that in grizzly bear damage.

The majority of the agents time was spent providing assistance on:

- 1,490 responses to coyote predation or threats of predation on calves, sheep, goats, and livestock guarding animals
- 275 responses to raccoon, skunk, rattlesnake, and vultures for human health and safety

- 236 visits for grizzly predation on livestock
- 31 tasks for damage to private property and irrigation systems by raccoons and beavers.
- 133 tasks protecting game birds from fox, feral cat, raccoon, and skunks
- 14 responses to mountain lion damage to livestock
- 404 daily tasks for grey wolf complaints involving cattle, sheep, and guard animals;
- 32 responses to raven complaints with livestock



Management Plan -- Johnson County Predator Management District

Updated 3-26-19

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 have initiated a very successful cooperation program and contributed 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 2 ½ to 2 full time trappers, one in the north and one in southern Johnson County and livestock losses increases considerably, thus we are looking to increase manpower again to cut losses. Producer meetings were held and training and education on methods and help on the ground for aerial hunters will increase. From these meetings, we decided to purchase several radios to aid in communications from ground for aerial hunting.

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 with wildlife and. 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 nine 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. We continue to remove several positive tested animal each year

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. As a Wyoming special district we are now required to make several changes as to meeting laws, bookkeeping, and public records and notices. These policies are in the process of being implemented.

February 26, 2019

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 1st of April to the 1st 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 rangers 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 the 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 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 1st in the predator area of the Grey's River is very difficult; when the whole Grey's River drainage opens up March 1st 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.

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

Natrona County Predator
Management District P.O.Box
1462
Casper, WY 82602

2019-2020
District Management Plan

Outline:

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

District Management Plan

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

The NCPMD has contracted with three (3) full time trappers who cover a very large geographical area compared to the other counties who have several full time trappers. (Clint Cummings, Will Roberts, Rock Buckingham.)

Last year we received funding from the Wyoming Game & Fish for the Stove Gulch area. This is an area that the Wyoming Game and Fish asked for the NCPMD's assistance in controlling coyotes to help optimize a greater number of game to offer a greater hunting experience for resident hunters.

Natrona County continues to experience regular depredation to livestock as a result of a healthy coyote population. The NCPMD has worked to minimize the loss of livestock to predation, thereby maintaining the viability of a healthy livestock industry in Natrona County. The addition of strategic flying time has had a tremendous impact on prevention of livestock losses, as this method is often one of the best tools for coyote control, however, due to financial constraints, land owners will be responsible for all flying for predator control. Control methods used to control predator populations are the use of leg hold and cage traps, foot snares, neck snares, shooting, trail and decoy dogs, aerial hunting and M-44 devices.

- II. **Identifiable or Measurable Results:** From July 1, 2018 to date, the three trappers and aerial flying have harvested 1,025 coyotes.

m.

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:

Calendar Year	Coyotes Taken
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	1,540
2017	1,826
July 1, 2018-Present	1,025

Income/Expense

Income

Livestock Account:	\$ 91,051.63
Grant Account:	\$ 62,696.52
Refund Savings Account:	\$ 2,513.38
Income Available:	\$156,261.53

Expenses:

Office Supplies:	\$ 0.00
Postage and Delivery:	\$ 50.00
Contract Services:	\$154,856.21
Meeting expenses:	\$ 373.80
Liability Insurance:	\$ 300.00
PO Box Fee:	\$ 0.00
Preparation of tax forms:	\$ 1,045.00
Membership (LGLP):	\$ 0.00
Livestock Predator Fees:	\$ 0.00
Stove Gulch Wildlife Project:	\$ 0.00 (Fly Time)
Bates Hole Wildlife Project:	\$ 0.00 (Fly Time)
Fly Time:	\$ 228,259.91 (Regular flying)
Raven Control & Supplies:	\$ 0.00
Board Mileage:	\$ 820.35
Bonuses:	\$ 7,000.00
Reimbursed Expenses for overpayment of grant:	\$180,213.11
Total Expenses Incurred:	\$367,484.38
7/1118-3/12119	
Available Income:	\$156,261.53

Current Financial Statement: For the current Fiscal Year 2015, NCPMD has a grant account balance of \$62,696.52. We have a livestock tax account balance of \$91,051.63. A Refund Saving Account was setup which has a balance of \$2,513.38. For a total of \$156,261.53. Anticipated expenditures through July 1, 2019 are \$67,848.16. This will leave us a balance of \$88,413.37.

