

Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board

2023 Annual Report



Compiled by the Wyoming Department of Agriculture



ANIMAL DAMAGE MANAGEMENT BOARD

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www.wyadmb.com

MEMORANDUM

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

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

DATE: November 25, 2023

SUBJECT: 2023 Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board Annual Report

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

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

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

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**WYOMING
ANIMAL DAMAGE
MANAGEMENT
BOARD**

Directory

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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
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Term: - Indefinite

Brian Nesvik, Director
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Domestic Sheep Producer Representative

Bob Harlan
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Term - To 8/2021

Cattle Producer Representative

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Term: To 8/2027

State Director, USDA/Wildlife Services

Jared Zierenberg
USDA/APHIS/WS
6731 Coal Rd.
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Sportsmen/Outfitters/Hunters (2)

Brett Belden
655 E river Rd
Thermopolis, WY 82443
307-864-2275
wyoaterwatch@rtconnect.net

Term: To 8/2021

Roger Cox
P.O. Box 904
Saratoga, WY 82331
307-751-2114
bgphillips@vcn.com

Term: To 8/2027

President, Predatory Animal Advisory Board

Jeff Boner
1839 Madora ave. suite 4
PO Box 15
Douglas, WY 82633
307-358-5330
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Term: Indefinite

Urban Representative

Tate Smith
5139 Syracuse
Cheyenne, WY 82009
307-286-9840
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Term: To 8/2027

WY Game & Fish Commissioner

Gay Lynn Bird
2775 Ross Rd.
Douglas, WY 82633
307-777-4632
Gaylynn.byrd@wyo.gov
Term: To 3/2021

WY Board of Agriculture

Amanda Hulett/ backup Mike Riley
P.O. Box 93
Buffalo, WY 82834
307-620-2898
hulet_2001@yahoo.com
Term: To 8/2023

Non-consumptive User of Wildlife Representative

Zeta Anderson
101 State Highway 24
Devils Tower, WY 82714
307-756-2141

Term: To 8/2027

Term: To 8/2021

Ex-officio Nonvoting Members

United States Forest Service Representative

Phil Osterli
5500 Bishop Blvd.
Cheyenne, WY 82002
970-596-0886
Philip.osterli@usda.gov
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United States Fish and Wildlife Service Representative

Tyler Abbott
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Term: Indefinite

United States Bureau of Land Management Representative

Jennifer McConchie

5353 Yellowstone Road

Cheyenne, WY 82003

Phone: 307-775-6106

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Term: Indefinite

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2023 Major Issues and Overview

Predator Management District Funding

The \$4,321,608 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 \$4,181,608 to the 19 predator districts that applied to the program for the current year and held back \$110,000 for wolf control with USDA/WS and also held back an additional \$30,000 for other wolf control needed by counties that may need wolf control and have no contract with WS.

The cost of predator control continues to rise and the Districts have struggled to maintain an effective predator control program. The additional funds allocated by the Governor 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 depredating, chronic problems that they do not have the resources to handle on their own. For the period between October 2022 and September 2023 Wildlife Service's wolf control consisted of the following: 12 wolves were removed in the predator zone having caused verified livestock damage as follows: 1 lambs, 5 sheep, 13 calves, 8 cows 1 horse (foal), 1 goat. The total cost of this

control was \$35,797 and in the Trophy zone 7 cows 6 calves and 1 foal were killed with 4 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 one producer have his cattle harassed with no damage as the rancher arrived when the incident started. The wolves were pursued by made it to the timber and were not taken. 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 2023 Legislative session the legislature provided \$300,000 to the predator control budget for a gray wolf depredation compensation program. The WDA promulgated rules for this program to be implemented over the budget fiscal years 2023 thru 2028 with claims being collected and paid out at the end of each fiscal year. Several producers have had some damage and will be sending in the claims once pulled from the pastures.

2023 Overview

1. **Meetings:** The Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board (ADMB) met five (5) times over the course of the calendar year; January 19th, May 17th-18th, June 14th, August 21st, and November 9th. 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 Governor supplied an additional \$ 1,483,510 to the ADMB for allocation to help ease the inflationary costs the districts were experiencing. The ADMB received applications from 19 qualifying Predator Management Districts from across the state. These requests totaled approximately \$4.21 million. On May 18th, the ADMB granted \$4.182 million for those districts.

3. **Projects:** Thirteen different research/special project proposals were evaluated by the ADMB, which totaled \$253,000 at their June 14th meeting and the ADMB approved \$222,000 in funding for 13 projects (3 new, 10 renewing for 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.

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.

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 WDA worked to repeal the old Wolf compensation rules and replaced them with the new Wolf compensation rules that will be in place for five years.

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 18th, 2024.
3. The County predator District grant applications are due April 1st and the allocation meeting will be May 15th and 16th.
4. Wildlife Project applications for the June 13th, 2024 meeting will be accepted from March 15 to May 15, 2024.

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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 20, 2023

SUBJECT: Request for Funds

In accordance with Wyoming Statute 11-6-307, the ADMB is requesting \$200,000.00 (two-hundred thousand dollars) from the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission. A synopsis of the projects selected for funding by the ADMB at the June 14, 2023 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 '23-24 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: Craig Smith, Deputy Chief, Wildlife Division, Wyoming Game and Fish Department.

Funding \$25,000

Project 2: 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 3: 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 4: Summary

Project Title: Coyote removal targeted on mule deer fawning areas – Mule deer range 135 Lincoln County Wyoming

Brief Description of Project: Coyote removal targeted on critical fawning grounds to benefit Lincoln County herd unit 135. The winter mortality was estimated to be 70% this last winter with 90% of all collared deer suffering winter mortality.

Submitted By / Affiliation: Steve Moyles, USDA/Wildlife services

Funding \$15,000

Project 5: 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 \$2,500

Project 6: 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 \$28,000

Project 7: Summary

Project Title: Coyote Removal to Enhance Red Wall & Big Sulfur Mule Deer Fawn Survival

Brief Description of Project: Remove coyotes in the Red Wall/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 \$28,000

Project 8: 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: Washakie County Predator Board: Redland, USDA/WS: Burrell, WGFD: Kroger

Funding \$10,000

Project: 9 Summary**Project Title: Carbon County Raven Removal**

Brief Description of Project: This project is designed to address continually growing raven numbers, which create an ongoing threat to sage-grouse populations, some wildlife, and increased issues with livestock.

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

Funding \$2,500

Project 10: Summary**Project Title: Effects of predation on mule deer in the Wyoming Range following the devastating winters**

Brief Description of Project: This project continues to build on previous research in the Wyoming Range and enters into the next phase of the work which will quantify and separate the roles of predation, habitat, nutrition, and disease on survival of mule deer, and in particular, if the role of predation changes following the dramatic reduction in density after the severe 2016-17 and 2018-19 winters to better understand how deep snow and harsh conditions influence behavior, nutrition, and survival of mule deer. Yet, this population had not been subjected to conditions that fundamentally changed the composition, distribution, and size of the population until the catastrophic winter of '22-23. Given the massive mortality event (Fig. 15) that occurred during this winter, we will begin to investigate if the role of predation on this population will change following the dramatic reduction in density of mule deer. During the '22-23 winter, nearly the entire surviving cohort of collared fawns perished, and mortality rates of collared adult females exceed 70%. With these extraordinary winters, the question remains as to how quickly the population will recover. To what level it will recover, and what factors will limit its recovery. One primary concern that continues to be voiced is the potential effects of predation on limiting the growth of this mule deer herd, and especially after this last winter, whether or not predator-prey dynamics may be far enough out of sync to create a predator pit. During the first two summers of our work, disease was the leading cause of mortality in 2015 for neonates, but that switched to predation during 2016. Nevertheless, dynamics may well change following the marked reduction in deer density, and with increased food available per female, the relative role of predation in limiting this herd may be altered. Given the severity of the '16-17 and '18-19 winter and the questions surrounding performance of this cherished herd, and what factors will limit its recover, the Wyoming Game and Fish Department deemed continuation of the Wyoming Range will be to build on our understanding of the nutritional and population ecology of this herd to document the carryover effects of the severe winters of '16-17, '18-19, and '22-23, and how and to what extent the population will rebound from the dramatic reduction in abundance, and what factors limit recovery. Our approach will allow us to continue to elucidate the relative roles of habitat, nutrition, predation, and disease on the regulation of deer in western WY, and fully grasp the magnitude and extent of the effects of the transient, but clearly regulatory role of winter. This project will quantify the effects of predation on survival of mule deer, which will 1) understand the role that predators have played in reducing population performance of Wyoming Range mule deer, and 2) evaluate the relative role of predation on survival of adult male mule deer.

With this phase of our work, we also have added a focused point on understanding the role of predation by mountain lions in particular, by learning more about the ecology of the key predator. For example, we continue to observe heightened levels of predation during periods of migration, which calls to question how mountain lions may be adjusting their space use in correspondence with massive shifts in prey distribution. Indeed, the large migrations associated with this mule deer population can make prey abundant in some ranges during one season and virtually absent during the next season. Therefore, it

would be logical for mountain lions to shift their space use accordingly, however, migration among mountain lions is an understudied phenomena that holds implications for predator prey dynamics. We continue to work towards adding greater resolution to these questions by radio-marking mountain lions with GPS collars near the winter ranges occupied by the 2 segments of this herd and subsequently, evaluating lion movement in conjunction with deer movement.

Submitted By / Affiliation: Kevin Monteith / UW; Tayler LaSharr/ UW and several WGFD personnel.

Funding \$29,000

Project 11: 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 Board

Funding \$17,500

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 \$ 30,000 WGF will fund \$10,500

Balance of funding \$19,500 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: Andrew Joannides/ Wyoming Ag in the Classroom

Funding \$2,500 from WDA funds

Note: These approved projects total \$222,000. 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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ADMB Meeting

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

Time: January 19, 2023 10:00 AM Mountain Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81494008338?pwd=ZFdQY2VHejFzb1YxMVILMGtRMmlsZz09>

Meeting ID: 814 9400 8338

Password: 391744

Phone call in list

+1 719 359 4580 US
+1 253 205 0468 US
+1 669 444 9171 US
+1 386 347 5053 US
+1 507 473 4847 US
+1 564 217 2000 US
+1 646 931 3860 US
+1 689 278 1000 US
+1 305 224 1968 US
+1 309 205 3325 US
+1 360 209 5623 US

Meeting ID: 814 9400 8338

Password: 391744

Agenda

Tuesday, January 19, 2023

- 10:00 a.m. - Call to Order – Co-Chairs Doug Miyamoto – Brian Nesvik
 - Introductions of board, guests, & public
 - Approval of November 14, 2022 Minutes
- 10:10 a.m. - Jerry Johnson, ADMB updates
 - Program updates
 - LOC payments
 - 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 19, 2023
Zoom Teleconference

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

Board Members Absent: Doug Mayes, Phil Osterli

WDA Staff: Jerald Johnson, J.D. Sater

Public in Attendance: Mike Koshmrl (Wyofile)

Meeting called to order at 10:02 am

Doug entertained a motion to approve November 14th minutes. Brett moved, Amanda seconded, Motion carried.

Doug gave a legislative update on HB 188 that was introduced for a new Wolf Compensation Program and that rules will need to be promulgated. Doug also informed the board that the Governor had presented an additional \$1.48 million for predator control.

Jeff Boner asked if this funding will carry over to the next FY budget cycle. Doug confirmed that the budget office will make this a standard amount.

Update on Game & Fish Land Owner Coupon program that the board will pay out the money to the county PMDs that came in on the old forms. Gay Lynn moved we pay the two county claims and would make sure that no old forms be paid in the future, Bob second and motion passed.

The five year contract service agreement between WDA, ADMB, and USDA/WS will need to be addressed before the end of June.

The County BLM predator reporting forms have been received and will be included with the USDA/WS, BLM work plan agreements.

Mike Burrell gave update on their aerial program; they will now have 4 fixed wing pilots and 1 helicopter pilot. Fixed Wing cost will increase from \$160 to \$180 Helicopter will increase from \$700 to \$800 and pickup cost will increase from \$500 to \$650.

They are dealing with several vacancies within Wildlife Services and will be hiring for these positions in the future.

Tyler Abbott informed the Board the Montana USDA/WS and Fish and Wildlife Services have had a lawsuit filed on their predator programs.

Public Comments

Mike Koshmrl asked if Jerry could forward the meeting minutes to him

Brett moved to adjourn, Jeff Boner seconded. Meeting adjourned at 10:35 am.

ADMB May 17th 18th 2023 Agenda

The Animal Damage Management board will be meeting with all County predator boards at the G&F office in Casper for the annual funding requests.

The Address is 3030 Energy Ln, Casper, WY 82604

Wyoming Department of Agriculture Zoom meeting Information is below for anyone wanting to attend online.

