

# **Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board**

## **2022 Annual Report**



Compiled by the Wyoming Department of Agriculture





# ANIMAL DAMAGE MANAGEMENT BOARD

6607 Campstool Road. Cheyenne, WY 82002-0010

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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 22, 2022

**SUBJECT:** 2022 Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board Annual Report

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

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

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





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**WYOMING  
ANIMAL DAMAGE  
MANAGEMENT  
BOARD**

**Directory**

6607 Campstool Road  
Cheyenne, WY 82002-0100  
Phone: (307) 777-6781 Fax: (307) 777-1943  
E-mail: [jerald.johnson@wyo.gov](mailto:jerald.johnson@wyo.gov)  
[www.wyadmb.com](http://www.wyadmb.com)

The Wyoming Animal Damage Management Program was created by the 1999 Legislature and is administered by a 15 member board (12 voting, 3 ex-officio, non-voting members), commonly known as the Animal Damage Management Board, or simply the “ADMB”.

The ADMB was established for the purposes of mitigating damage caused to livestock, wildlife, and crops by predatory animals, predacious birds, and depredating animals, or for the protection of human health and safety. The program is authorized to investigate, test, and refine the concept of integrated predator management.

**Co-Chairs (2)**

Doug Miyamoto, Director  
WY Dept. of Agriculture  
2219 Carey Avenue  
Cheyenne, WY 82002  
307-777-6569 Fax 307-777-6593  
[doug.miyamoto@wyo.gov](mailto:doug.miyamoto@wyo.gov)  
Term: - Indefinite

Brian Nesvik, Director  
WY Game & Fish Dept.  
5400 Bishop Blvd.  
Cheyenne, WY 82006  
307- 777-4501 Fax 307-777-4699  
[brian.nesvik@wyo.gov](mailto:brian.nesvik@wyo.gov)  
Term: - Indefinite

**Domestic Sheep Producer Representative**

Bob Harlan  
806 Barnum Road  
Kaycee, WY 82639  
[bob.harlan1@gmail.com](mailto:bob.harlan1@gmail.com)  
Term - To 8/2025

**Cattle Producer Representative**

Garret Falkenburg  
1092 Wagonhound Rd..  
Douglas, WY 82633  
307-358-5851  
[rollingpinranches@outlook.com](mailto:rollingpinranches@outlook.com)  
Term: To 8/2023

**State Director, USDA/Wildlife Services**

Mike Foster  
USDA/APHIS/WS  
6731 Coal Rd.  
P.O. Box 67  
Casper, WY 82602-0059  
307-261-5336 Fax 307-261-5996  
[Michael.d.foster@usda.gov](mailto:Michael.d.foster@usda.gov)  
Term: Indefinite

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

Brett Belden  
655 E river Rd  
Thermopolis, WY 82443  
307-864-2275  
[wyoaterwatch@rtconnect.net](mailto:wyoaterwatch@rtconnect.net)

Term: To 8/2025

Robert (Bob) Phillips  
P.O. Box 412  
Sheridan, WY 82801  
307-751-2114  
[bgphillips@vcn.com](mailto:bgphillips@vcn.com)

Term: To 8/2023

**President, Predatory Animal Advisory Board**

Jeff Boner  
1839 Madora ave. suite 4  
PO Box 15  
Douglas, WY 82633  
307-358-5330  
[jeffboner@vcn.com](mailto:jeffboner@vcn.com)

Term: Indefinite

**Urban Representative**

Ron Cunningham  
110 Wendy Street  
Lander, WY 82520  
307-332-5401  
[ronc@uwyo.edu](mailto:ronc@uwyo.edu)  
Term: To 8/2023

**WY Game & Fish Commissioner**

Gay Lynn Bird  
2775 Ross Rd.  
Douglas, WY 82633  
307-777-4632  
[Gaylynn.byrd@wyo.gov](mailto:Gaylynn.byrd@wyo.gov)  
Term: To 3/2025

**WY Board of Agriculture**

Amanda Hulett/ backup Mike Riley  
54 Cloud Peak Dr  
Buffalo, WY 82834  
307-620-2898  
[hulet\\_2001@yahoo.com](mailto:hulet_2001@yahoo.com)  
Term: To 8/2023

**Non-consumptive User of Wildlife Representative**

Vacant

Term: To 8/2021

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

Russell Bacon  
5500 Bishop Blvd.  
Cheyenne, WY 82002  
970-596-0886  
[russell.bacon@usda.gov](mailto:russell.bacon@usda.gov)  
Term: Indefinite

**United States Fish and Wildlife Service Representative**

Tyler Abbott  
334 Parsley Blvd.  
Cheyenne, WY 82007  
307-772-2374  
[tyler\\_abbott@fws.gov](mailto:tyler_abbott@fws.gov)  
Term: Indefinite

**United States Bureau of Land Management Representative**

Valori (Lori) Armstrong  
5353 Yellowstone Road  
Cheyenne, WY 82003  
Phone: 307-775-6123  
[vaarmstrong@blm.gov](mailto:vaarmstrong@blm.gov)  
Term: Indefinite



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## **2022 Major Issues and Overview**

### **Predator Management District Funding**

The \$5.65 million that was budgeted for Predator Management Districts was allocated in May and will also be used for Wolf control over the next biennium. The ADMB Board during its May allocation meeting distributed \$2,737,000 to the 19 predator districts that applied to the program for the current year and held back \$160,000 for wolf control with USDA/WS and also held back an additional \$20,000 for other wolf control needed by counties that may need wolf control and have no contract with WS.

In June the Governor supplied an additional \$737,500 to the ADMB for allocation to help ease the budgetary shortfalls the districts were experiencing. Over the last several years the ADMB and local predator management districts have been working together to manage the reduction in funding. Districts had reduced personnel dedicated to reducing predator depredation in the state. 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 several county boards have chosen to use private contractors to reduce costs.

The cost of predator control continues to rise and the Districts have struggled to maintain an effective predator control program. The additional funds allocated will allow several districts to add additional part time trappers allowing these districts to continue protecting livestock and wildlife and allow them to continue to work with municipalities to control skunks and continue the rabies testing in their districts. The additional funding will also help counties offset some of the fuel cost increases for vehicles and aerial hunting.

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

Producers still need help with depredated, chronic problems that they do not have the resources to handle on their own. For the period between October 2021 and September 2022 Wildlife Service's wolf control consisted of the following: 12 wolves were removed in the predator zone having caused verified livestock damage as follows: 36 lambs, 8 sheep, 11 calves, 3 cows. The total cost of this control was \$85,964 and in the \$14,240 in the Trophy zone where 3 cows were killed and 6 wolves being removed.

Returning gray wolves to state management has certainly helped Wyoming ranchers in the "predator" area, allowing them to protect their livestock. As wolves continue to disperse around the State, depredation in new areas presents additional challenges in these areas where no GPS tracking mechanisms are in place. This last year Natrona County also had 3 steers, 3 heifers, and 2 bulls killed and utilized \$4987.50 in wolf control funding, 1 wolf was removed and depredation stopped. Wolves continue to be spotted in the southern mountains and producers have voiced their concerns and have asked if wolf funding will be available if depredation occurs.

During the 2020 Legislative session the legislature provided a line item increase of \$40,500 to the predator control budget for a gray wolf depredation compensation program. The ADMB promulgated rules for this program to be implemented over the budget fiscal years 2021 and 2022. The program had no claims thru the fiscal year ending June 30<sup>th</sup> 2021 and had 4 claims totaling \$22,270.40 for the 2022 reporting period. Several producers inquired about funding but felt that as in the past there would not be enough to go around and it was just a cost of doing business. The balance of these funds was returned to the State's general fund.

## **2022 Overview**

1. **Meetings:** The Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board (ADMB) met four (4) times over the course of the calendar year; January 18<sup>th</sup>, May 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>, June 16<sup>th</sup>, and November 9<sup>th</sup>. The ADMB

continues to offer meetings both virtually and live which has allowed more county board members to attend without having the cost of travel. 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. These requests totaled approximately \$3.1 million. On May 18<sup>th</sup>, the ADMB granted \$2.737 million for those districts. In June the Governor supplied an additional \$737,500 to the ADMB for allocation to help ease the inflationary costs the districts were experiencing.

3. **Projects:** Fifteen different research/special project proposals were evaluated by the ADMB, which totaled \$315,915 at their June 16th meeting and the ADMB approved \$221,000 in funding for 13 projects (5 new, 9 renewing multiple years,). Project synopses are included with this report. Complete project reports are available upon request.

4. **Rabies Management:** The ADMB renewed the state-wide wildlife rabies management plan with a modified budget and has maintained a Wyoming rabies website at [www.wyorabies.org](http://www.wyorabies.org).

County PMD's 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 \$36,000.

Sheridan and Campbell counties had a rabies outbreak in ranch livestock. The Sheridan and Johnson County Predator districts held an educational event in coordination with the Department of Agriculture and local veterinarians during their county fairs. The WDA provided rabies brochures and the Predator education trailer to help educate people about rabies and the importance of vaccinating pets and to contact their local veterinarians to see if their livestock need to be vaccinated.

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. .

6. **Public Relations:** Staff also worked with the local Predator Management Boards for continued board training. Jerry Johnson has continued the use of the education trailer for various events across the state.

7. **Legislative:** Over the past year, The Joint Ag Committee has worked with the Department of Agriculture to amend statutes to address the collaboration within the predator management program on BLM grazing allotments. The WDA will be contracting with USDA/Wildlife Services to report the compiled county PMD activity reports to the BLM. This report will be attached to the USDA/WS annual Predator Damage Management Plan with the BLM. This report will allow County predator management activities to be in one document. The Department also revised its Chapter 14 Predatory Animal Control Regulations to remove an impediment to aerial hunting over certain Federal lands. The Department also took this opportunity to update and clarify other provisions and to delete unnecessary provisions.

8. **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 Wyoming Department of Agriculture will be compiling all the predator control activity in each county and will send all BLM activity to USDA/WS in January.
2. The next regular meeting of the ADMB will be January 19th, 2023.
3. The County predator District grant applications are due April 1<sup>st</sup> and the allocation meeting will be May 17<sup>th</sup> and 18th.
4. Wildlife Project applications for the June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023 meeting will be accepted from March 15 to May15, 2023.





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# ANIMAL DAMAGE MANAGEMENT BOARD

WYOMING

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## MEMO

**TO:** Wyoming Game & Fish Commission

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

**DATE:** June 28, 2022

**SUBJECT:** Request for Funds

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In accordance with Wyoming Statute 11-6-307, the ADMB is requesting \$200,000.00 (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 16, 2022 board meeting is listed below.

**11-6-307. Board to request funding from game and fish commission.**

The board shall annually request two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000.00) 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. Priority shall be given to projects that directly involve predator control that will have the greatest benefit to wildlife or will reduce the cost to the department for animal damage payments.

## **FY '22-23 ADMB Projects that were approved and funded**

### **Project 1: Summary**

**Project Title: Large Carnivore-Livestock Depredation Prevention and Control**

**Brief Description of Project:** Request for the ADMB to fund up to a maximum of \$25,000.00 with the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission to contract with Wildlife Services to alleviate grizzly bear, black bear, wolf (where designated as a trophy game animal or in accordance with WS 23-1-901(g) and (h)), and mountain lion depredation to livestock and honey, bees and beehives in all counties in the State.

**Submitted By / Affiliation:** Dan Smith, Deputy Chief, Wildlife Division, Wyoming Game and Fish Department.

**Funding \$25,000**

### **Project 2: Summary**

**Project Title: Uinta Mule Deer Predator Control**

**Brief Description of Project:** 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 a radio collar study

**Submitted By / Affiliation:** Jeff Short / Wyoming Game and Fish Department

**Funding \$15,000**

### **Project 3: Summary**

**Project Title: Converse County Coyote Removal to Enhance Sand Creek and Sage Creek Mule Deer Fawn Survival**

**Brief Description of Project:** Remove coyotes in the Sand and Sage creek area via aerial gunning and ground removal to decrease coyote densities and thereby improving mule deer fawn survival

**Submitted By / Affiliation:** Jeff Boner, Converse County Predator Management Board

**Funding \$17,500**

### **Project 4: Summary**

**Project Title: Carbon County Coyote removal to Enhance Baggs mule deer Fawn Survival**

**Brief Description of Project:** Coyote removal to protect mule deer fawning grounds in the Savery Creek drainage.

**Submitted By / Affiliation:** Kim Olsen/Phil Damm (WGF), Josh Peterson, Carbon County Predator Management Board

**Funding \$15,000**

**Project 5: Summary**

**Project Title: Washakie County Coyote removal on mule deer fawning grounds to protect Basin Mule Deer herd (units 125-127)**

**Brief Description of Project:** With the Game and Fish support this will start a coyote removal project in the major fawning grounds on a mule deer herd that is well below objective

**Submitted By / Affiliation:** Rolly Redland, Washakie County Predator Management Board

**Funding \$13,000**

**Project 6: Summary**

**Project Title: Natrona County Raven Removal**

**Brief Description of Project:** Remove ravens in Natrona County to decrease raven densities to enhance sage-grouse nest success and chick survival.

**Submitted By / Affiliation:** T.K. Atkinson (Natrona County Predator Board) and Brian Olsen (WGFD).

**Funding \$5,000**

**Project 7: Summary**

**Project Title: Coyote Removal to Enhance Bates Hole Mule Deer Fawn Survival**

**Brief Description of Project:** 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 / Affiliation:** T.K. Atkinson (Natrona County Predator Board) and Brian Olsen (WGFD).

**Funding \$25,000**

**Project 8: Summary**

**Project Title: Coyote Removal to Enhance Stove Gulch & Big Sulfur Mule Deer Fawn Survival**

**Brief Description of Project:** Remove coyotes in the Stove Gulch/Big Sulfur areas via aerial gunning and ground removal to decrease coyote densities and thereby improving mule deer fawn survival.

**Submitted By / Affiliation:** T.K. Atkinson (Natrona County Predator Board) and Brian Olsen (WGFD).

**Funding \$25,000**

**Project: 9 Summary**

**Project Title: Evaluating Best Practices for Relocating Golden Eagles.**

**Brief Description of Project:** Identify best methods for relocating trapped Golden Eagles on sheep ranches. We will track eagles using GSM telemetry, and evaluate effectiveness of relocation as a management option to reduce eagle predation on sheep.

**Submitted By/Affiliation:** Dr. Nate Bickford/CSU-Pueblo; Kristen Amicarelle/CSU; Amy Hendrickson/Wyoming Association of County Predator Districts; Nicolle Sheldon/NAFA; Mike Barker/IEAA

**Funding \$20,000**

**Project 10: Summary**

**Project Title:** Carbon County South Ferris Pronghorn antelope Coyote control in fawning hunt area 62

**Brief Description of Project:** Coyote control in fawning habitats of the South Ferris Antelope herd (area 62) in North-Western Carbon County

**Submitted By / Affiliation:** Josh Peterson, Carbon County Predator Management Board

**Funding \$17,000**

**Project 11: Summary**

**Project Title:** Sweetwater County Enhanced Predator Control for Migratory sheep and Wildlife

**Brief Description of Project:** Program of targeted predator protection to the GLMA wildlife herds and the migratory sheep bands. There have been some efforts in the past to study and control coyotes in this area. The SWPMD feels that continued predator control in this project area would provide a great benefit to the wildlife population.

**Submitted By/Affiliation:** Jim Burnett/Sweetwater County Predator Management Board

**Funding \$21,000**

**Project 12: Summary**

**Project Title:** Fremont County Sweetwater rocks mule deer project

**Brief Description of Project:** Coyote removal during critical times for mule deer enhancement in Fremont County hunt area 97

**Submitted By / Affiliation:** Rob Crofts, Fremont County Predator Management Board

**Funding \$1,500**

**Balance of funding \$18,500 from WDA funds**

**Project: 13 Summary**

**Project Title:** Wyoming Stewardship Project, Development and Presentation of Educator Workshops.

**Brief Description of Project:** The Wyoming Stewardship Project is a curriculum composed of project-based units for grades 2-5. These units provide an understanding of Wyoming's vast resources to students and empower them to become citizens capable of serving as stewards for Wyoming's future. The educator workshops are the first step for educators to implement the lessons in their classrooms.

**Submitted By/Affiliation:** Jessie DaFoe/ Wyoming Ag in the Classroom

**Funding \$2,500 from WDA funds**

*Note:* These approved projects total \$221,000. When Commission funds are approved, projects will be funded from the \$200,000 provided, in addition to funds from the regular ADMB account.

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# ANIMAL DAMAGE MANAGEMENT BOARD

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## ADMB Meeting

Wyoming Department of Agriculture is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Time: January 18, 2022 10:00 AM Mountain Time (US and Canada)

### Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85388011377?pwd=dE5yWFA1SmxCN2cwTGc5WlVUcnVSZz09>

Meeting ID: 853 8801 1377

Password: 060419

### Phone call in list

+1 408 638 0968 US  
+1 669 900 6833 US  
+1 253 215 8782 US  
+1 346 248 7799 US  
+1 646 876 9923 US  
+1 301 715 8592 US  
+1 312 626 6799 US

Meeting ID: 853 8801 1377

Password: 060419

## Agenda

### Tuesday, January 18, 2022

- 10:00 a.m. - Call to Order – Co-Chairs Doug Miyamoto – Brian Nesvik
  - Introductions of board, guests, & public
  - Approval of November 4, 2021 Minutes
- 10:10 a.m. - Jerry Johnson, ADMB updates
  - Compensation program updates
  - BLM reports from counties
- 10:30 a.m. - USDA/WS update
- 10:45 a.m. - Board Comment / Public Comment
- 11:00 a.m. - Adjourn

**ADMB Meeting  
January 18, 2022  
Zoom Teleconference**

**Members Present:** Doug Miyamoto (Co-Chair), Mike Foster, Ron Cunningham, Bob Harlan, Garrett Falkenburg, Gay Lynn Byrd, Bob Phillips, Jeff Boner, Amanda Hulett, Tyler Abbot,

**Board Members Absent:** Brian Nesvik (Co-Chair), Brett Belden, Russ Bacon, Lori Armstrong,

**WDA Staff:** Jerald Johnson, J.D. Sater

**Public in Attendance:** Alex Hargrave(Buffalo Bulletin)

Meeting called to order at 10:02 am

Doug entertained a motion to approve agenda Amanda moved, Gay Lynn second, Motion passed

Doug entertained a motion to approve November 4th minutes as amended. Jeff moved, Gay Lynn seconded, Motion carried.

**Update on Wolf compensation program**

Jerry gave update that he had only received 1 application for compensation to date and had helped 3 other landowners with the application.

Jerry also gave update that the counties were completing their trappers' reports for 2021.

Doug updated the board on the Contract service agreement between WDA, ADMB, and USDA/WS and that USDA/WS will include the county trapper's reports in the WS agreements with the BLM. Doug informed the board that the reports are being compiled by Jerry, and that the ADMB would be providing guidance to the WDA and that WDA will be paying the cost to WS. Jeff made motion was made that the board should sign the agreement and the county reports supplied to WS. Amanda second. Motion carried.

Mike Foster gave update on their aerial program, they will now have 2 full time pilots 2 part time pilots and 1 helicopter pilot. They are working on contracting with more pilots to help cover the State.

**Public Comments**

No comments from public

Ron moved to adjourn the meeting. Bob Harlan seconded. Meeting adjourned at 10:42 am.