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

Dated this ...¹³ day of March, 2019.

Mary Owens, President NCPMD

2020 Grant Narrative and Program Overview –Niobrara County

The Niobrara County PMD 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 some work on ranches there that are adjacent to Niobrara County. We have the added burden of our eastern border being shared with Nebraska and South Dakota, each a willing supplier of fresh predator seedstock. 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. This year's weather conditions have posed a challenge to trapping.

As we do every year, we took a tremendous number of coyotes in the county this year, but we did see some increased losses in 2018. Although that was true statewide, we consider reducing losses to be our duty. The board has decided our best strategy is increased aerial service this spring. Aerial services are provided by both private contractors and Wildlife Services, and we are attempting to get a plane at every opportunity. You will see in the budget that we have increased our flying time for next year as well.

Niobrara County PMD would like to request \$150,000 in grant funding for 2020. We have not increased trapper contracts for several years and keep other costs minimal, but aerial costs will increase while income remains unchanged. For this reason, we feel we need this amount to continue our program, *while planning to use retained funds as well*. We have always tried to be conservative and built some "cushion" when funding was more plentiful, but feel it may be needed to reduce losses to our producers.

We are confident that you will not find our program to have any waste, and you may be assured that we will use all money responsibly.

Niobrara County Management Plan

Revised, 2015

- I The mission of the Niobrara County Predator Management District (PMD) is to provide predator control for the benefit of livestock producers and wildlife populations within Niobrara County.
- II Niobrara County is located in the eastern side of the state and has a land mass of just over 2,600 square miles. According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service, Niobrara County livestock numbers in 2015 total approximately 3,600 sheep and 46,000 cattle.
- III a) *Wildlife Goals* – The Niobrara County PMD would like to facilitate an increase in numbers of mule deer, sage grouse, antelope, and turkey through effective management of those predator species having the most impact on numbers.
- b) *Proposed Actions* – The Niobrara County PMD proposes emphasis in the following areas:

Special Area #1: Northwestern Niobrara County. Boundaries: Western boundary is Converse County line. North boundary is Weston County line. Twenty-Mile Road to State Highway 271 to Lance Creek Road, continuing north up the Dixon Road to Weston County line marks the southern and eastern borders. Focus wildlife populations are mule deer and antelope. We hope to increase the doe-to-fawn survival ratio year over year. Sage grouse leks are also known to exist within this area.

Special Area #2: The Rawhides in south central Niobrara. This area was the subject of a 3-yr wildlife recovery project funded by the landowners, the county predator district, and the ADMB board. Our data showed an impressive benefit to the mule deer and antelope populations. Predator immigration from the

neighboring counties is a constant problem. We plan to resume control work in the area to recover previous gains and further stabilize the mule deer and antelope populations.

Though not defined as special project areas we also expect to place an emphasis on wild turkey and sharp-tail grouse populations, especially within and south of the area known as “The Breaks”. This is a rough, timbered uplift bisecting the county east to west. Aerial control is not practical in this area so we rely on our contracted trappers to increase work done in this difficult area. This is another area impacted by predator migration from outside the county, Nebraska in this case.

We believe that our full time contract trappers along with other special contractors during the critical months along with an increased aerial program will allow us to help stabilize wildlife populations throughout the county. We will have a larger footprint than our budget previously allowed. It is our intention that the trappers would work cooperatively during times crucial to livestock or to wildlife to enhance protection of both. Most of our landowners place a high value on wildlife both for aesthetics and as a supplemental income to their livestock business. Our sportsmen representatives are very enthusiastic about enhancing wildlife and are an excellent addition to our board, overall.

- IV
- a) *Livestock Issues* – Niobrara County is experiencing regular depredation to livestock as a result of a healthy coyote population.

 - b) *Livestock Goals* – The Niobrara County PMD is dedicated to minimizing the loss of livestock to predation, thereby enabling viability of the local producers.

 - c) *Proposed Actions* – The addition of strategic flying time will have a tremendous impact on prevention of livestock losses, as this method is often one

of the best tools for coyote control. Other control methods will be used selectively to remove predators that are preying upon or threaten livestock, are creating hazards to public safety, or are damaging crops or property. These methods could include the use of leghold and cage traps, foot snares, neck snares, shooting, trail and decoy dogs, aerial hunting, and M-44 devices.