May 17th Zoom Meeting info:

Topic: ADMB May Allocation day 1

Time: May 17, 2023 09:00 AM Mountain Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81444201111?pwd=YzRrdHN3RU9nUFExeGhDczJXNUJZUT09>

Meeting ID: 814 4420 1111

Passcode: 279454

One tap mobile

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

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

Dial by your location

+1 719 359 4580 US

+1 669 444 9171 US

+1 253 205 0468 US

+1 309 205 3325 US

+1 360 209 5623 US

+1 386 347 5053 US

+1 507 473 4847 US

May 18th Zoom Meeting info:

Topic: ADMB Board May 18th Allocations

Time: May 18, 2023 08:00 AM Mountain Time (US and Canada)

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

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86014007968?pwd=SDhRcVJxSEZiSW1IMWlwTHNKbjJwUT09>

Meeting ID: 860 1400 7968

Passcode: 556695

Dial by your location

+1 719 359 4580 US

+1 669 444 9171 US

+1 253 205 0468 US

+1 309 205 3325 US

+1 360 209 5623 US

+1 386 347 5053 US

+1 507 473 4847 US

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

Wednesday May 17: Call to Order 9:00 a.m., Welcome, Approval of last minutes, ADMB updates –PMD Funding availability, -- Rabies funding and --- Wolf Compensation rules Interview schedule below

Start Time	End Time	Interview	Request
9:30	10:00	Goshen	\$65,000
10:00	10:30	Carbon	\$245,000
10:30	11:00	Weston	\$135,000
11:00	11:30	Albany	\$135,000
11:30	noon	Campbell	\$290,000 rabies \$15,000
noon	1:30	Lunch	
1:30	2:00	Uinta	\$239,030
2:00	2:30	Big Horn	\$207,797
2:30	3:00	Park	\$225,000
3:00	3:30	Crook	\$211,320
3:30	4:00	Sheridan	\$227,500 rabies \$20,000
4:00	4:30	Fremont	\$240,000
4:30	5:00	Public Comment	
Thursday	May 18		
8:00 a.m.	8:30	Natrona	\$290,000
8:30	9:00	Converse	\$271,961
9:00	9:30	Johnson	\$260,000 rabies \$12,000
9:30	10:00	Hot Springs	\$250,000
10:00	10:30	Niobrara	\$180,000
10:30	11:00	Washakie	\$250,000
11:00	11:30	Sweetwater	\$250,000
11:30	noon	Lincoln	\$235,000
Noon	1:00	Lunch	
1:00	1:30	Public Comment	
1:30	3:30	Board allocation and adjournment	

**Animal Damage Management Board Meeting
Wednesday May 17, 2023 & Thursday, May 18, 2023
Casper Regional Game & Fish Office
Casper, Wyoming**

Call to order at 9:01 a.m. by Co-Chair Doug Miyamoto

Board Members Present:

Co-Chair Doug Miyamoto
Ron Cunningham

Tyler Abbot FWS
Jennifer McConchie BLM
Garret Falkenburg
Bob Harlan
Richard Ladwig
Vacant (Urban)

Brett Belden
Bob Philips
Jeff Boner
Mike Burrell
Phil Osterli Forest service

Board Members Absent: Co-chair Brian Nesvik (Day 1 only), Amanda Hulet

WDA Support Staff: Ashley Endress, Jerry Johnson, JD Sater, Slade Franklin

Public Attendees: Allison Crane, various County Board members

Garret Falkenburg moved to approve minutes from the January meeting, Brett Belden seconded. Motion carried.

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

Jerry gave an update on the new Wolf compensation rules passed by the legislature that was funded for 5 years for \$300,000. Jerry stated the board would need a vote to proceed with repealing the old Chapter 4 rules, a meeting will need to be schedule in July to repeal the old Chapter 4 Wolf compensation rules once the comment period has closed.

Ron Cunningham moved, Garret Falkenburg second, motion carried.

Motion to approve \$110,000 set aside for WS wolf work and an additional \$30,000 for PMD wolf work

Doug Miyamoto moved, Bob Harlan second, motion carried.

Presentations

Goshen County: Jim Angel and Brady Smith USDA Wildlife Services (WS), Stan Smith, Board
Request: \$65,000

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'Toole, Board and Luke Spanbauer

Request: \$245,000

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: \$135,000

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: \$290,000

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: \$239,030

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: \$207,797

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: \$225,000

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: Wade Dennis, Nick smith

Request: \$211,320

Currently have two full time 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. Preventative control in livestock and wildlife are their primary focus, but have had more calls for work in town.

Sheridan County: John Auzqui, Kellen Little, Board

Request: \$227,500

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: \$240,000

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

Meeting will reconvene at 8:00 a.m., Thursday, May 18, 2023.

Meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Wednesday, May 19, 2023

Called to order at 8:03 a.m. by Co-Chair Doug Miyamoto.

Presentations (continued)

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

Request: \$290,000

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: \$270,961

They have 3 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: \$260,000

Rabies: \$12,000

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: \$250,000

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: \$180,000

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: \$250,000

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 Bighorns. 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: \$250,000

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: \$235,000

Work in Lincoln County is traditional work for livestock and wildlife 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 for available for this year's allocations. \$4,183,608 is available for allocations. The board discussed funding allocations.

Rabies: \$36,000 to allocate.

Jeff Boner motioned to allocate \$15,000 to Sheridan county, \$10,500 to Campbell county, and \$10,500 to Johnson county.

Jeff Boner motioned to approve the above rabies allocations as-is. Brian Nesvik seconded. Motion carried.

PMD: \$4,181,608 to allocate.

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

Albany \$136,000.00
Big Horn \$206,297.00
Campbell \$288,500.00
Carbon \$243,500.00
Converse \$270,461.00
Crook \$209,820.00
Fremont \$238,500.00
Goshen \$63,500.00
Hot Springs \$248,500.00
Johnson \$258,500.00
Lincoln \$223,500.00
Natrona \$288,500.00
Niobrara \$178,500.00
Park \$223,500.00
Sheridan \$226,000.00
Sweetwater \$248,500.00
Uinta \$237,530.00
Washakie \$248,500.00
Weston \$133,500.00

Total funds allocated: \$4,181,608.00

Bob Harlan motioned to update the requirements regarding training for 2023. Brett Belden seconded. Motion carried.

Public Comment: No public comment

Meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.



ANIMAL DAMAGE MANAGEMENT BOARD

6607 Campstool Road, Cheyenne, WY 82002-0100

Phone: 307-777-6781 □ Fax: 307-777-1943 □ E-mail: gerald.johnson@wyo.gov □ www.wyadmb.com

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 14, 2023 08:00 AM Mountain Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85753324935?pwd=RHBXaXRqSIVJN0ovNGIZK3haalRmUT09>

Meeting ID: 857 5332 4935

Password: 340756

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

Wednesday, June 14, 2023

- 8:00 am.** - Call to Order – (Miyamoto, Nesvik)
- Introductions of board, guests, & public
 - Approval of May 17-18th, 2023 Minutes
 - Approval of Wildlife service contract & work plan agreement
 - Set Date for special meeting to approve Ch. 4 Wolf compensation rules repeal
- 8:10 am.** - **Project Proposals - w/Updates** (15-20 minutes each)
- * Wyoming Stewardship Project, Educator Workshops 23-24 – J. Dafoe, R. West
 - * 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 * Carbon CO. Raven removal project – J. Peterson
* Large Carnivore-Livestock Depredation Prevention and Control – C. Smith, B. Debolt
* 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)
* Lincoln mule deer predator control – J. Short
* Wyoming Range project request -- K. Monteith
- 2:10 pm - Break
- 2:25 pm - Public Comment / Board Comment
- 2:30 pm - Discussion and determination of grant awards
- 3:30 pm - Retiring Board member acknowledgement
- 4:00 pm- Adjourn

ADMB Meeting
Thursday, June 14th, 2023
8:00 AM
G&F Office at 3030 Energy Ln
Casper, WY 82604

Board Members in Attendance: Doug Miyamoto, Brian Nesvik, Brett Belden, Richard Ladwig, Mike Burrell, Tyler Abbott, Ron Cunningham, Bob Phillips, Garrett Falkenburg, Bob Harlan, Jeff Boner

Board Members absent: Amanda Hulett, Phil Osterli (USFS), Jennifer McConchie (BLM)

WDA Staff in Attendance: JD Sater, Jerry Johnson

Public in Attendance: Amy Hendrickson

Public on Zoom in Attendance: other PMD members online

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

Jeff Boner moved to approve the minutes from May 17-18th, 2023. Bob Phillips seconded. Motion carried.

August 21st meeting date set for CH 4 rules repeal process. The meeting will 8am via zoom

An update on wildlife service contract agreement was provided and board agreed to proceed.

Project Proposals (w/ Updates)

Wyoming Stewardship Project, Educator Workshops 23-24 – *Rindy. West, Andrew Joannides*

Rindy introduced Andrew Joannides who will replace Jessie Dafoe

A brief overview was given on the stewardship project and educator workshops and the rebranding of the program to be called Wyo Wonders .

Natrona County. Raven Removal – *T.K. Atkinson and B. Harlan along with Brian Wilson G&F*

A presentation was given on the raven issue in Natrona County, Last years funding was not used and they will be combining that with their request of \$2,500 for this raven control project.

Natrona County, Coyote Removal to Enhance Bates Hole Mule Deer Fawn Survival – *T.K. Atkinson and B. Harlan along with Brian Wilson G&F*

Atkinson and B. Harlan along with Brian Wilson G&F

A presentation was given on methods used to remove coyotes and control their populations.

Natrona County, Coyote Removal to Enhance Stove Gulch, Big sulfur Mule Deer Fawn Survival – *T.K. Atkinson and B. Harlan along with Brian Wilson G&F*

T.K. Atkinson and B. Harlan along with Brian Wilson G&F

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 J Netz, Curtis Maxwell. Matt, Joe, Eric*

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 – *K. Olson, P. Damm, J. Peterson, Brady*

P. Damm, J. Peterson, Brady

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, Brady*

P. Damm, J. Peterson, Brady

A presentation was given on coyote removal in Carbon County and how it has helped the Baggs mule deer fawn population.

Carbon County Raven removal – *K. Olson, P. Damm, J. Peterson, Brady*

A presentation was given on the Raven control project throughout Carbon County

Large Carnivore-Livestock Depredation Prevention and Control – *C. Smith, B. Debolt*

A presentation was given on patterns for grizzly bear and wolf depredation.

Fremont County Sweetwater Rocks Mule Deer Project – *R. Crofts, Tracy, Mac, Steve*

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 – *Mike Burrell,*

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

Lincoln County Mule Deer Predator Control – *J. Short, Steve Moyles*

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 -- *K. Monteith*

A presentation was given on the Wyoming range project.

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Public Comment / Board Comment

Discussion and Determination of Grant Awards

Bob Harlan gave suggested allocations to fully fund all except the following: reduce the Natrona red wall and Bates hole studies to \$28,000, Converse study to \$17,500, Fremont to \$30,000, Carbon raven to \$2,500, Washakie Mule study to \$10,000 Wyoming range study to \$21,000

Jeff Boner made a motion Garret 2nd and the motion was then carried.

Doug recognized the service of Bob Phillips, Garret Falkenburg, and Ron Cunningham

Meeting adjourned at 2 PM.



ANIMAL DAMAGE MANAGEMENT BOARD

6607 Campstool Road, Cheyenne, WY 82002-0100

Phone: 307-777-6781 □ Fax: 307-777-1943 □ E-mail: gerald.johnson@wyo.gov □ www.wyadmb.com

ADMB Meeting

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

Time: Monday, August 21, 2023 8:00 AM Mountain Time (US and Canada)

Topic: ADMB Board meeting

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89823618229?pwd=MWlaOUc3UHhnRi9hS29BbVFqVW42Zz09>

Meeting ID: 898 2361 8229

Passcode: 778175

- +1 719 359 4580 US
- +1 253 205 0468 US
- +1 669 444 9171 US
- +1 564 217 2000 US
- +1 646 931 3860 US
- +1 689 278 1000 US
- +1 305 224 1968 US
- +1 309 205 3325 US
- +1 360 209 5623 US
- +1 386 347 5053 US
- +1 507 473 4847 US

Meeting ID: 898 2361 8229

Passcode: 778175

Agenda

Monday, August 21, 2023

- 8:00 a.m. - Call to Order – Co-Chairs Doug Miyamoto – Brian Nesvik
 - Introductions of board, guests, & public
 - Approval of June, 2023 Minutes
- 8:10 a.m. - Jerry Johnson, Chapter 4 Rules repeal
- 8:15 am. - Board Comment / Public Comment
- 8:30 am - Adjourn

**ADMB Meeting
August 21, 2023
Zoom Teleconference**

Members Present: Slade Franklin (for Doug Co-Chair), Mike Burrell , Ron Cunningham, Bob Harlan, Garrett Falkenburg, Jeff Boner, Amanda Hulett, Tyler Abbot, Brett Belden

Board Members Absent: Bob Phillips, Richard Ladwig, Brian Nesvik, Jennifer McConchie

WDA Staff: Jerald Johnson, J.D. Sater

Public in Attendance: None

Meeting called to order at 10:01 am

Slade entertained a motion to approve June 14th minutes. Jeff moved, Amanda seconded, Motion carried.

Jerry gave an update on the CH 4 Wolf Compensation rules that need to be repealed and these rules were being replaced with CH 65 Wolf Compensation program rules and that no comments were received by the public.

Slade called for motion to approve the comments document as no comments received, Amanda moved Jeff seconded, motion carried.

Slade called for a motion to approve the repeal packet, Brett moved, Amanda seconded, motion carried.

Public Comments

No public comments

Brett moved to adjourn, Jeff Boner seconded. Meeting adjourned at 10:15 am.



ANIMAL DAMAGE MANAGEMENT BOARD

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www.wyadmb.com

ADMB Meeting

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

Topic: ADMB Nov 9th zoom meeting 10 am

Time: Nov 9, 2023 10:00 AM Mountain Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87603065996?pwd=QlQrbWFGMUVhTU43dFEzaGdCb0Z3dz09>

Meeting ID: 876 0306 5996

Passcode: 147639

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.

Meeting ID: 876 0306 5996

Passcode: 147639

Wednesday, November 09, 2023

Agenda

- 10:00 am Call to order—(Nesvik)
Introduction of board, guests and public
New Board members---Tate Smith, Sharon O’Toole, Roger Cox
Approval of August Minutes
- 10:10 am Rabies testing update: --- Jennifer Schepler Wyoming State Vet Lab
- 10:30 am Wildlife Services updates ---- New State Director Jared Zierenberg
Wolf management update for year
- 10:40 am Program updates:
Wolf Compensation claims update-----Jerry Johnson
- 10:55 am set dates for 2024 meetings.
Jan 18th 2024 10 am Zoom
May 15th 9 am - 16th 8 am 2024 Casper live and Zoom
June 13th 2024 8 am Casper live and Zoom
Nov 7th 2024 10 am Zoom
- 11:00 am PUBLIC COMMENT
- 11:05 am Adjourn

Draft

ADMB Meeting November 9, 2023 Zoom Teleconference

Members Present: Brian Nesvik (Co-Chair), Amanda Hulet, Jared Zierenberg (WS), Mike Burrell (acting WS), Bob Harlan, Roger Cox, Sharon O'Toole, Richard Ladwig, Jeff Boner, Tate Smith, Phil Osterli (USFS)

Board Members Absent: Doug Miyamoto (Co-Chair), Brett Belden, Tyler Abbot (USFWS), Jennifer McConchie (BLM)

WDA Staff: Jerry Johnson, JD Sater

Public in Attendance: Jennifer Schepler

Meeting called to order at 10:02 am by Brian Nesvik (Doug in Legislative meetings)

Introduction of Board and new board members:

Tate Smith,

Roger Cox,

Sharon O'Toole,

Non-consumptive is being filled but confirmations are still ongoing.

