

Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board

2013 Annual Report



Compiled by the Wyoming Department of Agriculture



ANIMAL DAMAGE MANAGEMENT BOARD

2219 Carey Avenue, Cheyenne, WY 82002-0100
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MEMORANDUM

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

FROM: Jason Fearneyhough, ADMB Co-Chair
Scott Talbott, ADMB Co-Chair

DATE: November 26, 2013

SUBJECT: 2013 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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2013 Major Issue Overview

Gray Wolf Delisting and Established Predator Zone

October 1, 2012 was the beginning date for the gray wolf to be delisted from the Endangered Species Act and under state management in Wyoming. The ADMB is responsible for the management of the gray wolf in the newly established predator zone and the flex zone, during March 1-October 14 each year. The ADMB has been working with the Wyoming Game and Fish Department, USDA-Wildlife Services, and county predator district board members on this new management. In addition, the State Legislature and Governor provided funds to the ADMB to manage gray wolves in the predator areas. Emergency rules were in place in 2012, and regular rules were approved in 2013, to establish regulations governing the granting of these wolf management program funds. In conjunction with the Wyoming Game and Fish Department, a guide for livestock producers in dealing with wolves in the trophy game animal zone, the flex zone, and the predator zone was developed and is currently being distributed.

2013 Overview

1. **Meetings:** The Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board (ADMB) met six (6) times over the course of the calendar year January 17, January 22 (conference call), February 21 (conference call), May 7-8, June 5, and November 6. Agendas and meeting minutes are included in this report.
2. **Predator District Funding:** The ADMB received applications from 19 qualifying predator management districts across the state that totaled \$3.71 million. On May 8, the ADMB granted \$3.07 million for those districts.
3. **Projects:** Twenty different research/special project proposals were evaluated by the ADMB that totaled \$454,703. The ADMB approved \$201,601 in funding for 15 projects (6 new, 9 renewing multiple year,) this past year. Project synopses are included with this report. Complete project reports are available upon request.
4. **Rabies Management:** Renewed the state-wide wildlife rabies management plan with a modified budget. Maintain a Wyoming rabies website at www.wyorabies.org. Continued a state-wide rabies surveillance program, with laboratory validation of rabies prevalence. Three on the ground management programs are in operation.
5. **Program Partnerships:** The ADMB and Wyoming Ag in the Classroom have joined forces in developing and distributing predator management related curriculum to classrooms across Wyoming through the Country to Classroom publication and the Teacher Rendezvous.
6. **Promotion & Funding:** As part of the promotion of the voluntary Wildlife Damage Management Stamp, the board has changed the printing of the stamp. Because of production costs exceeding the income for a number of years, the ADMB has voted to use an electronic stamp that can be purchased at the Game and Fish license outlets.
7. **Public Relations:** Members and staff participated in the Wyoming Outfitters and Guides Association annual convention, Wyoming Wool Growers annual convention, the Wyoming Farm Bureau annual business meeting, the Wyoming Association of Conservation Districts annual convention, and plan to participate in the Wyoming Stock Growers meeting in December.
8. **Legislative:** There were not any additions or changes to predatory statutes during this last legislative session.
9. **Information Dissemination:** The ADMB website at <http://www.wyadmb.com> continues to be maintained and provides available information regarding the current activities and programs for the ADMB.

In Progress:

1. The next regular meeting of the ADMB will be January 15, 2014 at the Wyoming Game & Fish Dept. Headquarters in Cheyenne, 5400 Bishop Blvd.
2. Project applications for consideration at the January 15, 2014 meeting will be accepted until January 10, 2014.
3. Project applications for the June 2014 meeting will be accepted from March 15 to May 15, 2014.

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WYOMING

ANIMAL DAMAGE MANAGEMENT BOARD

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Wyoming Game & Fish Commission

FROM: Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board
Scott Talbott, Co-Chair
Jason Fearneyhough, Co-Chair

DATE: August 28, 2013

SUBJECT: Request for Funds

In accordance with Wyoming Statute 11-6-307, the ADMB is requesting \$100,000.00 (one-hundred thousand dollars) from the Wyoming game and fish commission. A synopsis of the projects selected for funding by the ADMB at the June 5, 2013 board meeting, is listed below.

11-6-307. Board to request funding from game and fish commission. The board shall annually request one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) from the Wyoming game and fish commission. These funds shall be expended for wildlife priorities. The game and fish commission may provide recommendations to the board regarding expenditure of these funds.

FY '13-14 ADMB Projects

Standing Projects:

1) Impact of raven removal on Sage Grouse populations in Sweetwater, Uinta and Lincoln Counties – Funding: \$30,000

Synopsis: Dr. Michael Conover, Utah State University, has been studying the impact of raven and fox predation on the nesting success and densities of sage-grouse in Sweetwater, Lincoln, and Uinta counties for the last five years. The funding will be used to determine where ravens that forage in garbage dumps and roosts located in Sweetwater, Lincoln and Uinta counties during the winter are located during the spring and summer. Such information is needed to target specific winter roosts and garbage dumps used for ravens that are depredating sage grouse nests and causing problems for agricultural producers. Submitted by: Utah State University

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

Synopsis: Funding up to a maximum of \$25,000 with the Wyoming Game & Fish Commission and Wildlife Services to alleviate black bear, grizzly bear, and mountain lion depredation to livestock, bees and beehives in all counties of the state. Unused funds will revert back to the ADMB account. Submitted by: Wyoming Game & Fish Department

3) Coyote Control Targeted on Mule Deer Fawning Areas at Cedar Mountain – Funding: \$5,000

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

4) Monitoring causes of mortality and predation rates of sage grouse in the Big Horn Basin – Funding: \$35,000

Synopsis: This project has four main objectives. They are: 1. Document mortality causes to sage-grouse in the Big Horn Basin, 2. Identify potential nest predators, 3. Gather information on seasonal habitat use, migration patterns, and lek fidelity, 4. Evaluate control measures for potential predators. Submitted by: Meeteetse Conservation District

5) Identifying crucial fawning areas to allow targeted and effective predator control in Wyoming Range - Funding: \$15,000

Synopsis: This project will identify key habitats used by mule deer in the Wyoming Range for fawn rearing, and those where fawn recruitment rates are lower than expected given

habitat conditions, which will allow the targeted removal of predators to increase fawn production and enhance population growth. Targeting predator control efforts in such habitats could serve to increase fawn recruitment for female mule deer as well as increase the efficiency and effectiveness of predator control efforts to benefit mule deer. Submitted by: Wyoming Game and Fish Department

6) Removal of coyotes from mule deer parturition habitat in Platte Valley Herd Unit- Funding: \$15,000

Synopsis: Remove coyotes using ground and aerial lethal control techniques in an effort to improve mule deer fawn survival. Submitted by: Carbon County Predator Management District

7) Washakie Wildlife Specialist – Nuisance Animal Project and Big Horn Basin Sage Grouse Project – Funding: \$20,000

Synopsis: This project position will conduct predator management activities to alleviate wildlife damage to decrease crop and irrigation damage and to increase pheasant enhancement and to provide assistance in conducting Big Horn Basin sage grouse predation research project. Submitted by: Washakie County Predator Management Board

8) Park County Livestock Carcass Management Program - Funding: \$5,000

Synopsis: The Livestock Carcass Management program is a domestic livestock carcass removal service available to livestock producers/landowners who live in areas of Park County that have historically experienced a high number of human-bear conflicts. The main purpose of this program is to minimize human-bear conflicts and increase human safety by removing carcasses that attract and hold grizzly bears in areas that are in close proximity to humans, ranch buildings, feedlots, or calving areas. Submitted by: Wyoming Game and Fish Department

9) Country to Classroom School publication – Funding: \$3,000

Synopsis: The Country to Classroom is an annual publication that highlights categories of agriculture and natural resources with predator management as one of those categories. The Country to Classroom provides lessons and prompts for the annual book mark contest. Submitted by: Wyoming Agriculture in the Classroom

New Projects:

10) Animal Handling Equipment – Funding \$1,100

Synopsis: This project will purchase skunk and small animal traps, along with catch poles to help insure safety and effectiveness of department personnel while handling a large variety of situations in which this equipment could be used. This equipment will be used in the Cody Region. Submitted by: Wyoming Game and Fish Department

11) Ferris Mule Deer Coyote Control in Selected Fawning Areas – Funding \$14,000

Synopsis: The objective of this project is to provide coyote control in select locations within the Ferris Mule Deer Herd Unit. Submitted by: Wyoming Game and Fish Department

12) Gray Wolf Management Supplies – Funding \$5,000

Synopsis: Traps, trap monitors, and trap upgrade accessories for trapping gray wolves for damage control, monitoring and management purposes. Submitted by: Wyoming Game and Fish Department

13) Adon Mule Deer Predation Study and Control – Funding \$24,700

Synopsis: A study analyzing the impacts that predation control may have on mule deer, pronghorn, and elk populations. Submitted by: Campbell County Predator Management District

14) Mountain Lion/Large Carnivore traps for Green River Region – Funding \$1,300

Synopsis: Purchase live capture traps for live capture and removal of nuisance/damage mountain lions and large furbearers, in the Green River Region. Submitted by: Wyoming Game and Fish Department

15) Atlantic City Bear Project – Funding \$2,500

Synopsis: Fremont County Solid Waste Disposal District is partnering with the Wyoming Game and Fish Department to assist Atlantic City residents with an effort to reduce conflicts between humans and bears that are often a result of unsecured garbage attractants. This project will provide bear resistant trash receptacles for homes and businesses in the Atlantic City area. Submitted by: Fremont County Solid Waste Disposal District

Note: All projects, with the exception of Country to Classroom publication, were approved for G&F Commission funds. These approved projects total \$198,600. If Commission funds are approved, projects will be funded from the \$100,000 provided, in addition to funds from the regular ADMB account.

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

Agenda

Thursday, January 17, 2013

- 9:00 a.m. - Call to Order – (Fearneyhough, Talbott)
 - Introductions of board, guests, & public
 - Additions/Corrections/Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of November 1, 2012 Minutes
- 9:10 a.m. - Review of ADMB Strategic Plan, District and Project Application Dates, Wildlife Management Stamp
- 9:30 a.m. - Wyoming Rabies Update, Dr. Ken Mills, State Veterinary Laboratory
- 10:30 a.m. - Review of Progress on establishing regular rules for Wolf Management Funding, Kent Drake, WDA
Discussion on Wolf Management Funding
- 11:00 noon - Follow-up Discussion on Golden Eagles and Lamb Predation Issues, Bill Taliaferro and Dan McCarron, Sweetwater County Predator Management District Board members and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service representative
- 12:00 p.m. - Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. - Continued Follow-up Discussion on Golden Eagles and Lamb Predation Issues
Ag in the Classroom, Jessie Dafoe
- 2:00 p.m. - Wolf Management Update, Kent Drake, WDA
- 2:30 p.m. - Public Comment / Board Comment
- 3:00 p.m. - Adjourn

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

Animal Damage Management Board Meeting – Thursday, January 17, 2013
Game & Fish Headquarters, Cheyenne, Wyoming

Board Members Present:

Co-Chair Jason Fearneyhough	Co-Chair Scott Talbott	Rod Krischke
Jim Collins	Bob Innes	John Espy
Gene Hardy	Amanda Hulet	Dennis Saville
Jim Schellinger	Dale Leatham	Shaun Sims
Mark Sattelberg	Ed Mignery	

Board Members Absent:

Cheryl Chatham	Dale Leatham	Jim Schellinger
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WDA Support Staff:

Kent Drake
Muff Parker

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Scott Talbott at 9:03 am. The agenda was reviewed. Jim Collins name a motion to accept the agenda with the additions made. Additions were Wolf Management Funding Discussion and to give some time for Jesse Dafoe to give an update of WAIC Projects. Scott Talbott also added next meeting date change discussion. The motion was seconded by Shaun Sims. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Board Members and guests were introduced.

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the November 1, 2012 ADMB meeting. Motion carried.

Review of ADMB Strategic Plan, District and Project Application Date and Wildlife Management Stamp

Kent suggested that if wasn't necessary to look at the Strategic Plan in depth now due to changes coming up with the upcoming turnover of the ADMB members. Kent will bring it back for review next year.

The next meeting to determine funding for districts is set for April 30 and May 1, but (Applications Due April 1 for District ones and May 15 for the 317 grant applications which coincides with the June meeting). Scott Talbott has a significant conflict for the April/May meeting and asked the Board to change the dates. It was decided **the next meeting will be May 7 & 8 in Casper at the Regional Game and Fish office.**

Scott Talbott gave an update on the process for the Wildlife Stamp. He said that when hunters are making application on line for hunting license, there is a box to check for the ADMB stamp. Kent asked if there was any advertising the Board should be looking at. John Espy suggested the option be in the form of some type of pop-up before finalizing the application, but Scott said it would cost addition programming funding. Scott will check with his licensing section to see what it would take to make it a little more obvious on line. It was noted by several members that the cost of advertising has been shown to not be cost-affective, as most hunters won't buy the stamp unless they have to purchase one.

Wyoming Rabies Surveillance Update – Ken Mills, State Veterinary Laboratory

Ken Mills gave a power point presentation on rabies surveillance in Wyoming. He said we are one of a few states in the nation that does surveillance and he said the information is helpful. Prior to 1984, Wyoming

did not have the virus. The highest year of incident was 1986 where there were almost 250 positive cases. He said his data is skewed because several vets in the state know immediately the animal is infected and they don't send in samples to his lab. There is rabies present in bats and there are two strains of the skunk virus – south central and north central. Both viruses are moving and Wyoming should see the south central virus is spreading north.

Review of rules for Wolf Management Funding – Kent Drake, WDA

There have not been any comments to date. Comments are over tomorrow. Kent asked if the Board could have a teleconference next week to finalize the rules. Rod made a motion, that if there are no comments, he would direct the chairman to approve the comments. The motion was seconded by Gene Hardy. Jason and Scott felt there should be a vote on the approval rather than to allow the chairman to finalize them. Rod withdrew his motion and Gene, his second. Scott suggested January 29, 2013. Kent asked if he would be available sooner. The conference call will be January 22 at 7 am to approve Chapter 2 rules. Kent will get the call set up and make sure the Board will be in compliance with the Open Meetings Act.

Jim Collins talked about a roving person funded by the 1501 money stationed in Sweetwater County. This position would also be roving, to handle some of the large predator issues, especially wolves. He would like to have some discussion on the probability. Rod Merrill, Wildlife Services SW Wy. Supervisor, has gone to a few of the predator districts and asked them for funding for this position. Rod Krischke said no decisions were made in December. Jim Collins asked if the ADMB could put in a request for a half a year with Sweetwater County funding the other half. Kent said it is difficult to find any one county to front the money with reimbursements coming from outside sources. Rod Krischke feels that once there is a year of wolf management, they all will have a better idea of the needs. Jason said there is funding of \$200,000 a biennium to fund wolf problem areas, but is concerned there are other areas that may come up with problems and would hate to see the funding be spent before the whole state knows the needs. Scott Edberg from G&F talked about damages for 2012 is still being assessed. Bill Taliaferro said Sweetwater County had agreed to fund ¼ of the position, but he is wondering if other counties (Sublette Fremont Uinta and Lincoln) were going to participate. He said bears are also a problem. Rod Krischke said they are looking at a roving position to address predator problems in any county that needs it. The cost would be around \$80,000 to \$85,000 a year. Shaun Sims said he thinks the ADMB funding should only cover wolf problems. The counties would have to cover the cost from other predator problems. John Espy said he would rather see a confirmation of funding for the summer and see if it works. Rod Krischke asked if his agency could work with Rod Merrill and the districts to bring a proposal for special project funding. Kent suggested Rod work with the county predator districts to put this in their budgets for 1501 funding. John Espy asked what the time frame would be for getting someone on board if the funding is committed. Rod Krischke said June would be the best time to have this person on board. Bill Taliaferro said he thinks he would have time to get the counties together and have a proposal by the May meeting.

Shaun Sims made a motion to have Kent and Rod Krischke work with Rod Merrill to set up a meeting with the counties to present a proposal at the May meeting for a roving specialist in SW Wyoming. Jim Collins seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Golden Eagles & Lamb Predation Issues – Bill Taliaferro and Dan McCarron – Sweetwater County PMD

Mark Sattelberg, Wy. USFWS, was asked to speak to the issues that had been sent to him via e-mail. Mark said "take" of golden eagles are permitted. The falconer issue was removed from the language last year. The designations are by county. Six eagles for falconers was how it used to read and was grandfathered in when the new law was established. The falcon permitting is now being done by the Wyoming Game and Fish. All direct contact for eagles is done through their Regional (Region 6) Office in Denver. Harassment is a part of take, but does not mean the killing of the eagles. Bill T. is concerned as to what it takes to have the eagles removed. He said the eagles circle the sheep and do damage to them and would like to have the

eagles removed. Mark S. said, as a landowner, he is allowed to get a permit in which he can harass them from livestock. The USFWS looks at the total population, which is all of the United States. The total amount of eagles that can be removed is only six. Mark Sattelberg said the form for application is available online. Dan McCarron said he also had Sam Crow and Dave Stevens with him. He said that Eagle Depredation to Wyoming sheep cost \$1.75 million over the last ten years. It is Dan's understanding that the Governor could deal directly with the Sec. of the Interior and takes USFWS out of the equation. He is not aware of the Governor has not ever asked for designation. Dan feels that USFWS is regulating falconers out of existence.

Lunch

The meeting was reconvened by Co-Chair Talbott at 1:55 pm.

Continued Discussion of Golden Eagles & Lamb Predation Issues

Bill Taliaferro said he feels the landowners in the southwestern part of the state need some help with the golden eagle predation. He said he is reducing the number of sheep in his operation due to the predators. Dan McCarron said there is a provision in the Eagle Act to have falconers come in, but he said it appears the USFWS is continuing to put up road blocks. He would like to see the USFWS relinquish the regulation of the eagles to the Wyoming Department of Game and Fish. Bob Innes suggested putting an eagle update on each meeting agenda of the ADMB. Bryce volunteered to go to the Attorney General's office to see if anything has come out (a report to the Governor) of last year's meeting he had with Bryce, the Governor and others. He indicated it would probably be helpful to know what the AG's stance is on this issue. Mark Sattelberg will continue to monitor the situation. Jim Collins wondered if there would be a benefit to do a separate survey of the numbers in the state year round. He's talking about the birds that are not migrating. They have been nesting in Wyoming and not migrating. Dan McCarron would like to see the regulations be looked at to make sure they are in line with Chapter 25. Rod Krischke said if he knows of a kill by eagles, he is willing to make a declaration. Rod said the kill needs to be verified by his folks. When lambing season comes around, it is hard to have staff everywhere they need to be. Rod Krischke said he does not want his agency to be a stumbling block to producers and he is willing to look at historical data on eagle depredation since visual is not always available. Rod also suggested getting folks from Region 6 to attend future meetings to continue discussion to get to resolution. There will be a letter from the ADMB co-chairs to go to Region 6 telling them we need their input at future meetings.

WAIC Project Update – Jessie Dafoe

Jessie said that the WAIC will be doing three different publications to better reach the third, fourth and fifth grades. The predator topic will be addressed in the fifth grade level. She is hoping the Board will be willing to approve an increase in up-front costs of the publication. After that, the cost will go down significantly to allow for postage in the following years.

Wolf Management Update – Kent Drake, WDA

The Wy. Game and Fish wolf hunting season went well. Quota was fifty-two and there were 42 taken during the season, one of which was taken illegally. Twenty six wolves were taken in the predator area from October 1 – December 31, 2012. Scott said he thinks G&F has been able to collect DNA samples of all the wolves taken in the predator management area. He said he can't stress the value of this being done on all wolves taken so Wyoming can ensure the genetic diversity of the animals. Scott Edberg said they are busy collecting data so they should be able to have good data to set the 2013 hunting season. Three lawsuits have been filed to date. The two filed in Washington DC may be combined and moved to Wyoming. The third one, filed in Colorado, has already been moved to Wyoming.

Legislative Update

Jason Fearneyhough said there has been a cut of \$250,000 from the ADMB funding that was already figured into the balance available for the next fiscal year funding. This is significant, as it is with all of state government. G&F has a small amount of funding from the general fund and the Governor recommended that budget only be cut by 4%. G&F is requesting a license fee adjustment. Jim Collins asked for a request by ADMB to have sage grouse projects go through the working groups has been done. Scott indicated there is still plenty of funding for those sage grouse working groups and if it isn't used, will be reverted since the funding comes from the general fund. Kent was asked to get the word out to predator management districts that for sage grouse predator management projects, the districts should first go through the working groups for funding rather than the ADMB.

Public Comment/Board Comment

Jason thanked Ed Mignery for his service to the ADMB, as this is his last meeting. Richard Klouda will be taking over the G&F Commission position. Scott Talbott thanked Ken Mills for his presentation and encouraged the Board to have some similar presentations in the future.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.