V *Human Health and Safety:* An additional benefit of an expanded predator control program will be disease control. Data collected by WS has shown a high incidence of rabies, plague, and tularemia, as well as mange, in the predators of this county.

VI *Pre- and post-work monitoring:* The Niobrara PMD is planning to use Wildlife Services, the Wyoming Game & Fish Department, and sportsmen board members as sources for data and game counts to be used in monitoring the effectiveness of efforts targeting wildlife improvement and disease control.

Park County Predator Management District



2018-2019 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 1.5 WS employees. Most duties within the county were conducted by these 2 employees; however, 12 other WS employees (including pilots, gunners, and biologists) helped out within Park County during this reporting period. The data for this report is from February 1st, 2018-January 31, 2019. There were 39 different properties totaling 1,475,300 acres of public and private land that requested services from WS during this reporting period. The total man hours worked in the county was 4,408 hours.

A total of 120 hours of fixed wing was spent in Park County during the reporting period. WS pilot Miles Hausner retired and a new full-time pilot, Scott Jensen, has filled the position in January. WS removed the following animals in response to damage conflict: during the reporting period:

Board Members

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

- Black Bears: captured and relocated 1
- Coyotes: 301+ 1 dens
- Fox, Red: 15 + 6 dens
- Pelicans: 12

- Raven: 10
- Raccoons: 32
- Starlings: 2,000
- Striped Skunks: 1
- Wolves, Gray: 21



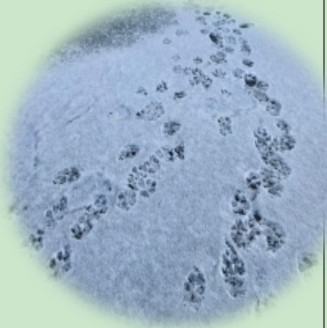


Livestock Protection

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.

Wolf management was turned over to the Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD) in April of 2017. WS assists WGFD with wolf depredations when requested. During the reporting period, WS made 38 visits in response to verified wolf depredations involving livestock in Park County, and 21 wolves were removed on damage. 8 of those 21 were removed conducting ground work (shooting), while the other 13 were taken by aerial hunting (all from fixed-wing). Wolf numbers remain stable. There was \$696 of verified livestock damage caused by predators in Park County during this reporting period. This figure does not include wolf or grizzly bear damage that was verified by WGFD. Coyote densities have remained stable county-wide, with populations being reduced in chronic damage areas.

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 546 visits responding to coyote predation or threats to livestock, 80 visits to red fox predation, 5 visits for feral/free-roaming dogs, 14 responses to black bear and 38 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 group and their dollars to address coyote/deer conflict on the Clarks Fork mule deer herd in the 2019 winter/spring. So far \$8,000 of sportsman's dollars have been collected for coyote work to protect the deer.



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 31 times to corn damage by raccoons and striped skunks
- WS made 9 visits in response to human health and safety raccoons, skunks, and/or coyotes

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 2019-20

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.

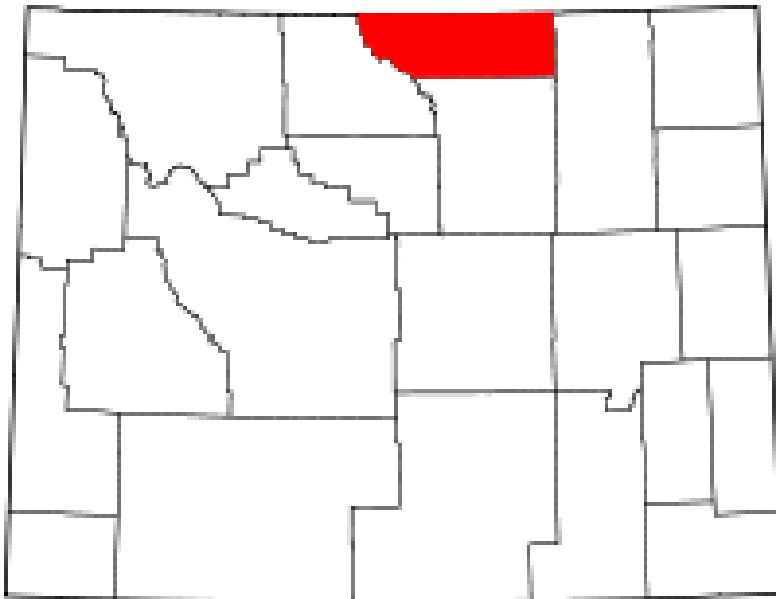
It appears that wolves will continue to have strong numbers in western Park County and we anticipate wolf predation this upcoming year to be on the same level as the last few years. WS and WGFD have a strong working relationship and plan to respond to trophy game carnivore conflicts in a timely manner.