Amanda moved to approve August 2023 minutes as provided, Jeff second, Motion carries

Rabies Testing Update

Jennifer Schepler shared there is no cost for anyone submitting samples and gave the progress of recent rabies cases across the state for 2023, there were 494 animals tested with 28 positive results, 6 skunks and 14 bats tested positive, with most cases were in the northern part of the State. Jennifer shared the importance of keeping the brain intact of all samples sent in to the vet lab.

There was discussion about vaccine hesitancy not just being about Covid-19 and other vaccines in humans but people are concerned about pet vaccinations as well. Jennifer stated the importance of having all pets vaccinated for rabies as this is a fatal disease and can only be tested for by taking the entire head of the animal.

Wolf Management Update.

Mike Burrell introduced new State Director Jared Zierenberg who will soon be full time in Casper. Brian thanked Mike for all his efforts over the last year.

Mike Burrell reported for the period from Jan 1st 2023 thru Oct 30th 2023

Program Updates

Wolf Compensation Update: Jerry Johnson shared that the compensation program is in place and there has been some predation in Sublette, Hot Springs and Fremont Counties. No claims have been filed to date however most were waiting until they were off the pasture. WS has done the depredation reports on all livestock.

Set meeting dates for 2024:

Jan 18th 2024 10am Zoom

May 15th 9am - 16th 8am 2024 Casper live and Zoom

June 13th 2024 9am Casper live and Zoom

Reset for November 14th 2024 10am Zoom

Sharon made motion to accept the dates as changed by discussion, Roger 2nd, motion passed.

Public Comments

No public in attendance

No further business

Meeting adjourned at 10:35 by Brian Nesvik

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ADMB - RABIES 0313		BUDGETED		EXPENDED		PERCENT OPTIMUM		NOTES
		FY 23 - 24		YTD	ENCUMBERED	BALANCE	EXPENDED	
<i>SUPPORTIVE SERVICES</i>		200.00						
	Equipment Rep & Minc	202.00	0	0		0		
	Utilities	203.00	0	0		0		
	Freight & Postage	204.00	100	0		100	0.00%	
	Supplies/Printing	231.00	0	0		0		
	Equipment Rental	252.00	0	0		0		
200 SERIES TOTAL			\$100	\$0	\$0	\$100	0.00%	
<i>Grants and Aid Payments</i>		600.00						
	Grants	626.00	97,143	40,856	15,144	41,143	57.65%	
0600 SERIES TOTAL			\$97,143	\$40,856	\$15,144	\$41,143	57.65%	
<i>CONTRACTUAL SERVICES</i>		900.00						
	Professional/Consulting Fees	901.00	0	0		0		
0900 SERIES TOTAL			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		
ADMB - RABIES 03.13			\$97,243	\$40,856	\$15,144	\$41,243	57.59%	

		YTD Revenue		YTD %	DISCUSSION ITEMS
General funds	97,243	56,000	58%		
	0	0			
	\$97,243	\$56,000	58%		

RODENT & PREDATOR 0315	BUDGETED		EXPENDED		PERCENT OPTIMUM		NOTES
	FY 23 - 24		YTD	ENCUMBERED	BALANCE	EXPENDED	
<i>PERSONAL SERVICES</i>	100.00	\$0	\$0		\$0		
<i>SUPPORTIVE SERVICES</i>	200.00						
Equipment Rep & Minc	202.00	0	0		0		
Utilities	203.00	0	0		0		
Freight & Postage	204.00	500	0		500	0.00%	
Employee Develop & Training	207.00	0	0		0		
Miscellaneous	210.00	0	0		0		
Travel In State	221.00	0	0		0		
Travel Out of State	222.00	0	0		0		
Supplies/Printing	231.00	140	0		140	0.00%	
Medical/Lab Supplies	235.00	0	0		0		
Other Repair Supplies	239.00	0	0		0		
Equipment Rental	252.00	0	0		0		
200 SERIES TOTAL		\$640	\$0	\$0	\$640	0.00%	
<i>DATA PROCESSING</i>	400.00						
Telecommunications - A&I	420.00	0	0		0		
400 SERIES TOTAL		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		
<i>GRANTS & AID PYMTS</i>	600.00						
Grant Payments	626.00	0	0		0		
600 SERIES TOTAL		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		
<i>NON-OPERATING EXP</i>	800.00						
Purchases for Resale	801.00	360	0		360	0.00%	
800 SERIES TOTAL		\$360	\$0	\$0	\$360	0.00%	
<i>CONTRACTUAL SRVS.</i>	900.00						
Professional/Consulting Fees	901.00	0	0		0		
900 SERIES TOTAL		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		
RODENT & PREDATOR 031: TOTAL		\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,000	0.00%	

0.00% excluding 600 and 800 series expenditures

	YTD Revenue	YTD %
General Funds	0	0.00%
Other Funds		
Rodent Control - Sales 5421	1,000	0.00%
TOTAL	\$1,000	\$0.00%

DISCUSSION ITEMS
Reduce budget by 32,281 for sales funding

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ANIMAL DAMAGE MGMT 0317	BUDGETED		EXPENDED		PERCENT OPTIMUM		NOTES
	FY 23 - 24	YTD	ENCUMBERED	BALANCE	EXPENDED	54.17%	
Fund 047							
<i>SUPPORTIVE SERVICES 200.00</i>							
Equipment Repairs & Mtnc	202.00	0	0	0			
Utilities	203.00	0	0	0			
Freight & Postage	204.00	600	0	600	0.00%		
Travel In State	221.00	0	700	(700)			
Board Travel	227.00	12,103	3,085	9,018	25.49%		
Supplies/Printing	231.00	1,424	0	1,424	0.00%		
Equipment Rental	252.00	150	0	150	0.00%		
200 SERIES TOTAL		\$14,277	\$3,785	\$0	\$10,492	26.51%	
<i>RESTRICTIVE SERVICES 300.00</i>							
Cost Allocation	301.00	72	0	72	0.00%		
300 SERIES TOTAL		\$72	\$0	\$0	\$72	0.00%	
<i>DATA PROCESSING 400.00</i>							
Telecommunications - A&I	420.00	0	0	0			
400 SERIES TOTAL		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		
<i>GRANTS & AID PYMTS 600.00</i>							
Grants	626.00	443,522	187,413	33,659	222,450	49.84%	
UW Grants & Aid Payments	667.00	0			0		
600 SERIES TOTAL		\$443,522	\$187,413	\$33,659	\$222,450	49.84%	
<i>CONTRACTUAL SRVS. 900.00</i>							
Professional/Consulting Fees	901.00	0	0	0			
900 SERIES TOTAL		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		
ANIMAL DAMAGE MGMT 0 TOTAL		\$457,871	\$191,198	\$33,659	\$233,014	49.11%	

		YTD Revenue	YTD %
General Funds	52,871	189,293.93	358%
Other Funds			
Livestock Brand Fee-5353	0	#DIV/0!	
Wildlife Damage Stamp-2634	0	#DIV/0!	
Landowner Coupons-6204	5,000	1,904	38%
Predator Boards - 6301	0		0%
Game & Fish - 5040	400,000	200,000	50%
TOTAL	\$457,871	\$391,198	85%

DISCUSSION ITEMS
 Reduce by 95,448 to account for revenues not collected

0
 Cash Balance 709,418.29

PREDATOR MANAGEMENT 1501	BUDGETED		EXPENDED		PERCENT OPTIMUM		NOTES
	FY 23 - 24	YTD	ENCUMBERED	BALANCE	EXPENDED	54.17%	
<i>PERSONAL SERVICES</i>	<i>100.00</i>	\$203,903	\$108,529		\$95,374	53.23%	B-11 23083
<i>SUPPORTIVE SERVICES</i>	<i>200.00</i>						
Equipment Repairs & Mtn	202.00	749	0		749	0.00%	
Utilities	203.00	840	593		247	70.63%	
Freight and Postage	204.00	1,750	396		1,354	22.61%	
Employee Development	207.00	1,750	0		1,750	0.00%	
Advertising	208.00	0	178		(178)		
Travel In State	221.00	3,500	2,639		861	75.40%	
Travel Out of State	222.00	0	0		0		
Permanently Assigned Vehicles	223.00	10,125	2,307		7,819	22.78%	
Office Supplies/Printing	231.00	8,000	1,322		6,678	16.53%	
Vehicle Supplies	233.00	0	0		0		
Educational Supplies	236.00	0	0		0		
Other Repair Supplies	239.00	3,000	41		2,959	1.36%	
Transportation Equipment	243.00	0	0		0		
Equipment Rental	252.00	1,000	10		990	1.03%	
Awards & Prizes	257.00	0	154				
Maintenance Contracts	292.00	0	468		(468)		
200 SERIES TOTAL		\$30,714	\$8,107	\$0	\$22,761	26.40%	
<i>DATA PROCESSING</i>	<i>400.00</i>						
Telecommunications A&I	420.00	970	447		523	46.11%	
400 SERIES TOTAL		\$970	\$447	\$0	\$523	46.11%	
<i>GRANTS & AID PYMTS</i>	<i>600.00</i>						
Grants	626.00	5,655,595	2,759,364	57,096	2,839,135	49.80%	\$160,000 - wolf management total
600 SERIES TOTAL		\$5,655,595	\$2,759,364	\$57,096	\$2,839,135	49.80%	
PREDATOR MANAGEMENT TOTAL		\$5,891,182	\$2,876,447	\$57,096	\$2,957,638	49.80%	

\$5,891,182

0

YTD Transfers

DISCUSSION ITEMS

General Funds	5,891,182	2,933,544	50%
TOTALS	\$5,891,182	\$2,933,544	50%

0

Wolf Damage Payments 1510		BUDGETED		EXPENDED		PERCENT OPTIMUM		NOTES
		FY 23 - 24		YTD	ENCUMBERED	BALANCE	EXPENDED	
<i>PERSONAL SERVICES</i>		100.00				\$0		
<i>SUPPORTIVE SERVICES</i>		200.00						
	Freight and Postage	204.00	0	0		0		
	Office Supplies/Printing	231.00	0	0		0		
	Equipment Rental	252.00	0	0		0		
<i>200 SERIES TOTAL</i>			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		
<i>DATA PROCESSING</i>		400.00						
	Telecommunications A&I	420.00	0	0		0		
<i>400 SERIES TOTAL</i>			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		
<i>GRANTS & AID PYMTS</i>		600.00						
	Grants	626.00	0	0		0	40500?	
<i>600 SERIES TOTAL</i>			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		
Wolf Damage Payments 1510 TOTAL			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		

		YTD Transfers		DISCUSSION ITEMS
General Funds		0	#DIV/0!	
TOTALS	\$0	\$0	#DIV/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 1st of each year. This report should be relative to the current fiscal year.

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

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

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

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

Adopted: January 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.

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

PLAN FOR ACTION ITEMS)			
3. Review programs effectiveness (1501 grant program; 317, and 313.	3. ADMB	3. Annually	
STRATEGY 1.1.3: W.S. 11-6-304(b)(vi): Cooperate with Federal, State and County governments, educational institutions and private persons or organizations to effectuate agricultural and wildlife damage and rabid wildlife prevention policies.			
<i>ACTION</i>	<i>RESPONSIBILITY</i>	<i>DATE TO COMPLETE</i>	<i>DATE COMPLETED</i>
1. Review as needed and implement the MOUs. 2. Coordinate programs in accordance with statutes.	1. ADMB 2. ADMB	1. As needed 2. As needed	

GOAL 2: Implement a coordinated, accountable animal damage management program.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: W.S. 11-6-304; 11-6-308; 11-6-309 and 11-6-312

OBJECTIVE 2.1

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

<i>ACTION</i>	<i>RESPONSIBILITY</i>	<i>DATE TO COMPLETE</i>	<i>DATE COMPLETED</i>
1. WILDLIFE DAMAGE MANAGEMENT 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.

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

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

GOAL 6: Develop and implement legislative strategies.

OJECTIVE 6.1

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

STRATEGY 6.1.1: W.S. 11-6-301 – 11-6-313			
<i>ACTION</i>	<i>RESPONSIBILITY</i>	<i>DATE TO COMPLETE</i>	<i>DATE COMPLETED</i>
1. Continue a strategy to ensure program continuation.	1. ADMB	1. On-going	
2. Continue to develop and utilize performance measures for program.	2. ADMB	2. On-going	
3. Identify and include citizen groups, county boards, predator districts, legislators and stakeholders to support the ADMB program.	3. ADMB	3. On-going	
4. Increase visibility efforts	4. ADMB	4. On-going	
5. Re-evaluate the statutes and programs to be included in legislation.	5. ADMB	5. On-going	
➤ Voluntary sources			
➤ Annual Report			
6. Maintain an open dialogue with the Governor	6. ADMB	6. On-going	
7. Develop economic benefits analysis of program to State of Wyoming	7. ADMB	7. Completed and will update when necessary.	

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Overview of Activities to Date:

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

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

Through the work of the Governor's office the ADMB has been awarded \$4,181,608 to the nineteen qualified districts in the past year. In 2023, the ADMB received \$4.210 million in requests from these districts.

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

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

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

Depredation by eagles was 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. Control measures on ravens have also lowered predation on livestock, along with other benefits to the citizens and businesses in Southwest Wyoming.

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

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

Predator Management Program Allocations

Grantees	Date Approved	Board Approved
Albany County PMD	May 18, 2023	\$136,000.00
Big Horn County PMD	May 18, 2023	\$206,297.00
Campbell County PMD	May 18, 2023	\$288,500.00
Carbon County PMD	May 18, 2023	\$243,500.00
Converse County PMD	May 18, 2023	\$270,461.00
Crook County PMD	May 18, 2023	\$209,820.00
Fremont County PMD	May 18, 2023	\$238,500.00
Goshen County PMD	May 18, 2023	\$63,50000
Hot Springs County PMD	May 18, 2023	\$1248,500.00
Johnson County PMD	May 18, 2023	\$258,50000
Lincoln County PMD	May 18, 2023	\$233,50000
Natrona County PMD	May 18, 2023	\$288,50000
Niobrara County PMD	May 18, 2023	\$178,50000
Park County PMD	May 18, 2023	\$223,50000
Sheridan County PMD	May 18, 2023	\$226,000.00
Sweetwater County PMD	May 18, 2023	\$248,500.00
Uinta County PMD	May 18, 2023	\$237,530.00
Washakie County PMD	May 18, 2023	\$248,500.00
Weston County PMD	May 18, 2023	\$133,500.00
	Total	\$4,181,608.00

On May 18, 2023 the Board also granted \$36,000 to fund rabies program in three Counties: Campbell Co. \$10,500.00, Johnson Co. \$10,500.00 and Sheridan Co. \$15,000.00.