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**ADMB Meeting
Teleconference
Call In – 877-278-8686
Code: 811882**

Agenda

Tuesday January 22, 2013

- 7:00 am - Discussion and Decision on Adopting Regular Regulations Governing the Granting of Wolf Management Program Funds.
- 7:15 am Public Comment
- 7:30 am - Adjourn

Animal Damage Management Board Meeting – Tuesday, January 22, 2013
Teleconference Call

Board Members Present:

Co-Chair Jason Fearneyhough	Rod Krischke
Jim Collins	John Espy
Amanda Hulet	Dale Leatham
Shaun Sims	Ed Mignery

Board Members Absent:

Co-chair Scott Talbott	Jim Schellinger
Gene Hardy	Bob Innes
Cheryl Chatham	Mark Sattelberg
Dennis Saville	

WDA Support Staff:

Kent Drake

Public:

Gib Mathers – Powell Tribune

Richard Klouda – soon to be ADMB member, replacing Ed Mignery

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Jason Fearneyhough at 7:04 am. The agenda was reviewed. John Espy moved to adopt the regular regulations Governing the Granting of Wolf Management Program Funds. The motion was seconded by Shaun Sims. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Co-Chair Jason Fearneyhough asked for public comment.

Shaun Sims moved to adjourn the meeting. Amanda Hulet seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 a.m.



ANIMAL DAMAGE MANAGEMENT BOARD

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**ADMB Meeting
Teleconference
Call In – 877-278-8686
Code: 811882**

Agenda

Thursday February 21, 2013

- 7:00 am - Discussion and Decision on Re-adopting Emergency Regulations Governing the Granting of Wolf Management Program Funds.
- 7:10 am Public Comment
- 7:15 am - Adjourn

Animal Damage Management Board Meeting – Thursday, February 21, 2013
Teleconference Call

Board Members Present:

Co-Chair Jason Fearneyhough	Co-chair Scott Talbott
Rod Krischke	Jim Schellinger
Jim Collins	John Espy
Amanda Hulet	Dale Leatham
Shaun Sims	Ed Mignery
Gene Hardy	Bob Innes
Cheryl Chatham	Mark Sattelberg

Board Members Absent:

Dennis Saville

WDA Support Staff:

Kent Drake	Hank Uhden
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The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Scott Talbott at 7:02 am. The agenda was reviewed. Shaun Sims moved to re-adopt the emergency regulations Governing the Granting of Wolf Management Program Funds. The motion was seconded by Gene Hardy. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Co-Chair Scott Talbott asked for public comment.

Jim Schellinger moved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 a.m.

ADMB May 7-8, 2013

Call to Order 9:00 a.m, Welcome, , Interview Process

Start Time	End Time	Interview	Request
9:30	10:00	Goshen	\$136,220
10:00	10:30	Carbon	\$182,940
10:30	11:00	Weston	\$191,000
11:00	11:30	Albany	\$147,308
11:30	noon	Campbell	\$311,900, rabies \$67,500
noon	1:30	Lunch	
1:30	2:00	Uinta	\$220,050
2:00	2:30	Big Horn	\$275,122
2:30	3:00	Park	\$216,079
3:00	3:30	Crook	\$145,400
3:30	4:00	Sheridan	\$171,268, rabies \$10,000
4:00	4:30	Fremont	\$215,000
4:30	5:00	Public Comment	
Wednesday	May 8		
8:00 a.m.	8:30	Natrona	\$234,800
8:30	9:00	Converse	\$201,581
9:00	9:30	Johnson	\$146,700, rabies \$34,000
9:30	10:00	Hot Springs	\$160,000
10:00	10:30	Niobrara	\$160,000
10:30	11:00	Washakie	\$212,588
11:00	11:30	Sweetwater	\$147,184
11:30	noon	Lincoln	\$240,805
Noon	1:00	Lunch	
1:00	3:00	Discussion	
3:00	3:30	Public Comment and Adjournment	

Animal Damage Management Board Meeting – Tuesday, May 7, & Wednesday, May 8, 2013
Game & Fish Regional Office, Casper, Wyoming

Board Members Present:

Co-Chair Jason Fearneyhough
Jim Collins
Gene Hardy
Jim Schellinger
Richard Klouda

Co-Chair Scott Edberg
Bob Innes
Amanda Hulet
Dale Leatham
Mark Sattelberg

Rod Krischke
John Espy
Shaun Sims
Cheryl Chatham

Board Members Absent:

Dennis Saville

WDA Support Staff:

Kent Drake

Margy Anderson

Hank Uhden

Public present:

Wiley Cross
Roger Cox
David Kalco
Wade Larson
Kay Neves
Jerry Ista
Mike Connell
Don Garrison
Phil Marton
Gerald Fink
Rolly Redland
Justin Binfet
Scott Huber

Stan Smith
Alan Todd
Joe Hickey
Jim Pehringer
Shane Smith
Darla West
Alan Plummer
Mary Owens
Glen Taylor
Dave Hall
Bill Taliaferro
Brian Olsen
Chad Richardson, Nebraska District WS Supervisor

George Williams
Don Willis
Troy Scott
Lisa Kimsey
Rory Renner
Bryce Reece
Shane Sanderson
Bob Harlan
Peter John Camino
Jack Baird
Truman Julian
Dave Daigle

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Jason Fearneyhough at 9:00 AM. It was moved to convene in Executive Session to discuss PMD applications. Motion was seconded and carried. At 9:30, it was moved to come out of Executive Session and back to the regular meeting. Motion seconded and carried.

The agenda was reviewed and a presentation by Bryce Reece was scheduled for the end of the first day.

Board Members and guests were introduced.

Predator Management Districts began giving presentations:

Goshen County PMD – Wiley Cross and Stan Smith gave a presentation and answered various questions from the ADMI members.

Carbon County PMD – George Williams and Roger Cox gave a presentation and answered various questions from the ADMI members. Co-Chair Scott Edberg will find out why the mule deer project did not have flying approval. The ADMI will set aside time at the June meeting to hear what Scott found out and discuss what to do next with the mule deer project.

Weston County PMD - Alan Todd presented information on the Weston County program. If they are awarded less than their full request, cuts will be made to their depreciation reserve account.

Albany County PMD – David Kalco and Don Willis represented the Albany County program. They are not requesting funds for their mule deer project. They plan to assist Game and Fish with a project on Sheep Mountain. The Board asked questions about their requested funds for flying time.

Campbell County PMD - Dave Daigle, Jason, Murphy Love, Scott and Duke updated the Board on how their program is currently running. They are hoping to get the majority of their rabies funding from the Gillette City Council and County Commissioners. After some discussion about the 50/50 landowner coupon program, Dave Daigle expressed interest in reviving an Agreement between the ADMB and Campbell County PMD for said program. Co-Chair Scott Edberg offered to research how many coupons have been received from ranchers in Campbell County.

The Board reviewed the minutes from January 17, January 22, and February 21, 2013 . Shaun Sims moved to approve the minutes as presented. Jim Collins seconded. Jim Schellinger moved to correct the minutes from the January 17th meeting, as he was listed present when he was not. Amanda Hulet seconded. Correction motion and main motion carried.

The Board broke for lunch. Co-Chair Jason Fearneyhough called the meeting back to order at 1:35 PM.

Uinta County PMD: Joe Hickey and Wade Larson presented information on the Uinta County program. There is potential for a roving trapper among Sublette, Sweetwater, Uinta and Lincoln counties, which is accounted for in this budget request. There is a mule deer study in progress with the Game and Fish. \$10,000 of Uinta County's request is to go towards this study.

Big Horn County PMD: Lisa Kimsey and Kay Neves represented the Big Horn County PMD program. Raccoon control has been an important part of their program. They have a Sage Grouse predation project in progress. Jim Pehringer noted the county does share the salary cost of an employee with Park County. Removal of Russian olive has resulted in an increase of displaced raccoon numbers. The total county program services around 177 private landowners. Lisa feels the program has a good reputation in the county as a community program open to more people than just the ranchers.

Park County PMD: Shane Smith and Rory Renner presented information on the Park County program. Wolf control and Sage Grouse protection is important. Predation efforts on irrigated farm ground target skunks and raccoons.

Crook County PMD: Jerry Ista and Darla West represented the Crook County program. Mountain Lions continue to predate on livestock. About 25% of trapper time the past winter was spent on Lion control. The county had significant drought problems and lost several livestock in the past year. They anticipate another year of drought.

Sheridan County PMD: Mike Connell and Alan Plummer presented info on the Sheridan County program. For skunk control, Alan hands out the traps to individuals. They tried night vision for predator control, and it worked for their purposes. Thermal imaging did not work as well, especially from longer distances. The PMD is working on selling the thermal imaging system. The Board suggested the PMD list the expenses related to vehicle purchase/use as equipment costs. Co- Chair Jason Fearneyhough suggested Kent and the PMD work to make sure their equipment purchase/use process is as simple and clear as possible for accounting purposes, and to keep their liability at a minimum.

Fremont County PMD: Shane Sanderson presented the Fremont County PMD request. He gave the status of current wildlife projects. There have been no refund requests in the past 8 -10 years.

Bryce Reece presented a funding request to revise and reprint the PMD educational brochure and report. The initial brochure, developed in 2008, gave a history of the ADMB and a description of what county PMD's do. Each state funded county received a full page in the brochure to describe their program and highlight county activity. Kent mentioned he would be willing to help Bryce get updated reporting from the counties. Bryce suggested that, should the Board approve a re-printing, a letter go out to the districts from the co-chairs, encouraging their participation.

Bryce mentioned the updating and reprinting process would be faster now that he has the first brochure as a template. Shaun Sims stated he wanted a proof to be reviewed by the Board before the final printing. Shaun Sims moved to fund the proposal Bryce Reece submitted at the full amount, \$15,000, requested. Gene Hardy seconded. Bob Innes stated he wanted the brochure available as a pdf for ADMB electronic distribution. Shaun and Gene both agreed to add the pdf for ADMB distribution requirement as a friendly amendment to their main motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned for Tuesday, May 7th, at 5:33 PM.

Co-Chair Jason Fearneyhough called the meeting back to order on Wednesday, May 8th, at 8:04 AM.

Natrona County PMD: Don Garrison, Mary Owens, Phil Marton, Glen Taylor and Bob Harlan represented Natrona County PMD. They budget amounts and programs remain the same. The Deer project in progress in area 66 is very important and the district wants to continue it in the same capacity. The district will continue to operate their programs with three full-time trappers. They have a bounty program for coyote control, funded by predator fees. The program provided positive public relations with the district.

Converse County PMD: Troy Scott presented information on the Converse county program. Over the last year the district felt they were spending too much time in the air, and cut air time back with WS. They hired two part-time people to do control on the ground. Their bounty program payouts come from brand inspection fees. Co-Chair Jason Fearneyhough asked Rod Krischke if there is a way to track how the WS planes divide their work among the counties in an effort to find the best location(s) to house the planes. This may help to reduce flying time and costs for the districts whose WS fliers are traveling longer distances.

Johnson County PMD: Peter John Camino, Gerald Fink and Dave Hall represented the Johnson County program. Their budget request has increased since last year. They have three full-time trappers and have made cost of living increases for them. Their skunk trappers, due to an increase in skunks, have added two months to their control efforts. Their carry-over account has decreased. Dave Hall gave statistics showing how the District has become more efficient with their flying time. Peter John and Dave described the positive public relations the district has from conducting their rabies program.

Hot Springs County PMD: Jack Baird presented info in the Hot Springs County program. Their request is for funds to operate under status quo. Their district splits the cost of a specialist with Washakie PMD. Hot Springs PMD and Park PMD work together on Game and Fish projects. Jim Pehringer mentioned the local working group is putting some money into the sage grouse project for location data, however securing funding for the personnel is difficult. All four districts in the Basin are providing in-kind toward this project. All the area conservation districts are also involved. Under this project, sage grouse are found and monitored daily. Ten of his staff use half their days monitoring grouse.

Niobrara County PMD: Shannon Bruegger and Barb Kilmer intended to represent their funding request, however were not able to come due to delayed conflicts with sheep shearing and lambing operations underway.

Washakie County PMD: Rolly Redland represented the Washakie County program. Their request is overall the same as before. They split half the cost of a specialist with Hot Springs County PMD. Rolly mentioned the issue of billing the public for requests for predator control services on cropland. Shaun Sims suggested informing the public how the predator control services are paid for and request folks to make donations for the services they are receiving. Jim Pehringer mentioned bringing the issue to Farm Services and see what they can do to help get farmers on board. Co-Chair Jason Fearneyhough asked Shaun Sims to remind him at the next BOA meeting to ask Allison Lass about this issue. Washakie has no carry over funds in their budget.

Lincoln County PMD: Truman Julian presented info on the Lincoln county funding request. Wolves are a big problem in their county. Their flying time is very important to running their program, as the county is in the predator zone and is not compensated for livestock loss.

Sweetwater County PMD: Bill Taliaferro represented Sweetwater Co PMD. They have had a request from the Mule Deer Foundation to work with Game and Fish on a mule deer project. They have had a request from WS for an additional person.

The Board broke for lunch. Co-Chair Jason Fearneyhough called the meeting back to order at 1:18 PM.

The Board discussed how to allocate funds to the PMD Districts, and considered the allocations made in April 2012.

Jim Collins motioned to fund each district at what they were given last year, and move on from there. Dale Leatham seconded. Motion failed

Bob Innes moved to allocate the amounts to the districts per recommendations from Co-chairs and staff. Shaun Sims seconded.

Co-Chair Jason Fearneyhough went through the list of districts and asked for Board concerns with funding each district as recommended.

Bob Innes moved to amend the main motion to change allocation for Campbell County PMD to \$195,000.00 and Lincoln County PMD to \$214,030. John Espy seconded. Amendment motion carried.

Jim Collins moved to amend the main motion to change allocation for Park County PMD to \$160,230, Hot Springs County PMD to \$174,827, and Washakie County PMD to \$163,660. Bob Innes seconded. Amendment motion carried.

Bob Innes moved to amend the main motion to change allocation for Natrona County PMD to \$234,800.00. John Espy seconded. Amendment motion carried.

Bob Innes moved to amend the main motion to allocate \$100,000 for Sheridan County PMD. Jim Schellinger seconded. Shaun Sims noted when they come for their budget funding next year, we make sure they have sold the night vision equipment and it is reflected in their budget. Amendment motion carried.

The main motion was then voted on, and carried, to approve all districts at the funding recommended or as amended, reflected on the attached spreadsheet.

Jim Schellinger moved to approve rabies funding for Campbell, Sheridan, and Johnson PMDs as recommended. Amanda Hulet seconded. Motion carried.

Co-Chair Fearneyhough moved on to ask Board members if they can be present the evening before the June meeting and have a farewell dinner to three members leaving the Board after serving 8 consecutive years.

Co-Chair Fearneyhough called for public comment.

Bryce Reece stated he thinks the ADMB members deserve a tremendous amount of thanks for taking on the tasks which come with being part of the Board.

Jim Collins moved to adjourn the meeting. Amanda Hulet seconded. Motion carried.

Co-Chair Fearneyhough adjourned the meeting at 3:15 PM.

Albany County PMD	\$94,758.00
Big Horn County PMD	\$175,820.00
Campbell County PMD	\$195,000.00
Carbon County PMD	\$180,000.00
Converse County PMD	\$146,637.00
Crook County PMD	\$134,600.00
Fremont County PMD	\$159,540.00
Goshen County PMD	\$131,124.00
Hot Springs County PMD	\$174,827.00
Johnson County PMD	\$153,700.00
Lincoln County PMD	\$214,030.00
Natrona County PMD	\$234,800.00
Niobrara County PMD	\$152,400.00
Park County PMD	\$160,230.00
Sheridan County PMD	\$100,000.00
Sweetwater County PMD	\$142,110.00
Uinta County PMD	\$180,500.00
Washakie County PMD	\$163,660.00
Weston County PMD	\$176,364.00

Rabies Management

Campbell Rabies	\$20,450.00
Sheridan Rabies	\$10,000.00
Johnson Rabies	\$27,000.00



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ADMB Meeting County Commission Conference Room Sheridan, WY

Agenda

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

- 8:00 am - Call to Order – (Fearneyhough, Talbott)
- Introductions of board, guests, & public
 - Additions/Corrections/Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of May 7-8, 2013 Minutes
- 8:15 am - Project Reports (15 min each)
- * Jackson Elk Monitoring – D. Brimeyer – Request for Extension
 - * Estimating population size of mountain lions using DNA markers – D. Thompson
 - * Coyote Removal to enhance Bates Hole Mule Deer Fawn Survival – S. Gilliland, D. Garrison, J. Binfet
 - * Hot Springs County Nuisance Predator Project and BH Basin Sage Grouse Pred. Project – B. Belden
 - * Electric Fence Supply Project – Z. Turnbull
- 9:30 am - Project Proposals – Renewals w/ Updates (20 min. each)
- * Impact of Raven/Fox Removal on Sage Grouse in SW, L, U Counties – M. Conover
 - * Large Carnivore-Livestock Depredation Prevention and Control – S. Edberg
 - * Identifying Crucial fawning areas to allow targeted and effective predator control in Wyoming Range – S. Smith
 - * Removal of coyotes from mule deer parturition habitat in Platte Valley Herd Unit – G. Williams
 - * Country to Classroom publication – J. Defoe
 - * Washakie County Nuisance Predator Project and BH Basin Sage Grouse Pred. Project- R. Redland
 - * Park County Livestock Carcass Management Program – D. Lasseter
- Noon - Lunch
- 1:00 pm - Project Proposal Renewals w/ Updates (20 min. each)
- * Coyote Control Targeted on Mule Deer Fawning areas at Cedar Mountain – J. Short
 - * Monitoring causes of mortality and predation rates of Sage Grouse in the Bighorn Basin – S. Jones
- 1:40 pm - Project Proposals - New (20 min. each)
- * Bear Proof Dumpster Initiative – D. Lasseter
 - * Animal Handling Equipment – B. Brown
 - * Ferris Mule Deer Coyote Control in Selected Fawning Areas – B. Brinegar
 - * Gray Wolf Management Supplies – B. Trebelcock

3:00 pm - Break

- * Mtn. Lion/ Large Carnivore capture traps for Green River Region- S. DeCecco
- * Making Dumpsters Bearproof – B. Haley
- * Assessment of statewide Black Bear population and Impact of Hunter Harvest – D. Bjornlie
- * Atlantic City Bear Project – A. Frey
- * Adon Mule Deer Predation Study and Control – D. Reimler, K. Ford, R. Franzman
- * Powder River Basin Telemetry Study – T. Maechtle
- * Evaluation of noninvasive methods for determining mtn. lion abundance – E. Gese
- * Sublette Moose Demography, Movement and Behavior – B. Oates
- * Southwest Wyoming Mule Deer Study – W. Larson

5:30 pm - Discussion of grant awards criteria

5:45 pm - Determination of Grant Awards

6:00 pm - Public Comment / Board Comment

6:15 pm - Adjourn

Animal Damage Management Board Meeting – Wednesday, June 5, 2013
County Commission Conference Room, Sheridan, Wyoming

Board Members Present:

Co-Chair Jason Fearneyhough	Co-Chair Scott Talbott	Dennis Saville
Jim Collins	Bob Innes	John Espy
Gene Hardy	Amanda Hulet	Shaun Sims
Jim Schellinger	Dale Leatham	
Richard Klouda		

Board Members Absent:

Cheryl Chatham	Rod Krischke	Mark Sattleberg
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WDA Support Staff:

Kent Drake	Margy Anderson
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Public present:

Jim Pehringer	Dr. Mike Conover	Scott Edberg
Justin Binfet	Bryan DeBolt	Scott Smith
Mark Zornes	Diana Espy	Dan Bjornlie
Dusty Lasseter	Steffan Cornell	Dr. Jimmy Taylor
Steve Jones	George Williams (via conference call)	
Jessie Dafoe (via conference call)	Bill Brinegar	Rio Franzman
Chris Kirol	Blaise Allen	Tom Maechtle
Scott Huber	Merv Griswold	

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Scott Talbott at 8:00 AM.

Board Members and guests were introduced.

The agenda was reviewed, and Kent Drake had a change to the agenda. Two applications were withdrawn. Kent added a request to approve the extension of the UW rabies sampling contract for one year.

The Board reviewed the minutes from May 7 and 8, 2013. Jim Schellinger moved to approve the minutes. Shaun Sims seconded. Motion carried.

Kent Drake explained the UW rabies contract, and the reason for the extension. Kent asked the Board to extend the contract for one additional year, no additional cost. Jim Collins moved to approve the extension. Jim Schellinger approved. Motion carried.

Project Reports:

Jackson Elk Monitoring- Scott Smith gave an oral report on the project. Due to the fire season, they were not able to get any flights in the air for monitoring. Scott requested an extension to the grant for an additional year at no additional cost, to be able to do the project. Jim Schellinger moved to approve the extension. Gene Hardy seconded. Motion carried.

Estimating Population of Mountain Lions Using DNA Markers- Dan Bjornlie gave an update on project progress. No additional funds will be requested. Dan presented data via power point.

Coyote removal to Enhance Bates Hole Mule Deer Fawn Survival – Justin Binfet gave an update on the project and provided a map and data synopsis to the Board. Natrona County PMD also provided a written report.

Hot Springs County Nuisance Predator Project and Big Horn Basin Sage Grouse Predation Project- Jim Pehringer gave an update on the two projects. Jim reported on how many employee hours were devoted to these projects. No additional funds are being requested.