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



Sheridan County Management Plan 2019-2020 Fiscal Year

Sheridan County and PMD Selected Areas



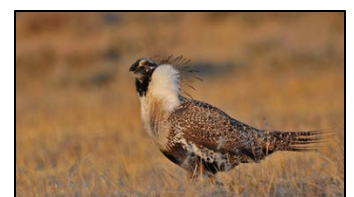
Area 1: From Ucross, WY along HWY 14-16 East to Campbell County Line and South of 14-16 to Johnson County Line. Primary purpose will be to depopulate coyotes from the target area, helping Sage Grouse recovery on spring leks and nesting areas, as well as control on spring lambing grounds. (500 hours of predator control)

Area 2: From Sheridan, WY to Wyarno, Southeast along Ulm County RD. to the junction with 14-16, then south to the Johnson County Line; from Johnson County Line west to the face of the Big Horn Mountains and back to Sheridan. Area of concentration will for the spring calving

grounds. (250 hours of predator control)

Area 3: From Wyarno, east to Passic County RD. following Buffalo Creek RD. east and Ulm County RD. southwest to HWY 14-16; everything east of Ulm County RD. and south of Buffalo Creek RD. to HWY 14-16. The control will directed at helping Sage Grouse leks and breeding grounds, as well as lambing grounds. (250 hours of predator control)

Area 4: North along Leiters and Passic County RD. to the Montana State Line, east to Campbell County Line, south to HWY 14-16. Primary purpose to remove coyotes from the Powder River area, for Mule Deer recovery and calving grounds. (250 hours of predator control)



Area 5: From Sheridan, north along I-90, then along Buffalo Creek to Passic County RD. as the east and southern border; from there, north to the Montana State Line. Primary purpose is Mule Deer Recovery. (400 hours of predator control)

Area 6: West of Sheridan and north of Wolf along the Big Horn Mountains, then north to the Montana State Line. Primary purpose is Mule Deer recovery. (350 hours of predator control)

Findings

Area 1 & 3: Due to the request from the Wyoming Game and Fish Department, we will be increasing predator control work to include targeting the red fox, raccoons and skunks in nesting and brood rearing habitat surrounding Sage Grouse leks sites. We will focus on an area within a couple miles of the lek. Also at the request of WGFD, we will be stepping up efforts to control coyotes in deer hunt area 23 and antelope hunt areas 17 and 109. This is to increase the fawn to doe ratio.

Area 4 & 5: We have seen a high increase of coyotes along the Montana border and also along the Campbell County line. We have put more time into these areas to try and stop the flow of coyotes into these Sheridan County areas. This past January, as our specialist was aerial flying the Powder River and Clear Creek drainages he counted 21 total deer kills on the ice from coyotes. He was able to shoot a number of these coyotes off the kills.



Sheridan County Facts

Predator Management District Members:

Chairman - Cole Benton, Clearmont WY
Vice Chairman - Kellen Little, Leiter WY
Treasurer - Mike Connell, Big Horn WY
Secretary - Robert Strauser, Sheridan WY
John Auzqui, Clearmont WY
Regina Leath, Banner WY
Arty Thomas, Leiter WY
Robert Hamilton, Sheridan WY
Bob Rolston, Sheridan County Commissioner, Sheridan WY
Dan Powers, Ranchester WY
Bob Krumm, Sheridan WY

2012 Census of Agriculture:

- Number of Farm and Ranches: 702
- Total Acres of Farm and Ranches: 1,304,838
- Average size of Farm: 1,859
- Market value of product sold in Livestock Sales: \$49,950,000
- Land in Farm and Ranch use:
 - Pastureland – 92.9%
 - Cropland – 5.7%
 - Other – 1.4%
- Head count of Cattle in Sheridan County: 68,527
 - Ranks 10th in the State of Wyoming
- Head count of Sheep and Lambs: 3565
 - Ranks 17th in State of Wyoming
- Head count of Horses and Ponies: 3280
 - Ranks 7th in the State of Wyoming

Sheridan Count Predator Management District (PMD) feels that we have developed a very productive management plan along with rabies control. Our program consists of a variety of methods implemented from one of our best predator specialists we have ever had the pleasure of working with. Along with a board that is willing to do or try new and old methods to improve our livestock and wildlife survival rates.