By July 1, 2023, 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.

VI. Plans for increased funding if approved: If our request is approved as listed, we plan to add a significant increase in aerial time.

Albany County Predator Damage

Management District

ANNUAL REPORT

2022 - 2023

BOARD MEMBERS:

President:
Roger Newkirk

Vice President:
Don Willis

**Secretary/
Treasurer:**
Lindsey Wheatley

Book Keeper:
Brooke Willis

Ryon Alexander

Ryan Wilson

Todd Heward

Todd Schlager

WS SPECIALIST:

Joel Modey

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

District Management Plan 2

Work and Financial Plan 3

Summary of Activities

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

Presently, there is one full-time WS employee that covers all of Albany County. In addition to the full-time WS specialist, 7 other WS employees (pilots, WS biologists, etc.) also provided assistance during this reporting period from July 1, 2022 to March 28, 2023. As a result, 707,832 acres were worked across 32 different properties in Albany County; for a total of 1,243 man hours, and 58.6 aerial hours flown.

Wildlife damage and threats come in many forms, from predation, to disease, human health and safety, etc. In this regard, the ACPMD is committed to provid-



Coyotes were responsible for \$4,680 in verified losses during this reporting period.

ing 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:

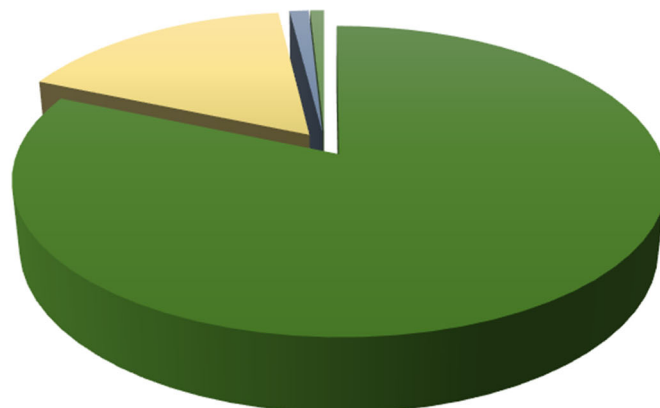
- Beavers: 5
- Coyotes: 432
- Red Fox: 1
- Raccoons: 12
- Ravens: 32
- Striped Skunks: 3

Livestock Losses For This Period:

- Coyote, Reported \$7,206
- Eagles, Reported \$5,223
- Coyote, Verified \$4,680
- Eagles, Verified \$1,142
- Ravens Reported \$25,000

Total: \$43,251

Time Allocation



■ Livestock ■ General Property ■ Wildlife ■ Human Health and Safety



ACPMMD 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 2023-2024

Albany County Predator Management District's (ACPMMD) goal for 2023-2024 is to continue to utilize USDA Wildlife Services to provide professional wildlife damage management throughout the county. WS enters into annual agreements with the Medicine Bow National Forest, the District BLM office, WGFD, USFWS, in addition to municipalities and private landowners, allowing wildlife damage management activities to occur, unimpeded, wherever they may arise. As such, ACPMD believes this cooperation is a key component in providing the most effective and efficient, professional wildlife damage management program we possibly can.

1) Livestock: 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. There have been some recent verified wolf sightings along the Albany/Converse border. Although there has not been any verified damage to date, ACPMD will keep close tabs on the situation. As for black bear and mountain lion conflicts, depredations seem to correlate with drought conditions. With most of the county currently in a moderate to severe drought status, anticipated conflicts with these species will largely hinge upon our spring moisture. Contrarily, golden eagle populations have been steadily increasing for several years now, resulting in a significant increase of livestock depredations.

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. ACPMD will continue to respond to such complaints as requested.

3) Wildlife: While ACPMD 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. ACPMD 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.



Big Horn County Predator Management District

2022-23 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.

Skip Fox, Hyattville Wy.

Carl Nielsen, Hyattville, Wy.

Nicholle Geis, Greybull, Wy.

Keith Hamilton, Hyattville, Wy.

Robert Kiernan, Wy.

Dave Blakeman, Basin, Wy.

WS Specialists

Brandon O'Brien, Full-time

Josh Zimmerman, Full-time

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

Presently, there are two full-time WS employee that covers Bighorn County. Bighorn County also received assistance from 5 other WS employees (pilots, additional trappers, and biologists). In the time frame from March 1st, 2022-February 28th, 2023 (the most recent 365 day period to generate activity data), with work done on 69 different properties throughout the county.

In Big Horn County, 186 hours flown by fixed-wing during the reporting period.

There was \$11,587 reported livestock damage, and another \$4,467 in verified livestock damage in Bighorn County during this reporting period



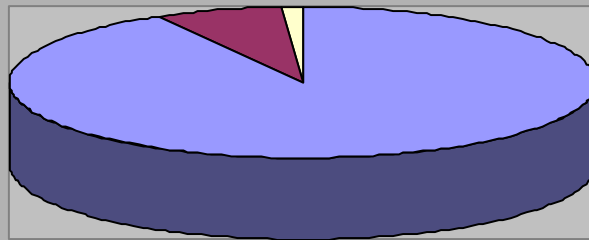
The table below is a report of animals taken during the reporting period, in response to conflicts with livestock, wildlife, property, nuisance, or human health and safety.

- Beavers: 4
- Coyotes: 352
- Coyote Dens: 6
- Common Raven: 10 (4 nests destroyed)
- Raccoons: 140
- Red Fox: 15
- Red Fox Dens: 6
- Striped Skunk: 3
- Grey Wolves: 1



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

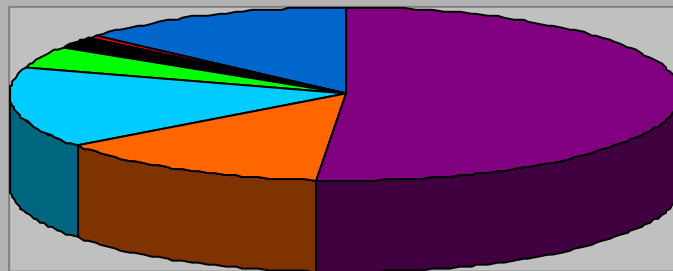
The Pie chart below depicts the percentage of site visits by WS per category for this 22-23 reporting period:



- 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 22-23 reporting period. The “Others” category includes combined visits for Beaver, Mountain Lion, Black Bear, Feral Dog, Bobcat, and Porcupines.



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



District Management Plan 2023-2024

Big Horn County Predator Management District's goal for 2023-2024 is to provide a professional wildlife damage management service through USDA's WS.

1) Livestock: Coyote numbers remain stable and take numbers reflect that. Even with stable coyote numbers, predation events have been minimal due to intensive aerial and ground work. Wolves are considered predatory animals county-wide, and we will keep close tabs on wolf presence within the county. One wolf was removed in Bighorn County in early 2023 after predating on goats and a lamb.

We anticipate black bear and mountain lion predation on the high-country allotments this summer as well as the normal presence of coyotes. We intend on taking the helicopter into the summer grounds this year before the sheep arrive. 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.

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.

4) 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.

Equipment: The WS specialists are equipped with specialized tools to be effective. Thermal binos, scopes, trap equipment, firearms, good work dogs, and reliable vehicles.



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 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 130 agreements on file. Last fiscal year (July 2021 – June 2022) our trappers harvested 1008 coyotes, 60 fox, 4 badgers, 81 raccoons, 1 porcupine and 4 beavers. Totals for this current fiscal year as of the end of February 2023 our trappers have harvested 679 coyotes, 29 fox, 33 raccoons, and 49 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.

Campbell County PMD had been operating with three full-time contract trappers up until July 2021. Since then, we have been operating with two full-time and two part-time contract trappers. With sustainable additional funding we would look to return to

3 full-time trappers to help cover our needs. With the forthcoming increase in funding from this year's legislative session, but with the uncertainty of increased long-term funding, we are planning on increasing the hours of our part-time and full-time personnel.

With additional funding we are also looking at purchasing some thermal equipment to add another tool to our predator control methods toolbox. Along with additional hours to our personnel we are looking to provide some additional compensation to them for the inflationary increases in expenses they have been encountering.

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 270 hours of fixed wing with private aerial pilots and 20 hours helicopter time. This fiscal year as of the end of February 2023, we have used 152.9 hours of fixed wing aerial and have harvested 183 coyotes. Along with fixed wing, we have used 9.45 hours of helicopter time and have harvested 79 coyotes using the helicopter.

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 \$50,000 from the County Commissioners. 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 four 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. The citizens that we help are very appreciative and pleased with our services. 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 continues 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 third grade school children at the AG Expo and the Natural Resource Expo. Rabies education and animal safety are the main topics that they discuss when time permits.

c) Human and Domestic Animal Health/Safety Monitoring: The public demand for this service is well documented by our trappers. Last fiscal year (2021-2022) our trappers harvested 391 skunks, 81 raccoons, 1 porcupine, 4 badgers and 4 beavers. This fiscal year as of the end of February 2023, our trappers have already removed 136 skunks, 33 raccoons, and 49 bats (all from inside a house attic) for the area and 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. Of those positive cases, 6 had been with human contact, which resulted in them having to go through

numerous rabies injections. The cost in Campbell County is around \$10,000 per person to be fully protected after exposure to rabies. All 2022-2023 skunks and bats tested to date have been negative. We will continue to be proactive with our current program, but if an outbreak were to occur within 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. With wildlife losses due to disease and this year's tough winter conditions, additional predator control will be critical to helping wildlife populations

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 for 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. With the droughts in 2020 and 2021, many livestock producers felt that the livestock numbers were not as steady as in the past years and coyote numbers were remaining strong. Funding is necessary to fund and support our contract trappers and aerial time to

continue to decrease our livestock and wildlife losses. 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 2023-24 Management Plan

The objective of the Carbon County Predator Management District for the 2023-2024 fiscal year is to utilize the fixed wing plane and helicopter as much as possible. After losing a full-time trapper at the beginning of the fiscal year, we have been forced to make use of what can help our Wildlife Specialists cover the most ground and address the most producer concerns as possible. Eventually we would like to hire another trapper, but we want to watch the current and upcoming funding trends. Our Board is also hoping to move forward with both Wildlife Services and the Wyoming Game and Fish in executing three separate Special Projects to improve the life of livestock and wildlife, as well as address growing human health and safety issues within our county.

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 the Ag Expo, and we hope to see teaching opportunities increase.

Carbon County Predator Management District

Photo by Whitney Merrell



2022-2023 Annual Report

Prepared by
Whitney Merrell

Board Members

Cattlemen

Josh Peterson
John Hansen
J Stratton
Will Hudson 2022
Ethan Young 2023

Sheepmen

Sharon O'Toole
Scott Kerbs

Sportsmen

John Engstrom
Robert O'Connell
Roger Cox

At-Large

Jerry Steel

Management Plan and Action



Photo by Dan Braig

Who we are

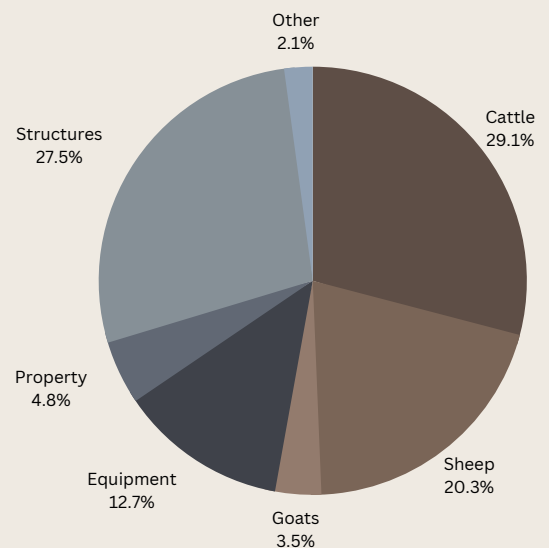
The Carbon County Predator Management Board provides predator control services through a collaborative service agreement with USDA/APHIS/Wildlife Services and cooperates with other game management entities for the removal of predators who pose a detrimental risk to wildlife species throughout Carbon 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.

Wildlife Specialists

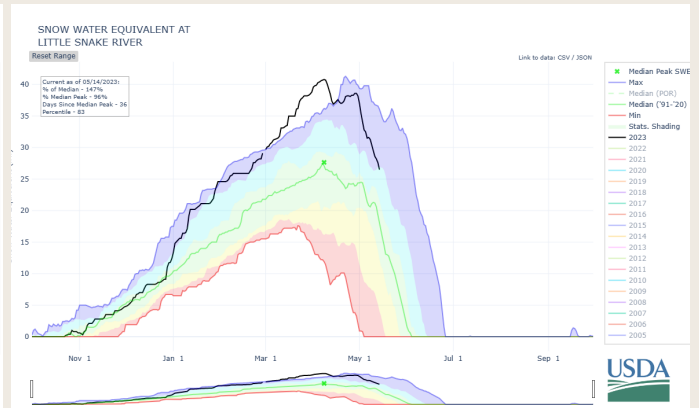
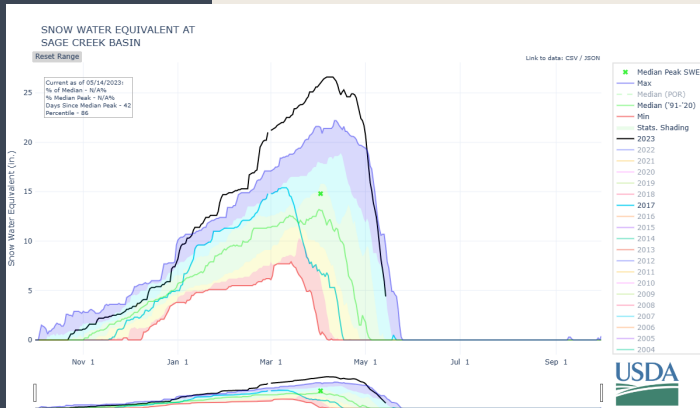
Rod Merrell 2022/Brady Smith 2023- District Supervisor
Luke Spanbauer
Ben Acres

The Wildlife Specialists spent 3,273 hours covering 2,034,358 acres both in the field and in the air. They protected over 78,000 cattle, 6,900 sheep, and other livestock within Carbon County. Verified damages from predation totaled \$39,423. 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.