Electric Fence Supply Project- Bryan DeBolt spoke about the supplies purchased with the grant funds.

Project Proposals, Renewals with Update reports:

Impact of Raven and Fox Removal on Sage Grouse Populations in SW Lincoln, Sweetwater and Uinta Counties- Dr. Michael Conover informed the Board of the status of project research. He gave average counts for ravens at landfills and roost sites in the three counties, and other data via power point.

Large Carnivore-Livestock Depredation Prevention and Control- Scott Edberg updated the Board on project data and presented a written final report.

Identifying Crucial Fawning Areas to Allow Targeted and Effective Predator Control in the Wyoming Range- Scott Smith presented project information via power point to the Board.

Removal of Coyotes from Mule Deer Parturition Habitat in the Platte Valley Herd Unit- George Williams gave the Board a status update on the project via conference call.

Country to Classroom Publication- Jessie Dafoe presented her Country to Classroom funding proposal for the next year, as well as data on the current project. It is difficult to write a publication for 3rd through 5th grades, at a comprehension level which engages all grades simultaneously. The goal is to disperse one or two WAIC topics to each grade level in future publications.

Washakie County Nuisance Predator Project and Big Horn Basin Sage Grouse Predation- Jim Pehringer updated the Board on the status of the project. The Board discussed where other sources of funds for this project should come from. Steve Jones of Meeteetse Conservation District spoke on the challenges of securing funding from a local working group perspective.

Park County Livestock Carcass Management Program- Dusty Lasseter gave a history of the program and data on how many carcasses have been picked up to date, by carcass type. Dusty explained the effectiveness of the program.

Coyote Control Targeted on Mule Deer Fawning Areas at Cedar Mountain- Mark Zornes presented an update on the project. Mark also presented a new funding request for the Mountain Lion/Large Carnivore Capture Traps for the Green River Region.

Monitoring Causes of Mortality and Predation Rates of Sage Grouse in the Bighorn Basin- Steve Jones and Dr. Jimmy Taylor presented an update on the project. Dr. Taylor explained the data collected to date via power point.

The Board worked through lunch.

New Project Proposals:

Bear Proof Dumpster Initiative- Dusty Lasseter presented a funding request for said project, and answered Board questions.

Animal Handling Equipment- Scott Edberg presented a funding request for said project.

Bryan DeBolt presented the funding request for Gray Wolf Management Supplies. He also presented the Making Dumpsters Bearproof grant proposal and the Atlantic City Bear project funding request. Bryan answered Board questions on all three projects.

Ferris Mule Deer Coyote Control in Selected Fawning Areas- Bill Brinegar presented information on said project proposal.

Assessment of Statewide Black Bear Population and Impact of Hunter Harvest- Dan Bjornlie gave a presentation on, and requested funds for said project.

Rio Franzman presented the funding request for the Adon Mule Deer Predation Study and Control project.

Chris Kirol gave a presentation to request funds for the Powder River Basin Telemetry Study.

Due to miscommunication, Kent Drake was not able to get advance notice to Eric Gese so he could present on the Evaluation of Noninvasive Methods for Determining Mountain Lion Abundance.

Kent Drake gave the total of funds left in the 0317 budget, available for allocation. He mentioned the USDA NASS Cattle Loss Survey is not on the agenda, but has been brought to Margy Anderson for possible funding by former Ag Statistics Field Office Director Todd Ballard, before Todd left at the end of May.

The Board began discussion of funding allocations for the 0317 projects.

Jim Collins moved to fund the Large Carnivore project in full, \$25,000. Amanda Hulet seconded. Bob Innes mentioned he thinks partial funds in this project go to wolf predation, and all wolf costs need to be earmarked in all projects so the Board has a good handle on what is being spent on wolves in the predator zone, so the Board can ask for legislative support in appropriate amounts. Call for question. Motion carried.

Jim moved to fund the Washakie County Nuisance Predator project for \$15,000.00 Shaun Sims seconded. Board discussion ensued. Motion carried.

Bob Inness moved to approve the Coyote Control on Cedar Mountain project at \$5,000. Shaun Sims seconded. Motion carried.

John Espy moved to fund the Removal of Coyotes in Platte Valley project at \$15,000. Bob Innes seconded. Motion carried.

Jim Collins moved to fund the Identifying Crucial Fawning Areas in the Wyoming Range project at \$15,000. Dale Leatham seconded. Motion carried.

Jason Fearneyhough moved to fund Country to Classroom at \$3,000 and to fund the Park County Carcass Removal at \$5,000. Bob Innes seconded. Amanda Hulet voted against the motion. Motion carried.

Jim Collins moved to fund the Raven/Fox Removal on Sage Grouse project at \$30,000 and the Monitoring Mortality of Sage Grouse in the Big Horn Basin project at \$30,000. Dale Leatham seconded. Bill Innes, Jim Schellinger and Amanda Hulet voted against the motion. Motion still passed.

John Espy moved to fund the Ferris Mountain Mule Deer/Coyote Control project at \$10,000. Bob Innes seconded. Motion carried.

Bob Innes moved to approve the Adon Mule Deer Predation study at \$20,000. Shaun Sims seconded. Motion carried.

The Board discussed funding the USDA NASS Cattle Loss Survey. How did the Board come to fully fund the survey, when initially only the predator component was funded by the Board.

Jason Fearneyhough moved to fund the USDA NASS Cattle Loss Survey at \$11,000. Jim Schellinger seconded. Motion failed.

Jim Collins moved to fund the Animal Handling Equipment proposal at \$1,100. Dale Leatham seconded. Motion carried.

Shaun Sims moved to fund the Mountain Lion/Large Carnivore Capture Traps proposal at \$1,300. Bob Innes seconded. Motion carried.

Jim Collins moved to fund the Wolf Management Supplies proposal at \$5,000. Gene Hardy seconded. Motion carried.

Richard Klouda moved to fund the Altantic City Bear Project at \$2,500. Jim Schellinger seconded. Motion carried.

Jim Collins moved to fund the Ferris Mountain Mule Deer/Coyote Control project at \$14,000 instead of the earlier motion of \$10,000. Gene Hardy seconded. Motion carried.

Bob Innes moved to increase funding to the Adon Mule Deer Predation Study for a total of \$24,700 instead of \$20,000. Shaun Sims seconded. Motion carried.

Jim Collins moved to fund the Big Horn Basin Sage Grouse Predator project at \$35,000 instead of the \$30,000. Shaun Sims seconded. 2 nays, motion carried.

Amanda Hulet moved to fund the Washakie County Nuisance Predator project at \$20,000. Jim Schellinger seconded. Motion carried.

Co-Chair Scott Talbott called for Board comment. Bob Innes asked for the status of reprinting the PMD brochure. Shaun Sims asked for an update on the Gray Wolf predation funds, are they getting used. The Board expressed their appreciation to Jim Collins, Jim Schellinger and Bob Innes for their service to the Board. Kent Drake thanked Jim Schellinger for coordinating the June meeting location and also thanked Amanda Hulet for her assistance in handling other logistics. Kent Drake passed out an announcement from Mark Sattleberg about grants funds available for Wolf-Livestock Demonstration project grants.

Co-Chair Scott Talbott called for public comment. Jim Pehringer commented on going to local working groups to request sage grouse project funds. Perhaps the Board could assist in talking to the working groups. Co-chair Scott Talbott suggested someone come from the statewide working group and provide

guidance to the Board on the topic. Kent Drake will work to get this on the next meeting agenda. Steve Jones spoke on his experience in getting funding from multiple entities for the sage grouse projects.

Co-Chair Scott Talbott and Co-Chair Jason Fearneyhough also thanked Jim Schellinger, Jim Collins and Bob Innes for their work and guidance on the ADMB Board.

The Board recalled the next meeting date will be November 6th, location to be determined.

Jim Collins moved to adjourn the meeting. Amanda Hulet seconded. Motion carried. Co-Chair Scott Talbott adjourned the meeting at 4:08 PM.



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ADMB Meeting Wyoming Game and Fish Regional Office Casper, WY

Agenda

Wednesday, November 6, 2013

- 9:00 a.m. - Call to Order – (Fearneyhough, Talbott)
- Introductions of board, guests, & public
 - Additions/Corrections/Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of June 5, 2013 Minutes
- 9:15 a.m. Update on ADMB Research/Special Projects, Kent Drake, WDA
- 9:20 a.m. - Setting Price of Wildlife Management Stamp
- 9:45 a.m. - Update on Wolf Management Activities of USDA/APHIS/Wildlife Services in Predator Area, Rod Krishcke, Wildlife Services State Director
- 10:30 a.m. - Update on USDA/APHIS/Wildlife Services Raven Management in Western Wyoming, Rod Kruschke, Wildlife Services State Director
- 11:00 a.m. - Cattle Loss Survey, USDA Agriculture Statistics Service
- 11:20 a.m. Set 2014 meeting dates
- 11:40 a.m.- Public Comment / Board Comment
- 12:00 noon - Adjourn

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

Animal Damage Management Board Meeting – Wednesday, November 6, 2013
Wyoming Game and Fish Department Regional Office, Casper

Board Members Present:

Co-Chair Jason Fearneyhough
Sy Gilliland
Gene Hardy
Kevin Kisicki
Cheryl Chatham

Co-Chair Scott Talbott
Bill Taliaferro
Amanda Hulet
Dale Leatham
Rod Krischke

John Espy
Shaun Sims
Richard Klouda
Mark Sattleberg

Board Members Absent:

Dennis Saville

WDA Support Staff:

Kent Drake

Doug Miyamoto

Public present:

Amy Hendrickson

Rod Merrill

Bryce Reece

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Jason Fearneyhough at 9:00 AM.

Board Members and guests were introduced.

The agenda was reviewed, and an addition by Gene Hardy to address aerial hunting over Forest Service and BLM land was requested. It was moved and seconded to add the item to the agenda. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the minutes from June 5, 2013. Shaun Sims moved to approve the minutes. Amanda Hulet seconded. Motion carried.

Gene Hardy presented the issue of state licensed private aerial pilots contracted through local predator boards dealing with conflicts of being able to fly on Forest Service. After discussion, Cheryl Chatham said she would work with the WDA and ADMB to work towards a solution of allowing licensed pilots to be able to aerial hunt on Forest Service land.

Kent stated that a project has declined their funding that was awarded at the June meeting. It is \$14,000.

John Espy moved to allocate the funds so they are used this fiscal year. It was seconded. Motion carried.

Shaun Sims moved to have a call for proposals for the \$14,000 and award the funds at the January meeting. It was seconded. Motion carried.

John Espy moved to set the price of the wildlife damage management stamp at \$10 for the next calendar year. Motion seconded. Motion carried.

Rod Merrill, USDA Wildlife Services, provided an update on raven management efforts in Southwest Wyoming for the benefit of livestock, wildlife and human health/safety. Conservative estimates show an initial 31% decrease in the population. Rod stated that they will be looking to do another control effort this winter and reevaluate after results come in to see if control efforts will be needed for a third year.

Rod Krischke, State Director USDA Wildlife Services, gave an update on the wolf management completed in the predatory zone of the state over the last year.

Meeting dates for 2014 were set: **January 15**, Wyoming Game and Fish Headquarters, Cheyenne, **May 7-8**, Regional Game and Fish Office, Casper, June **24-25**, Trail Lake, November **5**, location to be determined.

The meeting was opened up for public comment. There was no public comment.

Co-chair Fearneyhough adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m..

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PREDATOR MANAGEMENT 1501	BUDGETED		EXPENDED		PERCENT OPTIMUM		NOTES
	FY 13 - 14	YTD	ENCUMBERED	BALANCE	EXPENDED	66.67%	
<i>PERSONAL SERVICES</i>	<i>100.00</i>	\$185,139	\$122,540	\$62,598	66.19%		
<i>SUPPORTIVE SERVICES</i>	<i>200.00</i>						
Equipment Repairs & Mtn	202.00	749	1,289	(540)	172.13%		
Utilities	203.00	840	890	(50)	105.98%		
Freight and Postage	204.00	2,500	784	1,716	31.35%		
Employee Development	207.00	2,500	277	2,223	11.10%		
Advertising/Promotions	208.00	0	818	(818)			
Travel In State	221.00	20,000	5,376	14,624	26.88%		
Travel Out of State	222.00	17,500	0	17,500	0.00%		
Permanently Assigned Vehicles	223.00	20,000	10,595	9,405	52.98%		
Board Travel	227.00	0	0	0			
Office Supplies/Printing	231.00	19,000	5,492	13,508	28.90%		
Motor Vehicle Supplies	233.00	0	41	(41)			
Other Repair Supplies	239.00	5,000	0	5,000	0.00%		
Office Furniture & Equipment	241.00	0	0	0			
Data Processing Equipment	242.00	0	0	0			
Food Service Equipment	244.00	0	0	0			
Real Property Rental	251.00	5,507	451	5,056	8.18%		
Equipment Rental	252.00	1,750	674	1,076	38.51%		
<i>200 SERIES TOTAL</i>		<i>\$95,346</i>	<i>\$26,687</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$68,659</i>	<i>27.99%</i>	
<i>DATA PROCESSING</i>	<i>400.00</i>						
Telecommunications A&I	420.00	1,734	875	859	50.44%		
<i>400 SERIES TOTAL</i>		<i>\$1,734</i>	<i>\$875</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$859</i>	<i>50.44%</i>	
<i>GRANTS & AID PYMTS</i>	<i>600.00</i>						
Grants	626.00	5,855,100	5,855,100	0	100.00%	SEY14 reduction	
<i>600 SERIES TOTAL</i>		<i>\$5,855,100</i>	<i>\$5,855,100</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>100.00%</i>	
<i>CONTRACTUAL SRVS</i>	<i>900.00</i>						
Professional/Consulting Fees	901.00	0	0	0		SEY14 reduction	
<i>900 SERIES TOTAL</i>		<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>		
PREDATOR MANAGEMENT TOTAL		\$6,137,319	\$6,005,202	\$0	\$132,117	97.85%	

		YTD Transfers	
General Funds	6,137,319	6,005,202	98%
TOTALS	\$6,137,319	\$6,005,202	98%

DISCUSSION ITEMS
 Total proposed reduction of \$207,200
 Insurance reduction of \$5,473.12

0

ANIMAL DAMAGE MGMT 0317	BUDGETED		EXPENDED		PERCENT OPTIMUM		NOTES
	FY 13 - 14		YTD	ENCUMBERED	BALANCE	EXPENDED	
Fund 047							
<i>SUPPORTIVE SERVICES 200.00</i>							
Real Property Repairs & Mtnc	201.00	0	0		0		
Equipment Repairs & Mtnc	202.00	0	4		(4)		
Utilities	203.00	750	0		750	0.00%	
Freight & Postage	204.00	2,100	16		2,084	0.78%	
Board Travel	227.00	7,600	10,010		(2,410)	131.71%	
Supplies/Printing	231.00	3,424	0		3,424	0.01%	
Educational Supplies	236.00	0	0		0		
Real Property Rental	251.00	0	0		0		
Equipment Rental	252.00	150	52		98	34.96%	
200 SERIES TOTAL		\$14,024	\$10,083	\$0	\$3,941	71.90%	
<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	552	149		403	27.01%	
400 SERIES TOTAL		\$552	\$149	\$0	\$403	27.01%	
<i>GRANTS & AID PYMIS 600.00</i>							
Grants	626.00	634,204	373,137	169,607	91,460	85.58%	(200,000 wolves) SFY14 reduction
UW Grants & Aid Payments	667.00		0		0		
600 SERIES TOTAL		\$634,204	\$373,137	\$169,607	\$91,460	85.58%	
<i>CONTRACTUAL SRVS 900.00</i>							
Professional/Consulting Fees	901.00	30,000	0	15,000	15,000	50.00%	
900 SERIES TOTAL		\$30,000	\$0	\$15,000	\$15,000	50.00%	
ANIMAL DAMAGE MGMT 0 TOTAL		\$678,852	\$383,368	\$184,607	\$110,804	83.67%	

		YTD Revenue	YTD %
General Funds	475,000	279,480	59%
Other Funds			
Livestock Brand Fee-5353	352		0%
Wildlife Damage Stamp-2634	1,000		0%
Landowner Coupons-6204	2,500	3,888	156%
Predator Boards - 6301	0		
Game & Fish - 5040	200,000	100,000	50%
TOTAL	\$678,852	\$383,368	56%
	0		
Cash Balance	469,650.02		

DISCUSSION ITEMS
 Reduced by 318,396 to account for revenues not collected
 SFY14 reduction of \$10,000

RODENT & PREDATOR 0315	BUDGETED		EXPENDED		PERCENT OPTIMUM		NOTES
	FY 13 - 14		YTD	ENCUMBERED	BALANCE	EXPENDED	
<i>PERSONAL SERVICES</i>	100.00	\$0	\$0		\$0		
<i>SUPPORTIVE SERVICES</i>	200.00						
Equipment Rep & Mtn	202.00	0	0		0		
Utilities	203.00	0	0		0		
Freight & Postage	204.00	0	33		(33)		
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	740	0		740	0.00%	proposed reduction
Medical/Lab Supplies	235.00	0	0		0		
Educational Supplies	236.00	0	0		0		
Other Repair Supplies	239.00	0	0		0		
200 SERIES TOTAL		\$740	\$33	\$0	\$707	4.43%	
<i>DATA PROCESSING</i>	400.00						
Telecommunications - A&I	420.00	0	0		0		
400 SERIES TOTAL		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		
<i>GRANTS & AID PYMES</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		SFY14 reduction
900 SERIES TOTAL		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		
RODENT & PREDATOR 0315 TOTAL		\$1,100	\$33	\$0	\$1,067	2.98%	

-4.43% excluding 600 and 800 series expenditures

	YTD Revenue	YTD %
General Funds	0	0 0%
Other Funds		
Rodent Control - Sales 5421	1,100	863 78%
TOTAL	\$1,100	\$33 3%

DISCUSSION ITEMS
 Reduced budget by 32,281 for sales funding
 SFY14 reduction of \$15,000

ADMB - RABIES 0313	BUDGETED		EXPENDED		PERCENT OPTIMUM		NOTES
	FY 13 - 14		YTD	ENCUMBERED	BALANCE	EXPENDED	
<i>SUPPORTIVE SERVICES 200.00</i>							
Equipment Rep & Mtn	202.00	0	0		0		
Utilities	203.00	0	0		0		
Freight & Postage	204.00	100	7		93	6.51%	
Supplies/Printing	231.00	0	0		0		
Equipment Rental	252.00	0	0		0		
200 SERIES TOTAL		\$100	\$7	\$0	\$93	6.51%	
<i>Grants and Aid Payments 600.00</i>							
Grants	626.00	129,900	122,400		7,500	94.23%	Sl Y 14 reduction
0600 SERIES TOTAL		\$129,900	\$122,400	\$0	\$7,500	94.23%	
<i>CONTRACTUAL SERVICES 900.00</i>							
Professional/Consulting Fees	901.00	0	0		0		
0900 SERIES TOTAL		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		
ADMB - RABIES 03.13		\$130,000	\$122,407	\$0	\$7,593	94.16%	

		YTD Revenue	YTD %
General funds	130,000	122,407	94%
	0	0	
	\$130,000	\$122,407	94%

DISCUSSION ITEMS
 SFY 14 reduction of \$32,000



WYOMING GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

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wgfd.wyo.gov

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October 10, 2013

MEMORANDUM

TO: Kent Drake, Predator Management Coordinator,
Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board

FROM: Meredith Wood, Chief Fiscal Officer *MW*

COPY TO: Scott Talbott, Director; File

SUBJECT: Animal Damage Management Board Annual Report

In accordance with W.S. 11-6-305 (a) and 23-3-105(b), I provide the following information on the wildlife damage management stamp and landowner coupon designations to the ADMB for fiscal year (FY) 2013.

Landowner coupons designated and transferred to ADMB	\$ 2,640
Wildlife damage management stamp Sales deposited 7/1/2012 through 6/30/2013 (License agent reports through 6/30/2013)	\$1,691.50
Costs of program administration Management stamp: Printing	\$ 0
Administrative time	\$ 218.08 (5 hours)
Total administrative costs for FY 2013	(\$ 218.08)
FY13 collections over expenditures	\$ 1,473.42
Deficit collections previous years	(\$5,572.30)
Amount due to be transferred to ADMB for FY 13	= \$ 0.00

In accordance with statutory provisions and to insure federal aid compliance, the Department can transfer funds collected only after administrative costs have been deducted. Total deficit to date exceeds collections and therefore, no funds will be transferred this year.