Wildlife Issues:

The number of ravens, crows, skunks, raccoons, coyotes and foxes in Sheridan County are at healthy levels. Many of the livestock producers in the county also receive additional income from the wildlife activity, such as hunting and viewing.



Wildlife Goals:

The Sheridan County PMD would like to facilitate an increase in numbers of wild game through active management of the before mentioned species that have the most impact on our numbers.



Proposed Actions:

With harsh winters the past two years and the lack of smaller prey animals such as rabbits, there has been heavier predation on larger prey animals such as deer, antelope and sage grouse. Our field specialist is going to **use aerial hunting** in addition to ground work to better manage the predator numbers in our county.



Livestock Issues:

In Sheridan County, the livestock producers have experienced a greater hit from predation because of the lack of small game animals as well as the wildlife issues; *especially the sheep producers.*



Livestock Goals:

The Sheridan County PMD along with the field specialist is dedicated to minimize the loss of livestock from predation through any means possible.



Sheridan County PMD positively affects the lives of our livestock producers.



Proposed Action:

The Sheridan County PMD proposed action is to target our aerial hunting in March and April to coincide with most livestock producers calving and lambing season. With the reduced funding, we feel that pushing aerial hunting in these months we will reduce the stress on our producers that they get from predation. Plus hitting the ground work throughout the entire year, these two methods will help out with everyone’s livestock and wildlife predation; a win-win for all in the county and state. We will put a lot of pressure on our north and east borders where most of our predators come from.

Pre and Post Work Monitoring:

The PMD board, with the help of our specialist Alan Plummer (a full-time trapper) will work with our local Game and Fish Department to provide data on wildlife and Sage Grouse populations in relation to the work that our specialist has accomplished through aerial and ground work. The board does not anticipate any additional cost associated with these activities.

This all would not be happening for Sheridan County PMD without the help of Wyoming Legislative through the Animal Damage Management Board. With that being said, we the board, livestock producers and sportsmen thank you for your hard work and belief in what we are accomplishing.

2014-2018 Preseason Classification by Hunt Area

Courtesy of <https://gfi.state.wy.us/JCR/frmSummaryRDisplay.aspx>

For Pronghorn Herd PR321 – Leiter – Hunt Area 10

Year	Males				Females		Juveniles			Total	Class Obj	Males/100 Females			Young/100	
	% Ylg	# Adult	Total Male	% Male	#	% Female	#	% Juv	Ylg			Adult	Males	Females	Adult	
2014	58	106	164	37%	153	34%	130	29%	447	3,783	38	69	107	85	41	
2015	39	108	147	25%	265	45%	181	31%	593	2,534	15	41	55	68	44	
2016	20	75	95	32%	110	38%	88	30%	293	1,983	18	68	86	80	43	
2017	39	102	141	26%	232	43%	168	31%	541	2,194	17	44	61	72	45	
2018	43	87	130	28%	203	44%	126	27%	459	1,928	21	43	64	62	38	

For Pronghorn Herd PR321 – Leiter – Hunt Area 15

Year	Males				Females		Juveniles			Total	Class Obj	Males/100 Females			Young/100	
	% Ylg	# Adult	Total Male	% Male	#	% Female	#	% Juv	Ylg			Adult	Males	Females	Adult	
2014	36	63	99	18%	261	48%	183	34%	543	3,783	14	24	38	70	51	
2015	70	90	160	24%	325	48%	193	28%	678	2,534	22	28	49	59	40	
2016	51	133	184	21%	455	51%	252	28%	891	1,983	11	29	40	55	39	
2017	49	95	144	21%	318	46%	232	33%	694	2,194	15	30	45	73	50	
2018	95	146	241	25%	466	48%	260	27%	967	1,928	20	31	52	56	37	