# ADMB May 17<sup>th</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> 2022 Agenda

## May 17th Zoom Meeting Information Below:

Wyoming Department of Agriculture is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

**The board will be meeting at the G&F office at 3030 Energy Ln, Casper, WY 82604**

Wyoming Department of Agriculture is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

**Topic: ADMB May Allocation day 1**

**Time: May 17, 2022 09:00 AM Mountain Time (US and Canada)**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88243981907?pwd=OXNZZHZDN0RpaSt5eGxOb1QrZ1h4Zz09>

**Meeting ID: 882 4398 1907**

**Passcode: 174180**

One tap mobile

+13462487799,,88243981907#,,,,\*174180# US (Houston)

+14086380968,,88243981907#,,,,\*174180# US (San Jose)

Dial by your location

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

## May 18<sup>th</sup> Zoom Meeting info:

**Topic: ADMB Board May 19th Allocations**

**Time: May 19, 2022 08:00 AM Mountain Time (US and Canada)**

Wyoming Department of Agriculture is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: ADMB May Allocation Day 2

Time: May 18, 2022 08:00 AM Mountain Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87333426513?pwd=aWQ0V212VURSd2k1LzZBVUc1ajEwdz09>

**Meeting ID: 873 3342 6513**

**Passcode: 546378**

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

## ADMB May 17-18, 2022

**Please be prepared to present at least 1 hour prior to your scheduled time**

**Tuesday May 17: Call to Order 9:00 a.m., Welcome, Approval of last minutes, ADMB updates**

**–PMD Funding availability, -- Rabies allocation and --- contract with vet lab, ---**

**Interview schedule below**

Start Time	End Time	Interview	Request
9:30	10:00	Goshen	\$30,000
10:00	10:30	Carbon	\$218,150
10:30	11:00	Weston	\$115,000
11:00	11:30	Albany	\$135,000
11:30	noon	Campbell	\$165,000 rabies \$15,000
<b>noon</b>	<b>1:30</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	
1:30	2:00	Uinta	\$205,000
2:00	2:30	Big Horn	\$173,461
2:30	3:00	Park	\$86,925
3:00	3:30	Crook	\$150,000
3:30	4:00	Sheridan	\$173,053 rabies \$20,000
4:00	4:30	Fremont	\$190,000
4:30	5:00	Public Comment	
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>May 18</b>		
8:00 a.m.	8:30	Natrona	\$195,000
8:30	9:00	Converse	\$251,411
9:00	9:30	Johnson	\$170,000 rabies \$15,000
9:30	10:00	Hot Springs	\$203,983
10:00	10:30	Niobrara	\$165,000
10:30	11:00	Washakie	\$156,000
11:00	11:30	Sweetwater	\$145,000
11:30	noon	Lincoln	\$171,000
<b>Noon</b>	<b>1:00</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	
1:00	1:30	Public Comment	
1:30	3:30	Board allocation and adjournment	

**Animal Damage Management Board Meeting**  
**Tuesday May 17, 2022 & Wednesday, May 18, 2022**  
**Casper Regional Game & Fish Office**  
**Casper, Wyoming**

Call to order 9:05 a.m. – Co-chair

**Board Members Present:**

Co-Chair Representative Kent Drake

Co-chair Brian Nesvik

Amanda Hulet

Brett Belden

Mike Foster

Aaron Voos Forest service

Ron Cunningham

Bob Philips

Garret Falkenburg

Bob Harlan

Jeff Boner

Bob Philips

**Board Members Absent:** Gay Lynn Byrd, Tyler Abbot, Valori Armstrong

**WDA Support Staff:** Ashley Endress, JD Sater

**Public Attendees:** various County Board members

Garret Falkenburg moved to approve minutes from the January meeting, Jeff Boner seconded. Motion carried.

Jerry Johnson discussed wolf funding, rabies funding, and PMD funding.

Brian Nesvik moved to approve \$160,000 (\$80,000/year) allocation to USDA/Wildlife Services contract, and \$20,000 for the biennium to the Wyoming State Vet lab for the rabies contract, Garret Falkenburg seconded. Motion carried.

**Presentations**

*Goshen County: Jim Angel and Brady Smith USDA Wildlife Services (WS), Stan Smith, Board*  
*Request: \$30,000*

They have one person on the ground in the area for predator control. Seven WS employees worked in the county last year. Turkey vultures are an increasing nuisance species. The district would like to add a part time employee to help in busier times and with special projects. Thermal imaging will be a heavier focus this year.

*Carbon County: Josh Peterson, , Sharon O'Tolle, Board and Luke Spanbauer* *Request: \$218,150*

70% traditional work, 30% non-traditional, ravens, magpies, crows, skunks, feral cats, raccoons, disease surveillance. Dan Bragg retired last year and Ben Acres is a new replacement. Ben is working through the summer. Carbon County has completed 7 wildlife projects and will be submitting a new project application. Three wolf sightings and Colorado collaring a wolf south of Encampment. Livestock producers have concerns with the trend in Colorado and seeing more wolves along I-80. County wide antelope numbers are down. Difficulty getting plane due to weather and competition from other county boards.

*Weston County: Carson Keeline, Allen Slagle, Board and Kassie Swartz (bookkeeper), and Brad Troftgruben, WS* **Request: \$115,000**

Coyote numbers are steady and small prey base is very limited. 95% traditional program, and the balance is non-traditional, raccoon, turkey vultures, very few skunks. Hard to get a plane when they need one.

*Albany County: Joel Moody, WS, Todd Slagel, Board* **Request: \$135,000**

Coyote numbers are up and losses have been steady, approximately \$45,000 loss to livestock and \$30,000 loss to ravens at lime plant and in the city. No current wildlife projects with Game and Fish. More producers have been added with agreements. Have had three golden eagles removed. Fixed wing competitive to get with fewer planes available. Working hard to keep cooperators happy with service as they depend upon the service provided. Wolves may become an issue due to Colorado's proximity and control.

*Campbell County: Kevin Geis, Board, Calvin Taylor (trapper), Kenda Ford (bookkeeper)* **Request: \$165,000**  
**Rabies: \$15,000**

Coyote numbers are steady, program working well and would like to continue as we are. They have three trappers who also do rabies work. They have limited their trapper days to balance the budget. 41 skunks tested with 12 positive, two human contact cases. Crows and ravens are more of an issue. They use mainly private pilots so they have been ok getting aerial help.

*Uinta County: Steve Sims, Wade Larsen, Board* **Request: \$205,000**

Private contract trapper program seems to be working well with quicker response time. Eagle problems are worse than in the past. Some trapping of eagles for relocation has occurred. They currently have a new trapper and a part time denner. They also use private contractors for aerial hunting.

*Big Horn County: Randall Jones, Kay Neves, Board, and Mike Burrell, WS* **Request: \$173,461**

Currently, they have one and a half full time trapper and the half time is shared with Washakie County PMD. The half time trapper spends more than one half of the time in Big Horn County. Livestock protection is primary focus on coyote. Dry conditions have pushed coyotes down to water sources. A little raven work has been done when time allows. They do have eagles but have not had depredation issues.

*Park County: Regan Smith, Breanne Theil, Board and Mike Burrell, Monty Nicholson, WS*

**Request: \$86,925**

Park County has one and ½ trappers with the half time trapper, primarily working as a gunner. They are seeing wolf depredation earlier this year than normal. With more people on the landscape, predator management gets to be more challenging. They have been working on a Clarks Fork mule deer winter project that was not funded by ADMB but has been successful.

*Crook County: Fonzy Haskel* **Request: \$150,000**

Currently have three private contract trappers that address traditional and non-traditional predator work. They are getting more people getting into the sheep business in the county. They also use two private contract pilots/gunners for aerial work. Livestock and preventative control are their primary focus.

*Sheridan County: John Auzqui, Kellen Little, Board*

*Request: \$173,053*

*Rabies: \$20,000*

They provided some population numbers in the county for eagles, pronghorn and mule deer shared by Game and Fish. For rabies mitigation they hired two trappers to remove skunks. Thirty-nine skunks were sent to the vet lab for testing and 21% came back positive for rabies. They have one trapper now. City of Sheridan is helping with funding. They are also asking the smaller towns to help with funding.

*Fremont County: Rob Croft, Beth Evans, Allen Sinner, Gloria Philp, Tracy Frye WS*

*Request: \$190,000*

Seventy-two percent of county acreage is covered with agreements. 116 private landowner agreements in the county. They have a large county and could use more money. 41 individuals inside the reservation also have agreements. They have a large population of cow calf operations. They also do some human health and safety. Wolf depredation has been pretty quiet as of late. They also do a seasonal bounty program.

### **Open to Public Comment.**

No public comment from Zoom participants

Amy Hendrickson provided comment on PMD presentations and zoom participation.

Meeting will reconvene at 8:00 a.m., Wednesday, May 18, 2022

Garrett Falkenburg moved to adjourn, Jeff Boner seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

### **Wednesday, May 19, 2021**

Called to order– 8:01 a.m. by Co-Chair Representative Kent drake, WDA

### **Presentations continued.**

*Natrona County: T.K. Atkinson, Board, Brian Olsen (G&F)*

*Request: \$195000*

The plan is the same as in the past. Currently have 3 trappers. The challenge this year was to complete the mule deer projects and not able to get aerial help on BLM ground. The projects include the Bates Hole project and another project in the north end of the county. They will be requesting continuation of these projects.

*Converse County: Tim Pexton, Casey Tillard, Board and Bradley Netz, Gene Heckel, trappers*

*Request: \$251,411*

They have 2 full time trappers and one part-time trapper and a bookkeeper. One of the largest sheep producing counties in the state. They estimate they lost 5,000 lambs last year. Hard to get WS aerial help due to BLM situation and other county demand. Trappers work hard and have been dealing with challenges managing coyotes in a lot of sheep flocks with limited rodent and rabbit populations. Ravens have not been a large problem since the Glenrock animal dump has been closed.

*Johnson County: Pete Camino, Dave Hall, TJ Tavegie, Board*

*Request: \$170,000*

*Rabies: \$15,000*

Currently have two trappers, and two rabies mitigation trappers, private and WS aerial use. Mountain lions and bears are worse than in the past. Ravens have been a problem in the south end of the county and they have been working with WS on control efforts. Rabies – one trapper in Kaycee and one in Buffalo. Buffalo had an influx of skunks this fall so they did work in the town rather than just working on the outskirts. Request is the same as it has been for the last three years. They have worked to be efficient over time with 4% in administrative costs, they use contract trappers, and about \$1700 in inventory. They make decisions on data that they have collected over the years. Have had an outfitter/producer fund for the last three years. This year is the largest contribution with \$11,000. Also, working with the conservation district, working groups, and weed and pest in mapping sage grouse areas.

*Hot Springs County: Jack Baird, Josh Longwell, Board, Mike Burrell, WS*

*Request: \$203,983*

Currently have two specialists, and a plane based in Worland. Majority of the work is in livestock protection. Owl Creek drainage is a challenge with wolf and bear influx. One board member has provided thermal scopes to the two specialists.

*Niobrara County: Arlene York Kitson Boldon, Board*

*Request: \$165,000*

Nothing has changed in the program. They have 2 trappers. They take care of the entire county and some across other county borders. Not many sheep in the county and seeing more losses by cattle producers. They have been spending down their surplus. Their trappers have never received a raise but are very dedicated to the county and the program. Only 4.4% of the budget goes to administration and they do not carry any inventory items. They have a balanced program with both aerial and ground work, however would like to have more availability on air time (fixed wing).

*Washakie County: Rolly Redland, Kent Lamm Board and Mike Burrell, WS*

*Request: \$156,000*

They have one and ½ specialists. They also work on raccoon and skunk work as well. The county has decrease aerial work to save funds. They have continued with deer project with coyote removal on south end of Big Horns. They have submitted another mule deer project in Washakie County for consideration. Due to budget cuts, have submitted a lower budget to the ADMB

*Sweetwater County: Eric Berg, Jim Burnett, Gary Zakotnik, Board*

*Request: \$145,000*

Sweetwater County has been wintering sheep, therefore not receiving much from predator fees. Currently have a couple contract part-time trappers. They have not done much aerial due to funding. A large area of public land and not much buy-in of private land/producers that winter their livestock in Sweetwater County.

*Lincoln County: Jon Child, Board and Steve Moyles, WS*

*Request: \$171,000*

Work in Lincoln County is traditional work for livestock protection, with 25 herds of sheep (27,500 head). Some work in the fall and winter in Sweetwater County for the protection of sheep of Lincoln County producers. Coyote numbers were up mainly due to lack of helicopter and not much snow this winter. Lincoln County is in migratory corridors for deer and antelope and these are in cattle and sheep



wintering areas. Work relationships with Game and Fish, Forest Service, and private trappers and pilots is good. They have one WS specialist and two part time private contract trappers

Jerry Johnson presented funds available for this year's allocations. \$2,738,000 is available for allocations. The board discussed funding allocations.

**Rabies: \$36,000 to allocate.**

Mike Foster moved to allocate \$12,000 to each county, Brett Belden 2<sup>nd</sup>, after discussion Jeff Boner made an amendment to allocate \$10,000 to Campbell, \$14,000 to Sheridan, and \$12,000 to Johnson. Garrett Falkenburg seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**PMD: \$2,738,000 to allocate.**

Mike Foster moved the following allocation. Jeff Boner seconded. Motion Failed.

Albany \$105,000  
Big Horn \$135,000  
Campbell \$165,000  
Carbon \$165,000  
Converse \$180,000  
Crook \$146,000  
Fremont \$180,000  
Goshen \$30,000  
Hot Springs \$175,000  
Johnson \$170,000  
Lincoln \$165,000  
Natrona \$185,000  
Niobrara \$155,000  
Park \$86,925  
Sheridan \$125,000  
Sweetwater \$145,000  
Uinta \$180,000  
Washakie \$135,000  
Weston \$105,000

It was suggested to obtain livestock numbers by county, and to consider implement a scoring matrix.

It was suggested to implement a 3.54% increase due to inflation based on 2021 allocation and put into column F.

Jeff Boner moved to allocate funds based on column F. Garrett Falkenburg seconded. Motion carried.

Bob Harlan moved to reallocate \$30,000 to Goshen County and \$86,925 to Park County. Jeff Boner seconded. Motion carried.

Jeff Boner moved to reallocate \$171,000 to Lincoln County. Bob Harlan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Bob Harlan moved to reallocate \$124,894 to Sweetwater County. Ron Cunningham seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Bob Harlan moved to reallocate \$10,000 from Lincoln County and Uinta County to give Carbon County an additional \$20,000. Mike Foster seconded. Motion carried.

Question called to vote on main motion to approve column F as amended Motion carried.  
The final allocation in column F is shown below:

Albany \$103,540  
Big Horn \$139,779  
Campbell \$160,487  
Carbon \$170,133  
Converse \$186,372  
Crook \$139,779  
Fremont \$186,372  
Goshen \$30,000  
Hot Springs \$191,549  
Johnson \$155,310  
Lincoln \$161,000  
Natrona \$186,372  
Niobrara \$158,416  
Park \$86,925  
Sheridan \$129,425  
Sweetwater \$124,894  
Uinta \$181,549  
Washakie \$139,779  
Weston \$103,540

Public Comment: No public comment

Meeting Adjourned at 1:54 p.m.



# ANIMAL DAMAGE MANAGEMENT BOARD

6607 Campstool Road, Cheyenne, WY 82002-0100

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## ADMB Meeting

Wyoming Department of Agriculture is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting, or attending in person at G&F office at 3030 Energy Ln, Casper, WY 82604

Time: Jun 16, 2022 08:00 AM Mountain Time (US and Canada)

### Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82989910980?pwd=VWhTbGU5VHpmQ0NPNmN5eVZFakRhdz09>

Meeting ID: 829 8991 0980

Password: 299731

#### Phone call in list

+1 408 638 0968 US

+1 669 900 6833 US

+1 253 215 8782 US

+1 346 248 7799 US

+1 646 876 9923 US

+1 301 715 8592 US

+1 312 626 6799 US

Meeting ID: 829 8991 0980

Password: 299731

## Agenda

### Thursday, June 16, 2022

- 8:00 am.** - Call to Order – (Miyamoto, Nesvik)
- Introductions of board, guests, & public
  - Approval of May 17-18th, 2022 Minutes
  - Update on Wildlife service contract agreement
  - Update on Vet lab agreement
  - Approve additional funds to be distributed to County Predator Boards
- 8:10 am.** - **Project Proposals - w/Updates** (15-20 minutes each)
- \* Wyoming Stewardship Project, Educator Workshops 22-23 – J. Dafoe, R. West
  - \* Gros Ventre Elk and Wolf Interaction Project **Final presentation** – A. Courtemanch
  - \* Natrona County Raven Removal – T.K. Atkinson and B. Harlan
  - \* Coyote Removal to Enhance Bates Hole mule deer fawn survival – T.K. Atkinson and B. Harlan

- \* Coyote Removal to Enhance Stove Gulch & Big Sulfur Mule Deer Fawn Survival – T.K. Atkinson and B. Harlan
- 9:30 am \* Converse Co. sand and sage cr. mule deer – C. Tillard, B.
- \* Carbon CO. Coyote removal to enhance South Ferris Antelope survival – J. Peterson
- \* Carbon CO. Coyote removal to enhance Baggs mule deer fawn survival – K. Olson, P. Damm, J. Peterson
- 10:30 am \* Large Carnivore-Livestock Depredation Prevention and Control – D. Smith, B. Debolt
- \* Upper Green River Large Carnivore monitoring study – C. Atkinson
- \* Evaluating best practices for relocating Golden Eagles - N.Bickford, K. Amicarelle
- \* Fremont county Sweetwater rocks mule deer project – R. Crofts
- Noon Break for Lunch
- 1:00 pm. - **Project Proposals – cont.** (15-20 min. each)
  - \* Washakie co. coyote removal on mule deer fawning grounds to protect Basin Mule Deer herd (units 125-127)
  - \* Sweetwater enhanced predator control sheep and wildlife application – J. Burnett
  - \* Johnson County Predator/Sage Grouse Study Project – P. Camino
  - \* Uinta mule deer predator control – J. Short
  - \* Wyoming Range project request for extension due to lack of equipment availability. – K. Monteith
- 2:40 pm - Break
- 2:45 pm - Public Comment / Board Comment
- 2:55 pm - Discussion and determination of grant awards
- 4:00 pm- Adjourn

**ADMB Meeting**  
**Thursday, June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022**  
**8:00 AM**  
**G&F Office at 3030 Energy Ln**  
**Casper, WY 82604**

**Board Members in Attendance:** Doug Miyamoto, Brian Nesvik, Brett Belden, Gay Lynn Byrd, Mike Foster, Tyler Abbott, Ron Cunningham, Bob Phillips, Garrett Falkenburg, Bob Harlan, Jeff Boner

**WDA Staff in Attendance:** Kent Drake, JD Sater, Ashley Endress, Jerry Johnson

**Public in Attendance:** Amy Hendrickson

Public on Zoom in Attendance: Greg Hiatt, Phil Damm, Aly Courtemanch, Clint Atkinson, Sean Yancey; other PMD members online

The meeting called to order at 8:00 AM by Doug Miyamoto.

Brian Nesvick moved to approve the minutes from May 17-18th, 2022. Mike Foster seconded. Motion carried.

An update on wildlife service contract agreement was provided.

An update on Vet lab agreement was provided.

**Project Proposals (w/ Updates)**

**Gros Ventre Elk and Wolf Interaction Project Final presentation** – *A. Courtemanch*  
The Jackson elk herd is essential to the local community. The elk herd has decreased from trends in 1995, but has since stabilized over the last five years. Other trends were presented such as mortality rates and locations where elk winterize. The goal is to keep the elk population around 11,000.

**Wyoming Stewardship Project, Educator Workshops 22-23** – *J. Dafoe, R. West*  
A brief overview was given on the stewardship project and educator workshops.

**Natrona County. Raven Removal** – *T.K. Atkinson and B. Harlan*  
A presentation was given on the raven issue in Natrona County.

**Coyote Removal to Enhance Bates Hole Mule Deer Fawn Survival** – *T.K. Atkinson and B. Harlan*  
A presentation was given on methods used to remove coyotes and control their populations.

**Converse County. Sand and Sage Cr. Mule Deer** – *C. Tillard, B.*  
A presentation was given on mule deer and the effects on the habit in Converse County.

**Carbon County Coyote Removal to Enhance South Ferris Antelope Survival** – *J. Peterson*  
A presentation was given on methods of coyote removal in Carbon County and how their removal affects South Ferris antelope.