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

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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 27, 2010

**WYOMING ANIMAL DAMAGE MANAGEMENT BOARD (WyADMB)
STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN
2010-2014**

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 depreddating 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.		RESPONSIBILITY	DATE TO COMPLETE	DATE COMPLETED
ACTION				
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 depreddating animals to livestock, agricultural crops, wildlife, property and human health and safety.				
ACTION		RESPONSIBILITY	DATE TO COMPLETE	DATE COMPLETED
1. Complete an Annual Report to be presented to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Governor ➤ Agriculture, Appropriations, Travel, Recreation and Wildlife legislative committees ➤ Formal presentation to Wyoming Game and Fish Commission 	1. WDA	1. 12/31 each year		
2. Complete an Annual Report to be presented to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Joint Agriculture committee 	1. ADMB co-chairman 2. ADMB, staff	1. Annually 2. 10/1 each year		

<p>3. Rabies Management Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Review the Rabies Management Plan (REFERENCE RABIES MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR ACTION ITEMS) <p>4. Review programs effectiveness (50/50; 1501 grant program; 317, and 313.</p>	<p>3. ADMB</p> <p>4. ADMB</p>	<p>3. Annually</p> <p>4. Annually</p>	
<p>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.</p>			
<p><i>ACTION</i></p>			
<p>1. Review as needed and implement the MOUs.</p> <p>2. Coordinate programs in accordance with statutes.</p>	<p>1. ADMB</p> <p>2. ADMB</p>	<p>1. As needed</p> <p>2. As needed</p>	<p><i>DATE COMPLETED</i></p>

GOAL 2: Implement a coordinated, accountable animal damage management program.
STATUTORY AUTHORITY: W.S. 11-6-304; 11-6-308; 11-6-309 and 11-6-312

OBJECTIVE 2.1

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

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

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>			
1. Project proposals.	1. ADMB	1. Annually	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Requests submitted annually ➤ Wildlife projects will be reviewed by G&F and approved by the Commission. 			
2. 1501 budget monies	2. ADMB	2. Annually	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Requests submitted annually 			

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

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

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

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

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

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

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	DATE TO COMPLETE	DATE COMPLETED
<p>1. WILDLIFE DAMAGE MANAGEMENT STAMP Program</p> <p>2. LANDOWNER COUPON Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Board will continue to work with landowners to gain support of program. (REFERENCE MARKETING STRATEGY 4.1.1.) <p>3. VOLUNTARY BRAND INSPECTION Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Board will continue to work to secure funding and generate revenue. (REFERENCE MARKETING STRATEGY 4.1.1.) <p>4. GRANTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Search for grants that are applicable to program and apply. <p>5. DONATIONS FROM OUTSIDE SOURCES</p>	<p>1. ADMB</p> <p>2. ADMB</p> <p>3. ADMB</p> <p>4. WDA</p> <p>5. ADMB</p>	<p>1. 7/1 each year</p> <p>2. Annually</p> <p>3. Annually</p> <p>4. On-going and as available</p> <p>5. On-going and as contributions are made</p>	

**GOAL 4: Develop a public education and involvement plan.
 STATUTORY AUTHORITY: W.S. 11-6-301 – 11-6-313**

OBJECTIVE 4.1

W.S. 11-6-301 – 11-6-313

Establish broad based, comprehensive plan directed towards the public.

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>
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 State Fair, Game and Fish Expo and other opportunities. ➤ Coordinate education activities through groups such as WAIC 5. Hire a WDA intern to assist with marketing efforts and other duties associated with ADM program.	1. ADMB 2. WDA staff 3. ADMB 4. WDA staff and ADMB board 5. WDA	1. On-going 2. update as information changes 3. & 4. On-going and as opportunities arise. State Fair and Expo are annual events. 5. Annually (as funds are available)

**GOAL 5: Obtain credible information to enhance the Wyoming Animal Damage Management program.
 STATUTORY AUTHORITY: W.S. 11-6-301 – 11-6-313**

OBJECTIVE 5.1

W.S. 11-6-301 – 11-6-313

Remain current with latest available research and emerging issues.

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

GOAL 6: Develop and implement legislative strategies.

OBJECTIVE 6.1

W.S. 11-6-313

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

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Overview of Activities to Date:

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

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

Through the work of the ADMB, \$50.9 million has been awarded to the nineteen qualified districts in the past year. In 2015, the ADMB received \$3,737,671 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 is done by the district, and often times, in conjunction with the Wyoming Game and Fish Department.

A majority of the Predator Management Districts are concerned with increasing predator fee refund requests from out of state livestock seasonal grazers, who lease Wyoming grasslands. Some of the districts have passed policy or are in the process of passing policy to limit the amount of refunds provided, at the end of the calendar year, to the 5% set aside by Wyoming statute.

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 predators on sage grouse and the on-going status of sage grouse being a candidate concerning endangered species.

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 , 201	""\$94,758
Big Horn County PMD	May , 201	""\$175,820
Campbell County PMD	May , 201	""\$1 0
Carbon County PMD	May , 201	""\$1
Converse County PMD	May , 201	""\$14 ,637
Crook County PMD	May , 201	""\$134,600
Fremont County PMD	May , 201	""\$159,540
Goshen County PMD	May , 201	""\$1 ,124
Hot Springs County PMD	May , 201	""\$1 ,827
Johnson County PMD	May , 201	""\$1
Lincoln County PMD	May , 201	""\$
Natrona County PMD	May , 201	""\$
Niobrara County PMD	May , 201	""\$1 ,400
Park County PMD	May , 201	""\$1 0,230
Sheridan County PMD	May , 201	""
Sweetwater County PMD	May , 201	""\$1 2,110
Uinta County PMD	May , 201	""\$1
Washakie County PMD	May , 201	""\$1 3,6 0
Weston County PMD	May , 201	""\$1 ,364
	Total	\$ 00

Albany County Predatory Management

District

Annual Report

7/1/2012 - 6/25/2013



ACPMD Members

T.C. Page (Pres.), McFadden, Wy. Roger Newkirk (Vice. Pres.), Rock River, Wy.

David Kalco (Tres.), Laramie, Wy Gavin Sneathen (Secretary), Laramie, Wy.

Lawrence Atkinson, Brett Moline, William Guy Warpness Jr., Brett Moniz

Ronnie Heward, Don Willis

Albany County, Wyoming:

Founded in 1868.

Seat -Laramie (also largest city).

Population - 36,299 (2010 census). Density - 8/sq mi (3/km²).

Area – 4,309 sq mi (11,160 km²) total. Land – 4,273 sq mi (11,067 km²),

Water - 36 sq mi (93 km²).

Albany County PMD (ACPM)D responsibilities and mission:

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

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

Albany County is home to a variety of pertinent issues relevant to the responsibilities of the ACPM)D and demand and variety of services requested has the ability to change drastically from year to year.

Identifiable and measureable actions:

Lands worked by WS' in Albany County and surrounding areas.

USFS Lands	5,120 ac.
Private lands	803,329 ac.
State lands	44,437 ac.
Total lands	852,886 ac. worked under WS' agreement.

Summary of operational activities including take and damage/loss values:

The current program administered by ACPMD is primarily targeted at removing offending predators from depredating on livestock such as cattle and sheep. WS' personnel located in Albany County continue to protect several thousand sheep and lambs seasonally brought into the county by Warren Land and Livestock Company. Previously, these responsibilities were taken care of by WS' personnel located in Goshen County. Human health and safety issues and responding to nuisance damage complaints in the county continue to be fairly constant. WS' personnel in Albany County have also been assisting University of Wyoming College of Agriculture & Natural resources. (see letter attached)

ACPMD and WS' have continued to hear positive feedback on the services provided and the resources available from rural and urban cooperators and citizens of Albany County.

4 individual WS' personnel worked in Albany County during FY period.

152.2 hrs. of aerial hunting time was spent.

1752 hrs. WS' field work.

1 hrs. WS' outreach and administrative work.

1,905:12 hrs. WS' total hrs. Worked.

Intentional Take:

Badgers	17	Beavers	4	Bobcats	4	Coyotes	514
Red Foxes	11	Porcupines	9	Raccoons	26	Skunks	35
Ravens	9						



Loss values REPORTED in Albany County:

\$540.00 Livestock

Loss values Verified in Albany County:

\$ 3,920.00 Livestock \$31,955.00 Agriculture Wildlife \$1,142.00

Human Health & Safety in Albany County:

3 coyotes were tested for canine parvovirus and other parasites (6 samples taken), 5 Striped Skunks were tested for rabies and other parasites (5 samples taken) in Albany County by WS'. Enhanced rabies surveillance will continue to take place to help detect if this disease becomes prevalent as time goes on. Rabies has not been present in Albany County this year to our knowledge.

Summary:

ACPMMD is continuing to strive to provide quality services within the responsibilities it holds. The ACPMD looks forward to continuing to partner with WS' and will continue to be available to participate in any wildlife enhancement if the Wyoming Game and Fish Dept. requests or deems it appropriate.

*Recently a mule deer doe/fawn enhancement project has been started in cooperation with local G&F personnel. The specific location where this enhancement work will take place is within the Sheep Mountain hunt areas 61, 74-77. A map has been generated to outline fawning areas and the general areas where control work will take place. Work in this area has already started in conjunction with livestock protection duties and will continue for a period of 3 yrs. Results will be presented each year with data collected in partnership with WS', ACPMD, and WY. G&F Dept.

Activities on the Sheep Mtn. Mule Deer Project up to this point are as follows:

70 hrs Field work @ \$24.60 = \$1,722.00. (ACPMMD)

Aerial Hunting Fixed/Rotor combined = \$4,130.40. (ACPMMD)

19 hrs Field/Admin. Work @ \$51.62 = \$980.78 (WS')

58 coyotes taken under 13 different agreements.

GPS locations will be mapped and data taken from coyotes will be inventoried. Also, WY. G&F Dept. mule deer population data will be supplied and a joint report will be produced in December 2013.

Disease surveillance, livestock protection, nuisance animal control, cooperative research projects, and any other issues that might arise will continue to be addressed in 2012-2013.

Attached Letter/Map:

1. 10/02/2012 Requesting wildlife Carcasses and results of necropsy.
 Todd Cornish DVM,PHD.
2. 3/1/2012 Map of Sheep Mtn. Mule Deer Project areas.



UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

College of Agriculture & Natural Resources

Department of Veterinary Sciences
Wyoming State Veterinary Laboratory
1174 Snowy Range Road
Laramie, Wyoming 82070
(307) 766-9925 • fax (307) 721-2051 • wyovet.uwyo.edu

October 2, 2012

Mr. Craig Acres
USDA APHIS WS
P.O. Box 67
Casper, WY 82602

Dear Mr. Acres;

I am writing to request several wildlife carcasses for use in necropsy laboratories to train graduate and undergraduate students here at the University of Wyoming. We will use the carcasses to instruct students in the Wildlife Biology and Management and Veterinary Sciences programs on proper necropsy and diagnostic sample collection techniques. I am requesting carcasses of nuisance or problem animals killed for management actions and want to reiterate that in no way am I asking for animals to be killed solely for my purposes – I hope to make the most use of our animals killed for management reasons. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me by telephone [(307) 766-9967] or email (tcornish@uwyo.edu). Thank you for your time and for the time and efforts of your employees – we are very grateful for specimens that allow us to perform our teaching and training duties.

Sincerely,

Todd Cornish, DVM, PhD, DACVP
Associate Professor/Veterinary Pathologist
Director, Wildlife/Livestock Disease Center

Accession No:12-17747

Owner: Joel Modey

**Diagnostic Report
WYOMING STATE VETERINARY
LABORATORY**

1174 Snowy Range Road

Laramie, WY 82070

Phone: 307-766-9925

Fax: 307-721-2051

Wats: 1-800-442-8331

Download forms & access results at:

<http://www.wyo.edu/wyovet/>

FINAL REPORT

DIAGNOSTIC

FINAL REPORT:10/11/2012

Location of animal:

USDA APHIS

Laramie WY 82070

County: Albany

**VESC USDA RABIES
MILLS
LARAMIE WY 82070**

Date Submitted: 10/8/2012

Date Reported: 10/11/2012

Animal ID	Species:	Breed:	Sex:	Age:	Wt:	Specimen Type:
	Raccoon					Carcass

CLINICAL HISTORY

Carcass for educational necropsy

PATHOLOGIC FINDINGS

GROSS FINDINGS

An adult male raccoon was submitted for teaching necropsy techniques to students. The raccoon was in good nutritional condition with ample adipose stores and had been shot in the thorax with a shotgun - there was diffuse hemothorax with laceration of heart and lungs and with free shot in the cavity. The stomach contained grass and some hair, formed feces were present in the colon, and no parasites (e.g., Baylisascaris procyonis) were observed in the intestine. Necropsy by Amy Williams and students under the supervision of Dr. Cornish.

HISTOLOGY

Not performed.

MORPHOLOGIC DIAGNOSIS

Good nutritional condition.

PATHOLOGY COMMENTS

This also appeared to be a healthy raccoon with no lesions to suggest significant or chronic disease, and without grossly apparent Baylisascaris infestation.

Dr. Cornish 10/11/12

SOP:

-----END OF REPORT-----

Accession No: 12-17749

Owner: Joel Modey

Diagnostic Report
WYOMING STATE VETERINARY
LABORATORY
1174 Snowy Range Road
Laramie, WY 82070
Phone: 307-766-9925
Fax: 307-721-2051
Wats: 1-800-442-8331

Location of animal:
USDA APHIS
Laramie WY 82070
County: Albany

Download forms & access results at:
<http://www.uwyo.edu/wyovet/>

FINAL REPORT
DIAGNOSTIC
FINAL REPORT:10/11/2012

VESC USDA RABIES
MILLS
LARAMIE WY 82070

Date Submitted: 10/8/2012
Date Reported: 10/11/2012

Animal ID	Species:	Breed:	Sex:	Age:	Wt:	Specimen Type:
	Coyote					Carcass

CLINICAL HISTORY

Carcass for educational necropsy

FINAL DIAGNOSIS

See Necropsy report. Thanks for the collaboration on these. Dr. Cornish.

PATHOLOGIC FINDINGS

GROSS FINDINGS

An adult male coyote was submitted for teaching necropsy techniques to students. The coyote had been shot in the thorax and abdomen with hemothorax and hemoabdomen and with laceration of liver, stomach, and small intestine. The stomach contained grass, seed material, and some rodent hair; formed feces were present in the colon and rectum, and there were abundant cestodes (tapeworms, consistent with Taenia sp.) in the small intestine. No further significant gross lesions were observed.

HISTOLOGY

Not performed.

MORPHOLOGIC DIAGNOSIS

Endoparasitism: cestodes (consistent with Taenia sp.), numerous, small intestine.
Gunshot with hemothorax and hemoabdomen.

PATHOLOGY COMMENTS

No lesions to suggest a significant or chronic disease process were observed - the parasite burden (cestodes) was within what might be called normal limits for coyotes that cross the necropsy floor.

Dr. Cornish 10/11/12

SOP:

-----END OF REPORT-----

Accession No: 12-17748

Owner: Joel Modey

Diagnostic Report
WYOMING STATE VETERINARY
LABORATORY
1174 Snowy Range Road
Laramie, WY 82070
Phone: 307-766-9925
Fax: 307-721-2051
Wats: 1-800-442-8331

Download forms & access results at:
<http://www.uwyo.edu/wyovet/>

FINAL REPORT
DIAGNOSTIC
FINAL REPORT:10/11/2012

Location of animal:
USDA APHIS
Laramie WY 82070
County: Albany

VESC USDA RABIES
MILLS
LARAMIE WY 82070

Date Submitted: 10/8/2012
Date Reported: 10/11/2012

Animal ID	Species:	Breed:	Sex:	Age:	Wt:	Specimen Type:
	Coyote					Carcass

CLINICAL HISTORY

Carcass for educational necropsy

FINAL DIAGNOSIS

See Necropsy report. Thanks for the collaboration. Dr. Cornish.

PATHOLOGIC FINDINGS

GROSS FINDINGS

A young adult, male coyote was submitted for teaching necropsy techniques to students. The coyote was in good nutritional condition and had been shot with a centerfire or rimfire weapon in the chest with resultant pneumothorax and hemothorax. The stomach contained mixed hair (some recognizable as cottontail rabbit, some suggesting mule deer) and plant material. There were fairly numerous round white nematodes approximately 6-8 cm long in the small intestine (ascariids - Toxocara or Toxascaris sp.) and abundant fragmented and partially digested cestodes or tapeworms in the small intestine (consistent with Taenia sp.). No further significant gross lesions were observed. Necropsy by BreAnna Bonner and students under supervision of Dr. Cornish.

HISTOLOGY

Not performed.

MORPHOLOGIC DIAGNOSIS

Good nutritional condition.

Endoparasitism: nematodes (Toxocara or Toxascaris sp.), small intestine, moderate, and cestodes (consistent with Taenia sp.), small intestine, numerous.

Gunshot, thorax, with pneumothorax and hemothorax.

PATHOLOGY COMMENTS

Other than a moderate parasite burden there were no significant lesions in this coyote consistent with a significant or chronic disease process.

Dr. Cornish 10/11/12

Accession No: 12-17746

Owner: Joel Modey

Diagnostic Report
WYOMING STATE VETERINARY
LABORATORY
1174 Snowy Range Road
Laramie, WY 82070
Phone: 307-766-9925
Fax: 307-721-2051
Wats: 1-800-442-8331

Download forms & access results at:
<http://www.uwyo.edu/wyovet/>

FINAL REPORT
DIAGNOSTIC
FINAL REPORT:10/11/2012

Location of animal:
USDA APHIS
Laramie WY 82070
County: Albany

VESC USDA RABIES
MILLS
LARAMIE WY 82070

Date Submitted: 10/8/2012
Date Reported: 10/11/2012

Animal ID	Species:	Breed:	Sex:	Age:	Wt:	Specimen Type:
	Raccoon					Carcass

CLINICAL HISTORY

Carcass for educational necropsy

FINAL DIAGNOSIS

See Necropsy report. Thanks for the collaboration. Dr. Cornish.

PATHOLOGIC FINDINGS

GROSS FINDINGS

An adult male raccoon was submitted for use in necropsy laboratory for students. The raccoon was in good nutritional condition; there were several penetrating wounds in the thorax with diffuse hemothorax and with free shotgun pellets in the cavity. The stomach was empty, formed feces were present in the distal colon and rectum, and no parasites (e. g., Baylisascaris) were observed in the small intestine.

HISTOLOGY

Not performed.

MORPHOLOGIC DIAGNOSIS

Gunshot.
Good nutritional condition, empty stomach.

PATHOLOGY COMMENTS

This appeared to be a healthy raccoon in good nutritional condition without significant parasite burden (we look carefully for Baylisascaris procyonis nematodes in these critters - we'll miss a few without screening the entire gut contents and doing a fecal float, but we'll catch most).

Dr. Cornish 10/11/12

SOP:

-----END OF REPORT-----

2013

**Annual
Report**

Bighorn County Predator Management District

July 1, 2012

to

June 30, 2013

BOARD MEMBERS

- **President**
Randall Jones
Otto, Wy
- **Vice President**
Lisa Kimsey
Manderson, Wy
- **Secretary/
Treasurer**
- **George McGregor**
Emblem, WY
- **Kay Neves**
Emblem, Wy
- **Carl Nielsen**
Hyattville, WY
- **Kieth Hamilton**
Hyattville, Wy
- **Todd Jones**
Shell, Wy
- **Greg Flitner**
Shell, Wy
- **Todd Stoeks**
Shell, Wy
- **Shannon Ellis**
Lovell, Wy

**Please refer to
the attached
MIS Report
from Wildlife
Services for
more detail if
needed.**

Mission:

Our Bighorn County Predator Management District's (PMD) mission is to provide services to requests for wildlife damage assistance from any entity in Bighorn County. We feel it is our responsibility to have an adequate number of well trained professionals that are permitted through Memorandums of Understanding (MOU's) with all land and wildlife management agencies to deal with our increasing wildlife damage management workload here in Bighorn County. We feel we need to be able to respond to requests regarding all wildlife species whether they are under federal or state laws including resident, migratory, and threatened or endangered wildlife. As part of Bighorn County's responsibility we will continue to contract with United States Department of Agriculture Wildlife Services to provide high-quality wildlife damage management services for the protection of agriculture, wild and domestic species, natural resources, private and federal property, and human health and safety concerns. We will provide service or respond to all damage complaints within 48 hours after contact has been made to Bighorn County personnel. Services will include pro-active, non-lethal, and lethal approaches to solve wildlife damage along with technical advice on best practices to reduce or avoid future damage by wildlife. Lethal control will be performed in a professional manner and follow all federal, state, and local laws and regulations. Threatened and Endangered Species of wildlife and control actions will be conducted as directed by the United States Fish and Wildlife Services to minimize the impact to private property, livestock, and wildlife as well as the species of wildlife confirmed to have caused the damage.

Wildlife related issues for Bighorn County Predator Management District

Bighorn County Predator Management District Program and its cooperation with Wildlife Services reached 97 different landowners in Bighorn County covering 1,397,574 acres in the Bighorn Basin including State, Bureau of Land Management, Forest Service and Private lands . Bighorn County has offered assistance with a large variety of wildlife damage issues, human health and safety



concerns, and conducted wildlife projects that benefit all entities and publics in Bighorn County as well as neighboring counties in the Bighorn Basin.

Bighorn County's duties were conducted with the teamwork and cooperation of 10 WS employees during this last year to cater to the increasing requests to our program for assistance involving such wildlife species as: beavers, coyotes, fox, raccoons, skunks, feral cats, feral dogs, porcupine, badgers, grey wolf, black bear, mountain lion, sage grouse, pigeon, ravens, golden eagle, muskrats, and American crow complaints. The majority of the Bighorn County Specialist's time since July 1st, 2013 was spent answering the following complaints in Bighorn County:



1,483 daily tasks for coyote predation or threats of predation to calves, sheep, goats, pheasants, sage grouse, duck, horse colts, mule deer, bighorn sheep, antelope, and livestock guarding animals.