For Pronghorn Herd PR321 – Leiter – Hunt Area 16

Year	Males				Females		Juveniles			Total	Class Obj	Males/100 Females			Young/100	
	% Ylg	# Adult	Total Male	% Male	#	% Female	#	% Juv	Ylg			Adult	Males	Females	Adult	
2014	71	86	157	26%	236	39%	207	34%	600	3,783	30	36	67	88	53	
2015	84	85	169	26%	242	38%	227	36%	638	2,534	35	35	70	94	55	
2016	63	73	136	28%	198	41%	145	30%	479	1,983	32	37	69	73	43	
2017	25	117	142	24%	279	47%	177	30%	598	2,194	9	42	51	63	42	
2018	40	114	154	19%	376	46%	292	36%	822	1,928	11	30	41	78	55	

For Pronghorn Herd PR355 – Beckton – Hunt Area ALL

Year	Males				Females		Juveniles			Total	Class Obj	Males/100 Females			Young/100	
	% Ylg	# Adult	Total Male	% Male	#	% Female	#	% Juv	Ylg			Adult	Males	Females	Adult	
2014	7	16	23	24%	53	56%	19	20%	95	815	13	30	43	36	25	
2015	8	12	20	14%	92	62%	36	24%	148	660	9	13	22	39	32	
2016	25	45	70	17%	221	53%	128	31%	419	992	11	20	32	58	44	
2017	14	21	35	16%	108	48%	80	36%	223	1,405	13	19	32	74	56	
2018	19	32	51	16%	167	52%	102	32%	320	1,187	11	19	31	61	47	

2014-2018 Postseason Classification by Hunt Area

Courtesy of <https://gfi.state.wy.us/JCR/frmSummaryRDisplay.aspx>

For Mule Deer Herd MD319 – Powder River – Hunt Area 23

Year	Males							Females		Juveniles		Total	Class Obj	Males/100 Females			Young/100	
	% Ylg	#2+ Cls1	#2+ Cls 2	#2+ Cls 3	#2+ Other	Total Male	% Male	#	% Female	#	% Juv			Ylg	Adult	Males	Females	Adult
2014	104	0	0	0	243	347	21%	738	45%	560	34%	1,645	1,556	14	33	47	76	52
2015	67	0	0	0	146	213	23%	404	44%	298	33%	915	2,056	17	36	53	74	48
2016	48	0	0	0	122	170	25%	303	44%	216	31%	689	2,059	16	40	56	71	46
2017	52	0	0	0	122	174	22%	375	46%	259	32%	808	1,455	14	33	46	69	47
2018	83	35	40	22	156	336	27%	550	44%	362	29%	1,248	1,571	15	46	61	66	41

For Mule Deer Herd MD321 – North Big Horn – Hunt Area 24

Year	Males							Females		Juveniles		Total	Class Obj	Males/100 Females			Young/100	
	% Ylg	#2+ Cls1	#2+ Cls 2	#2+ Cls 3	#2+ Other	Total Male	% Male	#	% Female	#	% Juv			Ylg	Adult	Males	Females	Adult
2014	26	0	0	0	63	89	15%	263	45%	235	40%	587	1,834	10	24	34	89	67
2015	59	86	0	0	0	145	16%	392	44%	349	39%	886	1,734	15	22	37	89	65
2016	51	0	0	0	87	138	16%	411	48%	313	36%	862	1,544	12	21	34	76	57
2017	61	0	0	0	112	173	16%	501	47%	387	36%	1,061	1,267	12	22	35	77	57
2018	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0	0	0	35	77	0

For Mule Deer Herd MD319 – Powder River – Hunt Area 26

Year	Males							Females		Juveniles		Total	Class Obj	Males/100 Females			Young/100	
	% Ylg	#2+ Cls1	#2+ Cls 2	#2+ Cls 3	#2+ Other	Total Male	% Male	#	% Female	#	% Juv			Ylg	Adult	Males	Females	Adult
2014	28	0	0	0	102	130	21%	275	44%	226	36%	631	1,556	10	37	47	82	56
2015	37	0	0	0	75	112	21%	239	46%	173	33%	524	2,056	15	31	47	72	49
2016	49	0	0	0	87	136	19%	351	49%	232	32%	719	2,059	14	25	39	66	48
2017	40	0	0	0	139	179	19%	452	49%	298	32%	929	1,455	9	31	40	66	47
2018	45	90	11	0	25	171	23%	367	48%	220	29%	758	1,571	12	34	47	60	41

Sweetwater County Predator Management District

March 29, 2019

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 felt this reduction in efforts would dramatically affect the population of predators in Sweetwater County. We are now seeing these with populations that are concerning. In two short days, WS plane killed around 75 coyotes in the Farson/Eden area alone. When you add what the producers claimed they had killed, the total amounted to over 100 in this very small area. This is very concerning to the board and we feel we need to increase our activity to get this under control.