Damages by Predators



Winter of 2022-2023



This past winter has been one of great difficulty for animals and humans alike. The above graphs show the record-breaking levels of snowpack in both the Sage Creek Basin and the Little Snake River. This caused detrimental losses particularly with deer and antelope. Survival rates of deer and antelope herds were, on average, less than 50%. However, in some areas the death rates were even higher. The effects of this past winter will take years of recovery to get herds back to a healthy population. The Governor of Wyoming along with multiple state agencies are already working on a plan of action to help support the growth of the herds that were devastated during the difficult winter.

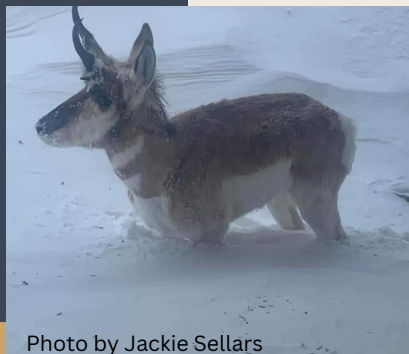


Photo by Jackie Sellars



Photo by Marge McCrea



Photo by Sam Martinez



Special Projects



Photo by Bev Braig

01

The Carbon County Predator Management District has been doing two Wildlife Projects the past couple of years. One project focuses on antelope fawn survival north of Rawlins around Ferris Mountain and the surrounding area. The second, is to encourage an increase in population of mule deer around Baggs.

02

Both Wildlife Projects help mule deer, antelope, and livestock. Each of them have a great deal of support by many of the area producers. These projects are a collaboration between the Wyoming Game and Fish, Wildlife Services, and the Carbon County Predator Management District.

03

The Baggs Mule Deer Project and the Ferris Mountain Antelope Project cover approximately 150,000 acres. Much of the projects are done by utilizing a fixed wing plane or a helicopter by our county's trappers as well as ground work.

04

It is currently difficult to tell how successful these projects have been because of the losses from the past winter. As we continue our work, we are hopeful our efforts will support a population increase in the years to come.



CONVERSE COUNTY PREDATOR MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

2023-2024 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 needs 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.

We currently employ two full time and four part time trappers. **For the 2023-2024** fiscal year CCPMD 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 used 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
John Moore – Treasurer
Tim Pexton – Budget Officer
David Moore – Secretary
Jason Miller – 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 skunks, raccoons and pigeons 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 by predator management fees collected during the brand inspections and donations. 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 Predator Management District
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 landowner/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. With the large decrease in the deer population over the last two years due to disease, we expect to see predators seeking livestock more and more as a food source.

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 2021-2022 fiscal year brought \$135,000 from the ADMB. The program, as is, would not be possible without these funds.

Projects

Pine Heaven

From the report from the last 2 years on nuisance animal calls we are expecting a 25% increase in time spent for the 2023-2024 year. Crook county predator board has been contacted by the city of Pine Heaven for assistance. The city is proposing to allow residents the opportunity to have chicken in city limits. The city is concerned about the potential increase in nuisance problems in city limits. The Mayor of Pine Heaven requested the President of the board to attend the hearing for chickens within city limits. Potential problems were discussed, and a course of action was discussed to be able to solve problems within city limits. If this proceeds forward, the workload that will be put on the trappers will demand another person to help with these problems.

Sundance

Crook County Predator board was contacted by the City of Sundance and the local game warden to help with CWD testing, along with urban deer damage within city limits. In previous years the city has depredated 50 deer within city limits for damage to the city and private property. These deer were also sent off for CWD testing. In the two years, there has been a 14% positive test for CWD within the Black Hills heard. Along with finding that some of the positive tests are confirming CWD in Fawns. In 2023 city and wildlife officials decided to double the number of deer to be depredated and tested to 100. This project is within the full calendar year to be fulfilled. This project requires the depredation of the deer, Testing, and donating deer to willing recipients of the meat within the county.

Fremont County Predatory Animal Management District Annual Report 2023

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, and human health by using environmentally responsible management techniques and methods.

Issues

Wildlife:

Sportsmen are having trouble filling licenses due to decline in numbers which are below target levels of deer, elk, antelope, and sage grouse. Predators are also causing wildlife to move out of normal ranges.

Livestock:

Predators are destructive to sheep, cattle, and other livestock and cost ranchers thousands of dollars annually. They are also detrimental to feed and foodstuffs and crops and forage production.

Human Health and Safety:

Predators, rodents, wildlife, livestock, and predacious birds can cause harm to human food and foodstuffs which effects human health and safety by spreading animal-borne diseases as well as just being a nuisance.

Our Goals

To maximize our County's wildlife numbers and agriculture's production and protect two of our greatest resources.

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

Photos

Facts

Size: Fremont County is the second largest county in the State of Wyoming with 5,256,892 total acres

Land Involved:

	Total Acres	Visits
BLM	1,887,899	91
County or City	340	223
Forest Service	853,257	46
Private	320,848	274
State	27,520	5
Tribal	2,288,000	97

Take Summary:

Beavers – 13
Coyotes Den – 9
Coyotes Other – 957

Losses:

	Cattle	Sheep	Fowl
Reported:	10	1	1

Crows –	700
Foxes –	3
Racoons –	5
Ravens –	300
Skunks –	10
Starlings –	150
Wolves -	2
	<hr/>
	2147

Verified: 19 15 2

Property: 39 by beaver causing flooding

Special Project

Sweetwater Rocks Mule Deer Unit MD 646

Fremont County will remove coyotes from mule deer winter range in an effort to increase winter fawn survival.

This mule deer herd has recently been selected as one of five focal mule deer herd units in Wyoming. The latest population estimate is 3300 mule deer which is 28% below objective. It is hoped to increase it to 4500 with this project.

A healthy mule deer population would provide increased hunting opportunities, as well as wildlife viewing.

Total acres of this area is approximately 83,000 acres, with 29,000 acres of private land and 54,000 BLM and Wyoming State Trust Public Land.

Photos of mule deer

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:

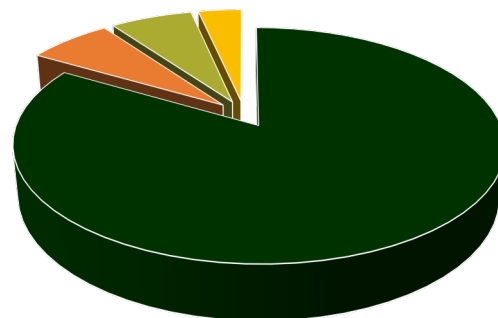
WS Take For This Period:

• 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
Total:	\$8,015

Time Allocation



■ Livestock ■ Human Health and Safety ■ General Property ■ Crop



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.



Goshen County Predatory Management District

Year End Report

FY 2022-2023



Goshen County, Wyoming

Founded in 1911.

Seat-Torrington (also largest city).

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

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

Water- 36 sq mi (93 km²)

Goshen County PMD (GCPMD) Responsibilities and Mission:

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

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

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

Identifiable and Measurable Actions:

Lands worked in Goshen County in Acres:

BLM : 1440

Private: 351,840

State: 1440

Total lands worked Under WS agreements: 353,280 acres

Eight Wildlife Services Employees worked a total of 2044.93 hours helping 78 different Cooperators to date.

50.8 Total Hours of Fixed Wing Aerial was used so far this year, out of a total of 110 hours available.

Summary of Damage and Loss

\$3,526.00 of Reported Livestock Injuries and Loss by Predators.

\$73,172.00 of Verified Livestock Injuries and Loss by Predators.

Property damage and Health/Human Safety problems caused by turkey vultures are annually recurring issues that require attention every year. The number of conflicts with turkey vultures is increasing.

Damage by nuisance species was reduced by the rabies outbreak in 2019, however skunk and raccoon populations were rebounding. Last year's rabies and canine distemper resurgence has again drastically reduced the remaining populations.

Take Summary

Coyotes: 216
Burrow/Dens: 1
Red Fox: 1
Raccoons: 4
Turkey Vulture:2

Accomplishments

Our trapper Jim Angal has formed strong relationships with landowners. Preventative measures have helped to successfully limit coyote losses for livestock producers this past year. Verified loss was elevated this year due to harassment by wolves on penned calves.

Additionally, many new property agreements have been signed for the first time and several expired cooperative agreements have been renewed. The total number of cooperators is still continuing to grow. However, several large properties in the county have either been sold or leased to new, out-of-state producers that exclude or limit control measures and access.

Summary

As always, GCPMD is committed to providing service to the community in a prompt, professional manner, and is strongly dedicated to our mission statement. So far this year, a few cases of suspicious behavior have been reported in nuisance animals in Goshen County. Upon sample submission, one raccoon tested positive for canine distemper. In addition to nuisance animal testing, 46 waterfowl from Goshen County have been tested for avian influenza. Results are pending. M44 use was all but completely prohibited this year. The use of this tool on bait sites is the most effective and productive preventative measure to use during fall and winter months in this county. In addition, the federally issued trailer that was used to haul bait was stolen from a USDA facility in Torrington. The trailer was not replaced by Wildlife Services.

GCPMD purchased a new trailer in January. These problems have had a large impact on overall take.

Goshen County has approximately 665 active farms and is ranked number one for agricultural importance to Wyoming's economy, leading the state in corn and livestock production. For these reasons, GCPMD and Wildlife Services are critical for the protection of these valuable resources.

HOT SPRINGS COUNTY PREDATOR MANAGEMENT DISTRICT



Annual Report **February 2022-March 2023**

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 '23-24 management plan which lists our County's wildlife issues and goals for the upcoming year. The report also includes the results for the '22-23 year (the most current reporting period being March 1st, 2022-February 28th, 2023).

HOT SPRINGS COUNTY PREDATOR MANAGEMENT DISTRICT MANAGEMENT PLAN 2022-2023

The HSCPMD provided animal damage control to 49 cooperators and 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

Josh Longwell

Barbara Jean Kissel

Jim Lash

Dan Morris

Mark Walker

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.

There is discussion of putting together a wildlife project in the next year or two, supported by the WGFD biologist, to enhance mule deer in the se region of the county.



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. With the increase in small acreage farm developments, it creates more predation risks on domestic animals, including pets.



HSCPMD is looking to purchase additional cage traps for loaning to county residents with small predator conflicts this year. The 2 agents will provide assistance with the trap-loan program, as well as technical assistance.

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 135 aerial hours during this reporting period. Our pilot is Scott Jensen and responds quickly to aerial requests basin-wide.

A large portion of Hot Springs County falls within the predator zone for wolves. The predator area is sandwiched between the Wind River Reservation and the Trophy Game Zone, which makes mitigating predation more difficult. In the predator area, WGFD does very little work in regards to monitoring wolf packs and activity. We anticipate an increase in wolf depredations this upcoming season with the amount of wolves that have been seen this winter in the area, and rely on WS and their collaring efforts to help track these wolves throughout the year.

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.

Two different mammalian species from Hot Springs were gathered and sent into the state lab by our WS agent during this reporting period and tested positive for Avian Influenza. These are the only mammals documented in Wyoming with AI, both a raccoon and a red fox. Avian Influenza is a major safety concern for poultry, and other domestic animals.

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.



Equipment:

HSCPMD continues to try and address any control situation and has added equipment to be able to meet that challenge. Our Can Am side by side has allowed increased mobility in rough terrain, mud and snow. It also cuts down on costs to maintain other vehicles.

Rifle mounted suppressors have allowed control work near populated areas.

Live traps are also a necessary tool in these areas, and HSCPMD will augment their cage trap inventory this year to better serve the people of Hot Springs County.

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

We acquired a drone for operational work. The drone is used to: Check trap equipment without physically approaching sets, search for individual animals (or dens) from the sky, to look into bird nests (ravens, birds of prey) to determine whether a nest is active, and to approach predated livestock carcasses in search of nearby potential danger (grizzly bear).



Thermal binoculars and rifle scope for night work have been acquired for both specialists, and are 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 Shoshone and the Bighorn Forest Service, Worland/Cody BLM offices, USFWS, WGFD, and other entities.

of problem

animals removed:

Badgers: 3

Coyotes: 270

Coyote dens: 11

Ravens: 1

Red Fox: 18

Red Fox dens: 3

Raccoons: 37

Striped Skunks: 15

Wolves: 3



During this reporting period (March 1, 2022-February 28, 2023), Hot Springs County currently maintains 2 FTE positions,.

Hot Springs County's duties were conducted with the teamwork and cooperation of 9 WS employees (including the 2 FTE) during this reporting period to cater to the increasing requests to our program for assistance involving the following wildlife species: grizzly bears, black bears, coyotes, fox, raccoons, skunks, grey wolves, beavers, badgers, and mountain lions complaints,

The teamwork, between ground and aerial work were able to keep livestock damages to 30 sheep and 4 calves losses, documented by WS. This is a total of \$17,087 in livestock damage.

Two collars were put on wolves this winter in Hot Springs to help monitor movements.

Hot Springs County experienced livestock predation from grizzly bear, coyotes, mountain lion, red fox, and grey wolves. The county is particularly difficult to work due to the boundaries that fall within the county. Working alongside the Reservation, Trophy Game/Predatory boundaries, as well as Forest and Wilderness areas all requires strong communication between many entities.

Maintaining these relationships between landowners, land management and wildlife agencies are crucial for our success in minimizing predation from such a diversity of predators that know no boundaries.

Management Plan -- Johnson County Predator Management District

Updated 3-27-23

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 it the increase several wildlife species.

Wildlife Goals and Actions –

Although management methods are implemented year around, they will be intensified from 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. We have 2 full-time contractors, 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. 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. Each contractor is responsible for his own transportation, equipment, supplies and liability insurance. We cooperate with neighboring districts and trapper to increase success for both. We work closely with the G & F to address problems kill confirmations and compensation. A survey of losses was sent out with our meeting notice and flying permission form. This information was needed by the BLM and is great help to our contractors, as to producer losses and control requirements.