**Carbon County Coyote Removal to Enhance Baggs Mule Deer Fawn Survival** – *K. Olson, P. Damm, J. Peterson*  
A presentation was given on coyote removal in Carbon County and how it has helped the Baggs mule deer fawn population.

**Large Carnivore-Livestock Depredation Prevention and Control** – *D. Smith, B. Debolt*  
A presentation was given on patterns for grizzly bear and wolf depredation. Four different hypotheses were discussed along with the test results.

**Upper Green River Large Carnivore Monitoring Study – C. Atkinson**

A presentation was given on the Upper Green River Cattle monitoring project.

**Evaluating Best Practices for Relocating Golden Eagles - N.Bickford, K. Amicarelle**

A presentation was given on best practices for relocating Golden Eagles. Successful relocation practices will have the potential to alleviate human/wildlife conflict.

**Fremont County Sweetwater Rocks Mule Deer Project – R. Crofts**

A presentation was given on the Sweetwater Rocks mule deer project.

**Wahakie County Coyote Removal on Mule Deer Fawning Grounds to Protect Basin MuleDeer Herd (units 125-127)**

A presentation was given on the mule deer fawning grounds in Washakie County. Tactics to control and remove coyotes in the area were discussed.

**Sweetwater County Enhanced Predator Control Sheep and Wildlife Application – J. Burnett**

A presentation was given on the sheep in Sweetwater County and how control of coyotes after the sheep leave for the winter would be beneficial to wildlife.

**Johnson County Predator/Sage Grouse Study Project – P. Camino**

A presentation was given on the Predator Sage Grouse study project.

**Uinta County Mule Deer Predator Control – J. Short**

A presentation was given on the mule deer predator control project. Mule deer population is still below the WGFD objectives. Multiple factors have contributed to this low number.

**Wyoming Range Project Request for Extension Due to Lack of Equipment Availability – K. Monteith**

A presentation was given on the Wyoming range project. An extension was requested due to a lack of equipment availability. Brian Nesvick moved to approve a one-year extension for this project. Mike Foster seconded. Motion carried.

**Public Comment / Board Comment**

Doug recognized the service of Amy Hendrickson, as the Executive Director of the Wyoming Wool Growers and her upcoming retirement.

**Discussion and Determination of Grant Awards**

**Governor Emergency Funds** – It was moved to approve the allocation to the 19 participating county PMDs as presented. Seconded. Motion carried.

Doug Miyamoto moved to approve the \$188,000 in allocations as presented on the spreadsheet. Bob Harlan seconded..

Bob Harlan moved to amend the main motion to reduce the Converse County project to \$17,500 and provide \$2,500 of Department of Agriculture Funds to the Wyoming Stewardship project.. Brian seconded the motion. The Amendment carried.

Bob Phillips moved to amend the main motion to reduce the Golden Eagles project to \$20,000 and provide \$20,000 to the Fremont County project. Doug seconded the motion. The Amendment carried.

Jeff Boner moved to amend the main motion and provide \$21,000 of funding for the Sweetwater County project. Ron Cunningham seconded the motion. The Amendment carried.

The main motion was then carried.

Doug recognized the service of Kent Drake, WDA Technical Services Manager to the ADMB and his upcoming retirement.

Meeting adjourned at 3:22 PM.



# ANIMAL DAMAGE MANAGEMENT BOARD

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## ADMB Meeting

Wyoming Department of Agriculture is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

**Topic: ADMB November 9th meeting**

Time: **Nov 09, 2022 10:00 am** Mountain Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84583479886?pwd=N29QMzluSjg0WFV6c21id1Q3YWV5Zz09>

**Meeting ID: 845 8347 9886**

**Passcode: 957801**

Phone call in list

1-408-638-0968 US

1-669-900-6833 US

1-253-215-8782 US

1-346-248-7799 US

1-646-876-9923 US

1-301-715-8592 US

1-312-626-6799 US

**Wyoming Department of Agriculture is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.**

**Topic: ADMB NOV meeting**

**Time: Nov 9, 2022 10:00 AM** Mountain Time (US and Canada)

**Wednesday, November 09, 2022**

## Agenda

- 10:00 am Call to order—(Miyamoto, Nesvik)  
Introduction of board, guests and public  
Approval of June Minutes
- 10:10 am Rabies testing update: --- Dr. Myrna Miller Wyoming State Vet Lab
- 10:30 am Wolf management update for year ----- Wildlife services
- 10:40 am Program updates:  
Grants update ----- Jerry Johnson  
PMD grants/special project grants  
Wolf Compensation claims update-----Jerry Johnson
- 10:55 am set dates for 2023 meetings.  
Jan 19<sup>th</sup> 2023 10 am Zoom  
May 24<sup>th</sup> 9 am - 25<sup>th</sup> 8 am 2023 Casper live and Zoom  
June 14<sup>th</sup> 2023 8 am Casper live and Zoom  
Nov 9<sup>th</sup> 2023 10 am Zoom
- 11:00 am PUBLIC COMMENT
- 11:05 am Adjourn

**DRAFT**  
**ADMB Meeting**  
**November 9, 2022**  
**Zoom Teleconference**

**Members Present:** Doug Miyamoto (Co-Chair), Amanda Hulet, Brady Smith (WS), Ron Cunningham, Bob Harlan, Bob Phillips, Garret Falkenburg, Gay Lynn Byrd, Jeff Boner, Brett Belden Tyler Abbot (USFWS), Phil Osterli (USFS)

**Board Members Absent:** Brian Nesvik (Co-Chair), Doug Mayes (BLM)

**WDA Staff:** Jerry Johnson, J D Sater

**Public in Attendance:** Myrna Miller, Trevor Walch Predator corp., Marc Cooke (wolves of the rockies)

Meeting called to order at 10:02 am by Doug Miyamoto

Amanda moved to approve June 2021 minutes as provided, Garrett second, Motion carries

### **Rabies Testing Update**

Dr. Myrna Miller shared there is no cost for anyone submitting samples and gave the progress of recent rabies cases across the state for 2022, there were 423 animals tested with 12 positive results, with most cases were in the northern part of the State. There was a positive case for a Bull in Sheridan County and a Cow in Campbell county in 2022 with both having human exposure. There was also a child exposure case with a bat in Lincoln County; the Department of Health was notified for the contact tracing for human exposure. Dr. Miller shared the importance of keeping the brain intact of all samples sent in to the vet lab.

Jerry shared that the department had printed 10,000 brochures and that Sheridan and Johnson County had distributed around 4500 brochures during their rabies education event at their county fairs.

### **Wolf Management Update**

Mike Foster has retired and Director Miyamoto thanked him for his service. Brady Smith was sitting in for Mike and reported for the period between October, 1<sup>st</sup> 2021 and September 30<sup>th</sup> 2022 Wildlife Service's wolf control consisted of the following: 12 wolves were removed in the predator zone having caused verified livestock damage as follows: 36 lambs, 8 ewes, 11 calves, 3 cows. The total cost of this control was \$85,964 and in the \$14,240 in the Trophy zone where 3 cows were killed and 6 wolves were removed. WS had a total of 131 aerial hours of wolf control.



## **Program Updates**

Grants and Special projects: The WDA has had issues with the grants not being delivered and has decided that all grants going forward will be tracked to ensure that the Districts receive their funding as quickly as possible.

Wolf Compensation Update: Jerry Johnson shared that the compensation program received 4 claims totaling \$22,270.42, and he then stated that there been a few inquiries on filling out the application and that most did not send in an application even after a reminder of funding still being available.

### **Set meeting dates for 2022:**

Jan 19<sup>th</sup> 2023 10am Zoom

May 17<sup>th</sup> 9am - 18th 8am 2022 Casper live and Zoom

June 14<sup>th</sup> 2022 9am Casper live and Zoom

Nov 9<sup>th</sup> 2022 10am Zoom

Bob made motion to accept the dates as changed by discussion, Brett 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed.

## **Public Comments**

Marc Cooke with Wolves of the Rockies introduced himself and his organizations willingness to work with all parties for wolf control in Wyoming.

No further business

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 by Doug Miyamoto



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# WYOMING GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

5400 Bishop Blvd. Cheyenne, WY 82006

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wgfd.wyo.gov

**GOVERNOR**  
MARK GORDON

**DIRECTOR**  
BRIAN R. NESVIK

**COMMISSIONERS**  
KENNETH D. ROBERTS – President  
RALPH BROKAW – Vice President  
GAY LYNN BYRD  
PETER J. DUBE  
MARK JOLOVICH  
RICHARD LADWIG  
ASHLEE LUNDVALL

November 28, 2022

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board

**FROM:** Meredith Wood, Chief Fiscal Officer

**COPY TO:** Brian Nesvik, Director; File

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

In accordance with W.S. 23-3-105(b), the following information regarding landowner coupon designations to the Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board (ADMB) for fiscal year (FY) 2022 is being provided.

**W.S. 23-3-105(b)**

Landowner coupon revenue continuously transferred to ADMB in FY2022 \$ 1,760.00

**W.S. 11-6-305 (a) -Repealed by Laws 2020, ch. 48, S2-effective 1.1.2021**

Wildlife damage management stamp

W.S. 11-6-305 (a) was repealed by the Wyoming Legislature during the 2020 budget session and became effective 1/1/2021. As a result, on 1/1/2021, the Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD) discontinued the sale of wildlife damage management stamps. No further reports shall be submitted by the WGFD to the ADMB with regards to this legislation.

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

MW



		BUDGETED		EXPENDED		PERCENT OPTIMUM		NOTES
		FY 23 - 24		YTD	ENCUMBERED	BALANCE	EXPENDED	
<b>ADMB - RABIES 0313</b>								
<hr/>								
<i>SUPPORTIVE SERVICES</i>	200.00							
Equipment Rep & Mtn	202.00	0	0		0			
Utilities	203.00	0	0		0			
Freight & Postage	204.00	100	0		100	0.00%		
Supplies/Printing	231.00	0	0		0			
Equipment Rental	252.00	0	0		0			
<b>200 SERIES TOTAL</b>		\$100	\$0	\$0	\$100	0.00%		
<hr/>								
<i>Grants and Aid Payments</i>	600.00							
Grants	626.00	97,143			97,143	0.00%		
<b>0600 SERIES TOTAL</b>		\$97,143	\$0	\$0	\$97,143	0.00%		
<hr/>								
<i>CONTRACTUAL SERVICES</i>	900.00							
Professional/Consulting Fees	901.00	0	0		0			
<b>0900 SERIES TOTAL</b>		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0			
<hr/>								
<b>ADMB - RABIES 03.13</b>		<b>\$97,243</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$97,243</b>	<b>0.00%</b>		
<hr/>								

		YTD Revenue	YTD %
General funds	97,243	0	0%
	0	0	
	\$97,243	\$0	0%

DISCUSSION ITEMS

		BUDGETED		EXPENDED		PERCENT OPTIMUM		NOTES
		FY 23 - 24		YTD	ENCUMBERED	BALANCE	EXPENDED	
<b>RODENT &amp; PREDATOR 0315</b>								
<i>PERSONAL SERVICES</i>	100.00	\$0		\$0		\$0		
<i>SUPPORTIVE SERVICES</i> 200.00								
Equipment Rep & Mtnc	202.00	0				0		
Utilities	203.00	0				0		
Freight & Postage	204.00	2,000				2,000	0.00%	
Employee Develop & Training	207.00	0				0		
Miscellaneous	210.00	0				0		
Travel In State	221.00	0				0		
Travel Out of State	222.00	0				0		
Supplies/Printing	231.00	1,021				1,021	0.00%	
Medical/Lab Supplies	235.00	0				0		
Other Repair Supplies	239.00	0				0		
Equipment Rental	252.00	0				0		
<b>200 SERIES TOTAL</b>		\$3,021		\$0	\$0	\$3,021	0.00%	
<i>DATA PROCESSING</i> 400.00								
Telecommunications - A&I	420.00	0		0		0		
<b>400 SERIES TOTAL</b>		\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0		
<i>GRANTS &amp; AID PYMTS</i> 600.00								
Grant Payments	626.00	0		0		0		
<b>600 SERIES TOTAL</b>		\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0		
<i>NON-OPERATING EXP</i> 800.00								
Purchases for Resale	801.00	30,360		0		30,360	0.00%	
<b>800 SERIES TOTAL</b>		\$30,360		\$0	\$0	\$30,360	0.00%	
<i>CONTRACTUAL SRVS.</i> 900.00								
Professional/Consulting Fees	901.00	0		0		0		
<b>900 SERIES TOTAL</b>		\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0		
<b>RODENT &amp; PREDATOR 0315: TOTAL</b>		<b>\$33,381</b>		<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$33,381</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	

0.00% excluding 600 and 800 series expenditures

		YTD Revenue	YTD %	
General Funds	0	0	0%	DISCUSSION ITEMS Reduce budget by 32,281 for sales funding
Other Funds				
Rodent Control - Sales 5421	33,381		0%	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$33,381</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>0%</b>	
	0			



		BUDGETED	EXPENDED		PERCENT	OPTIMUM	
<b>ANIMAL DAMAGE MGMT 0317</b>	<b>FY 23 - 24</b>	<b>YTD</b>	<b>ENCUMBERED</b>	<b>BALANCE</b>	<b>EXPENDED</b>	<b>4.17%</b>	<b>NOTES</b>
<b>Fund 047</b>							
<i>SUPPORTIVE SERVICES 200.00</i>							
Equipment Repairs & Mtn	202.00	0		0			
Utilities	203.00	0		0			
Freight & Postage	204.00	600		600	0.00%		
Travel In State	221.00	0		0			
Board Travel	227.00	4,725		4,725	0.00%		
Supplies/Printing	231.00	1,424		1,424	0.00%		
Equipment Rental	252.00	150		150	0.00%		
<b>200 SERIES TOTAL</b>		<b>\$6,899</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$6,899</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	
<i>RESTRICTIVE SERVICES 300.00</i>							
Cost Allocation	301.00	72		72	0.00%		
<b>300 SERIES TOTAL</b>		<b>\$72</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$72</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	
<i>DATA PROCESSING 400.00</i>							
Telecommunications - A&I	420.00	0	0	0			
<b>400 SERIES TOTAL</b>		<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>		
<i>GRANTS &amp; AID PYMTS 600.00</i>							
Grants	626.00	535,970		535,970	0.00%		
UW Grants & Aid Payments	667.00	0		0			
<b>600 SERIES TOTAL</b>		<b>\$535,970</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$535,970</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	
<i>CONTRACTUAL SRVS. 900.00</i>							
Professional/Consulting Fees	901.00	7,378	0	7,378	0.00%		
<b>900 SERIES TOTAL</b>		<b>\$7,378</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$7,378</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	
<b>ANIMAL DAMAGE MGMT 0 TOTAL \$550,319 \$0 \$0 \$550,319 0.00%</b>							

		YTD Revenue	YTD %
General Funds	52,871	0.00	0%
Other Funds			
Livestock Brand Fee-5353	1,000		0%
Wildlife Damage Stamp-2634	1,000		0%
Landowner Coupons-6204	20,000		0%
Predator Boards - 6301	75,448		0%
Game & Fish - 5040	400,000		0%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$550,319</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>0%</b>

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Reduce by 95,448 to account for revenues not collected

0  
Cash Balance 705,696.48

PREDATOR MANAGEMENT 1501	BUDGETED		EXPENDED		PERCENT OPTIMUM		NOTES
	FY 23 - 24		YTD	ENCUMBERED	BALANCE	EXPENDED	
<i>PERSONAL SERVICES</i>	100.00	\$193,737			\$193,737	0.00%	
<i>SUPPORTIVE SERVICES</i>	200.00						
Equipment Repairs & Mtn	202.00	749			749	0.00%	
Utilities	203.00	840			840	0.00%	
Freight and Postage	204.00	1,750			1,750	0.00%	
Employee Development	207.00	1,750			1,750	0.00%	
Advertising	208.00	0			0		
Travel In State	221.00	3,500			3,500	0.00%	
Travel Out of State	222.00	0			0		
Permanently Assigned Vehicles	223.00	10,125			10,125	0.00%	
Office Supplies/Printing	231.00	8,000			8,000	0.00%	
Vehicle Supplies	233.00	0			0		
Educational Supplies	236.00	0			0		
Other Repair Supplies	239.00	3,000			3,000	0.00%	
Transportation Equipment	243.00	0			0		
Equipment Rental	252.00	1,000			1,000	0.00%	
Maintenance Contracts	292.00	0			0		
<b>200 SERIES TOTAL</b>		\$30,714	\$0	\$0	\$30,714	0.00%	
<i>DATA PROCESSING</i>	400.00						
Telecommunications A&I	420.00	970			970	0.00%	
<b>400 SERIES TOTAL</b>		\$970	\$0	\$0	\$970	0.00%	
<i>GRANTS &amp; AID PYMTS</i>	600.00						
Grants	626.00	5,655,595			5,655,595	0.00%	\$160,000 - wolf management total
<b>600 SERIES TOTAL</b>		\$5,655,595	\$0	\$0	\$5,655,595	0.00%	
<hr/>							
<b>PREDATOR MANAGEMENT TOTAL</b>		<b>\$5,881,016</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$5,881,016</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	
		\$5,881,016				0	
			<u>YTD Transfers</u>		<u>DISCUSSION ITEMS</u>		
General Funds		5,881,016		0	0%		
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>\$5,881,016</b>		<b>\$0</b>	<b>0%</b>		
		0					

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## Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board

### Regulations Governing the Granting of Predator Management Program Funds

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(h) “Commercial Feedlot” means any place, establishment or facility commonly known as a feedlot conducted, operated or managed for profit or nonprofit for livestock

producers, feeders or market agencies, consisting of pens and their appurtenances, in which livestock are received, held, fed, cared for or kept for sale or shipment in commerce.

(i) “District” means a predator management district created under W.S. § 11-6-201(a).

(j) “District Board” means the board of directors of a district created under W.S. § 11-6-202.

(k) “Encumbered Funds” means those funds which have been obligated for use by contract or invoice.

(l) “Financial Statement” means a compilation of a district’s financial status. Such records shall include a balance sheet (statement of financial position), an income statement (income and expenditure statement), a cash flow statement, and supplementary notes and recorded significant financial management decisions.

(m) “Grant Application” means the form and documents with which a request is made for funding. The form will be prescribed and distributed by the ADMB.

(n) “Management Plan” means a proposed or tentative course of action, including programs or policies stipulating the proposed service and expected benefits.

(o) “Predacious Bird” means any predatory avian species that is permitted to be taken under either Wyoming law or federal law.

(p) “Predatory Animal” means coyote, jackrabbit, porcupine, raccoon, red fox, skunk or stray cat; and gray wolf as allowed by law.

(q) “Standard Budget” means an annual or biennial request for funding from a district that provides for a base level of funding for general operational needs of the district.

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

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

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

(a) Submit the following to the ADMB:

(i) Proof of compliance with W.S. § 11-6-202(a)(v).

- (ii) Completed grant application on a form prescribed by the ADMB
- (iii) Budget
- (iv) Management Plan
- (v) Financial Statement
- (vi) Proof of having assessed and collected all available funds as required by W.S. § 11-6-210(o)

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

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

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

- (i) It is in compliance with applicable Wyoming statutes; and
- (ii) All agreements with the ADMB are current or satisfied.

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

- (a) An initial standard budget of \$50,000.00 shall be awarded by the ADMB to each qualified district whose application has been approved by the ADMB prior to May 1.
- (b) The application must be received by the ADMB prior to April 1.
- (c) Thereafter, the ADMB shall annually establish a standard budget amount that shall be provided to all qualified districts with an application submitted prior to April 1.
  - (i) Additional funds, including but not limited to operational expenses and capital purchases, may be applied for by the grant application and justified in the management plan and budget.

- (d) A maximum of ten percent (10%) of the standard budget may be used to purchase capital equipment.
- (i) Additional funds, including but not limited to operational expenses and capital purchases, may be applied for by the grant application and justified in the management plan and budget.