493 daily tasks dealing with raccoons, complaints to chickens, pheasants, sage grouse, crops, irrigation damage, residence damage, livestock feed and buildings, leaf-cutter bee hives, sheep, private property, damage to equipment and machinery, and human health and safety concerns.

141 daily tasks for skunk complaints involving human health and safety, property damage on residences or out buildings, chickens and fowl, and food items.

10 feral dog damage to private property and livestock.

20 daily tasks for black bear damage to cattle, sheep, private property, and human health and safety concerns.



14 Mountain Lion tasks for damage or damage threats to cattle, sheep, and human health and safety concerns.

5 daily tasks for grey wolf damage threat complaints involving cattle, and sheep.

91 daily tasks for fox complaints with sage grouse, chickens, and sheep.

Bighorn Basin Sage grouse Project

Bighorn County has agreed to provide in-kind assistance with the use of personnel for being the lead and predominate data collection staff for field activities with research, predator control, and aerial support to the expanding Bighorn Basin Sage Grouse Predation Project. Bighorn County has cooperated a full-time position with Park County and have provided 274 hours towards field activities costing the Bighorn County PMD

\$9,590.00 for the sage grouse project and plan to continue until its conclusion. We plan to use our wildlife specialist's to assist with data collection where needed to gain the best science data possible for the success of the research project. Specialists have placed trail cameras on nests, necropsied predation events, and conducted both avian and terrestrial predator surveys. We are continuing to monitor and document predation events, identify movement and habitat selection, and how human activity has effected sage grouse in the Bighorn Basin. Dr. Jimmy Taylor of Oregon State University has taken the position of Lead Researcher to further the project in the future with emphasis on avian predation and how it effects the sage grouse population.



Wolf Depredation Management

Bighorn County Wildlife Specialists diligently assisted the Wyoming Game and Fish Department with capturing and collaring wolves for population and monitoring management in the Bighorn Basin during 2013. Specialists reported to 14 complaints involving cattle, horses, and sheep by gray wolves in the predator zone. We have added additional help to allow for better and more efficient control of reoccurring gray wolf damage



we saw in Bighorn County with wolves and their expanding population. We feel the boarding counties along the trophy game zones will absorb dispersing wolves which have caused a history of damage over the last twelve years along the front range and on the Bighorn Mountains on both federal and private properties. Our plan will continually make sure that all human health and safety, private property, and wildlife interests are taken into considerations while wildlife damage management control actions are performed.



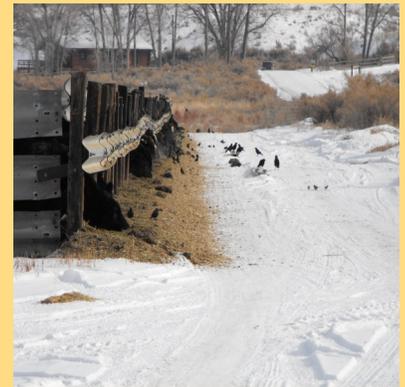


Crop, Irrigation, Pheasant Enhancement, and Human Health and Safety Activities

Bighorn County Wildlife Specialists have reported to 634 requests for assistance dealing with raccoons and skunks for complaints and confirmed damage on chickens, pheasants, sage grouse, crops, irrigation damage, residence damage, livestock feed, buildings, leaf-cutter bee hives, damage to equipment and machinery, and human health and safety concerns. Wildlife Specialists have conducted pheasant crow-count surveys to document the benefits to the populations as a result of this project activity. Specimens were sent for disease testing by the State Veterinary Laboratory for animals thought to possess human health and safety concerns throughout Bighorn County. Numerous species such as



red fox, porcupines, badgers, feral cats, beavers, crows and ravens also have been reported and confirmed as wildlife related damage culprits in our area. Each year we have noticed an increased number of requests for assistance dealing with these small nuisance predators.



Trophy Game Assistance to Wyoming Game and Fish Department

Bighorn County Wildlife Specialists responded 41 to trophy game damage complaints in Bighorn County and its neighbors under the direction of the Wyoming Game and Fish Department for black bears and mountain lions. Requests for assistance from specialists involved cattle and sheep depredation and human health and safety concerns. With the growing number of large predators and decreasing prey base in northwestern Wyoming the Bighorn County Predator Management District Board has made it their goal to continue to support our wildlife specialists with their efforts to respond to the increasing number of requests for wildlife damage assistance and human health and safety concerns in the Bighorn Basin.





Campbell County Predatory Animal Control Board

GILLETTE, WYOMING 82716

Year End Report



Campbell County Predatory Board

June 27, 2013

The Campbell County Predatory Board has been actively working to provide predator control for the benefit of livestock producers and wildlife populations. In May of 2012, we did not renew our contract with Wildlife Services and we began our own private contract trapper program. Our three trappers, Calvin Taylor, Scott Huber and Andy McKinney have kept busy with the demands of the livestock producers. Our trappers have spent over 7173 hours in the field while covering 1,380,356 acres in Campbell County. Our trappers worked with 92 individual landowner agreements over the year as they provided predator control. We have been billed for 201.16 hours of fixed wing aerial time and 17.7 hours of helicopter time as of March 31, 2013. The number of animals that were harvested using fixed wing aerial hunting were 379 coyotes and 11 fox. There were 35 coyotes taken when using the helicopter. We still are expecting a bill from Wildlife Services for the remaining quarter of the fiscal year. Per our trappers reports we are expecting a bill for another approximate 108 hours.

Calvin Taylor, County Trapper, continues to be very beneficial in Campbell County. Calvin mostly works with livestock producers in the Southern part of Campbell County while Andy McKinney works directly with livestock producers in the Northern part. The North and South area of Campbell County is very different. The Northern part of the county is primarily cattle producers, which in turn equates to a lower number of rancher participation according to landowner agreements. The Northern part is also a more rugged terrain so more aerial is needed in that area, wildlife population is affected more in this area as well. The Wyoming Game and Fish has made Deer areas 10 and 21 and Antelope area 24 a higher priority for predator control. All of these areas are in the Northern part of Campbell County. The southern part of the county is comprised mainly of sheep producers so Calvin deals more with problem coyotes. The Southern part of the county is flatter and has better vehicle access. Scott Huber, our third trapper, who is part time, has been busy learning the layout of the ranches in Campbell County. He also helps both Calvin and Andy with trouble calls. Scott hunts in both areas of Campbell County.

Our three trappers have harvested 1501 coyotes, 96 fox, 22 bobcats, 11 raccoons, 12 badgers, 45 skunks, and 6 beavers. They have answered to 125 trouble calls and have been proactive in getting the "trouble" and most damaging predators. Our trappers have noticed that they are

harvesting many female coyotes that are not pregnant. We believe that is because the trappers are doing an excellent job in trying to control the population and coyotes do not have mates. Also the coyotes are looking like they are lacking nutritionally. This may be due to the drought and to the control of the "trouble" animals not being able to get food from the livestock herds.

In June of 2012, the board hired Duke Campbell as our rabies program personnel. Duke has been busy dealing with the skunk/human public safety issues and testing for rabies in "questionable" animals. Since Campbell County has continued in the methane industry, our skunk population continues to grow. This is due to the fact that every methane hut and building provides a nesting habitat. Also with the drought the last few years, the skunks have been traveling into the city limits to find water. This also applies to all small animals and rodents. As of this date he has harvested 455 skunks. The Board has been working with the County Commissioners and the City Council to reach an agreeable amount that would help the board continue their proactive stand with the nuisance/rabies program position. We only received a quarter of our regular funding from the City Council, but we did receive the previous amounts from the County Commissioners. The board along with Duke Campbell attended three City Council meetings trying to show the importance of the program. Duke had been keeping exemplary reports and the City Council finally agreed with the Board that we need to be proactive with the skunk program elimination. Lieutenant Brent Wasson helped us also when he was able to document how many calls the Animal Control were getting regarding the skunks that were in neighborhoods. The Animal Control Officers do not want to deal with the skunks, so the City Council finally agreed to help fund the position. Duke documents the exact location of the skunks and is able to show the City Council and Commissioners that skunks do not know the city limit lines and they are moving throughout the whole county. Duke has tested 9 "questionable animals for rabies and fortunately they have all come back negative. Duke has also been busy with the public regarding nuisance calls. He has eliminated 55 raccoons, 9 badgers and 6 rattlesnakes

The financial statement that is attached shows a net loss. We received \$161,690.00 from ADMB grant; we utilized that money to pay for trappers and part of the aerial which to this date has totaled \$262,075.83. We received \$ 32,450.00 from the Rabies program money. As of date the expenses for having the Rabies program is \$46,933.56. As you can see we are utilizing 100% of the Grant money and Rabies money that we are receiving. The rest of the money is coming from our Livestock Predatory fees and then using our savings for the remaining Predator Control expenses.

**2013
Annual
Report**

Carbon County Predator Management District

July 1, 2012

to

June 30, 2013

BOARD MEMBERS

• CATTLEMEN

George Williams,
Chair, Saratoga
J Stratton
Rawlins
Josh Peterson,
Walcott
John Hansen,
Rawlins

• SHEEPMEN

Sharon O'Toole,
Savery
Scott Kerbs,
Saratoga

• SPORTSMEN

Jeff Corson,
Baggs (1st ½ Yr)
Robin Blake
Encampment
Garry Goergen
Treas., Rawlins
Larry Knoch
Rawlins (2nd ½ Yr)

• AT LARGE

Roger Cox, V. Chair
Saratoga

• Secretary

Charlene Abbott,
Rawlins

Mission:

Prioritize the management of predators within the county's political boundaries and address any concerns/problems related to live-stock, wildlife, and human health and safety issues. Our missions: 1) To maintain a consistent level of predator control through a co-operative service agreement with USDA/APHIS/Wildlife Services (WS) on the 8,000 square miles of Carbon County; 2) To cooperate with other entities in wildlife projects for the betterment of herd health in our county.

Issues, Goals and Actions:

Human Health & Safety:

Issue: Provide public safety from predators as needed or requested by municipalities.

Goal/Action: Work with local municipalities and other agencies on safety concerns for the general public

Wildlife:

Issue: 1) Help facilitate a sustainable population of mule deer, pronghorn antelope, elk and sage grouse for years to come through predator control throughout the entire county; 2) Continue our vigilance in preparation of a possible county invasion of wolf.

Goal/Action: Work with Wyoming Game and Fish and other agencies on wildlife issues throughout our hunting areas. Facilitate a general increase in wildlife through effective management of predators having the most impact on numbers of the above mentioned species.

Livestock:

Issue: Continue the current level of control insuring the Agricultural community will prosper and continue to support the local economy.

Goal/Action: Emphasize the persistent management of predator populations in the county maintaining at least the current level.



Refund "Rule Making" Process

As refunds have been a natural occurrence in our county, the board moved forward with the "rule making process" to establish a defensible policy of returning only 5% of fees received as approved by the current Wyoming Attorney General (AG).

September 21, 2011: The board made a motion to begin the rule making process. Kent Drake and Hank Uhden were asked for instructions. The rule writing began!

January 11, 2012: Legislation was introduced to remove the statement "Refunds must be paid within 180 days of receipt" from the statutes.

March 21, 2012: We were informed that the statute now reads, " Refunds must be paid within 120 days past the end of the year." With aid from Kent and Hank, the board finalized the rule and it was forwarded it to the AG for approval.

May 16, 2012: The AG approved the rule as written, but we awaited word as to whether we are a County or State entity.

July 18, 2012: We were informed of our County designation. A motion was made to adopt the approved rules. The "Notice to Adopt" was published with the public comment period set for 6/27/12 to 8/10/12.

All ranchers requesting a refund in the past 9 years were sent a personal notification.

September 19, 2012: By law, a public meeting must be held if 25 requests are received. We held an informational meeting even though we received only one written comment on behalf of 13 ranchers. Most of the comments concerned the legal workings of the board—not just objection to the refund change. After a lively exchange of information with the 5 attending guests, the motion was passed which adopted the rule as written. It was filed with the Carbon County Clerk on September 20, 2012.

March 20, 2013: The first refunds were paid under the new rule.

In the past we have received up to 13 requests, paying \$34,550 in our highest year. This year we received 5 requests paying a total of \$5,685.29. We know there will be ranchers that designate their funds to a different county, but to this point, and our relief, we have received no word of legal action.

The board would like to thank Kent Drake and Hank Uhden for several trips to Carbon County and invaluable aid in working through this process.



(File Photo)

Approximately 240 hours were spent by our WS' Specialists this year as they continue to help municipalities. They were called to control feral cats, skunks, pigeons, red fox, raccoons, and badgers for Dixon, Hanna, Medicine Bow, Rawlins and Saratoga.

It seems animal control officers in Rawlins do not mind trapping a skunk, but do not like disposing of them!



(WS' File Photos)

Pigeons on the playground of a pre-school caused a health concern.

Presentations are annually made at the Ag Expo in cooperation with the Carbon County Stock Growers and Cooperative Extension Service sharing knowledge of predator ID and control with all 4th graders in Carbon County. A program was also given for the CCSGA.

Livestock Protection

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



(WS' File Photo)

BLM lands	1,153,221
US Forest Service Lands	73,472
Other Federal, County, City Lands	2
Other Public Lands	10,240
Private Lands	1,546,032
State Lands	112,163
Total acres	2,865,130

Carbon County has a cooperative agreement on 104 properties, all of which received work in the 2012-2013 year. This amounted to 1479 person-day-visits with a total of 1,654 various predators being euthanized. Loss values reported in Carbon County were \$21,429, while the loss values verified are \$6,083.

In addition to our three full time and one part time Wildlife Service specialists, we receive hours from pilots, gunners, biologists and other specialists. Total hours/minutes worked by 12 WS' personnel in Carbon County:

Aerial (Fixed Wing) hunting	238.8
Field work	4,822.18
Administration	11.50
Outreach	27.15
Total hours spent	5,100.11

Fifteen striped skunks were tested for rabies and 35 coyotes were tested for plague and tularemia. No positive results were found.

Carbon County Wildlife Project's Progress

We continue to work on two major wildlife projects.

◇ CCWP#4 - Big Creek Pronghorn project: This project is in its third and final year, and has been funded by CCPMD's regular operational costs (38.2 aerial and 348.6 ground hours). Predator removal has taken place on the Big Creek and Munroe Ranches with a total acreage of approximately 65,528. The aim is to improve fawn survival by reducing coyote predation in fawning areas. Funding for this project will continue, in part, until December 31, 2013. The Big Creek project encompasses some of the same areas as the PVMD Project (CCWP#6), so there is some overlap of funding/data allocation for part of this last year. Ground work and aerial hunting will continue as weather, recreational hunting, and other pertinent county duties permit. A total of 123 coyotes and 2 dens were removed from this area with 117 plotted as GPS points and 86 retrieved for comprehensive data collection. Also, 21 of the 86 retrieved were sampled for Plague and Tularemia testing.

As in previous years, GPS locations and any data collected from coyotes taken will be compiled and available with antelope population information supplied by WYGF upon completion of our cooperative project.

◇ CCWP#6—Platte Valley Mule Deer (PVMD) project: In 2011 the ADMB provided \$22,000 for a multi-faceted research project to better define mule deer parturition habitat in the hunt areas shown on the map below. Data from the collars placed on 55 doe and 15 buck mule deer became available in April of 2013.

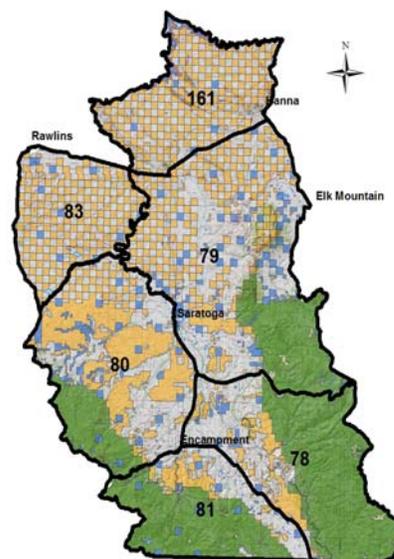


(WS' File Photo)

A partnership between the WGFD, private landowners, WS' and the CCPMDB was formed. ADMB granted \$10,000 from special project funds for aerial control in the fawning areas.

Activities on the PVMD Project began March 1, 2013 and will continue until July 1, 2013. The cost of helicopter/fixed wing hunting and associated costs such as ferry time, per diem, and hazard duty came to \$10,035. All associated and additional groundwork and administrative costs not derived from granted funds have been absorbed by Wildlife Services, Carbon County Predatory Management District, and Wyoming Game and Fish Dept.

Eighty one coyotes and 2 dens were taken. All data collected will be compiled and available with other mule deer population information supplied by WYGF.



Our thanks to WS' Craig Acres, SE District Supervisor for compiling all statistics in this report.

CONVERSE COUNTY PREDATOR MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

2013 MANAGEMENT PLAN

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

We are fortunate to still have a bounty system for coyotes and fox which is funded by the predator assessment on brand inspections done in the county. We contract with three local airplanes and a helicopter that are paid an enhanced bounty per coyote. This, coupled with two full time trappers and planes which we utilize through a contract with Wildlife Services, rounds out our control program.

Mule Deer and Antelope fawn mortality is a concern here in Converse County. The number of predators taken anywhere tends to benefit the deer and antelope as well as livestock, but we also work with local and regional Wyo. Game and Fish personnel to target specific areas. The trappers will also focus on areas where Sage Grouse are known to be.

The extreme drought in the county for the past 14 months has had a detrimental effect on the wildlife herds and with the fawn to doe ratio in particular for both deer and antelope. The drought has also affected livestock numbers which is illustrated by the increase in predator fees from brand inspections. This would indicate that livestock owners have reduced numbers and, unless there is a dramatic turn around, we will see a drop in predator fees this coming year. Obviously, this would adversely affect our bounty program.

Geographically, south of the North Platte River is generally more mountainous and is almost exclusively cattle country. Traditionally, these ranchers did not ask for help from the Predator District. In the last few years there has been a marked increase in predator (mostly coyote) activity reported. Consequently the trappers and planes have spent more time in these areas with good results.

Our trappers continue to work with city and county officials in the control of skunks and raccoons. There have been an increased number of crows or ravens over the last couple of years that seem to stay year round and nest here. We will monitor this situation closely and would hope to stop any damage before it gets out of hand.

This budget cycle, we will be attempting to change things up a bit. We are planning on contracting for only half of the aerial time through Wildlife Services.

Nothing personal, but the cost per coyote taken with Wildlife Service's airplanes is becoming more than we can justify. Ferry time takes up almost half of the cost of the program for us. When flying conditions are favorable, we may or may not be able to get a plane because everyone is calling for it. That, coupled with fewer coyotes and plane savvy coyotes has increased the cost per coyote dramatically. Therefore, we propose to hire two part time trappers to help our local pilots as ground crew as well as to work on those educated coyotes that the planes can't get. This work would be done during the most important time of the year to control predators, April through August.



CROOK COUNTY

The Mission of the Crook County

Predator Management District (PMD) is to provide predator control for the benefit of livestock producers and wildlife populations within 2800 square miles in northeastern Wyoming, in 2012 containing 65,000 beef cows/calves and 15,000 breeding sheep including goats.

The District Board had some staffing changes in the 2012 FY. Currently there are two full-time trappers working with Wildlife Services (WS) an additional trapper/gunner (part time), and one assisting (part-time) with denning. In 2012 – 2013 FY they worked with the 113 Crook County agricultural producers, and land-owners; serving just under 700,000 acres (including 13,500 BLM/Federal, 30,000 State, and 11,300 Forest Service). Contracts under APHIS; County trappers reported 2213 day visits.

Crook County's Program focuses on three primary objectives:

- 1) **Livestock Issues**
- 2) **Wildlife Issues**
- 3) **Safety and Human Resource Issues**

Crook County has maintained regular depredation to livestock as a result of predator populations. Predatory/ damage animals for our district include, but are not limited to: coyotes, fox, badgers, raccoons, bobcats, mountain lions, skunks, porcupines, free range (feral) cats, wild (domesticated) dogs, and occasionally muskrats and beavers. Bears have been added to Crook County's list over the last year. Sightings of wolves and unconfirmed kills have become a new concern in the area.

Wyoming sheep and lamb producers lost an estimated 43,000 head of sheep and lambs in 2012 due to weather, lambing problems, disease and other causes according to Wyoming Ag Statistics annual report. Total losses were down 12,000 head from the previous year. Predators accounted for 43 percent; up from 32 percent of reported losses the previous year. The 2012 lamb crop tallies 240,000 lambs marked, docked, or branded, which is up 11 percent from 20011, but equal to 2009 numbers. Coyotes were again the biggest predator taking 64 percent of the total predator losses and 27 percent of all losses. Sheep producers lost an

estimated \$7.9 million due to sheep and lamb deaths in 2012, down from \$10.2 million the previous year. Predation in the Northeast District of Wyoming accounted for \$5,500 head, 3,700 head directly reported as coyote related losses. Predatory breakdown shows NE WY losses due to bears at 200 head, bobcats taking 100, ravens with 100, eagles 800, mountain lions 500, foxes, 100 and wolves confirmed 2 kills. The Northeast District shows a total 5,500 head lost; the most of the five districts with the southeast district showing the second highest numbers of 3,900 head lost.