Gary
Zakotnik -
Chairman

PREDATOR MANAGEMENT
DISTRICT OF
UINTA COUNTY

**2018- 2019
ANNUAL REPORT**

DISTRICT ACTIONS

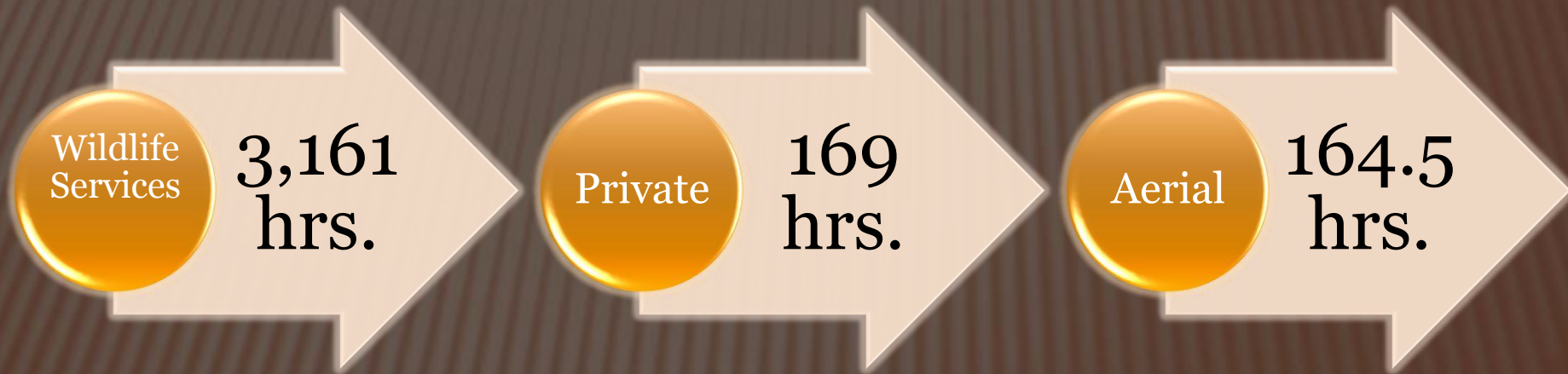


Specialists

Contract
Work

Aerial

CONTRACTED PERSONNEL



QUANTIFIED RESULTS

WILDLIFE SERVICES

- 939 Person Day Visits
- 824,600 Acres Covered

WILDLIFE SERVICES

- 13 Dens
- 462 Total Offenders

QUANTIFIED RESULTS

PRIVATE
CONTRACTORS

- 169 Hrs worked

PRIVATE
CONTRACTORS

- 83 Total Offenders

ADMB GRANTS

× Requests:

- 2019-2020
\$220,600
- 2018-2019
\$177,861
- 2017-2018
\$176,867

× Received

- ✓ 2019-2020
\$185,000
- ✓ 2018-2019
\$135,000
- ✓ 2017-2018
\$150,000

LOSSES

WILDLIFE SERVICES

REPORTED

440 Livestock

\$ 45,812 Dollar Loss

VERIFIED

219 Livestock

\$ 25,115 Dollar Loss

PRODUCER REPORTS

Surveyed

1234 Livestock

\$ 123,321 Dollar Loss

Verified

987 Livestock

\$ 90,000 Dollar Loss

Washakie County Predator Management District



2018-2019 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 1.5 FTE WS trappers this year working within the county due to shrunken budgets. 7 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 early March, so the most recent 365 day period was used (February 1st, 2018–January 31, 2019) to generate the number of hours worked/hours flown, and animals taken. The total man hours worked in the County during this time period is 3,842 hours on 57 different properties county-wide totaling 1,475,309 acres.

During this reporting period, 115 hours were flown fixed-wing and 10.6 hrs were flown by helicopter. The following animals were taken in response to conflicts with livestock, wildlife, nuisance, property, or human health and safety.