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

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

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

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

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

- (a) The management plan shall address the following, as applicable for the district or funding requested:
  - i. Wildlife issues and goals
  - ii. Livestock issues and goals
  - iii. Pre- and post-work monitoring
  - iv. Partnerships and cooperative agreements required to accomplish the management plan.



- v. The criteria shall include but not be limited to the cost of full-time and part-time trappers and the cost of fixed wing aircraft and helicopters, for predator management for livestock and wildlife.
- vi. Human health and safety issues.

**Section 10. Reporting.** The district shall submit an annual report, due to the ADMB, 2219 Carey Avenue, Cheyenne, WY 82002 by no later than July 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. This report should be relative to the current fiscal year.

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

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

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

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

Adopted: January 19, 2021

**WYOMING ANIMAL DAMAGE MANAGEMENT BOARD (WyADMB)  
STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN  
2021-2026**

**MISSION STATEMENT:**

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

**GOALS:**

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

**ACRONYMS USED IN STRATEGIC PLAN**

**ADMB** – Animal Damage Management Board

**ADM** – Animal Damage Management

**APHIS** – Animal Plant and Health Inspection Service

**G&F** – Wyoming Game and Fish Department or Commission

**MOU** – Memorandum of Understanding

**PMB** – Predator Management Boards

**PMD** – Predator Management Districts

**WDA** – Wyoming Department of Agriculture

**WS** – USDA/APHIS/Wildlife Services

**WAIC** – Wyoming Ag in the Classroom

**WLB** – Wyoming Livestock Board

**GOAL 1: To implement a Wyoming animal damage management policy.**

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY: W.S. 11-6-304**

**OBJECTIVE 1.1**

**W.S. 11-6-304(a)**

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

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

PLAN FOR ACTION ITEMS)			
3. Review programs effectiveness (1501 grant program; 317, and 313.	3. ADMB	3. Annually	
<b>STRATEGY 1.1.3: W.S. 11-6-304(b)(vi): Cooperate with Federal, State and County governments, educational institutions and private persons or organizations to effectuate agricultural and wildlife damage and rabid wildlife prevention policies.</b>			
<i><b>ACTION</b></i>	<i><b>RESPONSIBILITY</b></i>	<i><b>DATE TO COMPLETE</b></i>	<i><b>DATE COMPLETED</b></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.

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

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

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

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

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

<b>STRATEGY 3.1.1: W.S. 11-6-304(b)(vii): Develop memorandums of understanding between the Wyoming Department of Agriculture, the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission and the United States Department of Agriculture/Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service/Wildlife Services (USDA/APHIS/WS) to accommodate funding sources and administrative guidelines for the program.</b>			
<b><i>ACTION</i></b>	<b><i>RESPONSIBILITY</i></b>	<b><i>DATE TO COMPLETE</i></b>	<b><i>DATE COMPLETED</i></b>
1. Review and amend MOUs as needed. 2. Explore options for grants and/or pass through funds. 3. Complete projects and assure that they are measurable and accountable through the proposal and reporting process.	1. ADMB 2. ADMB  3. ADMB	1. As needed 2. On-going  3. On-going and as projects are submitted and being implemented	
<b>STRATEGY 3.1.2: W.S. 11-6-307: The Board will request two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) from the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission to be expended for wildlife priorities.</b>			
<b><i>ACTION</i></b>	<b><i>RESPONSIBILITY</i></b>	<b><i>DATE TO COMPLETE</i></b>	<b><i>DATE COMPLETED</i></b>
1. ADMB will maintain a relationship with the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission. 2. ADMB will submit a letter of request for funding to the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission. 3. ADMB will assure Game and Fish federal aid criteria are maintained through WGFD review of submitted projects.	1. ADMB 2. ADMB 3. G&F	1. On-going  2. By 8/1 of year before funding is to be expended. 3. By 7/1 of year before funding is to be expended.	



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

<i><b>ACTION</b></i>	<i><b>RESPONSIBILITY</b></i>	<i><b>DATE TO COMPLETE</b></i>	<i><b>DATE COMPLETED</b></i>
1. WILDLIFE DAMAGE MANAGEMENT Voluntary Fee 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.**

<b>STRATEGY 4.1.1: W.S. 11-6-301 – 11-6-313: Determine needs and expectations of various audiences.</b>			
<i><b>ACTION</b></i>	<i><b>RESPONSIBILITY</b></i>	<i><b>DATE TO COMPLETE</b></i>	<i><b>DATE COMPLETED</b></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"> <li>➤ Facilitating symposiums to share information about current issues</li> <li>➤ Sharing ADMB booth at appropriate events.</li> <li>➤ Coordinate education activities through groups such as WAIC</li> <li>➤ Encourage local predator districts to do public education/relations as appropriate.</li> </ul>	1. ADMB  2. WDA staff  3. ADMB  4. WDA staff and ADMB board	1. On-going  2. update as information changes  3. & 4. On-going and as opportunities arise.	

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

**OBJECTIVE 5.1  
 W.S. 11-6-301 – 11-6-312**

**Remain current with latest available research and emerging issues.**

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

**OBJECTIVE 6.1**

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

<b>STRATEGY 6.1.1: W.S. 11-6-301 – 11-6-313</b>			
<b><i>ACTION</i></b>	<b><i>RESPONSIBILITY</i></b>	<b><i>DATE TO COMPLETE</i></b>	<b><i>DATE COMPLETED</i></b>
1. Continue a strategy to ensure program continuation.	1. ADMB	1. On-going	
2. Continue to develop and utilize performance measures for program.	2. ADMB	2. On-going	
3. Identify and include citizen groups, county boards, predator districts, legislators and stakeholders to support the ADMB program.	3. ADMB	3. On-going	
4. Increase visibility efforts	4. ADMB	4. On-going	
5. Re-evaluate the statutes and programs to be included in legislation.	5. ADMB	5. On-going	
➤ 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, \$2.735 million has been awarded to the nineteen qualified districts in the past year. In 2022, the ADMB received \$3.099 million in requests from these districts. In June the Governor approved an additional \$737,500 in one-time funding to the districts to help with the inflation that the county boards were seeing.

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 again 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. The Wyoming Association of County Predator Boards applied for an expanded research grant with the ADMB to study the relocation of golden eagles to help ranchers with eagle depredation. This was again a combined effort with CSU Pueblo, the North American Falconers Association, the International Eagle Austringers Association, USFWS, and Wyoming Game & Fish and USDA/APHIS/Wildlife Services to see if relocation can be an effective way to relocate eagles to minimize depredation on livestock. They have banded and relocated several Golden Eagles to see if the relocated eagles will stay in an area with sufficient wildlife as prey and not return to the rancher's livestock. This project will be a third year in an attempt to help reduce lambing losses.

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

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

Following is a listing of funded districts and the amount distributed to them for the current fiscal year.

**Predator Management Program Allocations**

<b>Grantees</b>	<b>Date Approved</b>	<b>Board Approved</b>
Albany County PMD	May 18, 2022	\$103,540.00
Big Horn County PMD	May 18, 2022	\$139,779.00
Campbell County PMD	May 18, 2022	\$160,487.00
Carbon County PMD	May 18, 2022	\$170,133.00
Converse County PMD	May 18, 2022	\$186,372.00
Crook County PMD	May 18, 2022	\$139,779.00
Fremont County PMD	May 18, 2022	\$186,372.00
Goshen County PMD	May 18, 2022	\$30,000.00
Hot Springs County PMD	May 18, 2022	\$191,549.00
Johnson County PMD	May 18, 2022	\$155,310.00
Lincoln County PMD	May 18, 2022	\$161,000.00
Natrona County PMD	May 18, 2022	\$186,371.00
Niobrara County PMD	May 18, 2022	\$158,416.00
Park County PMD	May 18, 2022	\$86,925.00
Sheridan County PMD	May 18, 2022	\$129,425.00
Sweetwater County PMD	May 18, 2022	\$124,894.00
Uinta County PMD	May 18, 2022	\$181,549.00
Washakie County PMD	May 18, 2022	\$139,779.00
Weston County PMD	May 18, 2022	\$103,540.00
	<b>Total</b>	\$2,735,221.00



**Predator Management Program Allocations**  
Governors additional funding allocation

<b>Grantees</b>	<b>Date Approved</b>	<b>Board Approved</b>
Albany County PMD	June 16, 2022	\$42,935.00
Big Horn County PMD	June 16, 2022	\$48,427.00
Campbell County PMD	June 16, 2022	\$18,538.00
Carbon County PMD	June 16, 2022	\$66,560.00
Converse County PMD	June 16, 2022	\$86,409.00
Crook County PMD	June 16, 2022	\$22,971.00
Fremont County PMD	June 16, 2022	\$19,778.00
Goshen County PMD	June 16, 2022	\$9,478.00
Hot Springs County PMD	June 16, 2022	\$29,773.00
Johnson County PMD	June 16, 2022	\$29,140.00
Lincoln County PMD	June 16, 2022	\$24,535.00
Natrona County PMD	June 16, 2022	\$25,203.00
Niobrara County PMD	June 16, 2022	\$20,609.00
Park County PMD	June 16, 2022	\$110,783.00
Sheridan County PMD	June 16, 2022	\$58,338.00
Sweetwater County PMD	June 16, 2022	\$32,431.00
Uinta County PMD	June 16, 2022	\$40,876.00
Washakie County PMD	June 16, 2022	\$29,481.00
Weston County PMD	June 16, 2022	\$21,235.00
	<b>Total</b>	\$737,500.00

On May 18, 2022 the Board also granted \$36,000 to fund rabies program in three Counties: Campbell Co. \$10,000.00, Johnson Co. \$12,000.00 and Sheridan Co. \$14,000.00.

By July 1, 2022, 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 County reports contain 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

### 2022-2023 MANAGEMENT PLAN

I. **Mission Statement:** To protect the wildlife and livestock interest in Albany County from predation by the implementation of sound management practices executed by professionals in the field of predator management; thus benefiting the wildlife and livestock of Albany County and also the citizens of Albany County and the State of Wyoming.

II. **Wildlife:** Albany County PMD will work with local sportsmen, land owners, wildlife groups, and the Wyoming Game and Fish Department for the good of the wildlife in Albany County.

**Goals:** To protect the wildlife in Albany County from excessive predation thus increasing the survival rate of the offspring. This in turn will result in a healthier population of wildlife in the County. Less predation equals more wildlife for viewing and for hunting, and in the case of the sage grouse more numbers will help keep it off of the endangered species list. More wildlife also will equal more hunting licenses that can be issued. More licenses, more hunters will also increase the economic activity in Albany County.

**Methods and Actions:** Work with local sportsmen (using the three sportsmen board members), and wildlife groups to implement management areas in the County for the benefit of the wildlife. We will dedicate 300 hours +/- of aerial hunting to these areas and also our one full time trapper will coordinate the use of the aircraft and other resources (ground crew, dogs, traps/snares, calling/shooting, M-44's and all other equipment needed) to complete the job. Our trapper will also work these areas at optimum times on the ground. With the use of all available equipment to complete the job (4-wheelers, shooting/trapping/snaring, dogs, etc. and camping out when necessary).

III. **Livestock:** Albany County PMD will work with local agriculture producers and land owners to control predation against livestock in Albany County.

**Goals:** To protect the livestock in Albany County from excessive predation thus increasing the survival rate of the offspring. This in turn will result in more livestock being brought to market. More livestock brought to the market will result in more dollars that will be spent in the local economy of Albany County. Agriculture dollars are spent at home, if the ranches stay profitable, they stay in business; thus maintaining the habitat for wildlife and the wide open spaces of Albany County that we all desire.

**Methods and Actions:** Work with local agricultural producers and land owners to implement predator management practices for the benefit of the livestock industry in Albany County. We will dedicate 350 hours +/- of aerial hunting to these areas and also our one full time trapper will coordinate the use of the aircraft and other resources (ground crew, dogs, traps/snares, calling/shooting, M-44's and all other equipment needed) to complete the job. Our trapper will also work these areas at optimum times on the ground. With the use of all available equipment to complete the job (4-wheelers, shooting/trapping/snaring, dogs, etc. and camping out when necessary).

IV. **Human Health and safety issues:** Albany County PMD will work with local governments and the citizens of Albany County to promote the health and safety of the citizenry.

Goals: To help protect the citizens of Albany County from disease carrying animals such as pigeons, skunks, raccoons, etc.

Methods and Actions: Work with local governments and citizens to implement management practices to control and prevent the problems that these animals present. Our full time trapper will coordinate with local governments and other personnel if needed to put management practices into use (trapping, removing to other locations, shooting or any other method deemed necessary).

V. Pre and post work monitoring: Livestock numbers and monitoring will be easily attainable as we have been doing that in the past. We monitor the loss of livestock and also the numbers of predators taken. As for the monitoring of the wildlife numbers, Albany County PMD will work with the associations, departments, companies, etc. as to the times, methods and cost of the monitoring that needs to be done to measure the effects of the predator control on the wildlife population. We will work closely with the ADMB as to what the costs will be and seek their input on this matter also.

# Big Horn County Predator Management District

## 2021-22 Annual Report

PO Box 613  
Greybull,  
Wyoming  
82426



### Board Members

*President*

*Randall Jones, Otto, Wy.*

*Vice President*

*Terry Mueller, Shell, Wy.*

*Secretary/Treasurer*

*Kay Neves, Emblem, Wy.*

*Raymond Jolley, Lovell, Wy.*

*Carl Nielsen, Hyattville, Wy.*

*Nicholle Geis, Greybull, Wy.*

*Keith Hamilton, Hyattville, Wy.*

*Albert Henderson, Burlington,  
Wy.*

*Dave Blakeman, Basin, 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 Big Horn County. Big Horn County also received assistance from 5 other WS employees (pilots, additional trappers, and biologists). In the time frame from March 1st, 2021-February 28th, 2022 (the most recent 365 day period to generate activity data), the total hours worked in Big Horn County was 3393 man hours on 55 different properties totaling 1,751,832 acres.

In Big Horn County, 167 hours were flown by fixed-wing during the reporting period.



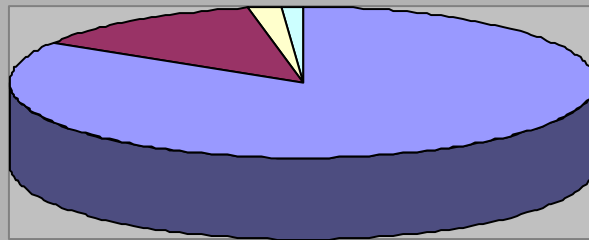
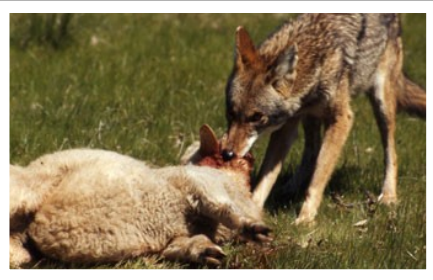
*The table below is a report of animals taken during the reporting period, in response to conflicts with livestock, wildlife, property, nuisance, or human health and safety.*

- **Beavers: 2**
- **Coyotes: 442**
- **Coyote Dens: 12**
- **Common Raven: 8**
- **Raccoons: 144**
- **Red Fox: 15**
- **Red Fox Dens: 3**
- **Striped Skunk: 2**



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.

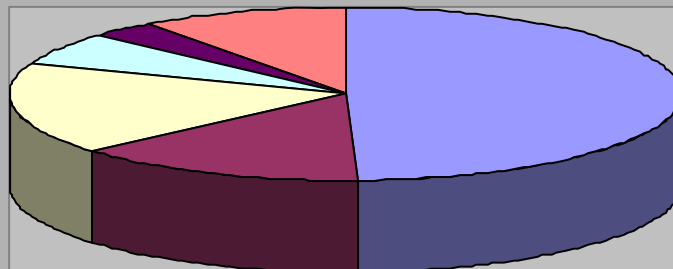
The Pie chart below depicts the percentage of site visits by WS per category for this 21-22 reporting period:



- Livestock protection
- General Property
- Wildlife
- Human Health and Safety



The Pie chart below shows the percentage of site visits by WS per wildlife species for the 21-22 reporting period. The “Others” category includes combined visits for Beaver, Muskrat, Gray Wolf, Mountain Lion, Black Bear, Feral Dog, Golden Eagle, and Porcupines.



- Coyotes
- Raccoons
- Fox
- Ravens
- Skunk
- Others





## District Management Plan 2022-2023

Big Horn County Predator Management District's goal for 2021-2022 is to provide a professional wildlife damage management service through USDA's WS. Ideally, this county needs two full-time employees (rather than the current 1.5 FTE) for coverage and that is our long-term goal.

1) **Livestock:** Coyote numbers remain 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 high-country allotments this summer as well as the normal presence of coyotes. We will continue working on crow and raven infestations where they have caused damage to cattle and lamb mortalities.

2) **Crop and General Property:** Our small mammal take for crop and general property has stayed fairly consistent for the past few years. Raccoon and red fox still top the list as the most requested species for general property damage county-wide. Ravens continue to be a problem in parts of the county. We plan on using a combination of DRC-1339, and shooting to alleviate bird problems as requested. 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. We plan on working with the local WGFD to identify potential wildlife projects, where predator management may be needed.

**Human Health and Safety:** 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.

We will sample any wildlife species that poses to be a potential carrier of a communicable disease and poses a risk to humans.







## Campbell County Management Plan

- I The mission of the Campbell County Predator Management District (PMD) is to provide predator control for the benefit of livestock producers and wildlife populations within Campbell County.
  
- II Campbell County is located in the north-eastern part of the state and has a land mass of over 4,800 square miles.
  
- III
  - a) *Livestock Issues* – Campbell County is experiencing regular depredation to livestock as a result of the current coyote population. These predation levels would be much higher without the current level of predator control measures.
  
  - b) *Livestock Goals* – The Campbell County PMD is dedicated to minimizing the loss of livestock to predation, thereby enabling viability of the local producers.
  
  - c) *Proposed Actions* – Due to the size of the county and being more effective with the coverage, the PMD previously employed three individual contract trappers who work throughout the county and rotate taking calls regarding the rabies program. One of our full-time trappers resigned July 2021. The board now employs two full-time and two part-time trappers. The part-time trappers are helping with denning season and the rabies program calls. The northern part of the county is primarily more cattle producers, and the southern part of the county is a balance of cattle and sheep producers. At the present time we have had great feedback from our livestock producers and have 128 agreements on file. Last fiscal year (July 2020 – June 2021) our trappers harvested 1216 coyotes, 70 fox, 4 badgers, 31 raccoons, 1 bobcat, 1 opossum, 2 porcupine and 1 bat. Totals for this current fiscal year as of the end of February 2022 our trappers have harvested 455 coyotes, 25 fox, 67 raccoons, 3 badgers, and 1 bat. Our trappers are on call each day and respond to trouble calls daily. They will be very busy this spring when denning season begins. Livestock producers have reported an increase in eagle as well as crow predation on both sheep and wildlife, and it has also become a major concern.

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. The PMD proposes 5 hours of fixed wing aircraft use with Wildlife Services in case of emergency predation control and 332 hours of fixed wing with private aerial pilots. If funding is not available the aerial time will be limited to trouble calls when livestock numbers are decreasing within a trouble area. Even though aerial is an effective way to control predators, we may have to limit it to prevent losing funding for one of the trappers. Other control methods will be used selectively to remove predators that are preying upon or threatening livestock, are creating hazards to public safety, or are damaging crops or property. These methods could include the use of foot-hold and cage traps, foot snares, neck snares, shooting, trail and decoy dogs, and M-44 devices.