Profit margins for producers are slim, and with predation the margin for loss continues to tighten. Even with current market value appearing to be on the increase, the result when compared to large increases in expenditures, most especially fuel, the overall net return has not increased. If anything, the effect has greater incentive for total herd liquidation amongst agricultural producers. The drought has reduced herds substantially in the County over the last two years.

Wyoming cattle producers lost an estimated 41,000 head of cattle and calves to many causes in 2012, the largest being weather. The data for these estimates is collected in conjunction with the Wyoming Agricultural Statists Service's annual January cattle survey. Total losses were down 2,000 head from 2011. Death loss as a percentage of Wyoming's total cattle and calves inventory was 3 percent, unchanged from 2011. Predators accounted for 11 percent of combined cattle and calf losses. The total value of all losses to all causes was estimated at \$30.1 million.

Predatory losses are collected for losses by Grizzly and Black bears, Coyotes, Dogs, Foxes, Eagles, Mountain Lions, Wolves, and "Other". Mountain Lion losses in 2012 on cattle and calves for WY totaled 4,500 head. Losses of cattle and calves in the Northeast District (covering Crook, Campbell, Weston, Johnson and Sheridan Counties) for Statistics purposes suffered 500 head lost to coyotes, 100 head lost to mountain lions, 100 head lost to wolves and although NASS does not show it there were two confirmed kills by bears.

Total losses to Wyoming producers for their livestock in 2012 from all predatory causes are valued at \$2,546,700; a substantial increase over the \$1,823,600, according to the

Wyoming Statistical Reports for 2010.

Along with agricultural impacts, sportsmen (and women) are also affected because of predatory animals feeding on turkeys, deer, elk, antelope, small game birds, and other small wildlife. All these factors lay on the agricultural producer in hunt licenses/ hunters on their private property and have an effect on their economic bottom line.

Crook County has had a predatory management program since the mid 1940's. Since the inception of the granting process with Wyoming Department of Agriculture through Legislative action in 2006 the program has proven itself. Successes are determined by analyzing information gathered by Wildlife Service specialists as well as on-the ground information collected from sportsmen and agricultural producers. Wyoming Game and Fish Department numbers are also tracked in order to assess goals & objectives against outcomes and identify future target areas.

Crook County PMD tested nine mountain lions for disease and five skunks from July 2012 to April 2013 with no positive results. Funding for these tests has been removed due to budgetary constraints. CC PMD will assist, if necessary, at a level they deem appropriate, should an outbreak occur and testing need to be resumed for the communities of Crook County. Rabies samples taken since July 2011 results are negative. The same animals were also tested for roundworm with no positive results.

Control efforts will maintain healthy numbers of predatory animals. It is not desired to eliminate coyotes, skunks, raccoons, fox or other such animals unless they become problematic.

CCPMD will offer, on an on-going basis, live traps to municipalities and concerned citizens for the use of trapping and removing potentially harmful animals.

Trappers time and resources will be allocated to assist endeavors thought to be potentially harmful in the manner of predators/pests, along with a certain amount of animal management control fitting with their overall objectives in Crook County.

Significant loss of deer and antelope had occurred over previous three years due to winter snows, spring blizzards, early summer hail storms, and disease along with continued predatory pressure. This last year has seen more loss from disease and predators. We have had a couple milder winters. This has increased losses from the two aforementioned causes, but has helped in the overall health of the surviving animals.

Reported sightings of coyotes seem to be a constant in all of Crook County accompanied with increased reports of wildlife losses.

Rabies monitoring funding has been lost. There have been no positive tests in the previous three years.

Upland game birds, sharp tail grouse, and turkey populations have become inconsistent. Bird numbers seem to be maintained in areas of the County and in others their numbers are declining sharply. In the Sundance area and upper elevations of the Black Hills, numbers seem to be on the rise. Some of this may be contributed to natural cycles while there are areas where declining numbers are a direct result of predation. Eagles numbers have increased over the last two winters and they are impacting turkey numbers from Moorcroft to Rocky Point and around Hulett.

Sharp tail grouse have been seen the last couple years in areas not previously prone to be their habitat, but their numbers are still few. CC PMD would like to promote stability in these bird numbers.

Porcupine sightings in the Black Hills (eastern part of Crook County), or rather a reduction of sightings was brought to the Board as a concern amongst some County residents since 2010. (The porcupine is regarded as one of the favorite foods of mountain lion.) There is room for some decline in the porcupine, as long as they are not diminished beyond a healthy level.

Wyoming Game and Fish held a meeting in Hulett WY spring 2012 to hear concerns over the quotas on mountain lions in the Black Hills. More meetings are planned for 2013. Producer concerns are validated with increased sightings of mountain lions, with Wyoming Statistics reports showing significant losses to domesticated livestock from this predator and serious concerns that management target of 125

lions in the Black Hills has been surpassed and readily having direct impact to wildlife, especially deer numbers that are depressed anyway. Darting and DNA testing on lions in the Crook and Weston County has been recently done by the Wyoming Game and Fish Department in order to establish a base line for numbers of animals in the area. South Dakota control measures have increased this last winter. To-date pressures on wildlife have not shown a decrease.

The numbers of ravens, crows, skunks and raccoons in Crook County are at healthy levels with no evidence of disease problems.

Three bears were removed in Crook County this last year due in the act of killing domesticated livestock. More were sought that were sighted and had caused damage to wildlife as well. CCPMD will have to address bears and their management along with the WY Game and Fish over the next grant cycle.

Elk herds have increased in the Black Hills and the WY Game and Fish Department has addressed these increases through changes to the hunt/management season(s) for Crook County. Elk movement, management, and impacts on landowner/operators in the County has effected the trappers in the county. The CCPMD Board feels that more calls although this has not been a concern in the past, it will be in the future.

Wolves have been sighted in Crook County and there have been several unconfirmed kills contributed to this predator. Impacts from these animals will impact trapper time and resources

Key Successes Include:

Cooperative agreements / acreages controlled by the same producer increased this last year. There are many verbal agreements in addition to signed cooperatives for access and management measures.

2006 reported 348 predatory animals taken compared to the current fiscal year data reflecting just over 541 through WS; up from the 368 taken last year, plus private contracted trapper numbers add 98 coyotes./6 fox. This shows the ongoing need for the continued predatory control.

Unofficial numbers reflect little to no decline in coyotes in Crook County despite the numbers taken each year.

These reports show that the program efforts are crucial to maintaining management levels. Since wildlife (deer, antelope, turkeys) numbers have declined in the last few years due to weather and illness there is evidence that predators are being seen more in their search for additional food sources.

Grouse, sage hens, pheasants and turkey populations, show management levels are satisfactory to meeting goals.

Trappers have upgraded equipment (g.p.s. systems) which has increased efficiency and improved results.

Health issues such as rabies plague and tularemia have been addressed through 13 lab samples and 41 TA tests respectfully. No positive results returned this past year. Due to budget reductions, these tests will not be done in the future.

Economic death losses were reported for the past FY equaled 77; compared to 2006 when 26 animal units were lost.

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

USDA/NASS/WY Reports show:
Wyoming's total sheep and lamb losses for 2011 totaled 55,000 head. Predators accounted for 32 percent of these losses.

Crook County Cattle producers lost approximately 41,000 head; predation being 10% of the total documented cause.

The total value of all losses to all causes was estimated at \$23.9 million.

Fremont County Predatory Management District

ADMB Report

Actions taken with 2012-2013 funding:

Fremont County has two full time trappers. Since we are one of the largest counties, they are necessary. When they fly, one works as a gunner and the other does ground work, which studies have shown increases aerial hunting take by 30%.

We have access to an airplane and are able to use it when needed and have a pilot in Riverton, WY. Flying during these critical spring months has been a great help to ranchers and also to wildlife in the county. The money received from ADMB has greatly helped our aerial hunting program.

Most predator work was done on the coyote population this year. However, trappers also worked with badgers, beavers, crows, cats, raccoons, skunks, ravens, wolves, and flickers. This is a diverse population of predators, and the work has benefited both the livestock and wildlife industries as well as human health and safety.

Fremont County continued to work on their ongoing wildlife projects. The sage grouse/mule deer project finished its seventh year and showed great improvement in numbers of mule deer. The Board would like to continue predator work in that area to have a long term study of maintaining numbers. The Whiskey Mountain BigHorn Sheep Project was in effect for several years, was discontinued one year, and then was reinstated this year and has shown a dramatic increase in the numbers of surviving newborns. Working with the Wyoming Game and Fish Department, we also have the project on enhancing pheasant population in the Ocean Lake area. Trappers and board members would like to continue all of these projects with ADMB monies. They were originally designed to run for five years, but the Board would like to establish results for a ten year project since there haven't been results kept for that long in the past.

Fremont County has tried a bounty project for three years. There was a large interest in this project last year, and funds were quickly used up. No ADMB funds were used for this work. The Board continued with the bounty again this year, but changed the dates from winter to spring through summer. Part of the allocated funds were used, but not as much interest was shown in the project.

The two trappers work the entire county as well as specific trouble spots. Trouble spots vary from year to year, however, coyotes continue to hit ranchers hard in the Jeffery City - Gas Hills area. Wolves caused damage to calves in the Sweetwater region three years ago, the Dubois area for the last two years, and are appearing in different areas this year. Our trappers work with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on wolf control. We also have signed agreements to perform predator work on the Wind River Indian Reservation and do quite a lot of work in that area.

Since USDA, APHIS do not receive wolf monies anymore, this has taken away part of our matching funds toward one trapper. That means that we have to pay all of both trapper expenses. They also charge us \$25 more per flying hour and there will be a raise in helicopter costs next year. ADMB funding is of critical importance to us as the USDA, APHIS funding is uncertain every year.

Since we do not receive a full cost share on the one trapper, we are using some of past year's carry over monies. We try to have a contingency fund that would pay expenses for our program for one year. As we expect that fund to go down quickly, we are very appreciative of ADMB funding. Our program depends on you.

Thank you for your continued support of our programs.

OCEAN LAKE ADMB PROJECT

This project takes place yearly in the Ocean Lake recreation area northwest of Riverton, WY. This project is in cooperation with the Wyoming Game and Fish Dept. WGFD releases pheasants in the area prior to hunting season. Predators are targeted prior to this time to enhance the number of birds that are available for hunters season long. Many local sportsmen have given positive feedback as to the number of birds available during the season after the initial release when compared to previous years and to less predators being observed. The breakdown of predators removed are as follows:

Red Fox - 10 removed
Feral house cat - 2 removed
Raccoon - 13 removed
Striped skunk - 3 removed

A total of 28 ground hours were worked during the month of September.

Removing these predators also allows for possible nesting of released birds that make it through the hunting season and winter.

Since this project takes place for roughly one month per year in September, there isn't much to report until that time.

Thank you ADMB for your continued support

Fremont County PAB

Benefits of ADMB Grants to Fremont County

Addition of one trapper

Additional ground crew personnel

Airplane based in Riverton, WY

Updated necessary equipment for the program

Ability to provide adequate predator management program without running in the red.

Seventh year of sage grouse / mule deer grant showing an increase in numbers

Ocean Lake project in partnership with WY Game and Fish

Big Horn Sheep project in Dubois area indicating a dramatic increase in herd numbers

Protection for both livestock and wildlife

Increases in fixed wing and helicopter hunting has had great effect in controlling predator numbers

Addition of three sportsmen as Board members

**Goshen County Predatory Management
District**

Annual Report

7/1/2012 – 6/24/2013



GCPMD Members

Art Davis (Pres.) Torrington, WY.

Stan Smith (Sec./Treas.) Torrington, WY.

Justin Lovercheck, Jason Norris,

Ron Miller (V. Pres.) Torrington, WY.

Bob Daily, Kent Becker, Tom Lee

Larry Lippincott, Jennifer Scheer

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 & Safety Issues, Livestock Protection, and Wildlife Recruitment.

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

Goshen County is home to a variety of pertinent issues relevant to the responsibilities of the GCPMD and demand and variety of services requested has the ability to change drastically from year to year.

Identifiable and measureable actions:

Lands worked by WS' in Goshen County and surrounding areas.

BLM Lands 2,800 ac.

Private Lands 415,039 ac.

State Lands 17,700 ac.

Total Lands 435,619 ac. worked under WS' agreement.

4 individual WS' personnel worked in Goshen County during FY period.

73.3 hrs. of aerial hunting was spent.

3,156:04 hrs. WS' field work.

Summary of operational activities including damage/loss values:

Losses reported:

Livestock \$19.00

Livestock Feed \$300.00

Property \$0.00

Losses verified:

Livestock \$8,639.00

Livestock Feed \$ 50.00

The current program administered by GCPMD is primarily targeted at removing offending predators from depredating on livestock, feed and wildlife.

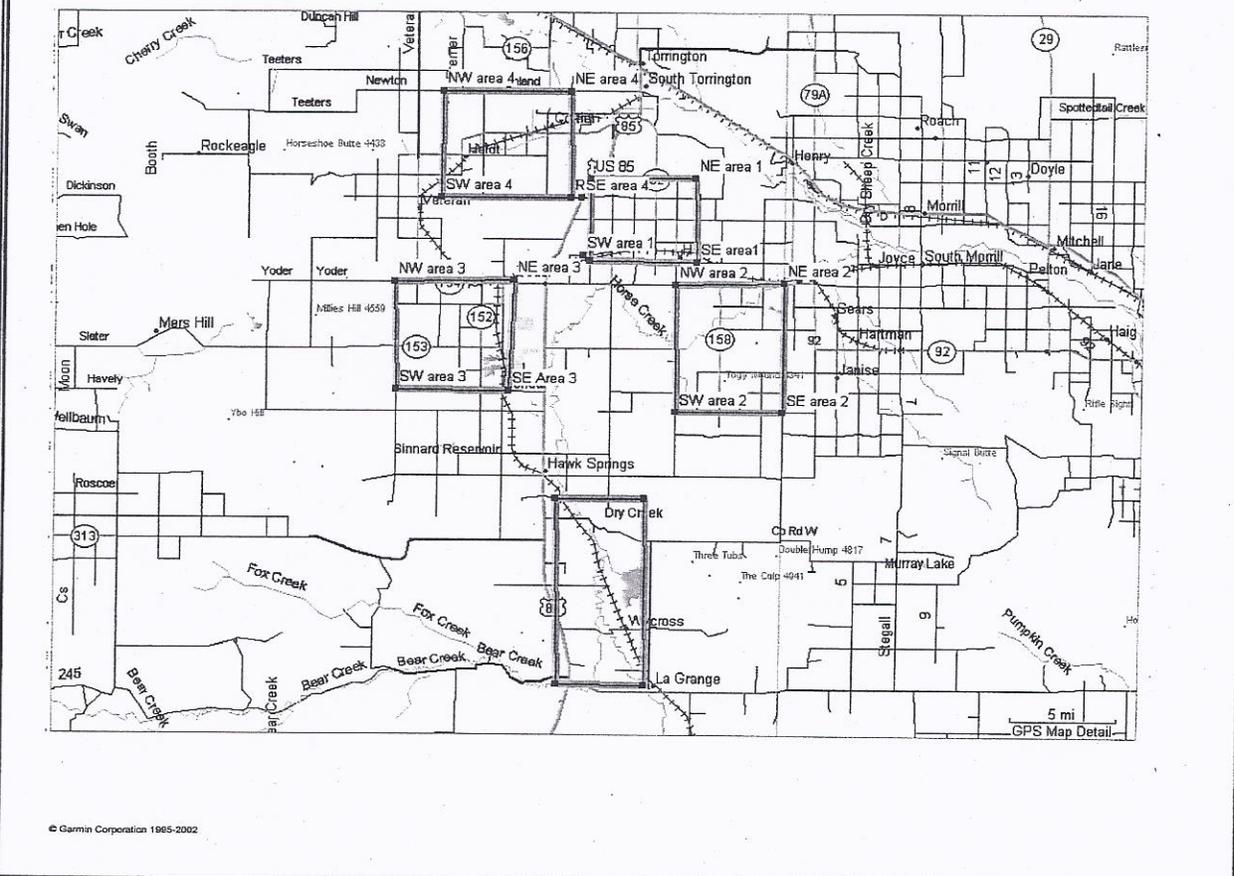
GCPMD will be concluding a game bird enhancement project that was started in May 2007. The mule deer enhancement project started in May 2009 will be dramatically enhanced and additional aerial hunting time and ground time will be spent in an enlarged area. These activities will be conducted within mule deer hunt area 55.

The Goshen County Game Bird Enhancement Project Conclusion

The Goshen County Game Bird Enhancement project was started in May 2007 and has continued for five consecutive years. Over this course of time the project has proven to be very valuable for Goshen County. The main objective of this project

was to increase pheasant populations in specific areas south of Torrington, Wyoming (Figure 1). The project focused on the removal of mainly small predators such as raccoons, skunks, feral cats and an occasional opossum, red fox

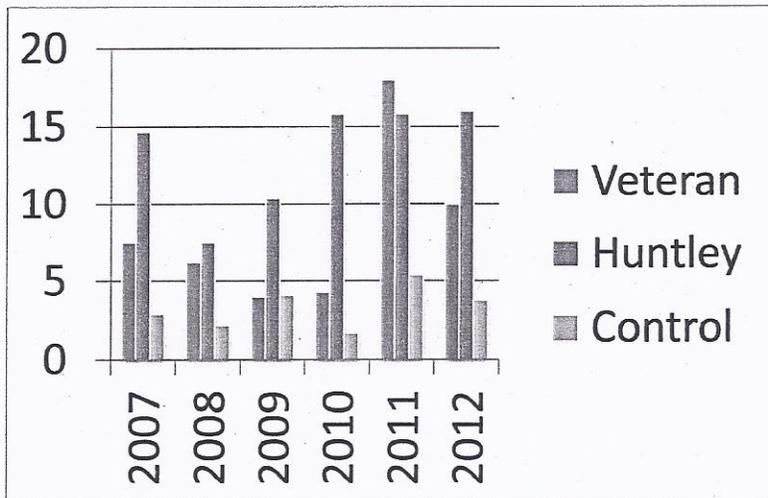
Figure 1. Goshen County Gamebird Enhancement Project Areas.



and coyote. This project also addressed human health and safety issues by obtaining plague, tularemia, rabies, and raccoon round worm samples from captured predators. During the course of this project, pheasant populations were monitored by crow counting and observational counts. The crow count studies are a way of monitoring pheasant numbers. By running routes with marked locations that are to be traveled every year at the same time stopping to count the crow calls of the pheasants. This crow count study has been conducted by the Wyoming Game and Fish since 1957. We have used this information as it coincides with the project areas and have helped run the crow counts with the

Game and Fish since the start of the project in 2007. The results have shown the project to be a success. (Graph #1)

Pheasant Crow Counts Graph #1

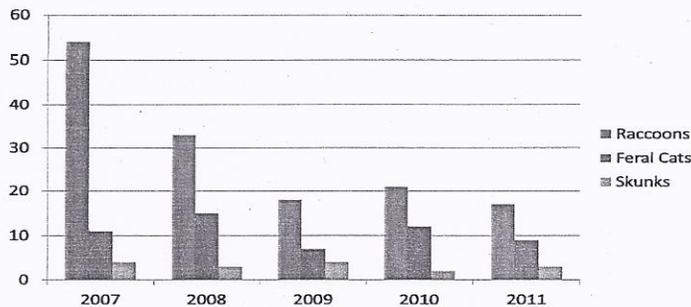


Graph #2 below illustrates a population test that has been conducted since the beginning of the pheasant enhancement project. The population test consists of running fifty traps for ten days making a total of 500 trapped nights. The traps are placed in the same place, same time, every year.

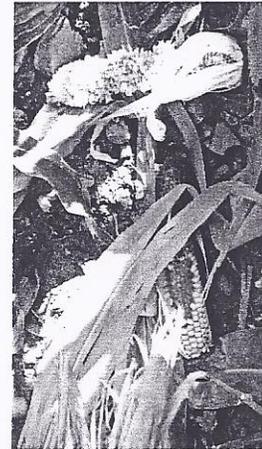
Note that a high capture rate in the first trapping year was achieved. This was followed by a decrease and then a leveling off to a consistent lower level of capture results. This area was not trapped in the 2012 season and will be trapped in the spring of 2013 to see what effect one year of non-trapping has on predator numbers.

50 Trap Population Test

Graph #2



The project has also led to large decreases in property and crop damage. Most of the damage was being caused by raccoons and due to the high numbers of raccoons being maintained, we could see property and crop damage benefits overlapping from the game bird enhancement project. These observations led to The Goshen County PMD wanting to further understand the total economic benefits to corn production by trapping efforts. In 2009, a corn damage study was conducted with the help of the National Wildlife Research Center (NWRC) in Fort Collins, CO. The corn damage study consisted of ten selected areas; five areas were located inside the pheasant enhancement areas “trapped” and five outside the project areas “not-trapped” (control). These areas were also selected by habitat ranging from dry land corn areas with very little additional habitat, to areas with significant water and abundant habitat. This enabled a diverse range of habitat types to get well represented results. In most trapped areas, damage to corn caused by raccoon decreased by 65% - 90% estimating an increased revenue of \$425 per 100 acres. This is a significant potential economic gain to corn producers.