Badgers: 1

Beavers: 7

Coyotes: 596 + 3 dens

Foxes, Red: 5 + 1 red fox dens

Raccoons: 75

Ravens: 4

Striped skunk: 14

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

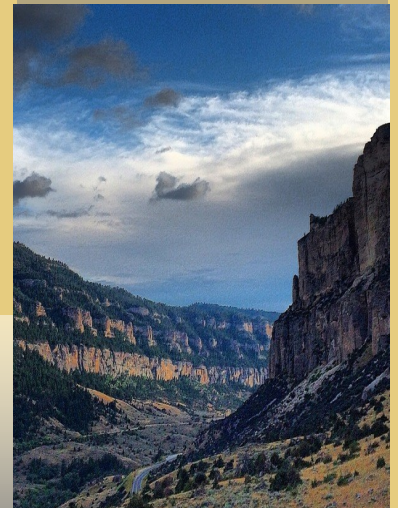
Bob Eisle, Worland, Wy

WS' Specialists:

Brad Seaman—Full time

Josh Zimmerman—Half time

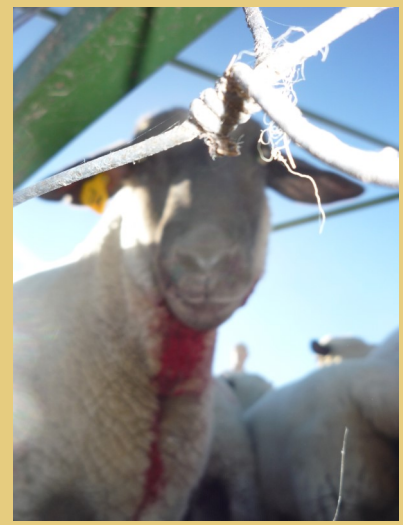
Please Contact Wyoming USDA/APHIS/Wildlife Services if more information is needed



Coyotes

WS responded 1,525 times to address coyote predation or threats to both livestock and wildlife.

Coyote densities are lower than average county-wide. Coyote livestock depredation was 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 2018. Spring 2018 was our second year on this project. These funds were spent on 10.6 hours of helicopter time (\$9,100) and 31 hours (\$4,960) of fixed-wing time. Additionally, another 89.5 hours were spent on the ground conducting operational work by 4 different Wildlife Service employees. The results were 137 coyotes removed. The study will continue in Spring 2019.

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

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

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

WS responded 7 times to potential wolf reports/sightings but none verified



Human health, crop, gamebird and other wildlife, 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 486 visits to address game bird protection from red fox, raccoon, striped skunk, and coyote.

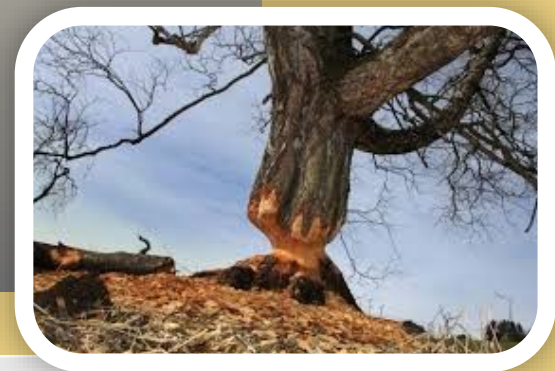
WS made 15 visits protecting buildings (including residential) from raccoons and striped skunks.

WS responded 25 times to address dikes, ditch, irrigation systems from beaver, and raccoon.

WS responded 60 times to address crop damage from raccoon and striped skunk.

WS made 46 visits to address general property damage (gardens, landscape, livestock feed, etc) or human health and safety reasons from beavers, raccoons, striped skunks, ravens, and coyotes.

1 skunk sample was submitted to the state lab from suspected animals for testing of rabies and other diseases.



District Management Plan for 2019-20 year:

Washakie County Predator Management District (WCPMD) and it's 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 1.5 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.

With reducing employees from 2.5 to 1.5 FTE in a two year period, 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 will 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
2018-2019**



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

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.

We also work with the US Fish and Wildlife with working with problem migratory bird issues. We have had to deal with Turkey Vultures killing heifer calves, and Great Blue Herons annihilating county stocked trout ponds.

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

- Pigeons – 39
- Total Predators removed - 334

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

(Pictures courtesy of Nickalina Groenwold)