*IV a) Human and Domestic Animal Health/Safety:* The Campbell County PMD recognizes the human and domestic animal health and safety hazards inherent to skunks, and has historically provided a Rabies Program trapper to the City of Gillette and rural Campbell County to deal with skunk conflicts and monitor rabies. Due to the number of abandoned houses and buildings around the county after the decline in the energy business, it has increased the skunk habitat, therefore increasing the population. The board continues to be proactive with rabies control in the rural county but at the present time has discontinued work within the city limits as we lost funding five years ago from the City Council due to a lack of agreement between the two boards. The city would like our trappers to be on call 24/7 but does not want to reimburse the predatory board for their time and expenses. The board is continuing to work with the Campbell County Commissioners. Last year we received \$45,000 from the County Commissioners which was a 10% decrease from the prior year funding. The county funding will also help the small acreage producers around the county with fox and coyotes that are getting into their chickens, goats, and other small animals. The board is concerned that we will have had three years of no control in the city and the skunk population will be greatly increased. On the average our trappers receive 20 trouble calls a month just for skunk issues and we expect this spring to be very busy. Each one of those calls requires multiple trips to the location to set and check traps.

We are asking the ADMB board for some extra funding to help with this program. If funding is decreased again this year from the county and the ADMB board, we may need to only satisfy the educational aspect of the statute when it comes to the rabies program and not be able to fund a person to do the actual trapping and removal of skunks in and around the area. The citizens that we help are very appreciative and pleased with our services, but due to funding, the services may need to be limited. We have heard of multiple people that have had to receive the rabies vaccine since they had human contact with rabid skunks. The cost in Campbell County is around \$10,000 per person to be fully vaccinated after an exposure for rabies. The Campbell County Predatory Board is being proactive in the rabies program and will do what we can with the funds that are available.

*b) Human and Domestic Animal Health/Safety Goals:* Our part-time trapper continue to receive phone calls daily regarding skunk issues. The calls are dispatched by local law enforcement. Our trappers also are available to provide information and education to school aged children at the AG Expo and the Natural Resource Expo. Rabies education and animal safety is the main topic that they discuss when time permits. The past two years the AG Expo was canceled due to COVID-19 but we just received an email that plans are being made for this year's AG Expo tentatively scheduled for this spring.

*c) Human and Domestic Animal Health/Safety Monitoring:* The public demand for this service is well documented by our trappers. Last fiscal year (2020-2021) our trappers harvested 557 skunks (which is a 44% increase from the prior fiscal year), 31 raccoons and 1 bat. This fiscal year as of the end of February 2022, our trappers have already removed 335 skunks, 67 raccoons, 3 badgers, and 1 bat for the area and the spring litters have yet to be born. The next few months will be busy as the weather is favorable for skunk activity. We have been testing any suspicious animal for rabies. We had 16 rabid skunks between the time frame of 1/1/2020 to 11/15/2021. All 2022 skunks tested to date have been negative. We will continue to be proactive with our current program, but if an outbreak were to occur with-in the city limits, we would be increasing our program regardless of city/county boundaries.

V *Wildlife Issues* – The numbers of nuisance animals and predators in Campbell County are still at levels that require continual control.

b) *Wildlife Goals* – Through predator control measures the Campbell County PMD would like to facilitate an increase in numbers of game animal species that are below objective or distressed.

c) *Proposed Actions* – The Campbell County PMD with the Campbell County Commissioners has continued to appoint four sportsmen to the board. The board believes the input of these sportsmen members is a critical part for the development of the wildlife portion of the management plan. The Campbell County PMD is planning to continue to incorporate other issues related to predatory control in those areas. Such issues will be predation on sage grouse, predation on wildlife, rabies in skunks, etc. The addition of the four sportsmen on the Campbell County Predatory Board has improved our versatility. Our predator control has been very successful to the wildlife as well as livestock numbers. Landowners report that when extra predator control and aerial hunting is provided, wildlife numbers increase. The board continues to help with control as long as funding is available.

VI *Pre- and post-work monitoring:* The progress of livestock focused activities will continue to be monitored through the Campbell County Predator Board trapper's data collection. The Campbell County Predatory Board asks the four contract personnel trappers to give reports at each of their meetings in order to monitor progress. Last year many livestock producers felt that the livestock numbers were not as steady as in the past years and coyote numbers were remaining strong. If funding decreases, our funds for trappers and aerial will decrease and we fear the predators will continue to increase and the livestock losses will increase as well. Predator control in Campbell County is very necessary to the livelihood of our livestock producers. They appreciate the predator control support that we can provide due to our ADMB funding. We appreciate the ADMB support that we have received in the past and look forward to continuing a cooperative teamwork in the future.

## ***Carbon County Predator Management District 2022-23 Management Plan***

### ***Mission:***

Provide predator control services through a collaborative service agreement with USDA/APHIS/Wildlife Services and cooperate with other game management entities for the removal of predators who pose a detrimental risk to wildlife species throughout Carbon County. The use of basic operational damage control methods will be used depending on local conditions and history of specific damage situations relating to livestock, wildlife, human health and safety, and disease and/or nuisance issues.

### ***Livestock:***

**Goal:** Enable the Agricultural community to remain a viable industry which supports the local economy by maintaining a proper level of predator population for protection of livestock within our boundaries.

**Proposed action:** Management using all available aerial and ground methods will be done depending on need, location, and cost. Flying will be done during favorable conditions as often as possible and will be intensified during calving/lambing seasons. Raven control has continued to be an issue and will be addressed within the mandated constraints of Federal Laws and Regulations. Some producers are actively reporting wolf sign in multiple areas of our county. This will be monitored closely, and action will be taken to manage any livestock damage or loss.

### ***Wildlife:***

**Goal:** Help facilitate sustainable populations within wildlife species of concern (such as Sage Grouse, Mule Deer, Pronghorn and Big Horn Sheep) with predator damage management throughout the entire county. Continue to identify and concentrate management efforts in units within Carbon County that are below objectives as determined by wildlife counts furnished by state and local WGF personnel.

**Proposed Action:** Communication with Wyoming Game and Fish and Wildlife Services opens the possibilities of working together to aid in addressing wildlife concerns. When requested, we will assist area industries and businesses with raven control and wildlife issues.

### ***Human Health & Safety:***

**Goal:** Work with local municipalities and other agencies for safety of the general public.

**Proposed Action:** Specialists will provide the proper predator assistance at the request of any Carbon County municipality or agency. During that time, disease testing will be completed to monitor rabies throughout the county. We continue to receive multiple requests from municipalities for the growing skunk and raven problems which need to be addressed. Education in our community is fundamental. We continue to work at increasing the popularity of Ag in the classroom, and we hope to see teaching opportunities increase.

# Carbon County Predator Management District

Annual Report  
2021/2022



Photo by Whitney Merrell

## CATTLEMEN

JOSH PETERSON  
JOHN HANSEN  
J STRATTON  
WILL HUDSON

## SHEEPMEN

SHARON O'TOOLE  
SCOTT KERBS

## SPORTSMEN

JOHN ENGSTROM  
ROBERT O'CONNELL  
ROGER COX

## AT-LARGE

DAN BRAIG 2021  
JERRY STEELE 2022



## MANAGEMENT PLAN AND ACTION

The Carbon County Predator Management Board provides predator control services through a collaborative service agreement with USDA/APHIS/Wildlife Services and cooperates with other game management entities for the removal of predators who pose a detrimental risk to wildlife species throughout Carbon County. Basic operation damage control methods are used depending on local conditions and the history of specific damage situations relating to livestock, wildlife, human health and safety, and disease and/or nuisance issues.



Photo by Zed Merrell

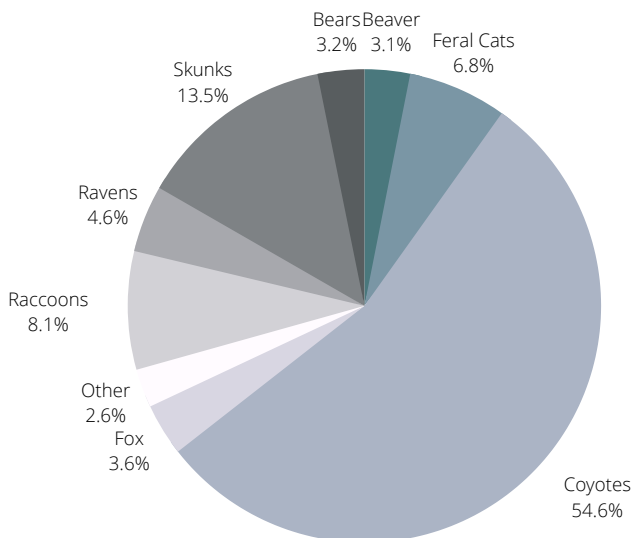


### Wildlife Specialists

Rod Merrell - District Supervisor

Tracy Villwok    Luke Spanbauer    Ben Acres-PT

### Predatory Issues by Species



The Wildlife Specialists spent 3,181.9 hours and 1,860,737 acres both on the ground and in the air addressing the predatory issues facing our county's producers. This year \$53,558.00 of damage was reported from around Carbon County. The trappers work with the county, municipalities, industries, producers, and others in our community to help facilitate a healthy wildlife population, protection of livestock, and public health and safety concerns.

## Management Plan and Action Continued

Ravens continue to have a negative effect on many different entities in Carbon County. The Wildlife Specialists have spent hours with producers, municipalities, and private companies in an effort to decrease the damage that the ravens done. The producers struggled with ravens during lambing and calving season. The birds picked at the fresh brands or eyes of the newborn livestock and ruined feed. The town of Rawlins, in particular, has encountered many complaints from ravens eliminating their waste on the grandstands at the Carbon County Fairgrounds and tearing apart trash that was contained in dumpsters. Private companies experienced many of the same complaints regarding the mess they continue to make on company properties while roosting on equipment and buildings.



## SPECIAL PROJECTS

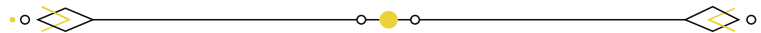


Photo by Beverly Braig

This year Carbon County had the opportunity to participate in two Special Projects in addition to our normal activities. While teaming up with the Wyoming Game and Fish, it was determined that the Ferris Mountain antelope and Baggs mule deer populations were suffering. This past spring we were able to use our expertise in dealing with predators to encourage a greater survival rate of this year's fawns. Our hope is to continue our efforts for at least another year.



### FERRIS MOUNTAIN ANTELOPE PROJECT FACTS

- Approximately 96,000 acres will be covered during this project
- This will benefit cattle, antelope, and mule deer
- The South Ferris antelope herd is currently estimated roughly 50 percent below objective.
- The Ferris mule deer herd is estimated roughly 55 percent below objective

### BAGGS MULE DEER PROJECT FACTS

- Severe winters in 2018 and 2019 along with extremely dry summers have hindered fawn survival.
- Buck to doe ratios saw a decrease and was lower than the 5 year average.
- The project will benefit sheep, cattle, mule deer, and antelope
- About 50,000 acres will be covered while carrying out this project

## welcome back !

In April the Wildlife Specialists were able to have a booth at the Ag Expo at the Carbon County Fairgrounds. We were finally able to do this again after COVID shut down the event for the past 2 years. The county's 4th grade students look forward to learning about different areas of agriculture that many are not usually exposed to.



Photo by Josh Peterson





# CONVERSE COUNTY PREDATOR MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

## 2022-2023

# 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.

Converse County is the largest sheep producing county in the state by nearly twofold. Therefore, we have more predator control than other counties. Most of our lambing occurs on range lands, without the protection of herders or sheds. As a result, our trappers are stretched very thin traveling more miles and working more hours to get their job done. Increasing fuel prices adds additional expense from prior years. Because landowners/ sheep producers work closely with trappers in our county, wildlife predation is minimized.

For the 2022-2023 fiscal year CCPMD will plan to employ two full time and one part time trapper. We will request funding for an additional full-time trapper. The addition of the full-time trapper is dependent on funding. We will contract with Wildlife Services (WS) for the use of their airplane, gunner, and pilot for up to 25 hours. 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 and private planes, along with our private trappers ground crewing, are a very effective way to target problem coyotes. The Converse County Predator Management District (CCPMD) will be asking the ADMB for funds for WS plane as well as for the salaries of the trappers.

The trappers are contract workers and answer directly to the Board of CCPMD 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 – Treasurer  
Tim Pexton – Budget Officer  
David Moore – Secretary  
John Moore – Producer  
Erick Mares – Non-Producer  
Corey Larson – Wildlife  
Curtis Maxwell – Wildlife  
Bret Frye – Wildlife

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 several 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.

Currently, Converse County is the only county in the state that has a bounty for coyotes and foxes. This practice has been in existence for decades, and we feel it is extremely effective because of our management practices. Our bounty program is funded entirely by predator management fees collected during the brand inspections. The majority of those predator fees go toward funding our private aerial hunting program.

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 and antelope. With drought and disease taking its toll on Converse County's wildlife, we feel it is imperative to keep predation to a minimum. By having large number of landowners/sheep producers assisting with predator control, high doe/fawn ratios are maintained.

In addition to our aerial hunting program, we have always realized that ground crews working with the aircraft is absolutely essential and maximizes cost effectiveness. 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 CCPMD Board will continue to work with city and county officials to control skunks and raccoons. Crow and raven numbers continue to increase with reports of damages to baby calves and other nesting birds including Sage Grouse. Since poisoning these birds is only authorized for WS personnel, we will be monitoring the situation closely to further decide if and when to ask for their assistance.





# Crook County Predatory Animal District Annual Report



2022  
Box 1497  
Sundance, WY 82729



## Crook County Predator Management District Annual Report

### Management Plan

#### Mission Statement

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

#### Summary:

Two contract trappers are used full time for hunting and trapping on the ground.

Two contract pilots are used to hunt from the air.

Some part time denning help is contracted.

These contractors work together to try and be most effective.

These contractors all report directly to the Board.

*These contractors work under cooperative agreements with land owner/operators.*

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 CCPMD; livestock issues, wildlife issues, human health and Safety issues. All three can be linked together when it comes to economic viability, our environment, And sustainability of the communities which we serve.

*Crook County has had a predatory management program since the mid 1940's. Currently the program is funded by predator fees assessed from the sale of cattle and sheep in our County. The Livestock Board collects these fees at a rate of \$1.00 per head. Crook County averages between \$50,000 to \$60,000 annually collected from the livestock producers in which the program serves.*

The second source of funding comes from a grant process through the Wyoming Department of Agriculture. The 2020-2021 fiscal year brought \$135,000. The program, as is, would not be possible without these funds.

# **Fremont County Predatory Animal Management Board Management Plan**

## **Mission Statement**

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

## **Wildlife Issues**

Sportsmen are having trouble filling licenses due to the decline in numbers of game animals.

Numbers are below target levels on deer, elk, antelope, and sage grouse in Fremont County.

Viewers are seeing less wildlife.

Predators and predacious birds are detrimental to wildlife.

Predators are causing wildlife to move out of normal ranges.

## **Wildlife Goals**

Since outfitting and tourism are large sources of income to Fremont County, it is our goal to protect seriously depressed wildlife by preventing depredations.

We will provide assistance in animal damage management to ongoing research efforts.

We try to protect human health and safety by resolving wildlife caused threats and nuisance situations by preventing the spread of animal-borne diseases.

## **Actions to be Taken**

Fremont County Predatory Animal Management Board receives money for predator control from the federal government, state appropriations, our county, agencies, boards, associations, commissioners, individuals, or any other cooperators. We currently contract with APHIS and ADMB (through the WY Dept of Ag) for two trappers to work primarily livestock and public health issues. We also have had grants to work on specific wildlife issues. Our current two trappers work very hard to cover this large area to prevent depredation on both livestock and wildlife to the best of their abilities. With our large county and rough terrain and timbered areas we badly need many fixed wing and helicopter hours.

## **Livestock Issues**

Predators are destructive to sheep, cattle, and goats as well as other livestock and cost ranchers thousands of dollars annually.

Fremont County has increased calf depredation every year.

Predators and predacious birds are detrimental to feed and foodstuffs, and crops and forage production.

Predators and predacious birds are detrimental to human health.

## **Goals**

Maximize Fremont County's agriculture production and protect one of its greatest resources.

Protect sheep, goats, cattle, and other domestic livestock by preventing or reducing depredation.

Protect agricultural crops by preventing or reducing depredations.

Protect human health and safety by resolving predator threats and nuisance situations by preventing the spread of animal-borne diseases.

## **Actions to be Taken**

Sources of income and reasons for request of additional funding sources have been listed above.

See attached budget information and funding request.

## **Pre- and Post Work Monitoring**

Get correct herd units from Wyoming Fish Department and try to determine current baseline population.

Get target numbers or post season population objectives from Wyoming Fish Department.

Get livestock losses or crop damage for Fremont County from USDA / APHIS as to documented losses.

Calculate dollar value and head count loss on an animal basis.

## **Human Health and Safety Issues**

Rodents, wildlife, livestock, and predacious birds can cause harm to humans, or to feed and foodstuffs, or to crops and forage production.

Rodents, wildlife, livestock, and predacious birds can effect human health and safety by spreading animal-borne diseases.

Rodents, wildlife, livestock, and predacious birds can be a nuisance to human health and safety.



**Goals**

Protect standing and stored agriculture crops by preventing or reducing mammal or bird depredations.

Protect human health and safety by resolving wildlife caused threats and nuisance situations by preventing the spread of animal-borne diseases.

Assure that "best management practices" are used in an environmentally sound manner.

**Actions to be Taken**

Use trappers to control skunks, crows, and other nuisance mammals when they are causing problems.

Use trappers to control rodents, wildlife, predators, or predatory birds when they are causing problems.

See attached current budget and proposed new budget.

# FREMONT COUNTY PREDATORY ANIMAL MANAGEMENT DISTRICT ANNUAL REPORT 2021



## Mission

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



## PAMD MEMBERS:

- Cattle
  - Rob Crofts, President
  - Beth Evans
  - Hollis Givens
- Sheep
  - Coleen Jennings
  - Ivan Laird
  - Rob Philp, Vice-President
- Sportsmen
  - Vic Mosbrucker
  - Alan Sinner
  - Albert Herbst
- Wildlife Specialists
  - Tracy Frye
  - Dave Fowler
- Treasurer, Bookkeeper
  - Gloria Philp
- Secretary
  - Chance Marshall

## Fremont County:

- Second largest county in Wyoming with 9266 square miles
- Has the greatest number of farm and ranch units with over 1000
- Ranks first in hay and alfalfa production
- Ranks fourth in cattle numbers
- Ranks ninth in sheep numbers



## Southern Bighorn Deer Project:

This was to be a three year project with ADMB funding providing \$15,000 per year. Due to COVID and the fact that we were unable to fly last year, this is carried over to this year. Fremont County 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.

## Land Involved in this Report:



Land Type	Total Acres	Person-day-visits
BLM Land	1,857,819	75
County or City Land	340	133
Forest Service Land	514,240	2
Private Land	172,162	353
State Land	204,288	3
Tribal Land	2,280,000	79



## Wildlife Issues and Goals

Numbers are below target levels on deer, elk, antelope, and sage grouse in Fremont County due to predators. Viewers are seeing less wildlife. Since outfitting and tourism are large sources of income to Fremont County and the State of Wyoming it is our goal to protect seriously depressed wildlife by preventing depredations. We also provide assistance in animal management to ongoing research projects. Fremont County is a very large county with diverse topography and a large wildlife population.



## Livestock Issues and Goals

Predators are destructive to sheep, cattle, and goats as well as other livestock and cost ranchers thousands of dollars annually. Damage summary of livestock in FC last year amounted to \$11,069 due to predation.



Predators were grizzly bears, black bears, coyotes, crows, ravens, and wolves. Verified losses to livestock were \$30,075. Losses to crops was \$100 and losses to property were \$1,900 according to Wildlife Services.

Our goals are to maximize Fremont County's agriculture production and protect one of our greatest resources by reducing depredation.

## Trophy Game - Livestock Related Conflicts in Fremont County

	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Grizzly Bear	11	12	15	18	22
Black Bear	10	9	12	6	0
Mountain Lion	1	2	0	0	1
Wolf (trophy game)	5	4	5	20	27
Area only					

## Human Health and Safety Issues and Goals

Rodents, wildlife, livestock and predacious birds can cause harm to humans, or to feed and foodstuffs, or to crops and forage production by spreading animal-borne diseases. They can also be a nuisance to human health and safety.