In the spring of 2011 WS' conducted a nest depredation study in Goshen County. The study consisted of constructing ten artificial nests. Five nests were viewed with trail cameras while the



remaining five had no camera observations. The nests were made with surrounding grasses and placed in heavily covered habitat areas natural to pheasant nesting. The nesting study data showed considerable destruction on the simulated nests.

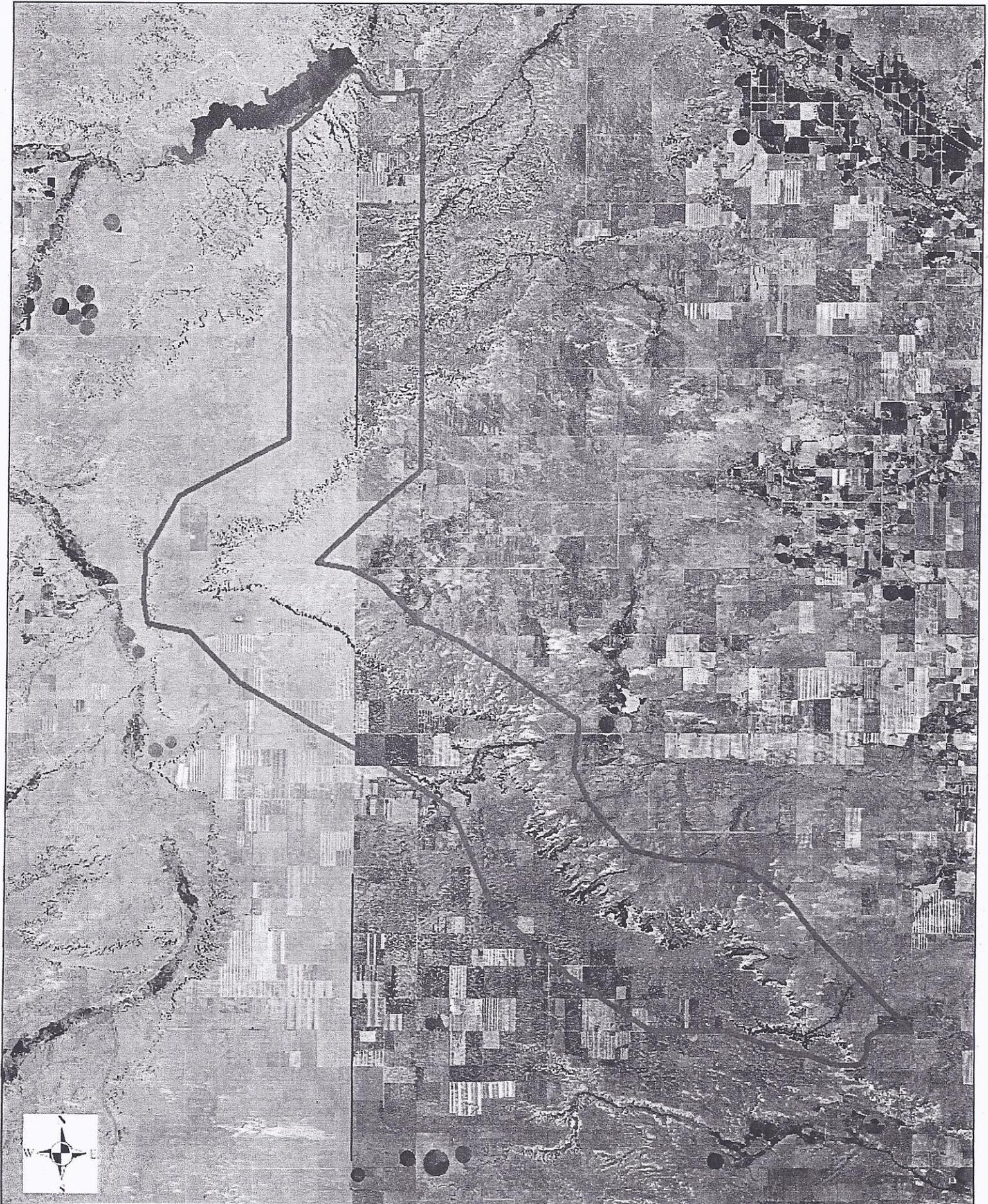
In the time frame of one week, seven nests were destroyed. In week two, the remaining nests were destroyed. Depredations by species were as follows: bull snake one nest, opossum one nest, coyote one nest, raccoon four nests, and the remainder unknown. In 2012 we conducted the same study placing the nests in the same locations but conducted trapping efforts in the winter months before the nesting observation study. Two nests survived the two week time frame. At least three nests were destroyed by bull snakes. This suggests that raccoon damage after concluding trappings efforts was considerably less.

There has been good public response to the game bird enhancement project throughout the course of its existence. Property owners have now started using live traps of their own to help the effort and the overlapping benefits have been very well documented. Even though the game bird enhancement project is concluding there is still a need to protect crop and property damage in these areas. Trapping efforts in relation to property damage will continue to help the native game birds. This project and the related information gained have shown that removal of the target predators on a consistent basis, with the right environmental and habitat conditions being present, is valuable to native pheasant populations and agricultural interests.

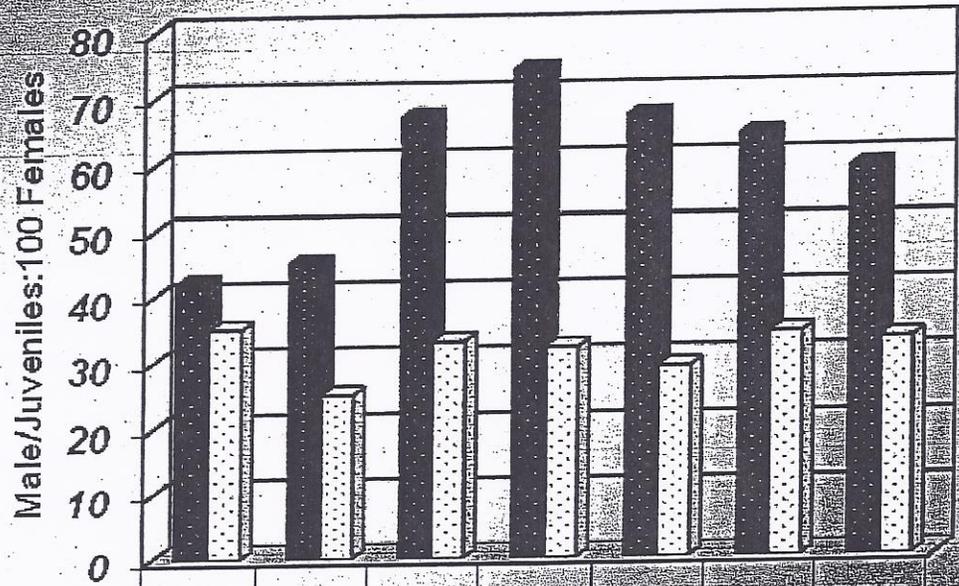
Mule Deer Enhancement Project

The Mule Deer enhancement project is continuing to target increased areas that the deer population is below quota (WGFD), primarily in the Goshen Hole Rim within mule deer hunt area 55. WS' will be significantly increasing the fixed wing flying time in this area as well as adding some helicopter time and will continue to concentrate time spent on the ground when fawns are most vulnerable to predation. WS' has coordinated this time spent with livestock protection activities

Platte_Goshen mule deer Project area



Hunt Area 55 Post-Season Classification Data, 2006-12



	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
■ Juvenile:100 Females	42	45	67	74	67	64	59
□ Male:100 Female	35	25	33	32	29	34	33

Year

2003 - 2012 Postseason Classification by Hunt Area

for Mule Deer Herd MD534 - GOSHEN RIM - Hunt Area 55

Year	Area	% Herd	Males				Females		Juveniles		Total	Class Obj	Males/100 Females		Young/100		
			# Ylg	# Adult	Total Male	% Male	#	% Fem	#	% Juv			Ylg	Adult	Males	Female	Adult
2003	55	0%	29	93	122	14%	418	50%	304	36%	844	1,466	7	22	29	73	56
2004	55	0%	68	92	160	19%	419	51%	242	29%	821	1,106	16	22	38	58	42
2005	55	0%	45	100	145	18%	389	48%	279	34%	813	1,425	12	26	37	72	52
2006	55	0%	52	88	140	20%	401	56%	169	24%	710	1,325	13	22	35	42	31
2007	55	0%	24	59	83	15%	335	59%	152	27%	570	1,016	7	18	25	45	36
2008	55	0%	31	56	87	17%	264	50%	176	33%	527	1,143	12	21	33	67	50
2009	55	0%	17	45	62	15%	195	49%	145	36%	402	1,210	9	23	32	74	56
2010	55	0%	38	48	86	15%	299	51%	199	34%	584	1,123	13	16	29	67	52
2011	55	0%	48	110	158	17%	471	51%	300	32%	929	1,364	10	23	34	64	48
2012	55	0%	41	73	114	16%	364	53%	213	31%	691	1,076	11	20	31	59	45

to better utilize time and money spent. We are documenting data on coyotes such as stomach contents, sex, age, and GPS locations of where coyotes are taken. In our stomach content analysis collected in 2011 we have found that 13.3% of coyotes had evidence of mule deer fawns and 26.7% had evidence of pronghorn antelope fawns during the first three weeks of June. New to the project for the 2013 year it has been decided to expand the deer project area to get broader range of predator control. This should help a large span of historical mule deer fawning areas. The expansion was done in cooperation from Game and Fish personal that felt predator control in these areas would benefit the mule deer population. The expanded area mule deer project will be conducted for three consecutive years.

Deer fawn ear in coyote stomach



In FY 2013 223 hrs of field work and administrative work was devoted to the Mule Deer Enhancement project. 19.1 hrs. of aerial hunting time was used and 34 coyotes and 2 coyote dens were taken from the project areas. GPS locations of the coyotes taken will be mapped and any data collected from these coyotes will be inventoried. Mule deer population data will be provided by WY. G&F Dept. and a report of all the year's activities will be compiled at a later date.

Skunk Population Density Studies

The Skunk Population Density Project is a new project for Goshen County. WS' is assisting the WS' National Rabies Program in determining population densities for striped skunks. This is accomplished by trapping an area 3km² about 750 acres with 50 traps set for 10 nights for a total of 500 trapped nights, moving traps every 2-4 days if no captures result. Data collected consists of date, species, sex, age, GPS locations, and micro and macro habitats. Every tenth skunk captured was submitted for rabies. This project has tied in nicely with our other wildlife projects and brought relief to areas that suffered from vast amounts of raccoon damage. This was our third consecutive year and the project has been concluded. (see attached conclusion data)

Livestock Protection/Nuisance Animal Work

With the advent of additional state funding, GCPMD/WS' has been able to hire an additional employee, increase flying time, and acquire more equipment. This has lead to greater diversity in the GCPMD program. Increased funding also allows for greater effectiveness in responding to livestock depredation issues and WS' personnel in Goshen County spent a considerable amount of time working in Laramie County under contract with Warren Land and Livestock and the Laramie County PAB. Work is planned again to begin in April FY 2013.

WS' in Goshen County is also doing a great deal of European Starling work in feedlots. This is a very timely procedure and starling migratory patterns create a genuine obstacle. Persistence and hard work has been able to slow down the damage caused by the vast amounts of starlings that populate the feedlots. The additional help is essential in success slowing the damage caused by the large amount of starlings that populate the feedlots. WS' has good communications with the feedlot managers and owners that feel our efforts are making a difference. Another ongoing problem is with the roosting Turkey Vultures in the City of Torrington. The vultures are causing damage to yards, sidewalks and trees.

Density index to striped skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*) population abundance and structure

Rabies threatens public and domestic animal health, including livestock, and is a financial burden to residents and agricultural producers. Striped skunks (*Mephitis mephitis*) are the primary reservoir of the northern skunk variant of the rabies virus (skunk rabies) in Wyoming. Although no wildlife rabies control programs are currently planned in Wyoming, understanding the epizootiology of skunk rabies there is prudent for formulating potential responses in the event that resources become available. To that end, WS conducted three years of skunk density indexing studies to characterize the number of skunks on some of the more common landscapes of eastern Wyoming for use in risk modeling. Agricultural properties in Goshen County were among these.

Fifty live traps (TruCatch Skunk Traps) were set throughout 3-km² study areas at locations likely to capture raccoons and skunks. Traps were baited with sardines and checked daily and those that had not captured unique skunks in 2-4 days were moved to new locations likely to result in captures. Trap location and habitat data were recorded for each trap location (regardless of capture status) to aid in skunk habitat use modeling. Skunk data collected included weight, relative age, sex, and reproductive status. Skunks were humanely euthanized as part of wildlife damage management work detailed in the agreements made with property owners allowing this work, and mandibles were collected for age determination. Non-target species were released at site of capture. Because skunks were removed from study sites, new sites were sampled each year to avoid effects on capture success in subsequent years. Although all skunk counts included only unique animals, non-target species were released unmarked, and may have been recaptured which would artificially inflate their representation in total captures. Indexed skunk densities in Goshen County ranged from <3 skunks/km² to >4 skunks/km² during 2010-2012 (Table).

Table. Skunk captures and indexed density in Goshen County, Wyoming: 2010-2012.

Year	Study dates	Unique skunks captured	Non-targets captured	Indexed skunk density
2010	11/2-11/10 and 11/12-11/14	12	45 ^a	4.0/km ²
2011	10/31-11/10	8	42 ^b	2.7/km ²
2012	10/31-11/10	13	19 ^c	4.3/km ²

^a 41 raccoons (*Procyon lotor*), 4 cats (*Felis catus*)

^b 18 raccoons, 17 cats, 1 cottontail rabbit, 6 opossums (*Didelphis virginiana*)

^c 3 raccoons, 12 cats, 4 opossums

In addition, every 10th skunk captured during these density studies was tested for rabies (RFFIT) as part of routine enhanced rabies surveillance. No skunks were found to be positive for rabies.

With the cooperation of the city and use of the proper vulture effigies, WS' has been able to manage the situation.

Additional:

WS' has recently been asked to help with gathering information on Virginia Opossum for Steven Buskirk of the Zoology and Physiology department at the University of Wyoming. (see the attached letter of appreciation) Also, WS' employees sampled 3 coyotes for canine parvovirus and sampled 5 skunks for rabies surveillance purposes.

Summary:

GCPMD plans to keep moving forward with all responsibilities. WS' will be spending increased time on the mule deer enhancement area. Disease sampling will continue as needed. Feral Hogs have become a topic of discussion in Goshen County and the GCPMD is exploring the options of control and responsibilities of action if they do present themselves in the county.

UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

Steven W. Buskirk
Zoology and Physiology
Department 3166
1000 East University Avenue
Laramie, WY 82071
Voice: (307) 766-5626
FAX: (307) 766-5625
e-mail: marten@uwyo.edu

6 February 2012

Mr. Craig Acres
U.S.D.A. APHIS
Wildlife Services
P.O. Box 59
Casper, WY 82602

Dear Craig:

I am writing to request GIS coordinates for Virginia opossums and spotted skunks that may have been trapped, found dead, or otherwise located in Wyoming. I am writing a book on Wyoming mammals, and locations for these species are relatively uncommon. So, the locations in possession of your agency are of particular biological interest. I would further like to store these data in the Wyoming Natural Diversity Database, where they would be accessible to the public. The data could be buffered (identified only the section, range, and township) if there are any sensitivity associated with identifying them more accurately.

Thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely yours,



Steven W. Buskirk
Professor
307-766-5626

**2013
Annual
Report**

Hot Springs County Predator Management District

July 1, 2012

to

June 30, 2013

BOARD MEMBERS

- **President**
Jack Baird
Thermopolis, Wy
- **Vice President**
Bob Blacketer
Thermopolis, Wy
- **Sec/Treasure**
Brett Belden
Thermopolis, Wy
- Shawn Smith
Thermopolis, Wy
- Everret Jones
Thermopolis, Wy.
- Mike Kimesy
Manderson, Wy.
- Darrell Thompson
Thermopolis, Wy.
- Art Hunter
Thermopolis, Wy.
- Josh Longwell
Thermopolis, Wy.
- Don Harvey
Thermopolis, WY

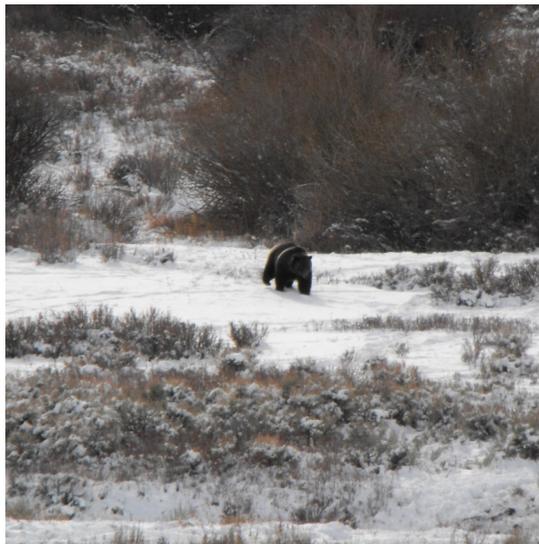
Please refer to the attached MIS Report provided by USAD/ Wildlife Services for more detail if needed.

Mission:

Hot Springs County's mission involves a contract with the United States Department of Agriculture – Wildlife Services (WS) who has signed national Memorandums Of Understanding with the Wyoming Game and Fish Department, United States Fish and Wildlife Services, Bureau of Land Management, United States Forest Service, Cooperative Extension Service, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Defense, and many other state wildlife, agricultural, natural resource, and public health and safety agencies to assure Hot Springs County has positioned itself to deal with nearly any request for assistance made to our professionally trained personnel. Our goal is to provide service or respond to all damage complaints within 48 hours after our personnel have been contacted. Services will include proactive, non-lethal, and lethal approaches to solve wildlife damage problems along with technical advice for best practices to reduce or avoid future damage by wildlife species. Lethal control will be performed in a professional manner and follow all federal, state, and local laws and regulations. Special consideration will be given to Threatened and Endangered Species of wildlife and control actions will be conducted as directed by the United States Fish and Wildlife Ser-

vice impact to private as well as the species to have caused the County will plan to help to not only deal number of requests tect federal property, gation, and crops and protected species conduct ongoing wild- and safety projects in Springs will assist the Fish Department with damage activities and panding Bighorn Ba- ator Research Project

for field personnel and aerial support. Hot Springs County PMD has cooperated additional personnel with Washakie County PMD for more efficient response to Wildlife management agencies to deal with trophy game species and address gray wolf damage due to manage- ment lines dissecting Hot Springs County. We feel it is our responsibility to be prepared to deal with wolf damage for livestock and wildlife species as our county is located in the preda- tor zone and has a history over the last ten years of wolf damage on private property. Our plan will continually make sure that all interests are taken into considerations while wildlife damage management control actions are performed. We plan to assess all requests for assis- tance, decide proper action to be taken, and monitor all results. In conclusion, Hot Springs County Predator Management District plans to meet all challenges to solve wildlife damage in the most cooperative, efficient, cost effective, and expeditious manner.



vice to minimize the property and livestock of wildlife confirmed damage. Hot Springs provide additional with the increasing for assistance to pro- private property, irri- from meso predators of wildlife but to also life and human health the county. Hot Wyoming Game and their trophy game also support the ex- sin Sage Grouse Pred- with "in kind" funds

Wildlife related issues for Hot Springs County Predator Management District



Hot Springs County Predator Management District Program and its cooperation with Wildlife Services reach 56 different landowners in Hot Springs County and many others in neighboring counties covering 1,326,326 acres in Northwest Wyoming including State Bureau of Land Management, Forest Service and Private lands . We offered assistance with a large variety of wildlife damage issues, human health and safety concerns and conducted wildlife projects that benefit all entities and publics in Hot Spring County as well as the rest of the Bighorn Basin.

Hot Springs County's duties were conducted with the teamwork and cooperation of 15 WS employees during this last year to cater to the increasing requests to our program for assistance involving such wildlife species as: grizzly bears, black bears, beavers, coyotes, fox, raccoons, skunks, feral cats, feral dogs, porcupines, badgers, grey wolves, mountain lions, sage grouse, pigeons, ravens, golden eagles, muskrats, and American crow complaints. The majority of the Hot Springs County Specialists time since July 1st, 2013 was spent answering the following complaints and providing assistance to:

- 1,578 daily tasks for coyote predation or threats of predation on calves, sheep, sage grouse, and livestock guarding animals.
- 562 daily tasks dealing with raccoons on chickens, sheep, pheasants, chukars, sage grouse, crops, irrigation damage, residence damage, livestock feed and buildings, and human health and safety concerns.
- 10 Calls for assistance for grizzly predation on cattle.
- 14 beaver calls for damage to private property and irrigation systems.
- 568 daily tasks for skunk complaints involving chickens, sage grouse, pheasants, chukars, human health and safety, and property damage on residences or out buildings.
- 6 Mountain Lion tasks for cattle, sheep, and human health and safety.
- 110 daily tasks for grey wolf complaints involving sheep and cattle.
- 225 daily tasks for fox complaints with sage grouse, chickens, chukars, pheasants, cattle, and sheep.