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.. 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.

March 20, 2023

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 1st of April to the 1st Sept. But due to the extra work that we have in the spring time we hired 1 more contract trapper for this. 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 1st in the predator area of the Grey's River is very difficult; when the whole Grey's River drainage opens up March 1st for predator it is still difficult. Due to the cost of flying we have to pick and choose what days we can fly and when we can go. And if the wolves are not there we can only control

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

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

From this discussion I hope that the board will realize how important a good predatory is to Lincoln County, its agriculture and wildlife. As previously stated, the Bridger Teton Forest is the largest UNSF to have a large 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. We had to purchase a new 4 wheeler which cost 8,300.00 because the engine blew up in the old one, and also we had to rebuild the snow machine engine, track, ect, which was 5,300.00.

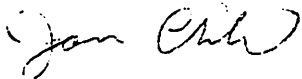
Last year due to this extra expense we as a producer donated all the fuel, oil, shells and repairs for the ground crew working with the helicopter, which was close to 8,000 dollars.

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

Sincerely,

Jon Child, President

Lincoln County PAB

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jon Child".

Natrona County
Predator Management District
T.K. Atkinson, President
P.O. Box 1462 * Casper, WY 82602
307.262.6669 * ncpmd1@charter.net

2023 District Management Plan

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 harvested 133 coyotes and Rock Buckingham, trapper in the Stove Gulch area has harvested 117 coyotes in the Stove Gulch area. No wolves have been harvested by the trappers. 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:

2024 Grant Narrative and Program Overview –Niobrara County

2017, 2018, 2019, and 2020 was when the ADMB budget was tight, and we did not receive the amount of grant money we requested by \$38,000, the lowest in 2018. So, we voluntarily spent down our program funds in order to help out, with some reassurance that we would be treated kindly thereafter. Well now funds are back and we are trying to replenish what we spent down and wanting to increase our flying hours again and update some of our equipment we have been getting away with using because we could get by. We were looking to buy another shotgun and our radio system in which the trappers on the ground can communicate with the plane has been on the fritz. Also, with inflation of everything we are also having to increase our contract trappers and aerial services to cover fuel charge and maintenance. We have a current trapper who is wanting to cut back to part time and even retire in a couple years so with this extra grant money available this year we were wanting to hire another trapper in which our current trappers can help show the county.

We continue to strive to run one of the most efficient program in the state, taking a tremendous number of predators at the lowest cost of any district. We have some livestock losses reported and verified. But, mainly just calls from producers that they have seen coyotes disrupting their herds or that they are hearing or seeing coyotes. 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 and as mentioned above would like to be able to increase our flying hours with our contract aerial providers and we are also interested in getting a contract back with APHIS to try using the Wildlife Services pilot some again. Fixed wing airplanes are our most efficient tool as we have 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. 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.

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.

Niobrara County Management Plan

Revised, 2023

- 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 2021 total approximately 3,000 sheep and 56,000 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. 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 but can't help that the landowners in that country are over grazing keeping the deer and antelope populations down.

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 disruption and some 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, and aerial hunting.

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

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

Park County Predator Management District



2022-2023 Annual Report



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

The PCPMD funds 2 WS employees. Most duties within the county were conducted by these 2 employees; however, 9 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, 2022-February 28th, 2023. The total man hours worked in the county was 3,770 hours.

A total of 97 hours of fixed wing was spent in Park County during the reporting period. Flying has increased since this report date and will increase this last quarter. 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:

- Beavers: 3
- Coyotes: 318+ 5 dens
- Fox, Red: 19 + 4 dens
- Raccoons: 34



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.
- * Jim Shorb, Powell, Wy.
- * Breanne Thiel Powell, Wy.
- * John Jerkins, Cody, Wy.

WS specialists:

- * Monty Nicholson
- * Bob Wells



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. Wolf numbers remain stable but in the past couple year, key wolves have been removed within Park County and little damage occurred this reporting period. Wolves have made a lot of movement this winter and are establishing their denning areas, We project an average to above-average year with wolves and livestock damage in 2023.

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.

There was \$7,622 in WS verified livestock damage caused by coyotes in Park County during this reporting period. This figure does not include grizzly bear damage that was verified by WGFD or wolf work documented by WGFD. Coyote densities are lower than normal in chronic livestock damage areas. We just responded to the first coyote calf-kill of the season, with the snow levels and cold temperatures, we project an above-average season with coyotes and livestock-related damage.

Park County has purchased thermal equipment for both WS specialists. The thermals are used in specific areas where damage has occurred or likely to occur. Night work has increased success on removing predators significantly.



Wildlife Protection

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 has positive impacts on these wintering big game populations.

Park County maintains strong pronghorn doe:fawn ratios year after year as WS focuses on intensive coyote removal with ground and aerial work in pronghorn fawning grounds throughout the county.

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. This project is not funded by PCPMD.



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 resolve conflicts between Park County residents and the wildlife species that commonly are a nuisance or cause property damage. These species include raccoons, striped skunks, jackrabbits, and beavers during this reporting period.

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 blackbird-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. This past week, WS implemented a DRC project to assist dairy producers in Park County with good success.





Park County Predator District's Management Plan for 2023-24

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 Cody/Worland BLM office, WGF, 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.

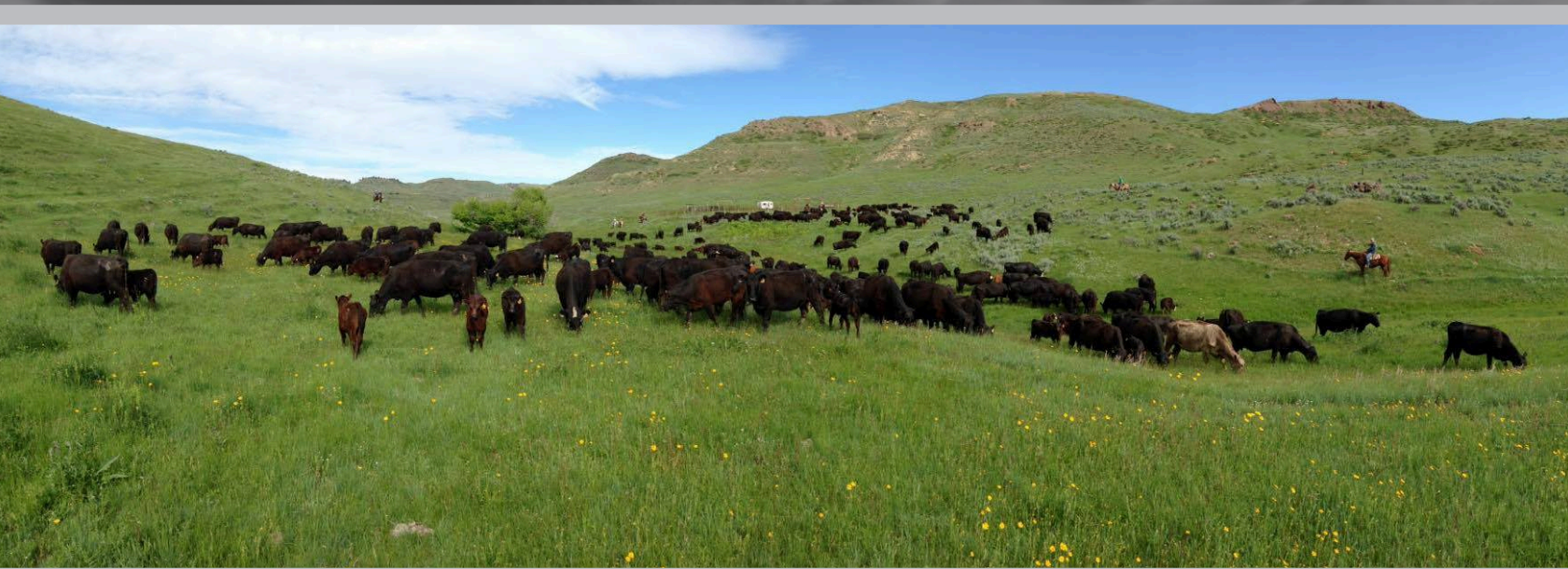
Recently, PCPMD brought their half-time specialist, Bob Wells, up to a full-time status so there are now two FTE in Park County.

PCPMD has looked at the aerial hour 3-year average and has decided to cut fixed-wing aerial hours from 169 to 110 hours and helicopter hours from 20 to 10 hours for the '23-24 season.

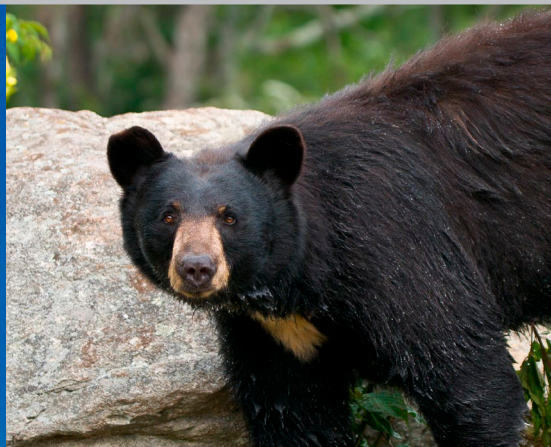
WS will continue to focus on target coyotes in and around calving and lambing pastures and, overall, keep coyote densities at lower levels. Overall, damage has been responded to quickly and kept to a minimum. Our goal is to continue with what we have going on with the above-mentioned changes.



Predator Management District of Sheridan County **MANAGEMENT PLAN** 2023-2024 Fiscal Year



Predator Control is a tool in Livestock and Wildlife Management



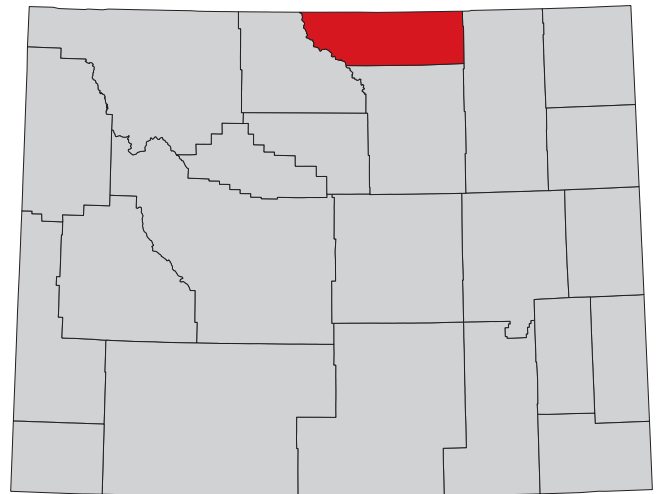
Sheridan County and PMD

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.

(700 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 be for the spring calving grounds. **(450 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. **(450 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 in Montana. **(450 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. **(600 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 **(550 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.



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 stepped 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 2020 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 2023-24 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

Treasure - Mike Connell, Big Horn WY

Secretary - Robert Strauser, Sheridan WY

Dan Powers, Ranchester WY

Chris, Rodriguez, Clearmont WY

Jimmy Gibbs, Arvada WY

Bob Krumm, Sheridan WY

Jerry Reed, Sheridan WY

Vaughn Cox, Sheridan WY

John Auzqui, Clearmont WY

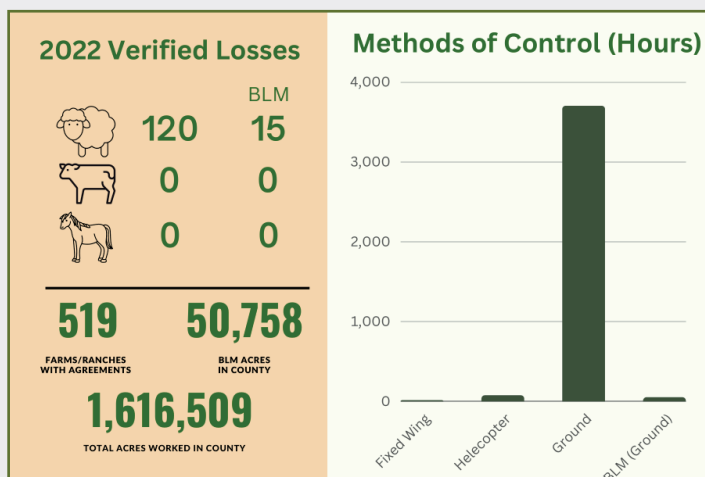
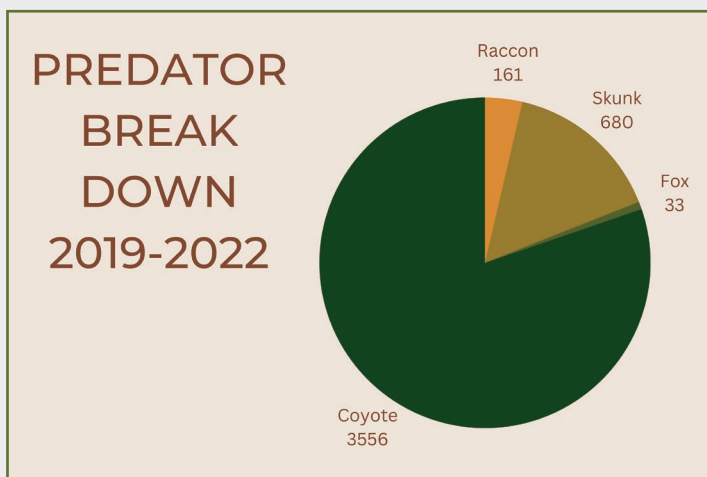
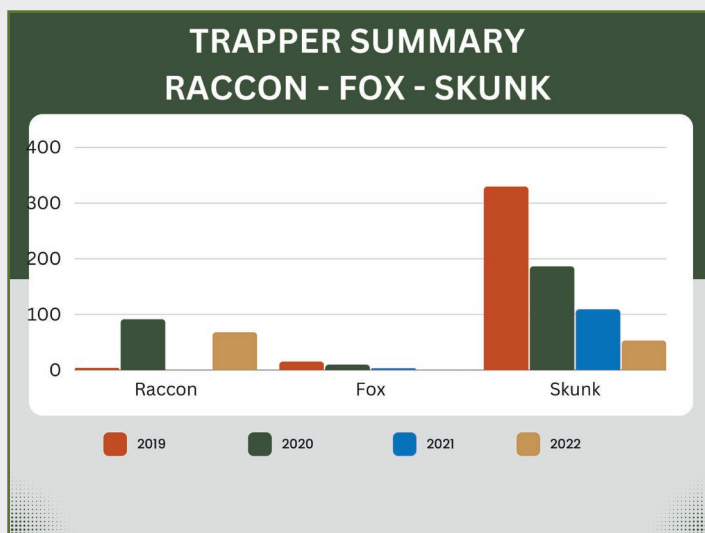
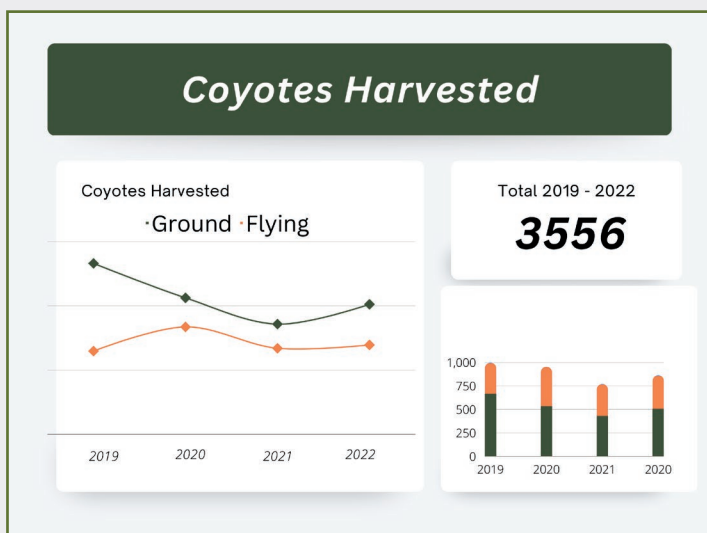
2017 Census of Agriculture:

- 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%
 - Other – 1.4%
- Head count of Cattle in Sheridan County: 65,000
Ranks 8th in the State of Wyoming
- Head count of Sheep and Lambs: 4,800
Ranks 12th in State of Wyoming
- Head count of Horses and Ponies: 3066
Ranks 7th in the State of Wyoming

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

Our field specialist removed the following animals in response to conflicts with livestock production, wildlife, nuisance, private property damage or human safety issues during the 2021 calendar year.

- **COYOTES: 854 plus 21 pups**
- **FOXES: 7**
- **SKUNKS: 53**



One morning of successful aerial flying by Helicopter



Wildlife Issues:

The number of ravens, crows, eagles, skunks, raccoons, coyotes and foxes in Sheridan County are at healthy levels. We would like to see a higher doe fawn ratio in all our areas. We have stepped up aerial hunting in a lot of the areas along the Montana and Campbell County lines. We will be increasing aerial hunting in the remaining areas. Many of the livestock producers in the county also receive additional income from the wildlife activity, such as hunting and viewing.



Wildlife Goals:

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

Proposed Actions:

With harsh winters the past two years and the lack of smaller prey animals such as rabbits, there has been heavier predation on larger prey animals such as deer, antelope and sage grouse. Our field specialist is working with the producers to recognize kills and inform our field specialist so he may be able to concentrate his efforts better in stopping the problem. We will be **using aerial hunting** in addition to **ground work** to better manage the predator numbers in our county.

The guidelines the Wyoming Game & Fish Commission uses for predator management work for mule deer and antelope is a post hunting season ratio of less than 65 fawns per 100 does. This year





fawn recruitment for mule deer in hunt areas 23 & 26 and antelope hunt areas 15 & 16 fall below that threshold. Our priority will be to focus on predator management of coyotes in these hunt areas.

Livestock Issues:

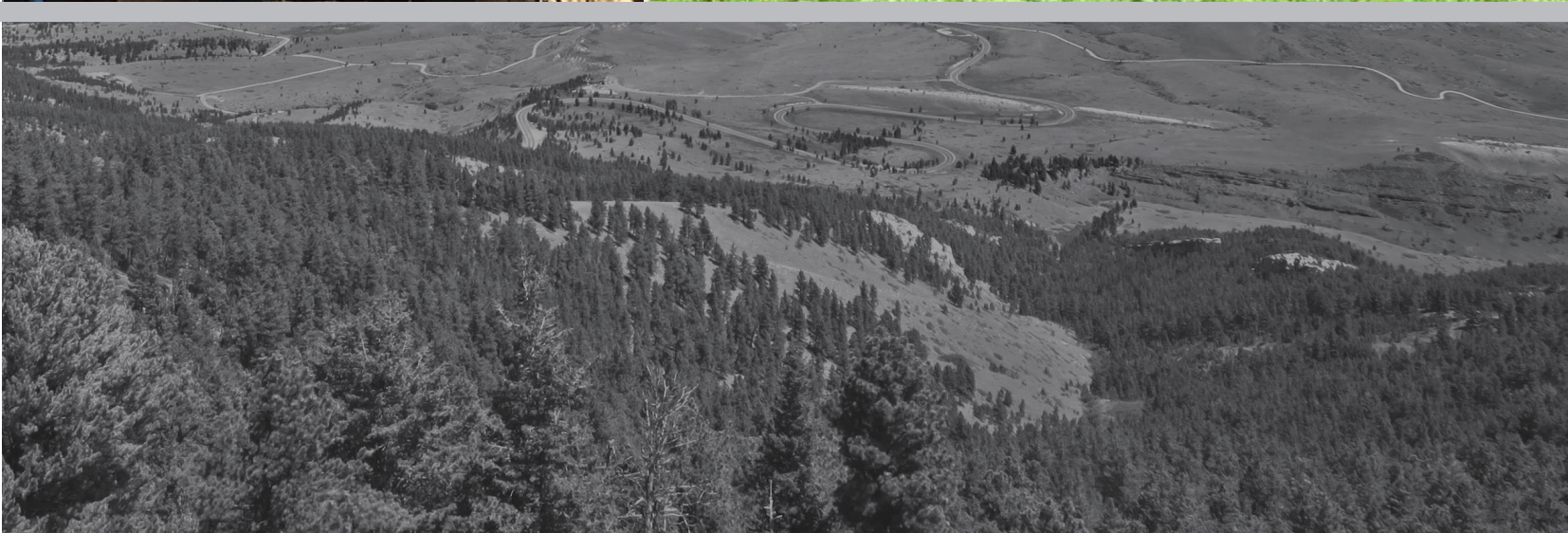
In Sheridan County, the livestock producers have experienced a greater hit from predation because of the lack of small game (rabbits) as well as the wildlife issues; **especially the sheep producers**. With the lack of rabbits we believe cattle producers are also going to see a bigger impact this spring.

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.

Rabies Mitigation Issues:

Sheridan County has a problem with skunks carrying rabies. We have taken rabid skunks from around the County, the city landfill and the Sheridan College campus. These areas are surrounded by family housing. This presents a problem for livestock, pets and human health and safety. We have had to put down prize bulls due to rabies and several people were required to take rabies shots.

Rabies Mitigation Proposed Action:

We have contracted a part time rabies mitigation trapper to respond to calls for assistance from the public. These calls are mainly from Sheridan County cities and the areas around them however he responds to calls throughout the County. Our predator trapper may take animals associated with rabies during his activities throughout the County and is available to backup our rabies mitigation trapper when necessary. (400 hours of predator control)

Rabies Mitigation Goals:

Safeguard the safety of people, livestock and pets. We hope to achieve this by educating the public on recognizing the signs of rabies and reducing the contact with the animals carrying rabies.

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 the Wyoming Legislature 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.

PREDATOR MANAGEMENT DISTRICT OF
SWEETWATER COUNTY WYOMING

Gary Zakotnik, President
68 Eden, West 1st South
Eden, WY 82932

Telephone (307) 273-9481 Cell (307) 389-4686 email gnjzakotnik@gmail.com
April 1, 2023

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 \$250,000.00 for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024. According to our projections a grant of this amount and the expenditures as set out in the attached documents would allow the district to continue with enhanced spring work and restart a raven program. 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, 2023

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 because the sheep production that used to exist in the area is now gone creating greater depredation on these herds.
 - 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 for a couple years 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 contracted our predator control program with Wildlife Solutions and we feel they have moved our program forward in the right direction. They have implemented a spring program after we secured funding from wildlife projects and we wish to continue this program. To continue, we have incorporated these costs into our current budget.
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.
10. The board wants to contract with Wildlife services to reimplement a raven program. This is a concern of many producers and sportsman in Sweetwater County.
11. The board feels these additional measures are warranted and will provide the protection to the wildlife to help them recover from a winter that is projected to have a severe death rate.

Gary Zakotnik - Chairman

WYOMING WILDLIFE SOLUTIONS 2023/2024 SWEETWATER COUNTY PREDATOR CONTROL PROGRAM

objective

Reduce predation on livestock and wildlife by strategically reducing resident coyote populations within Sweetwater County.

Goals

Reduce coyote population.

Reduce/Prevent Coyote predation on livestock.

Reduce predation on migrating wildlife.

Strategic Approach

Due to Wyoming's unpredictable weather and coyote adaptability, an effective control program must incorporate an integrated approach. Our program will incorporate multiple methods and be adaptable as the control season progresses. For example, while an aggressive aerial program can remove a large number of coyotes in a short period of time, it is often limited by weather constraints and coyote adaptability. We witnessed many coyotes last winter that had been badly educated to aircraft pressure. In my experience this is a problem that can only be corrected by an aggressive ground program and helicopter work.

Project Outline

We will begin our program November 1st with an aggressive ground operation using two trappers averaging 40 hours a week ending our ground effort March 14th. We will have an advantage on the ground this season with what we learned about the country last winter to help us. We will start using our Helicopter and fixed-wing as soon as conditions are ideal and continue our aircraft program into March as needed.

TIMELINE OF SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED

- NOVEMBER: Two trappers will begin Using Traps and snares in areas we found to be productive during past years. We will focus most of our efforts in areas that the sheep will not be in until later in the winter.
- DECEMBER: Both Trappers will maintain their Lines established in November moving around the sheep bands as they travel around the winter range.
- JANUARY: By mid-January both trappers will have trapped their way to the south of Rock springs. We will leave behind strategically placed and maintained bait stations to provide the maximum support for ariel operations as well as remove coyotes located in areas where livestock will be located. During this time trappers will utilize the tools found to be the most effective in the given conditions. These tools will include: M-44s, traps, snares, and calling/shooting.
- January, February, March: By January 1st weather conditions make conducting a ground effort difficult and far less effective while at the same time providing ideal flying conditions. Through January and February Wyoming

2022/2023 Sweetwater County Predator Control Report.

Total taken on ground: 41.

Total taken with helicopter: 298.

Total taken with fixed wing: 66.

Total coyotes taken: 405.

Badgers taken 2.

Red fox taken 1.

Producers worked: Two Bar sheep company, Julian land and livestock, Bench Y land, Vermillion Ranch, Thoman Ranches, Child Ranch, Broadbent Land, Sims sheep Co, Currant Creek Land and Cattle, Eaton Livestock, Green River Livestock, Midland livestock Co, GZ livestock Co. Evans Land Co.

Coyote predation on livestock reported:

Sheep

Reported: 35

Confirmed: 23

Cattle:

Reported: 0

Confirmed: 0

In addition to our winter program, One trapper will provide animal damage management services to Sweetwater County's livestock producers beginning April 15 and operating through June 15. Focusing primarily on hunting coyote dens in areas where coyote damage has occurred in the past. This trapper will utilize the tools most effective for predator control at this time of year, including but not limited to, traps/snares, Decoy dogs, and an aerial budget of \$30,000.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Uinta County Predator Management District contracted with Predator Control Corporation in November of 2019 to provide aerial control services. Ground services began in March of 2020. UCPMD continues to contract with PCC as well as a private contractor. The District requests \$239,030 to provide services that will directly benefit the wildlife, livestock, and citizens of Uinta County.

Management Plan

- Predator Control Corp

- Aerial Assets

- 1) Helicopter (E-11.2)
- 2) Fixed Wing Aircraft (E-11.3)

- Ground Work

- 1) Full Time Specialist (E-7.2)
- 2) Secondary Specialist (E-7.2)
- 3) Seasonal Denning Specialist (E-7.4)

- Private Contractor

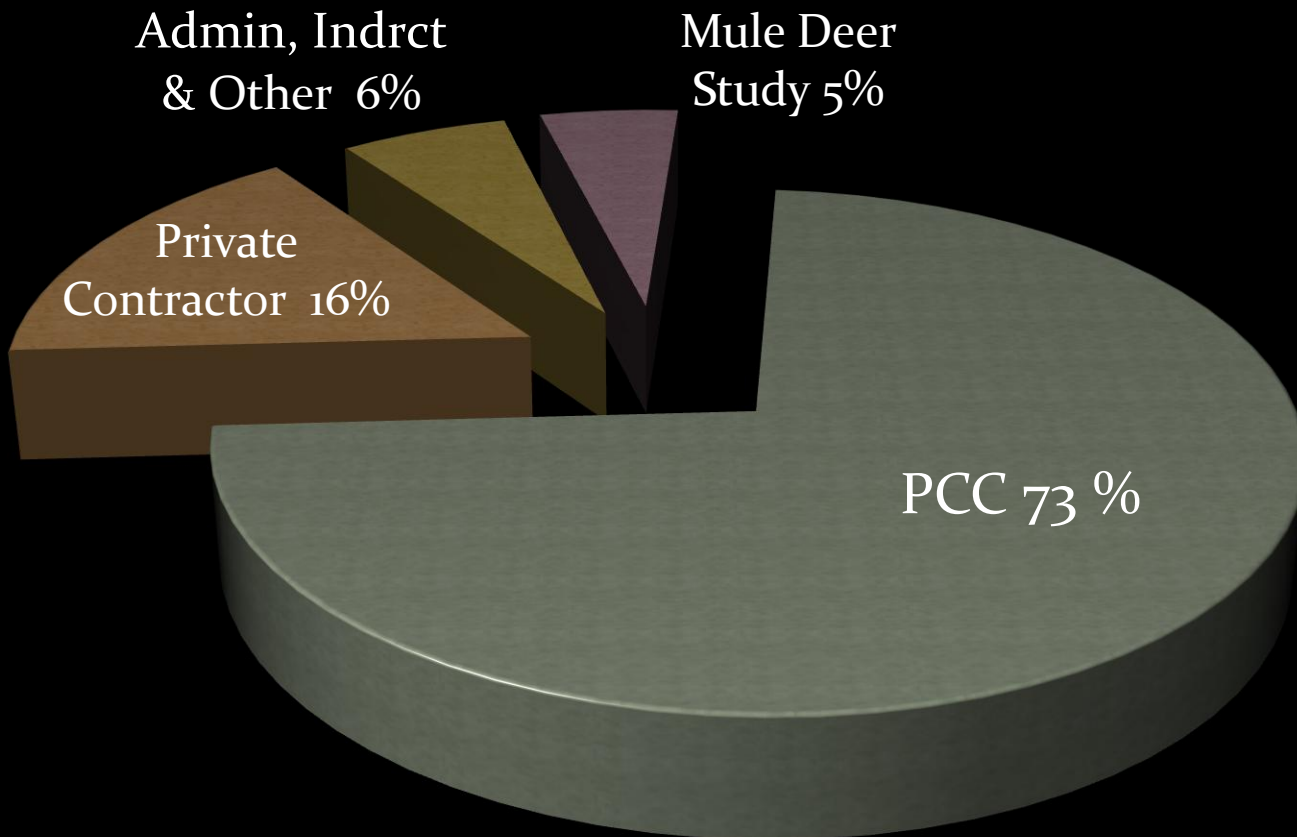
- Ground Work

- 1) Trapping (E-11.1)
- 2) Calling (E-11.1)