Our goals are to protect standing and stored agriculture crops by preventing or reducing mammal or bird depredations. Trappers work hard to control skunks, crows, ravens and other nuisance mammals when they are causing problems.

Damage was reported to structures at \$11,069 for 2020.







# Goshen County Predator

## Damage Management District

ANNUAL REPORT

2021 - 2022

### BOARD MEMBERS:

President:  
Dan Heilbrun

Vice President:  
Gary Kirchhefer

Secretary/  
Treasurer:  
Stan Smith

Miles Daily

Travis Grosz

Sam Kessler

John Maier

Jason Norris

Doyle Meyer

Jennifer Scheer

Brody Mackey

### WS SPECIALIST:

Jim Angal

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

District Management Plan 2

Work and Financial Plan 3

## Summary of Activities

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

Presently, there is one full-time WS employee that covers all of Goshen County. In addition to the full-time WS specialist, 5 other WS employees (pilots, WS biologists, etc.) also provided assistance during this reporting period from February 1, 2021 to January 31, 2022. As a result, 441,254 acres were worked across 91 different properties in Goshen County; for a total of 1,189 man hours, and 45.4 aerial hours flown (limited by weather

and availability of aircraft). Wildlife damage and threats come in many forms, from predation, to disease, human



**Coyotes were responsible for \$7,053 in reported losses during this reporting period.**

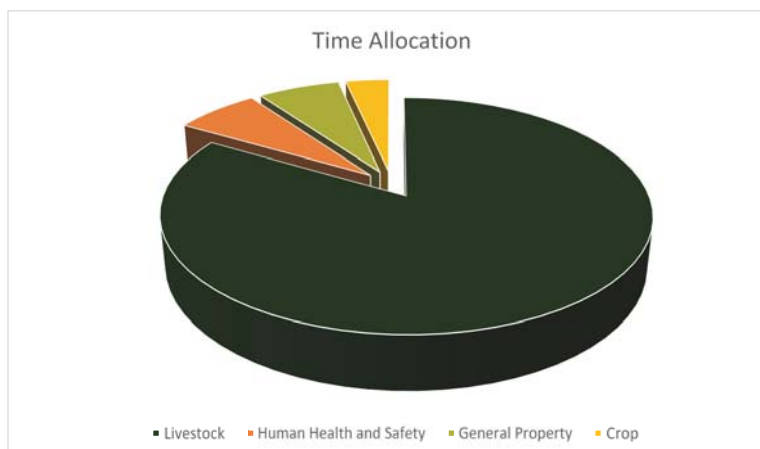
health and safety, etc. In this regard, the GCPMD is committed to providing county residents with professional service to prevent and alleviate these issues. Mitigating these conflicts resulted in WS take of the following:

### WS Take For This Period:

• Badgers:	1
• Badger Dens:	1
• Beavers:	1
• Coyotes:	305
• Coyote Dens:	4
• Red Fox Dens:	2
• Pigeons:	7
• Raccoons:	20
• Striped Skunks:	4
• Sparrows, House:	4
• Starlings:	31
• Turkey Vultures:	6

### Livestock Losses For This Period:

• Coyote, Reported	\$7,053
• Mt. Lion, Verified	\$882
• Raccoon, Verified	\$80
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$8,015</b>





GCPMD conducts a professional, multi-faceted wildlife damage management program, with 4 different areas of focus:

- 1) Livestock
- 2) General Property
- 3) Wildlife
- 4) Human Health and Safety

# District Management Plan 2022-2023

Goshen County takes pride in being the top agricultural producing county in the state. Naturally, this also means that wildlife conflicts abound, and are quite diverse. With this in mind, the Goshen County Predator Management District plans to renew its agreement with USDA-Wildlife Services, to provide professional service to all those in the county with wildlife damage issues.

WS maintains strong working relationships across federal and state agencies, and local municipalities, in conjunction with private land owners. In this regard, GCPMD believes that WS is best suited to respond to the diversity of wildlife conflicts, wherever they may occur, throughout the county with professionally-trained personnel.

**1) Livestock:** Livestock protection will continue to be the top priority of the GCPMD program. Coyote numbers remain stable throughout the county; however, routine preventative control efforts (both aerial, and on the ground) have kept verified predation events to a minimum.

*As part of their commitment to providing the most effective and efficient program possible, GCPMD will be investing in thermal optics (1 scope, 1 binocular) to be utilized by their WS specialist. Preliminary tests earlier this year have shown this to be an invaluable tool, especially in and around calving pastures, small acreages where traditional methods cannot be employed, and during the summer months when coyotes seek refuge in corn fields during the daylight hours. While thermal optics aren't a magic bullet, they are arguably the most effective "new" tool that we've seen since the implementation of aircraft in animal damage management.*

**2) General Property:** Small mammal conflicts with general property remain minimal, with our WS specialist responding to the occasional beaver, badger, raccoon, or skunk complaint. While the number of these conflicts are minimal, damages to buildings, roadways, canals, etc. can be quite significant at times. GCPMD will continue to respond to such complaints as requested.

**3) Wildlife:** While GCPMD is not currently involved in any designated wildlife projects, we are confident that the scope of our wildlife damage management activities provide ancillary benefits for most wildlife species, as wildlife wintering grounds and parturition areas are often found overlapping, or adjacent to many livestock operations where our control efforts are focused.

**4) Human Health and Safety:** Wildlife serve as a potential vector for numerous diseases, including rabies, plague, tularemia, etc., which can be transmitted to people, pets, and livestock. GCPMD will rely on WS to help monitor for such diseases through routine sampling of wildlife removed, and will respond accordingly in the event of an outbreak.





# HOT SPRINGS COUNTY PREDATOR MANAGEMENT DISTRICT



## Annual Report

February 2021-March 2022

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 '22-23 management plan which lists our County's wildlife issues and goals for the upcoming year. The report also includes the results for the '21-22 year ( the most current reporting period being March 1st, 2021-February 28th, 2022).

## HOT SPRINGS COUNTY PREDATOR MANAGEMENT DISTRICT MANAGEMENT PLAN 2022-2023

At present the HSCPMD provides animal damage control to 51 cooperators 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

Shawn Smith

Weston Jones

Everett Jones

Josh Longwell

Ron Aylor

Barbara Jean Kissel

Leif Polson

Dan Morris

## WS Employees

Steve Richins

Dusty Southworth



The wildlife populations in Hot Springs County are important to our western way of life and economy.

**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 game bird within the county. Most of these species are predated by canines, but some have additional pressure from raccoons, skunks, feral cats, crows and ravens. Methods of controlling these predators include shooting, trapping and using EPA registered chemicals. Raccoons and skunks have been removed by using the live traps purchased by the HSCPMD for use in populated areas.



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

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.

#### b) **Livestock**

Livestock is a vital part of our area economy and HSCPMD strives to prevent and minimize losses due to predatory animals and birds.

Actions taken:

HSCPMD personnel use ground and aerial control methods. Ground control methods include trapping, snaring, shooting, and the use of EPA registered chemicals. At certain times of the year aerial control may be the best method due to snow cover. HSCPMD logged 146 aerial hours during this reporting period. Our pilot is Scott Jensen and is doing a great job in the basin.

A large portion of Hot Springs County falls within the predator zone for wolves. The wolves enjoy the benefit of nearby reservation and trophy game boundaries as refuge, which makes mitigating predation more difficult. In this area, WGFD does very little work in regards to monitoring wolf packs and activity as it is in the predator area. We anticipate wolf depredations and rely on WS and their collaring efforts to help track these wolves throughout the year.

HSCPMD continues to try and address any control situation and has added equipment to be able to meet that challenge. 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 damage.



## **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 to the state laboratory for testing. 7 skunks and 1 bat were sent in from Hot Springs County with no positive results during the 20-21 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 is 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.

We have included thermal binoculars and scope for night work which is showing great success working around livestock kills, and pests on properties.

## **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: 7

Coyotes: 291

Coyote dens: 15

Lion, mountain: 2

Ravens: 1

Red Fox: 19

Red Fox dens: 2

Raccoons: 44

Striped Skunks: 21

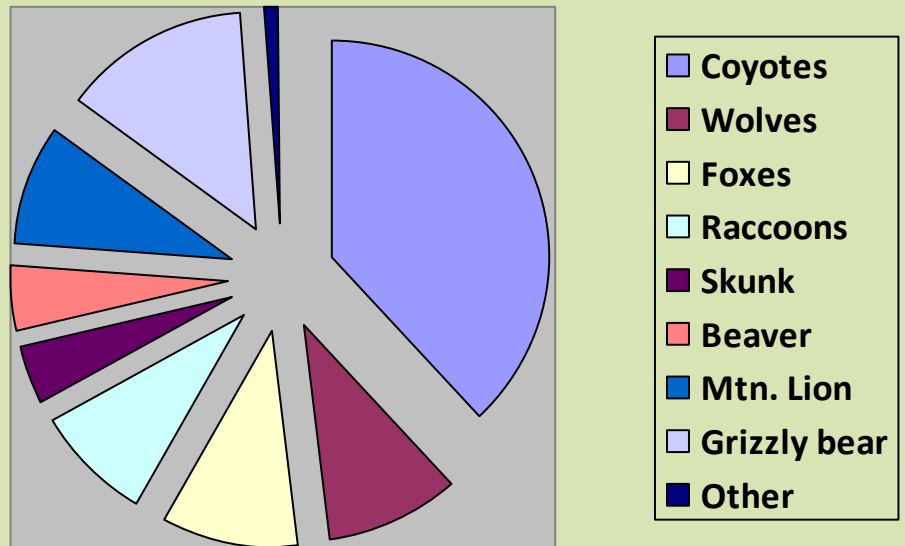
Wolves: 2



During this reporting period (March 1, 2021-February 28, 2022), Hot Springs County currently maintains 2 FTE positions,.

Hot Springs County's duties were conducted with the teamwork and cooperation of 9 WS employees during this reporting period to cater to the increasing requests to our program for assistance involving the following wildlife species: grizzly bears, black bears, beavers, coyotes, fox, raccoons, skunks, yellow-bellied marmots, bats, grey wolves, mountain lions, and raven complaints, There was \$11,985 in livestock damage verified by the Hot Springs County Specialist's during this reporting period.

The pie graph below shows the percentage of time spent on wildlife species throughout Hot Springs County:





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

## **Updated 3-29-22**

### *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.

The make-up of the rural population of our county continues to change to more "non-producers" or less ag production minded. This presents a different mind set toward predator control in general.

### *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 and aerial hunting, calling and denning. This time coincides with the need to protect newborn 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 have 2 full time trappers, one in the north and one in southern Johnson County and we have been able to keep losses in check with the help and efficiency of a contractor owned helicopter and fixed wing aircraft. We cooperate with neighboring districts and trapper to increase success for both. We have producer meetings and joint meetings were held with the G & F to address problems kill confirmations and compensation.

*Additional Issues –*

Something relatively new for our district is raven control. We have had calls for control near lambing operations in several parts of the county, as well as at the Johnson County Land Fill. Baiting operations in cooperation with Wildlife Services have been successful in these cases.

*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 ten 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. We have moved from 2 to 1 seasonal employee for our rabies program and will take more duties as Buffalo eliminated their animal control officer. We will handle more of the ‘problem animal’ calls for the Buffalo and Kaycee police departments. These entities have added to their financial support for our programs.

### *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 animals 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, NRCS and others. A new appointment to our board is a sportsman and wildlife biologist. He adds a new enthusiasm to the ‘science of predator control’ and will be very valuable asset as we work toward additional funding for our work through these wildlife and sage grouse groups. Our goals are to prove the worth of predator control to those and the general public. Funding is now coming from the Conservation Districts in our county, as they see the value of predator control in these efforts.

### *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.

**Johnson County Predator Management District  
 Rabies Mitigation Project  
 FY 2021-2022 Projected Year-end Revenue & Expenses**

<b>Revenues</b>	<b>Revenue FY 21-22 As Funded</b>	<b>Received thru 3/25/2022</b>	<b>Projected to 6/30/2022</b>	<b>Projected FY 21-22 year-end</b>	<b>% of FY 21-22 budget</b>
Rabies Mitigation Grant	12000	12000	0	12000	100.00%
Town of Kaycee	1000		500	500	50.00%
City of Buffalo	5000		5000	5000	100.00%
Johnson County	10000		10000	10000	100.00%
 Total Revenues -	 28000	 12000	 15500	 27500	 98.21%

<b>Expenses</b>	<b>Budgeted Expenses FY 21-22</b>	<b>Expended thru 3/25/2022</b>	<b>Projected to 6/30/2022</b>	<b>Projected FY 21-22 year-end</b>	<b>% of FY 21-22 budget</b>
Salaries	24000	11710	10200	21910	91.29%
*Related Expenses	2970	1405	1225	2630	88.55%
Bookkeeping	3000	2250	750	3000	100.00%
Vehicle Allowance		650	3000	3650	
Equipment & Supplies	300	0	100	100	33.33%
Liability Insurance	700	100	500	600	85.71%
Other administrative costs	500	83	100	183	36.60%
 Total Expenses -	 31470	 16198	 15875	 32073	 101.92%

\*Related Expenses -

workmans comp.  
 unemoloyment  
 FICA / Medicare Taxes

\*\*Other administrative costs -

dues  
 postage  
 advertising  
 board exp.  
 accounting  
 office exp

# Jonson County Predator Management Dist. Rabies Program

## 2020/2021 Summary

	<i>Skunks</i>	<i>Raccoon</i>	<i>Fox</i>	<i>Fox Pups</i>	<i>Other Animals</i>	
July	1	6			2	
August	11	4	1		11	
September	24	4	1		16	
October	12		2		2	
November	4	4	5			
December	3	1	8			
January		3	4			
February	9		2		2	
March	12		3		17	
April	7		5	3	27	
May	2	1			29	
June	20		1		7	
FY 20-21	Totals	105	23	32	3	113

compared to -

FY 19-20	Totals	66	90	42	19	92
FY 18-19	Totals	60	46	42	0	
FY 17-18	Totals	108	96	57	17	
FY 16-17	Totals	131	123	111	6	
FY 15-16	Totals	178	257	201	0	
FY 14-15	Totals	147	188	94	4	
FY 13-14	Totals	111	242	151	12	
FY 12-13	Totals	158	182	145	9	
FY 11-12	Totals	147	186	67	4	

Cost Per Coyote Analysis

		FY 09-10	FY 010-11	FY 11-12	FY 12-13	FY 13-14	FY 14-15	FY 15-16	FY 16-17
Rabies	salary	24975	23000	24200	23050	22825	22475	23300	21920
	bkpg	2250	2250	2250	2250	2250	2250	2250	2250
	other	3338	3400	3015	3149	3179	3144	3236	3041
	post	176	109	399	370	226	206	181	275
	gen	776	599	582	1154	776	561	758	623
		31515	29358	30446	29973	29256	28636	29725	28109
General	cont labor	136890	134410	141180	165398	160622	169082	179025	160339
	bounty	14350	12035	13820					
	flying	57968	45966	49308	38110	50750	44479	47066	52907
	bkpg	6750	6750	6750	6750	6750	6750	6750	6750
	other	1113	1133	1005	683	754	2279		
	gen	2327	1796	1745	5078	1574	1684	1517	1266
		219398	202090	213808	216019	220450	224274	234358	221262
	rabies -	31515	29358	30446	29973	29256	28636	29725	28109
Total		250913	231448	244254	245992	249706	252910	264083	249371
	adult coyotes	816	653	766	804	589	742	986	1112
	cost/adult coyote	\$269	\$309	\$279	\$269	\$374	\$302	\$238	\$199

FY 17-18 FY 18-19 FY 19-20 FY 20-21

18500	16125	16500	19100
2250	2250	2250	2250
2536	2594	2398	2562
404	310	241	339
778	403	531	
24468	21682	21920	24251

157973	148000	148000	150000
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65108	62368	79005	80660
6750	6750	6750	6750
845	850	495	810
2334	807	1063	894

233010	218775	235313	239114
24468	21682	21920	24251

257478	240457	257233	263365
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1029	860	1096	1178
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\$226	\$254	\$215	\$203
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March 20, 2022

Dear Jerry & AMDB Members,

As stated in previous years the goals and objectives of the Lincoln County AMDB is to provide services to prevent excessive economic losses to the agriculture industry, human health issues, and wildlife management in Lincoln County. Lincoln County had 2 full time trappers but because of budget cuts we had to let 1 trapper go, so now we only have 1 full time trapper, and 1 part time contract trapper, from the 1<sup>st</sup> of April to the 1<sup>st</sup> 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. The only problem with this tool, is that it can be very expensive to use. Therefore, this requires that we have an adequate amount of funding to keep the Arial work going. With the allotted funding that we currently have, we are limited on what we do with the Arial.

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 Greys River, Hoback and Pinedale areas.

The LCAMD is able to stay even with the coyotes and fox, but wolves and bears are a big problem. Our hands are tied with wolves. Most years as the sheep arrive in the Greys River Allotments the wolves start killing sheep. The terrain proves to be very difficult to locate the wolves, which ties up a lot of the trapper's time in trying to solve the problem. Therefore it is taking away time from coyote and bear problems there working on.

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

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 number 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 staying in the business or going broke.

One other thing I would like to mention is our equipment is wearing out and is not dependable, especially are snow mobiles. In the winter time the snow machine is a very important tool, and we do not have the money to replace them.

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**  
T.K. Atkinson, President  
P.O. Box 1462 \* Casper, WY 82602  
307.262.6669 \* [ncpmd1@charter.net](mailto:ncpmd1@charter.net)

**2022 District Management Plan**  
**Year-End-Report**

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 number 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.)

We submitted proposals to continue working with the Wyoming Game & Fish Department on the Bates Hole project, Stove Gulch project and raven project. We were awarded \$25,000 for the Stove Gulch, \$25,000 for the Bates Hole and \$5,000 for the raven project. From July 1-Present Clint Cummings, trapper in the Bates Hole area has harvest 193 coyotes and Rock Buckingham, trapper in the Stove Gulch area has harvested 74 coyotes in the Stove Gulch area. The Wyoming Game and Fish asked for the NCPMD's assistance in controlling coyotes in these two areas and to help optimize a greater number of game to offer a greater hunting experience for resident hunters. We are working in close-proximity with the Wyoming Game and Fish and use their "Best Practice" procedures which prescribes specific times and areas for aerial management.

The NCPMD is striving to facilitate increases in fawn numbers through management of special projects such as our Bates Hole Project, Stove Gulch Project and Raven Control Project.

We also continue to work with Wildlife Services to decrease the number of ravens which prey heavily on sage grouse eggs and young along with song-birds which help reduce the number of mosquitos. Our board resides in a highly residential area and is actively involved in protecting and expanding our resident wildlife population.

For fiscal year 2021-2022 the three trappers harvested 1,696 coyotes. The NCPMD has contracted with Reno Air Service, Wildlife Services and Wyoming Helicopters for their aerial program. They assist with harvesting coyotes that the trappers cannot get to on the ground.

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

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

<b>Calendar Year</b>	<b>Coyotes Taken</b>
2008	2,658
2009	1,493
2010	2,186
2011	1,788
2012	1,568
2013	1,355
2014	1,544
2015	1,728
2016	1,540
2017	1,826
2018	1,582
2019	1,980
2020	1,816
July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022	1,696

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.

**2021-2022 Natrona County Board of Directors**

T.K. Atkinson, President      Bob Harlan, Vice-President      John Marton, Sec./Tres.

Jarrold Hendry, Kevin Forgey, Tony Kiser, Mike Owens, Chris Robinett

Two sportsman representatives were appointed to the board by the County Commissioner's: JD Atkinson and Huey Sandfort.

We greatly appreciate the funding that the NCPMD receives from our state legislature and Governor Gordon. The Natrona County Predator Management District received **\$186,372.00** dollars for the 2022-2023 fiscal year. These funds will help us continue to protect our domestic livestock and our wildlife. Without legislative backing and the

ADMB grant funding, the NCPMD would not be able to function to the capacity that it has been operating at.

Dated this 27<sup>th</sup> day June, 2022.

T.K. Atkinson, President

---

John Marton, Secretary/Treasurer



# Niobrara County Management Plan

Revised, 2020

- 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 2018 total approximately 4,200 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.

## Program Overview –Niobrara County

**\$5,000.00 is our projected available cash carryover to begin FY 2023.** Several years ago when the ADMB budget first grew tight we voluntarily spent down our program funds in order to help out, with some reassurance that we would be treated kindly thereafter. The state budget did not rebound, we received no favored status, and we are now out of money.

We feel we have probably the most efficient program in the state, taking a tremendous number of predators at the lowest cost of any district. We have always been conservative with our spending; that is how we had been able to maintain some carryover when other districts were broke.

We have reduced our aerial hunting reluctantly. Fixed wing airplanes are our most efficient tool, since we been averaging nearly 3 coyotes taken per hour flown with an average cost per coyote at well under \$100. That efficiency is in large part due to our trappers providing spotting and coordination support to maximize the aerial hunting.

Our two contract trappers also excel at ground methods, as is shown by the large annual take reports. They provide 100% of their expenses, work for the least of any trapper in the state, and they **have never been given a raise**. However, in the current state of inflation it will be necessary to make an adjustment to their contracts for increased costs in fuel. Likewise, we expect the airplane will be at a more expensive rate. Without increased support from the ADMB our program will be crippled.

As charged by state statute we strive to maintain an efficient program of predator control. Operating according to our original Management Plan 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 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. If we have to curtail our program neighboring counties will definitely be impacted.



# Park County Predator Management District



## 2021-2022 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, 11 other WS employees (including pilots, gunners, and biologists) helped out within Park County during this reporting period. The data for this report is from March 1st, 2021-February 28th, 2022. There were 40 different properties totaling 1,183,903 acres of public and private land that requested services from WS during this reporting period. The total man hours worked in the county was 3,738 hours.

A total of 82 hours of fixed wing was spent in Park County during the reporting period. Flying will increase this last quarter if weather improves. Scott Jensen is the pilot for the Bighorn Basin and doing a great job. WS removed the following animals in response to damage conflict: during the reporting period:

- Badgers: 1
- Beavers: 12
- Coyotes: 212+ 4 dens
- Fox, Red: 5 + 4 dens
- Raccoons: 10
- Ravens: 29
- Striped Skunks: 1
- Wolves, Gray: 11



### Board Members

- \* President Regan Smith, Powell, Wy.
- \* Vice President Shane Smith, Powell, Wy.
- \* Sec/Treasurer Jacob Jarrett, Powell, Wy.
- \* Rori Renner, Meeteetse, Wy.
- \* Ben Anson Meeteetse, Wy.
- \* Doug Henry Powell, Wy.
- \* George Joest Cody, Wy.
- \* Keith Schuebel Cody, Wy.
- \* Jacob Jarrett Cody, Wy.
- \* Tyler Stingley, Powell, Wy.
- \* Breanne Thiel Powell, Wy.
- \* John Jerkins, Cody, Wy.

### WS specialists:

- \* Monty Nicholson
- \* Bob Wells (half-time county specialist/half-time aerial gunner)



## 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 53 visits in response to verified wolf depredations involving livestock in Park County, and 7 wolves were removed on damage. 6 of those 7 were removed conducting ground work (shooting), while the one was taken by aerial hunting. Wolf numbers remain stable and growing in and around livestock operations for the 21-22 season.

There was \$32,500 in livestock damage caused by predators in Park County that WS verified during this reporting period. This figure does not include grizzly bear damage that was verified by WGFD. Coyote densities are lower than normal county-wide, particularly in chronic livestock damage areas.

Park County WS assists Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD) responding to damage by gray wolves, black bear, mountain lion, and can assist as well in some grizzly bear issues.

In winter of 20-21, WS purchased and built a non-lethal trailer to work in conjunction with other lethal techniques. The trailer is used around livestock and is equipped with lights, sounds, and visual deterrents to try and deter predation in small farm pastures where lethal techniques are difficult due to small landownership areas and high-use areas from people. The results of the trailer were fairly positive and was proven to help slow down predation in certain instances. It requires moving it around the pasture, and only using it only once predation has occurred. It buys time to allow WS to utilize other techniques to remove the predator.



## Wildlife Protection

WS participates 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.

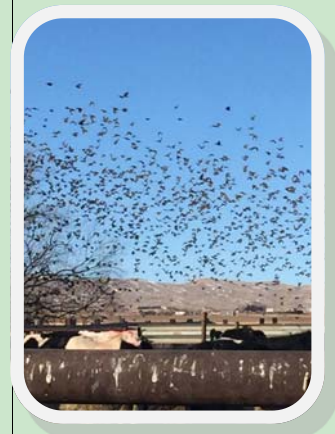
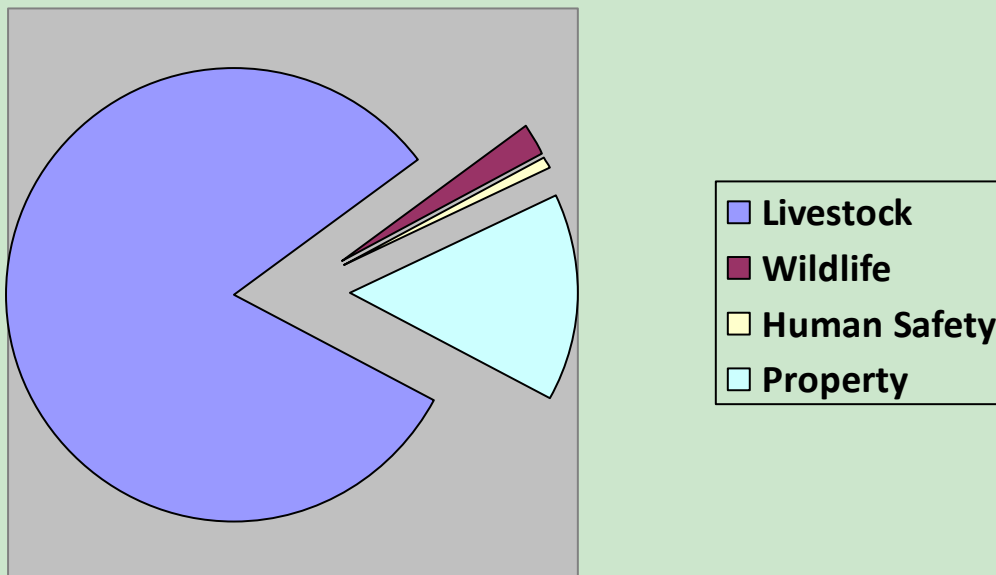


### Crop, Irrigation, and Human Health and Safety Resources Protection

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 Country residents and the wildlife species that commonly are a nuisance or cause property damage. These species include raccoons, striped skunks, ground squirrels, beavers, and blackbirds.

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.

Below is a pie graph that shows the total percentage of time spent on protected resources in Park County.



### Park County Predator District’s Management Plan for 2022-23

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.



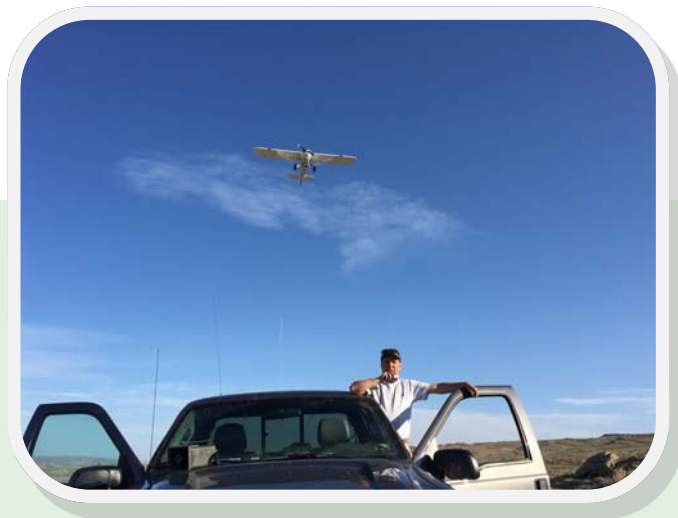




Services will include pro-active, non-lethal, as well as lethal approaches to solve wildlife damage problems, along with technical assistance to reduce or avoid future damage issues by wildlife. All activities performed by the PCPMD and WS will be performed in a professional manner, following all federal, 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, if not higher. 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. Thermal equipment has been purchased by the county which allows the specialists to conduct nightwork effectively.



**Sheridan County  
Management Plan  
2022-2023 Fiscal Year**

# Predator Control is a tool in Livestock and Wildlife Management



## 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 doe to fawn ratio and Sage Grouse recovery on spring leks and nesting areas, as well as control on spring lambing grounds. We have a couple of new sheep producers in area 1, which has pulled more coyotes into the area. (600 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 2 is in hunt area 24 which had a ratio of 76 fawns per 100 does and 24 bucks per 100 does which are primarily whitetail deer. Area 2 has so many small ranches which makes aerial hunting less effective than in the rest of the county. We concentrate on the ground with calling and trapping. Area of concentration will for the spring calving grounds. (350 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 be directed at helping Sage Grouse leks and breeding grounds, as well as lambing grounds.



More ranchers are asking us to step up with more control in this area as well as area 4&5. In 2020 we observed more birds such as Sharptail and Hungarian Partridge. We believe this is due to our stepped up trapping and flying and will continue to do so. (350 hours of predator control)



**Area 4:** North along Leiter 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. The number of coyotes seem to keep increasing every year with the lack of control to our north. (350 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. (500 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. Area 6 is also in hunt area 24 with a mix of whitetail and mule deer (450 hours of predator control)

**Area 4, 5, and 6:** All three areas are seeing a big influx of coyotes, from our neighbors to the East.

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## 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 24 and antelope hunt areas 17 and 109 in 2019. This resulted in an increase of the fawn to doe ratio in 2019 of 90 fawns per 100 does well above the ratio of 70 fawns per 100 does in 2018.

**Area 4 & 5:** We have seen a high increase of coyotes along the Montana border and also along the Campbell County line. We will put more flying time into these areas to try and stop the flow of coyotes into Sheridan County. Our sportsmen are requesting more aerial hunting in mid-winter when wildlife is stressed by deep snow and more susceptible to predation. These areas are also in hunt area 23 and we already do a lot of aerial hunting in the spring during lambing and calving time. This is a benefit for wildlife when they are fawning as well.

It has been hard to divide the time for flying between winter and spring. The sportsmen want more flying for wildlife while the ranchers want to see more time spent during calving and lambing time. It is a big challenge to balance this with our limited funds.



To accomplish the additional aerial hunting we have increased our budget for the 2021-22 fiscal years to what we actually spent last year.



## 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  
Chris, Rodriguez Clearmont WY  
Jimmy Gibbs, Arvada WY  
Justin Lewis, Arvada WY  
Bob Krumm, Sheridan WY  
Jerry Reed, Sheridan WY  
Bruce Yates, Dayton WY

### **2012 Census of Agriculture:**

- Number of Farm and Ranches: 833
- Total Acres of Farm and Ranches: 1,213,820
- Average size of Farm: 1,457
- Market value of product sold in Livestock Sales: \$59,674,000
- Land in Farm and Ranch use:
  - Pastureland – 92.9%
  - Cropland – 5.7%



### **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 working with the producers to recognize kills and inform our field specialist so he may be able to concentrate his efforts better in stoping the problem. We will be **useing aerial hunting** in addition to **ground work** to better manage the predator numbers in our county.





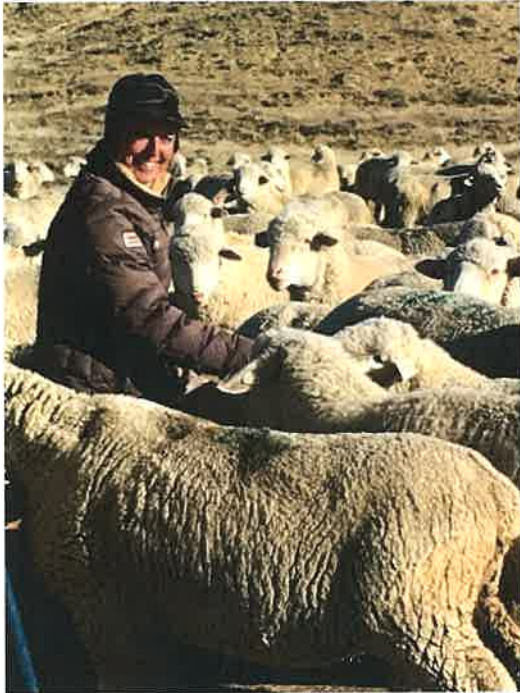
**Livestock Issues:**

In Sheridan County, the livestock producers have experienced a greater hit from predation because of the lack of small game (rabbits) as well as the wildlife issues; *especially the sheep producers*. With the lack of rabbits we believe cattle producers are also going to see a bigger impact this spring.

**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 such as more trapping and M44 use in the spring and summer time.





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



**Proposed Action:**

As more and more of our producers are seeing that predators are having a larger impact on their livestock than they thought we continue to receive more calls and cooperation. The Sheridan County PMD proposed action is to continue targeting our aerial hunting in March and April to coincide with most livestock producers calving and lambing season. We feel that pushing aerial hunting in these months plus hitting the ground work throughout the entire year will reduce the stress on our producers that they get from predation. These two methods combined will help out with everyone's livestock and wildlife predation; a win-win for all in the county and state. We will continue to put a lot of pressure on our north and east borders where most of our predators come from by using all available tools at our disposal.

**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.

ANIMALS TAKEN SHERIDAN COUNTY

**2021**

		COYOTES	COONS	FOX	SKUNKS	OTHER
JANUARY	FLYING	44		1		
	GROUND	65		1	1	
FEBRUARY	FLYING	112				
	GROUND	71			1	
MARCH	FLYING	67				
	GROUND	52				14 Pups
APRIL	FLYING	108				
	GROUND	14			2	9 Pups
MAY	FLYING					
	GROUND	26			7	6 Pups
JUNE	FLYING					
	GROUND	25			7	6Pups
JULY	FLYING					
	GROUND	26				
AUGUST	FLYING					
	GROUND	26			26	3 Skunks Positive
SEPTEMBER	FLYING	4				
	GROUND	21			18	
OCTOBER	FLYING					
	GROUND	22			19	
NOVEMBER	FLYING					
	GROUND	32			23	
DECEMBER	FLYING					
	GROUND	49		1	3	
<b>TOTAL</b>		764		3	107	

TAKEN BY OTHERS						
BENTON					2	
TOTAL OF ALL		764		3	109	



PREDATOR MANAGEMENT DISTRICT OF  
SWEETWATER COUNTY WYOMING

Gary Zakotnik, President

68 Eden, West 1<sup>st</sup> South

Eden, WY 82932

Telephone (307) 273-9481 Cell (307) 389-4686 email [gnjakotnik@gmail.com](mailto:gnjakotnik@gmail.com)

April 1, 2022

Animal Damage Management Board  
Wyoming Department of Agriculture  
2219 Carey Avenue  
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002-0100

Gentlemen

Enclosed is the Grant Application of the Predator Management District of Sweetwater County Wyoming. Sweetwater County PMD is requesting a grant of \$150,000.00 for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023. According to our projections a grant of this amount and the expenditures as set out in the attached documents would leave the District at 6-30-2023 with a cash balance from all sources around \$50,000.00. We feel that it is prudent for the District as we have implemented a new program with Wyoming Wildlife. That will bring our reserve down to the level which we feel is minimum. We have faced many challenges with the level of funding that we have received in years past. We have scaled down our program to fit within the amount granted but now it is time to increase our program to meet the requirements of the predator work we are facing.

Wyoming Wildlife Solutions has done a good job of assessing our county and coming up with a program that will work for not only the livestock producers but also give additional protections to our vast wildlife populations. They have come up with a proposal to spend additional time to help get our program caught up for the last few years due to the reduced funding we have received from the ADMB. This program also helps alleviate the problems we face with the bands of sheep that winter in our county that we receive no predator fees for. We should have a program that will provide all producers in our county a level of protection regardless of where they pay their fees.

Sincerely

Gary Zakotnik, President

## Sweetwater County Predator Management District

April 1, 2022

Mr. Jerald Johnson – 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 and we are committing to include spring work to support this.
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. We have received a grant for spring work this year and wish to continue this work through our own budget.
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 have entered into a contract for our predator control program with Wildlife Solutions after they administered a program that was successful, and we feel it has moved our program forward in the right direction.
9. Wildlife Solutions has designed a program that we feel effectively manages our predator concerns and they have requested additional 2 months of ground time to move the program forward.

Gary Zakotnik - Chairman



## 2022 Spring Flying Project

Beginning in March and extending to the end of May will use any fixed wing budget that was not used during the winter months to conduct springtime flights in response to damage calls on livestock. We will also utilize the Wildlife money given to the county to assist resident wildlife in coordination with local game and fish officials.

In May many coyotes have pups in the ground and are very vulnerable to a trapper. Taking on one full time trapper for the month of May will help remove some of these dens and will also provide help to anybody lambing in Sweetwater County at that time.

Description	Quantity	Unit Price	Cost
Trapper 1 (with vehicle, equipment, etc.)	1 months	\$ 8,000	\$ 8000
WS Fixed wing Budget	50 hours	\$ 175	\$ 8,750
Aerial wildlife Budget			\$ 20,000
Spring Helicopter Work	25 hours	\$ 850	\$ 21,610
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$ 58,360</b>

**Budget:**



# *PROGRAM OVERVIEW*

The Uinta County Predator Management District contracted with Predator Control Corporation in November of 2019 to provide aerial control services for the District. Ground services began in March of 2020. UCPMD continues to contract with PCC. This relationship has directly benefited the wildlife, livestock, and citizens of Uinta County.