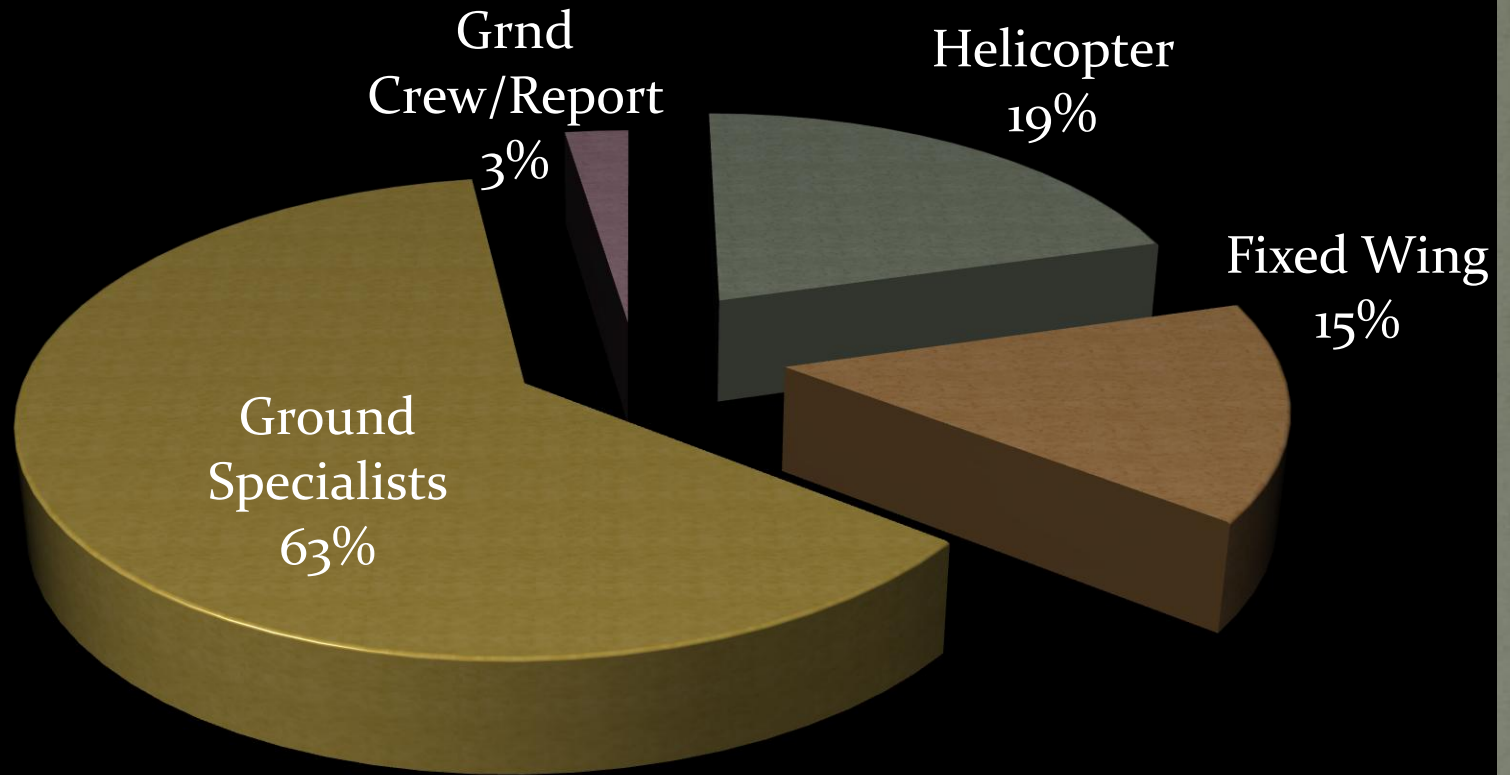
- Aerial

- 1) Ultra-Lite Aircraft (E-11.1)

Projected Program Composition



Projected PCC Breakdown



Washakie County Predator Management District



2022-2023 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 a shrinking budget, but has brought back on a 2nd full-time employee this year to help cover the County's needs. Ely White is the new full-time specialist in Washakie County and he comes with ground and aerial experience and ready to work.

Six other WS employees, including pilots, gunners, wildlife specialists from neighboring counties, and WS biologists also assisted in Washakie during this reporting period on 49 different properties county-wide. This data report shows the most recent 365 day period (March 1st, 2022– February 28th ,2023).

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

Vacant, At Large

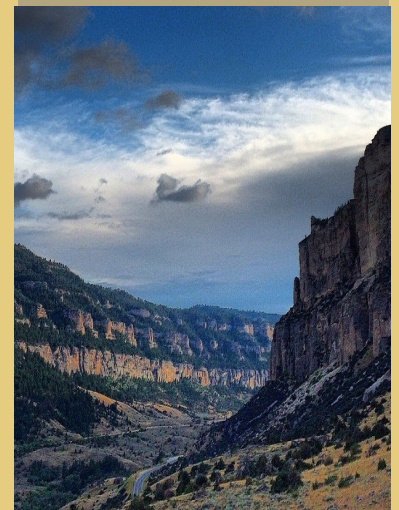
Nick Wall, Wildlife

Adam Martinez, Sheep

WS' Specialists:

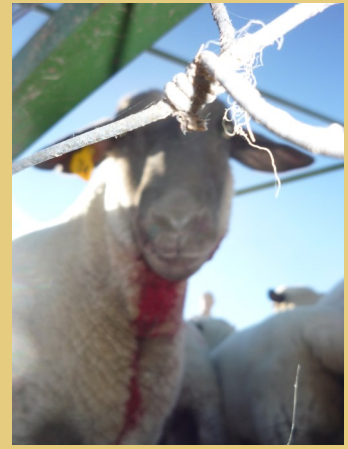
Brad Seaman—Full time

Ely White—Full time





During this reporting period, 7.9 hrs of helicopter were flown, and 194 hours of fixed-wing flown. The following animals were taken in response to conflicts with livestock, wildlife, nuisance, property, or human health and safety. There was a reported \$20,125 in reported livestock damage, and \$5,526 in WS verified livestock.



Beavers: 1

Coyotes: 403+ 3 dens

Foxes, Red: 19 + 2 dens

Great Blue Herons: 1

Raccoons: 40

Ravens: 2

Striped skunk: 16



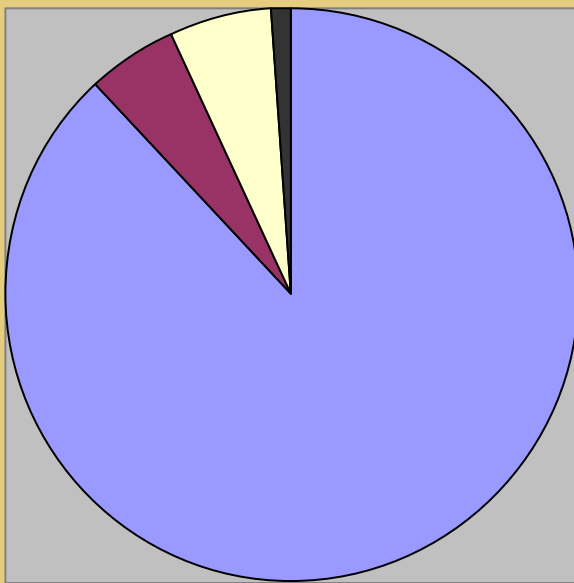
Mule Deer Fawn Protection Project

The ADMB project removing coyotes to protect southwest Bighorn mule deer fawns has wrapped up. The 5-year project removed a total of 590 total coyotes from deer fawning areas with great results.

WS, Washakie PMD, and Wyoming Game and Fish are working together and have identified another mule deer project in Washakie County in the riparian areas of the Gooseberry, Bighorn, Grass Crk and Cottonwood Crk. It was approved by the ADMB for the second year and we will continue work in Spring 2023.

The spring of 2022, WS removed 59 coyotes and 2 dens from the target area.

Percentage of WS time spent per resource during this reporting period



District Management Plan for 2023-24 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 with 2 FTE.

WCPMD intends to work with farmers experiencing crop damage from raccoons by contributing into a cost share program set-up by corn producers within the County and Wyoming Outdoorsman.

- We plan on equipping the specialists with the equipment needed to work both mountain and basin, day and night and continue keeping resource damage to a minimal.
- WS works, through MOU's and property agreements, to maintain strong working relationships with the BLM Worland Office, Bighorn USFS, Wyoming Game and Fish (WGFD), public health and safety agencies, local government, and private landowners county-wide.

- WCPMD depends on the 2 FTE's to continue a combination of ground and aerial work county-wide to alleviate wildlife damage. Washakie County's plan is to continue with an effective livestock protection program county-wide.
- Coyote numbers are overall low but stable, and damage has been minimal due to an intensive 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.
- WCPMD is working alongside sweet corn farmers, the WGFD, and Wyoming Outdoorsman, to help alleviate crop damage by raccoons in Washakie County. WCPMD has committed \$2,500 to the raccoon removal project. This is a valuable service that helps alleviate property damage on farms and ranches
- WCPMD plans to submit wildlife exhibiting abnormal behavior samples to the Vet Lab to test for diseases within the county.



Weston County Predator Management District
Management Plan FY 2023-2024

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 report spanning from March 1st, 2022 through February 28th, 2023, predator control was conducted on 567,250 acres of private land and 1,000 acres of County or City land. Forty-three (43) landowners signed cooperative agreements allowing access for predator control. Ground and aerial work is conducted to accomplish predator control measures. A total of 1,113 hours and 51.0 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. According to the aforementioned report from Wildlife Services, 258 coyotes, 12 coyote dens, 2 bobcats, 2 fox dens, 6 Canadian geese, 6 porcupines, 2 raccoons, 1 skunk, and 3 turkey vultures were removed during the March 1st, 2022 to February 28th, 2023 time period. 5 calves, 5 lambs, and 1 chicken were reported as losses due to depredation. 3 calves and 4 lambs were verified as losses by coyotes. 1 lamb was verified as a loss due to eagle depredation and 1 lamb was verified as a loss by red fox depredation. The total fiscal amount of losses verified equaling \$5,056. 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 258 coyotes removed by Wildlife Services, 172 of those were removed using the fixed-wing aerial method. The WCPMD proposes that 170 hours of fixed wing aircraft (120 hours through Wildlife Services and 50 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 was purchased by the board in the last fiscal year and has proven to be an effective method of predator removal as well. Other control

methods will be used selectively to remove predators that are preying upon or threatening livestock. These methods include but are not limited to: 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 2024.
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 Damage

Management District

ANNUAL REPORT

2022-2023

BOARD MEMBERS:

President:
Carson Keeline

Vice President:
Justin Stevenson

Secretary/Treasurer:
Ray Norris

Jason Williams

Corbin Timberman

Rob Taft

Rick Wehri

Kennedy Kimsey

Earl Slagle

WS SPECIALIST:

Brad Troftgruben

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Summary of Activities

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

Presently, there is one full-time WS employee that covers all of Weston County. In addition to the full-time WS specialist, 2 other WS employees (pilots, WS biologists, etc.) also provided assistance during this reporting period from July 1, 2022 to March 28, 2023. As a result, 548,425 acres were worked across 41 different properties in Weston County; for a total of 727 man hours, and 44.1 aerial hours flown.

Wildlife damage and threats come in many forms, from predation, to disease, human health and safety, etc. In this regard, the WCPMD 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:

Bobcats:	2
Coyotes:	296
Porcupine:	2
Raccoons:	1
Striped Skunks:	1

Losses For This Period:

Bobcat, Reported	\$6
Coyote, Reported	\$6,600
Coyote, Verified	\$2,690
Eagles, Verified	\$201

Total: \$9,497

Coyotes were responsible for \$2,690 in verified losses during this reporting period.

District Management Plan 2023-2024

Weston County Predator Management District's (WCPMD) goal for 2023-2024 is to continue to utilize USDA Wildlife Services to provide professional wildlife damage management throughout the county. WS enters into annual agreements with the Medicine Bow National Forest / Thunder Basin National Grasslands, the District BLM office, WGFD, USFWS, in addition to municipalities and private landowners, allowing wildlife damage management activities to occur, unimpeded, wherever they may arise. As such, WCPMD believes this cooperation is a key component in providing the most effective and efficient, professional wildlife damage management program we possibly can.

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

Livestock
General Property
Wildlife
Human Health and Safety

1) Livestock: Livestock protection continues to be the top priority for WCPMD. After several years of intense control efforts, coyote numbers seem to be slightly lower than the historical average, yet stable throughout the county. Much of this can be attributed to our WS specialist's emphasis on preventative control efforts along primary dispersal routes (both aerial, and on the ground), in conjunction with effective denning efforts to keep livestock depredations at a minimum.

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. WCPMD will continue to respond to such complaints as requested.

3) Wildlife: While WCPMD 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. WCPMD 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.