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# Management Plan

- Predator Control Corp

- Aerial Assets

- 1) Helicopter
- 2) Fixed Wing Aircraft

- Ground Work

- 1) Full Time Specialist
- 2) Secondary Specialist
- 3) Seasonal Denning Specialist

- Private Contractor

- Ground Work

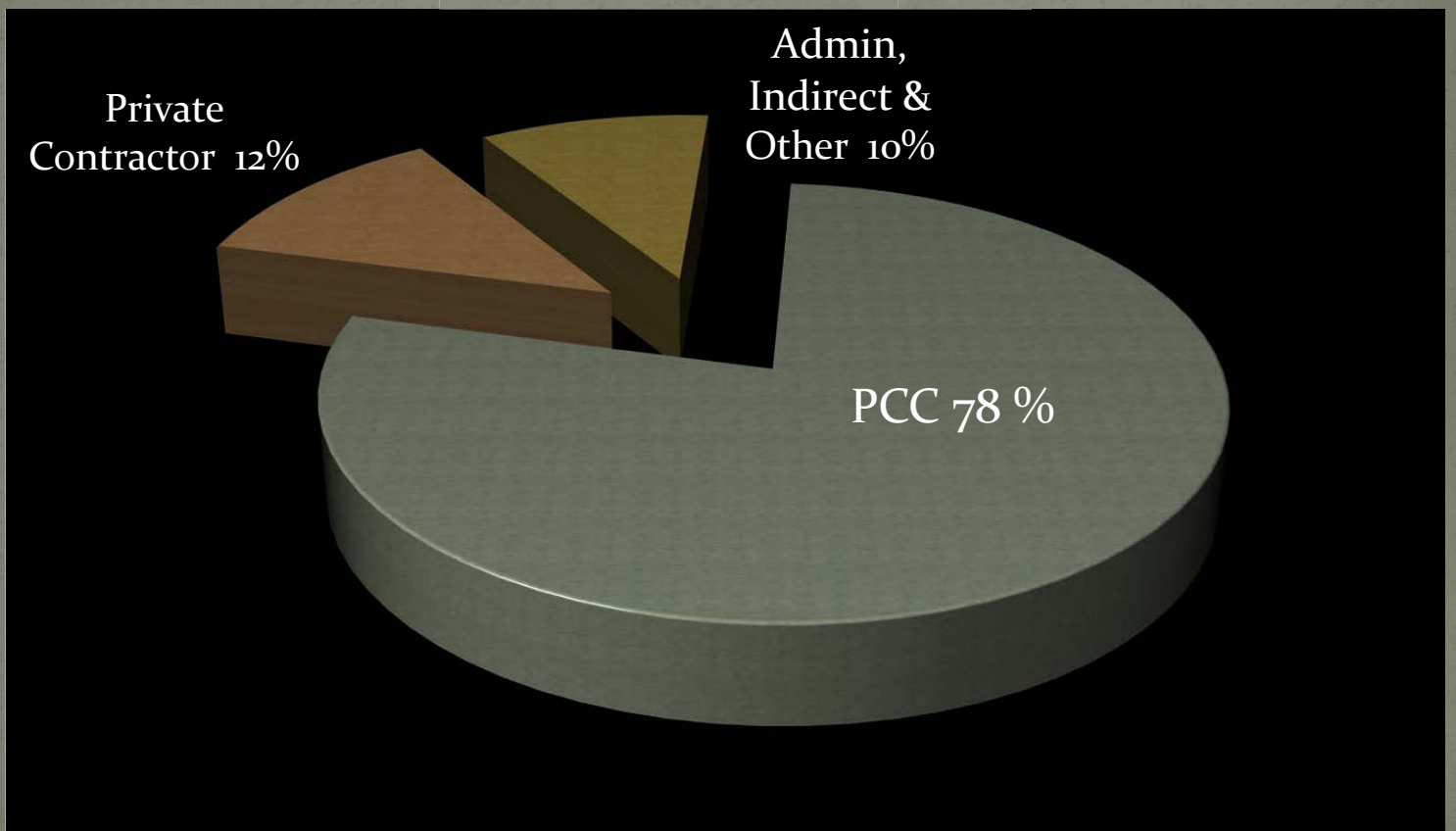
- 1) Trapping
- 2) Calling

- Aerial

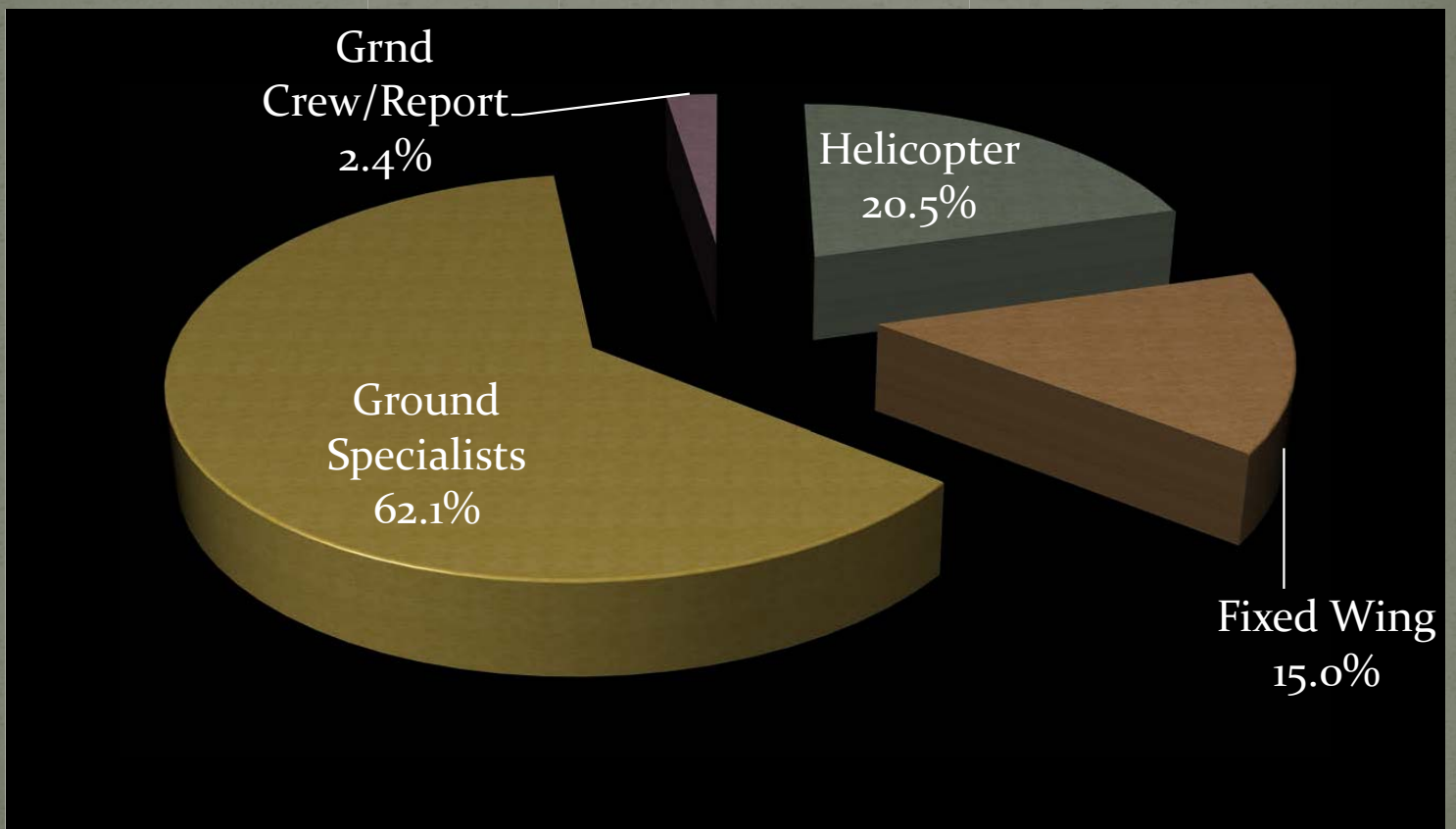
- 1) Gunning from Aircraft



# Projected Program Composition



# Projected PCC Breakdown



# Washakie County Predator Management District



## 2021-2022 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 are 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 dropped from 2 FTE to 1.5 FTE WS trappers in 2019 due to shrunken budgets, but with hopes to increase back to 2 FTE's when budgets get better. 6 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 shows the most recent 365 day period (March 1st, 2021– February 28th ,2022) 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 2,311 hours on 49 different properties county-wide.

During this reporting period, 180 hours were flown. The following animals were taken in response to conflicts with livestock, wildlife, nuisance, property, or human health and safety. There was \$1,406 in livestock damage verified by WS during this reporting period.

Beavers: 4

Coyotes: 426 + 4 dens

Foxes, Red: 7 + 2 dens

Great Blue Herons: 2

Raccoons: 78

Ravens: 1

Striped skunk: 25

## Board Members

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

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

**Sec/Treasurer:** Kent  
Lamm, Worland, Wy

Mark Brewster, Cattle

Aaron Anderson, Sheep

Jeff Nelson, Cattle

Tom Yonquist, At Large

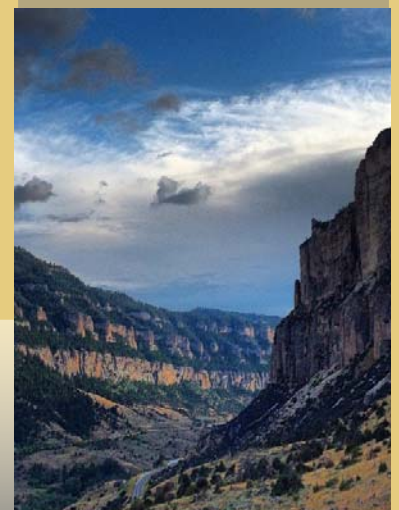
Nick Wall, Wildlife

Adam Martinez, Sheep

### WS' Specialists:

Brad Seaman—Full time

Josh Zimmerman—Half time

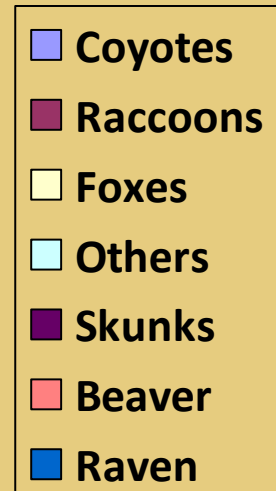
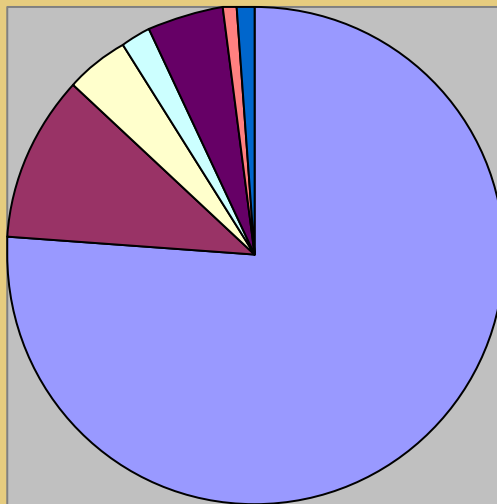






## Percentage of WS Site Visits per Species during the Reporting Period:

"Others" on this graph include Northern Flicker, Mountain Lion, and Feral Cat



### Mule Deer Fawn Protection Project

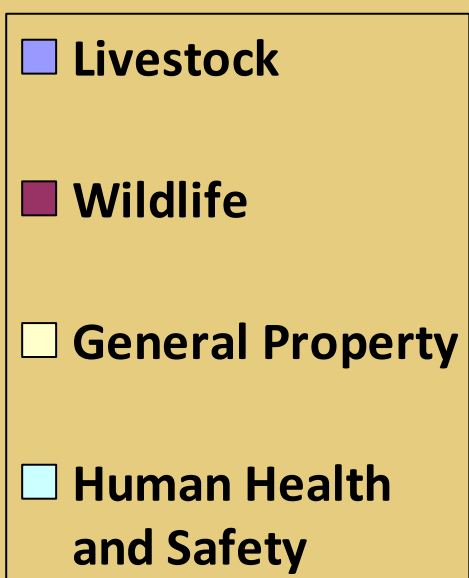
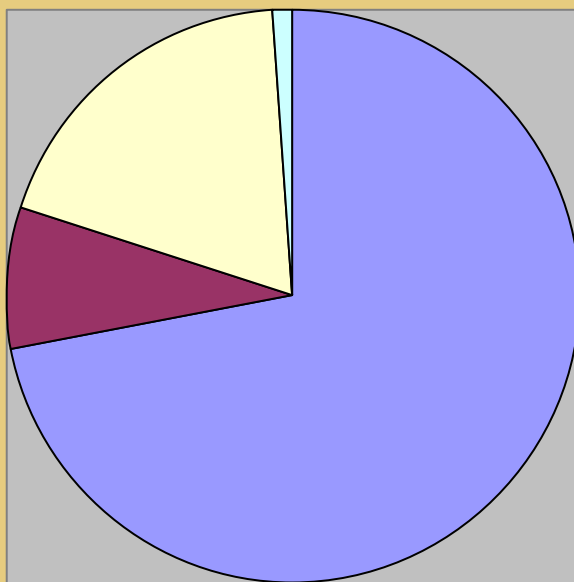
There was \$12,000 received from the ADMB to remove coyotes to protect southwest Bighorn mule deer fawns in the spring of 2021. Spring 2021 was our fifth year on this project. The results were 131 coyotes removed. The 5-year project removed a total of 590 total coyotes from deer fawning areas.

WS, Washakie PMD, and Wyoming Game and Fish are working together and have identified a new mule deer project in Washakie County. It was approved by the ADMB and we will begin work in Spring 2022.





## Percentage of WS time spent per resource during this reporting period



### District Management Plan for 2022-23 year:

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

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



WCPMD depends on the 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.

Coyote numbers are overall low but stable, and damage has been minimal due to a heavy amount of aerial and groundwork in historical damage areas.

Wolves are defined as a predator 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 to 1.5 FTE, the amount of time spent protecting resources such as crop/property/gamebird project and targeting smaller mammals like red fox, raccoons, beavers, and striped skunks has decreased. This is a valuable service that helps alleviate property damage on farms and ranches, but 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 District  
Management Plan FY 2022-2023

1. The mission of the Weston County Predator Management District (WCPMD) is to provide predator control, with cooperation from Wildlife Services (WS) and the Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board (ADMB), for the benefit of livestock producers and wildlife populations within Weston County. Weston County is located in the north-eastern part of the state and has a land mass of approximately 2,400 square miles.
  
2. *Partnerships and Cooperative Agreements required* - The WCPMD currently has one full-time wildlife specialist for active predator control through contract with Wildlife Services. Wildlife Services has 3 other employees (pilots, biologists, etc.) that provide assistance to Weston County. According to Wildlife Services annual report (December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 through November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021), predator control was conducted on 578,300 acres of private land. Forty-eight (48) landowners signed cooperative agreements allowing access for predator control. Ground and aerial work is conducted to accomplish predator control measures. A total of 1,133 man hours and 71.6 aerial hours were spent conducting predator management.
  
3. *Wildlife Issues and Goals*
  - a. *Issues* – The Brown, Osage, and Cellars Community Pastures and the Six Mile Basin are all public land areas important to local deer and antelope populations. The aforementioned public land areas are used by sports people and have been identified as control work areas in need of predator control by the wildlife specialists. This past year, small animal prey numbers have been lower than in the past, subsequently driving coyotes and other predators to seek other prey such as deer, antelope, sheep, and cattle.
  - b. *Goals* – The WCPMD would like to execute predator control in hopes to see an increase in game animal species populations, herd health, and overall wildlife progression.
  - c. *Proposed Actions* – The Weston County Commissioners appoint three sportsmen and one public member to the Board. These board members have the opportunity to provide input crucial to the development of wildlife-benefitting predator control. The County Commissioners plan to continue this appointment of sportsmen and a public member. WCPMD’s trapper works to educate landowners and public land users of the benefits of predator control for wildlife populations. The WCPMD is informed of local issues from Joe Sandrini and Troy Achterhof, of the Wyoming Game and Fish, during board meetings and plans to stay in contact with them

throughout the year. WCPMD gains input and suggestions to learn where and what type of predator control methods should be used to remove predators that are preying upon or threatening wildlife.

#### 4. *Livestock Issues and Goals*

- a. *Issues* – Cattle are the dominate livestock class in the county and coyote predation during calving season (generally February through May) has become a serious economic concern for producers. Weston County is also the home of many sheep producers who deal with constant depredation due to the current coyote population. Lamb loss seems to generally coincide with coyotes whelping. Additionally, the decrease in the wildlife prey drives predators towards livestock for food sources. Wildlife Services provided the board with a report from December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 to November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021. 428 coyotes, 4 coyote dens, 7 red foxes, 2 fox dens, 1 porcupine, 2 beavers, 1 skunk, and 3 turkey vultures were removed during that time period. 7 calves and 1 lamb were reported as losses due to depredation. 1 calf and 2 lambs were verified as losses by coyotes. The total fiscal amount of losses equaling \$5,502. The predation and damage levels show how important an efficient predator control program is to Weston County’s livestock producers. Selective removal of coyotes in late winter/early spring season is crucial for producer’s success in the calving and lambing seasons. The WCPMD depends on the ADMB’s funding in order to continue a program efficient in decreasing livestock losses.
- b. *Goals* – The WCPMD is dedicated to minimizing the loss of livestock to predation, thereby enabling viability and financial success of the local producers.
- c. *Proposed Actions* – The appointment of three cattlemen and three sheepmen to the Weston County Predatory Board provides an opportunity for crucial input to be given in the development of livestock-benefitting predator control. In addition, the wildlife specialist works to educate livestock producers of the benefits of predator control for their operations. 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. Of the 428 coyotes removed by Wildlife Services, 229 of those were removed using the fixed-wing aerial method, and 79 were removed with the helicopter. The WCPMD proposes that 140 hours of fixed wing aircraft (120 hours through Wildlife Services and 20 hours private pilot) and 12 hours of helicopter time be budgeted for the upcoming fiscal year, in order to efficiently control coyote populations. Thermal equipment (a rifle scope and a pair of binoculars) was also provided to the Weston County trapper from Wildlife Services for two brief periods of time. The trapper reported to the board that the use of the thermal equipment was extremely beneficial. Because the board had

difficulty acquiring fixed-wing aerial time this year, there may be left over funds from unspent aerial time. If there is leftover money, the board will use that to purchase thermal equipment. Other control methods will be used selectively to remove predators that are preying upon or threatening livestock. These methods include the use of foot-hold and cage traps, foot snares, neck snares, gunning, and using M-44 devices.

5. *Human and Domestic Animal Health/Safety Issues:* Weston County has not had any major Human or Domestic Animal issues and has not received funds from Weston County Commissioners. WCPMD does not currently plan on asking for any additional funds for the Fiscal Year ending in 2023.
  
6. *Pre- and post-work monitoring:* Monitoring wildlife has been done by routine wildlife observations and watching migratory behaviors. These observations will continue to routinely be done. Stomach contents of coyotes have been and continue to be analyzed, these analyses provide information to the wildlife specialist that aids in the harvesting of coyotes. The progress of livestock focused activities will continue to be monitored through the Weston County Predator Board wildlife specialist's data collection. The Weston County Predatory Board has asked the specialist to give a report at each of their meetings in order to monitor progress. Predator control in Weston County is a necessity to the livelihood of its livestock producers. Producers and sportsmen alike appreciate the predator control and the support that the WCPMD can provide due to ADMB funding. WCPMD is hoping to receive the needed funding to be able to continue controlling the predator population. The district appreciates the ADMB support that has been received in the past and looks forward to continuing a cooperative relationship in the future.

## WESTON COUNTY PREDATOR MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

### Year End Report Fiscal Year 2021-2022

June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022

The Weston County Predator Management District (WCPMD) has been working hard to provide predator control for the benefit of livestock producers and wildlife populations. For the fiscal year of 2021-2022, the district has had one full-time trapper working with the board to proactively reduce the incidence of livestock and wildlife losses due to depredation.

#### *Actions Taken/Identifiable and Measurable results:*

Brad Troftgruben is contracted through Wildlife Services and has been very beneficial in helping to achieve the board's goal of managing predatory animals in the county. This fiscal year, Brad has had 46 active agreements and has worked all 46 properties. Those agreements combined for 609,410 acres of private land. He has also managed predator animals on 1,000 acres of County land, making total lands worked under agreement 610,410 acres.

The board asks that Brad turn in reports at the end of each month worked including hours, aerial hours, predatory animals removed, and dens removed or destroyed.

**As of June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Brad Troftgruben and other employees of Wildlife Services have worked 1652 hours (that number is missing June hours), including 53.8 hours of aerial hunting time with Wildlife Services and 27.3 hours of private aerial time. Brad has harvested 67 coyotes from the ground, 183 coyotes while flying, and removed 14 coyote dens. Brad has also removed 2 fox dens, 7 foxes, 1 skunk, 5 porcupine, 6 canadian geese, 1 raccoon, and 2 turkey vultures. These numbers prove the importance of aerial hunting in the county, benefitting to the program by harvesting over 73% of total adult coyotes removed this year.**

**Brad Troftgruben has had 1 cow, 5 calves, 24 lambs, and 1 ewe reported as losses due to depredation. He has had 9 lambs and 3 calves verified as losses.**

#### *Grant monies expended:*

The WCPMD received \$100,000 from the Animal Damage Management Board for the fiscal year of 2020-2021. So far, the board has paid Wildlife Services and Kelley Huseby (private aerial) a total of \$109,478.18. Therefore, 100% of the money allocated from the ADMB has been spent on operating costs.

#### *Current financial statement:*

Please see the attached spreadsheet for current income and spending information. Attached also is the summary of monthly trapper reports.