Bighorn Basin Sage grouse Project

Hot Springs County has agreed to provide in-kind assistance with the use of personnel for being the lead and predominate data collection staff for field activities with research, predator control, and aerial support to the expanding Bighorn Basin Sage Grouse Predation Project. Hot Springs County has cooperated a full-time position with Washakie County for personnel who provided 724 hours towards field activities costing the Hot Springs County PMD \$25,340.00 for field data collection for the Sage Grouse Project. Hot Springs County PMD has also donated 37.7 hours of aerial work to the Sage Grouse Project costing the PMD \$5,625.00 and plan to continue with cooperation until its conclusion. Specialists have placed trail cameras on nests, necropsied predation



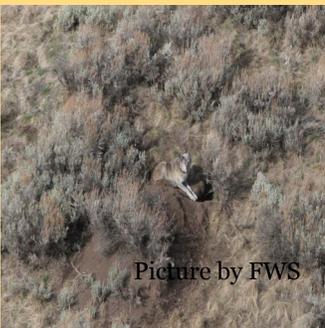
events, and conducted both avian and terrestrial predator surveys. We are continuing to monitor and document predation events, identify movement and habitat selection, and how human activity has effected sage grouse in the Bighorn Basin. Dr. Jimmy Taylor of Oregon State University has taken the position of Lead Researcher to further the project in the future with emphasis on avian predation and how it effects the sage grouse population.



Wolf Depredation Management

Hot Springs County Wildlife Specialists diligently assisted the Wyoming Game and Fish Department with capturing and collaring wolves for population and monitoring management in the Bighorn Basin during 2013. 389.25 hours and around \$13,623.75 , a cost to Hot Springs County PMD, for

wolf complaints in the predator designated area of Hot Springs County. Specialists reported to 110 complaints involving cattle and sheep by gray wolves. We truly fear the expanding wolf population and associated damage due to our county being split by the trophy game and predator line in Wyoming wolf management program.





Crop, Irrigation, Pheasant Enhancement, and Human Health and Safety Activities

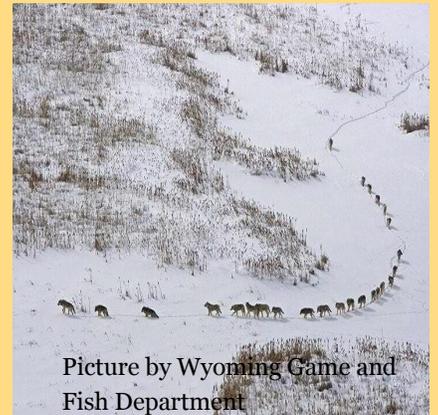
Hot Springs County Wildlife Specialists have reported to 1,130 requests for assistance dealing with damage complaints of raccoons and striped skunks on chickens, chukars, pheasants, sage grouse, crops, irrigation damage, residence damage, livestock feed and buildings, damage to equipment and machinery, and human health and safety concerns. Specimens

were sent for disease testing by the State Veterinary Laboratory from animals thought to possess human health and safety concerns throughout Park county. Numerous species such as red fox, porcupines, badgers, feral cats, beavers, and ravens also have been reported and confirmed as wildlife related damage culprits in our area.



Trophy Game Assistance to Wyoming Game and Fish Department

Hot Springs County Wildlife Specialists responded to 126 trophy game damage complaints under the direction of the Wyoming Game and Fish Department and the Shoshone/Arapahoe Reservation for grizzly bears, black bears, mountain lions and wolves in Hot Springs County. This cost of this activity was PMD 172 hours and \$6, 020.00. Requests for assistance from specialists involved cattle and sheep depredation and human health and safety concerns. With the growing number of



large predators the Hot Springs County Predator Management District Board has made it their goal to continue to support our wildlife specialists with their efforts to respond to the increasing number of requests for wildlife damage assistance and human health and safety concerns in the Big-horn Basin.



Johnson County Predator Management District
FY 2012-2013 Year-end Report

The Johnson County Predator Management District continues to be very active carrying out our general management plan of providing a predation reduction in county livestock and wildlife herds as well as the protection of human health and safety to all residents of Johnson County.

The state management grant fees continue to enable us to carry out an active program spelled out in our management plan.

- Aerial hunting continues to be one of our largest expenditures and has been successful with good numbers of coyotes taken from the air. Many were taken just before or during the denning season, thus population control was achieved by good timing. Private helicopters and planes as well as Wildlife Services fixed wing planes were used the majority of the time. We have added a private fixed winged pilot and a private helicopter in southern Johnson County which allows quick access when conditions are right. We have done extensive analysis of our flying program and its cost per coyote costs. Adjustments may have to be made as to which aircrafts can be used in certain locations and at certain times. With funding cuts this budget line is where the cuts are often made, although it remains a vital part of our control program. .
- We continue to “Contract for Services” with three control officers and employ two part-time persons in the rabies program and bookkeeping personnel. As personnel request more dollars for their services in the face of lower funding, the district struggles to continue the level of protection the residents have come to expect. A stringent reporting program and data collection has shown that we have excellent control in the interior of the county while the exterior boundaries show incoming predator from lesser control by our neighboring districts.
- We’ve had a few requests for refunds of predator fees collected. We continue to educate and inform our producers about our program at every chance and feel that they understand the need and value of the control program. Each year with the annual meeting notice, a report of coyotes taken on each landowner is also distributed.
- Cooperative efforts continue with USDA Wildlife Services and Wyoming Game & Fish personnel continue and are invited to our annual meeting. Continued meetings regarding kill confirmations and timely control activity are planned. Predation for bear, mountain lions, and wolves continues in our

district and is important to keep all producers and employees up to date on protocol in recognizing and handling these cases in the field.

- The District has adopted an electronic payroll and bill paying system that will save time as well as postage and mailings.

Johnson County continues its Rabies Mitigation Program with continued success. We have two seasonal employees for this program, one in Buffalo and one in Kaycee. Our contract employees also control and document rabies targeted animals. We've seen numbers lower and level off which might indicate a level of control. Both Buffalo and Kaycee city officials are very satisfied with the success of this program and have contributed financially to the program. This program continues to be a great public relations tool for the District, especially with the urban residents.

In summary, the livestock and wildlife of Johnson County as well as the residents of Buffalo and Kaycee are much safer due to the dedication of the members of the district board and the employees of the Johnson County Predator District. The success of the program is due, in great part, to the grant funding through the Wyoming Animal Management Board

Dave Hall
Secretary/Treasurer
Johnson County PMD

August 28, 2013

Kent,

As usual I am late writing our report. Thus far it has been a much better year than last year. Livestock people have experienced less predator losses and have a lot less mortality from trophy-game animals. I believe this is a result of our winter flying program. Lincoln County PAMD hires Wyoming Helicopter's owner Ed Nicols and his ship from Pinedale, WY. Nichols leaves his chopper at the Kemmerer airport and is able to fly with a couple hours' notice. Ed has a good high altitude flying helicopter and is one of the best pilots with whom I have flown. Last winter between Jon Child and me we took 5 wolves and about 300 coyotes. In addition Wildlife Services took 7 wolves. I do not know how many total coyotes they took.

In discussions with other ranchers, coyote and wolf losses were down substantially from the previous year. This is also true of ravens. As you are aware, Fish & Wildlife Service requested that Wildlife Services poison ravens at the city garbage dumps in Southwestern Wyoming. Finally, Federal people are realizing that ravens are killing sage grouse either by breaking up nests or killing chicks. Personally, I have seen larger clutch sizes this year. It will be interesting to see harvest information this fall from the WGFD. The data on age classification will be especially important to show if more young birds are being harvested. What is needed now is a reduction in Golden eagle numbers. There was less complaints from ranchers about raven kills this year; however, it appears some sheep producers experienced more eagle loss this year. We learned that if we do not have bunches of ewes and lambs on high bare ridges and mountains we have less eagle losses. It is imperative that WS keeps the raven control program around the city dumps in order to maintain some control of the population.

Most sheep men are experiencing increased black bear predation. Every year in some locations on certain allotments we have bear problems. I believe the same bear waits for the herd to come to its area every year. The LCPMD is trying to work with the WGFD to get bear licenses, specifically for the areas that have been depredation every year. Part of the problem is getting spring bear hunters and baiting back into the high country.

The WGFD does not believe they have predatory problems in the South Lincoln County deer wintering areas. This is probably because two critical wintering areas occur in sheep lambing areas and they get flown every year by WLS and LCPMB. Together the two agencies remove 500-700 coyotes every year, depending on snow pack. Fox numbers are low which results in more sage grouse. The Big Horn study has determined that coyotes take more nesting sage grouse than originally thought. I am observing more birds with larger clutches these last two years, especially this summer. I attribute this fact with yearly fox and coyote removal as well as increased raven removal by WS. Our lamb loss to ravens was down this spring. In fact, we lost more lambs to eagles than ravens. Hopefully, FWS will continue their

request to Wildlife Services for continued raven removal. If the state of Wyoming takes over management of the golden eagle than sage grouse and lambing ranges might receive help.

The main goal and objectives of the LCPMB are to aid Lincoln County livestock producers, wildlife and human health (eq. rabies) where and when the need arises. Predation costs Wyoming ranchers great economic losses and can affect animal health. Disease can be spread by ravens using winter feed grounds and defecating. Predator attacks on wildlife cost the state, especially the GFD, money from the sale of licenses and permits. If the sage grouse are listed, it could cost the State of Wyoming millions in lost revenue from taxes and royalties as well as private enterprises. There is already a rule that prohibits wind turbines in sage grouse core areas. Southwestern Wyoming has more sage grouse than any other part of the state. It is imperative that we maintain the numbers we presently have and increase birds if possible. Habitat is not the issue, predators are. If we keep pressure on the foxes, coyotes and ravens we should be able to maintain and show some growth. Someday maybe the FWS and others will realize what an impact avians have on sage grouse.

Sincerely,

Truman Julian

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

2013-2014
Year End Report

Outline:

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

District Management Plan

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

The NCPMD has contracted with three (3) full time trappers who cover a very large geographical area compared to the other counties who have several full time trappers.

The third full time trapper was hired to assist our two full time trappers with ground work. Clint Cummings has recently been hired to replace Gene Heckel. Clint will work deer unit 66 in Southeast Natrona County, which is the Stinking Creek/Bates Hole area and its tributaries. The predator control work in the Stinking Creek/Bates Hole mule deer wintering area was requested by the Wyoming Game and Fish Department. The purpose of requesting predator control in deer unit 66 was to attempt to bring up mule deer numbers. In addition to the wintering areas, the predator control will extend into this deer herds summer range.

The Wyoming Game and Fish asked for the NCPMD's assistance in trapping in this specific area and we agreed to assist with this project. The reason that the game and fish has requested this is because for over 10 plus years, mule deer numbers have been dramatically below herd objective. The NCPMD had previously not worked this area of the county because land owners did not request or desire our services. Prior to receiving grant money from the

ADMB, we lacked the personnel necessary to work this part of Natrona County. The Wyoming Game and Fish helped us secure access to these ranches for predator control to assist the mule deer population. Below are the deer numbers provided by the Game and Fish Department in this specific area:

**Mule Deer – Per 100 Doe’s (collected in Nov/Dec each year-postseason)
Herd Unit: MD 757 – Bates Hole/Hat Six (Hunt Area 66)**

Year	Yearling Bucks	Mature Bucks	Total Bucks	Fawns
2000	15	15	30	59
2001	10	18	28	66
2002	9	16	26	84
2003	10	13	23	77
2004	13	16	29	67
2005	13	12	25	75
2006	17	18	35	47
2007	12	19	32	58
2008	12	18	29	65
2009	8	15	23	57
2010	9	11	20	45
2011	7	14	21	67
2012	4	13	17	60

The Sportsman’s Representatives for the NCPMD meet annually with the Wyoming Game and Fish to review the productivity by the NCPMD on the Stinking Creek/Bates Hole project. In addition to the mule deer project, we report all coyotes taken throughout the year to the Wyoming Game and Fish by antelope hunt unit. It’s our desire to continue working closely with game and fish for the benefit of wildlife populations throughout Natrona County.

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

II. **Public Relations:**

The NCPMD continues to participate at the Wyoming Game and Fish Expo and display its booth. The booth has pictures of sheep and antelope killed by predation, and other predators, various traps used by the trappers, statistics and predator method control.

The NCPMD held its first annual Bounty Program for coyotes. This program was opened to all Natrona County residents. The purpose for paying bounties was to reward recreational hunters for their efforts in killing coyotes.

The board designated three dates to gather sets of ears and to pay a bounty of \$20 per set of ears turned in. The board worked with Sportsman's Warehouse and Rocky Discount Sports for the designated locations. At each location, the NCPMD booth was displayed and at least 3-4 board members were on hand to accept the ears from the resident hunters and gather feedback and answer questions from hunters. The Casper Star Tribune sent out a reporter the first weekend of the program. She interviewed NCPMD board members and resident hunters as they were turning in their ears. A 13 year old resident hunter mailed Don Garrison, NCPMD Board Member a letter expressing his excitement for the program as well. Please see attachments.

On February 22, 2013, following the conclusion of the bounty program, a spreadsheet was put together and emailed to Brian Olsen detailing the hunt Antelope hunt areas and number of coyotes harvested from each hunt area. See attached spreadsheet. A total of **395** coyotes were harvest and the NCPMD paid out \$7,900.00 dollars for the sets of ears. These funds paid out were paid for by livestock producers. We hope to have enough funding for next year to continue with this program.

III. **Identifiable or Measurable Results:** To date, for Fiscal Year 2013, the three trappers, helicopter and aerial flying have killed **1,254** coyotes. Weather is a main factor for the aerial program. We are hoping that there are favorable weather conditions so our trappers can fly. The aerial program has proven to be extremely beneficial with coyote harvesting.

Coyotes taken for the following fiscal years:

Fiscal Year	Coyotes Taken
2008	2,658
2009	1,493
2010	2,186
2011	1,788
2012	1,568
2013 (to date)	1,254

Fixed Fly Time:

The following flight time has been conducted to date for the aerial removal of coyotes for fiscal year 2013:

USDA-APHIS: **30.9 hours** (39 coyotes harvested)
Reno Air Service: **70.9 hours** (143 coyotes harvested)

Total for fixed fly time is **101.8 hours**
Total coyotes harvested: **182**

Helicopter Fly Time:

Walker Creek Ranch, LLC hours: **2.9 hours** (5 coyotes harvested)
Wyoming Helicopters hours: **36 hours** (72 coyotes harvested)
Sky Aviation hours: **8.3 hours** (11 coyotes harvested)

Total aerial helicopters time is: **47.2 hours**
Total coyotes harvested: **88**

Fly Log for Aerial Program for the following fiscal years:

Fiscal Year	Fly Log for Aerial Program
2008	298.4 hours
2009	369.43 hours
2010	295.2 hours
2011	269.9 hours
2012	192.4 hours
2013 (to date)	149 hours

IV. Grant Monies expended for Fiscal Year 2013:

- a. Fly time: \$ 64,585.55
- b. Meeting expenses: \$ 301.50
- c. Postage/Delivery/PO Box: \$ 279.56
- d. Liability Insurance: \$ 300.00
- e. Office Supplies: \$ 552.93
- f. Contract Services: \$192,482.33
(3 trappers, one clerical)
- g. Preparation of tax forms: \$ 1,000.00
- h. Mileage for Board Members: \$ 1,918.53
- i. Attorney's fees: \$ 487.50
- j. Bounty Program: \$ 7,900.00
- k. Livestock Predator Fees: \$ 521.00
- l. G&F Expo: \$ 210.00
- m. Membership to LGLP: \$ 500.00

Total Expenses: \$271,038.90

V. **Current Financial Statement:** For the current Fiscal Year 2013, NCPMD has a grant account balance of **\$5,230.54**. We have a livestock tax account balance of **\$48,197.63**. A Refund Saving Account was setup which has a balance of **\$2,502.77**. For a total of income available is **\$55,930.94**. The expenses for the month of June have not been deducted for this amount. We anticipate expenses for the month of June including the aerial program will exhaust the income available.

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

Dated this 25th day of June, 2013.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Phil Marton". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Phil Marton, President NCPMD

Niobrara County PMD Grant Activities Report Narrative

June 30, 2013

The foremost goal of the Niobrara County Predator Management District Board has always been to use the funding provided by our producers to implement a program of livestock protection through predator control. With the addition of funding provided by the state for the past several years we have been able to enlarge our program to include wildlife concerns. Prudent spending allows us to spend over 95 cents of total dollars on field operations. Predator removal is of mutual benefit to livestock and wildlife, and operations are timed to provide control at critical times and places to maximize those benefits. The trappers are directed to focus on calving grounds in early spring to reduce calf losses due to predators. Later the focus shifts to lambing and fawning areas. April and May are vital denning months. Since states on our eastern border and counties to our south do no control they supply plenty of coyotes, and we are never afraid of running out of them.

We again had two full-time trappers this year, one aerial hunter who is paid per coyote taken, and one part-time trapper who works the Rawhide Project area during the winter and receives a partial reimbursement of expenses from the board. This trapper took a total of 90 coyotes this winter, 26 of which were in Niobrara County. The rest were either in the portion of Goshen County that was in the original Rawhide Recovery project boundary or along our borders with Goshen and Platte counties. We urged Goshen County to join in this very inexpensive control but they did not. They do no predator control in northern Goshen, and Platte County does no control at all, so we believe the trapper's work helps to provides our county with a beneficial cushion against predator problems.

Producers county-wide reported far more sightings of coyotes on calving grounds this year. Coyotes seemed to come in closer to populated areas and ranch headquarters than usual. Possibly they were following game which was also attracted to better feed and water opportunities near the livestock due to drought conditions. There were more calls from cattle producers requesting services this year, though it is not entirely certain that there were actually many more calf kills versus increased scavenging of animals. Stomach contents of coyotes taken often showed calf hair and meat.

The privately-contracted trappers took an impressive number of predators this year. The take these men have accomplishing in the past three years using ground methods is far higher than was achieved historically. It eases the reliance on aerial hunting though we were able increase the flying time achieved a bit this year. Our aerial program consists of two private contract pilots as well as a contract with Wildlife Services. Good weather allowed a take of over 100 adult coyotes in the month of April. Since April is the primary denning time, removing that many adults reduced the number of coyotes successful in producing pups.

Our 2012 annual deer count was conducted in November as usual. Multiple years' data compiled on mule deer populations and fawns per doe ratios in the targeted mule deer areas are yielding interesting data. While conditions over the past several years have fluctuated greatly, we show good numbers and ratios in the Rawhide area and improved ratios in the north project area compared to beginning counts.

2013

Annual
Report

Park County Predator Management District

July 1, 2012

to

June 30, 2013

BOARD MEMBERS

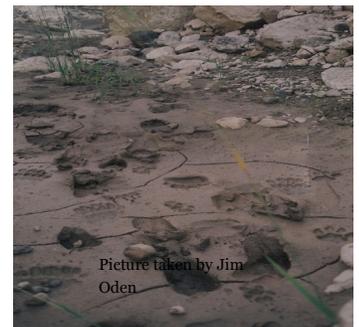
- **President**
Todd Stutzman,
Powell, Wy
- **Vice President**
Ken Beers
Meeteetse, Wy
- **Sec/Treasure**
Regan Smith
Powell, Wy
- William Johnsey
Cody, Wy
- Rori Renner
Meeteetse, Wy.
- Shane Smith
Powell, Wy.
- Zane Bryant
Cody, Wy.
- Lloyd Thiel
Powell, Wy.
- Allan Hogg
Meeteetse, Wy.
- Lee Lingston
Cody, Wy.

Please refer to
the attached
MIS Report pro-
vided by Wild-
life Services for
more detail if
needed.

Mission:

Park County Predator Management District's (PMD) management plan is to contract with United States Department of Agriculture – Wildlife Services (WS) to provide high-quality wildlife damage management services for all entities located in Park County that result in the protection of agriculture, wildlife and other natural resources, private and federal property, and human health and safety. Our goal is to cooperate with all land and wildlife management agencies to ensure there will be protection for all wildlife and domestic species. By working with WS who have Memorandums of Understanding (MOU'S) with all land and wildlife management agencies the Park County PMD will be assured to have put ourselves in a position to best deal with all species and localities of our county regardless of state and federal protections with professionally trained personnel. Our Mission is to provide service or respond to all damage complaints within 48 hours after our personnel are contacted. Services will include pro-active, non-lethal, and lethal approaches to solve wildlife damage problems along with technical advice for best practices to reduce or avoid future damage by wildlife species. Lethal control will be performed in a professional manner and follow all federal, state, and local laws and regulations. Special consideration will be given to Threatened and Endangered Species of wildlife and control actions will be conducted as directed by the United States Fish and Wildlife Services to minimize the impact to private property and livestock as well as the species of wildlife confirmed to have caused the damage.

Wildlife related issues for Park County Predator Management District



Picture taken by Jim
Oden

Park County Predator Management District Program and its cooperation with Wildlife Services reach 68 different landowners in Park County and many others in neighboring counties covering 2,215,092 acres in Northwest Wyoming including State Bureau of Land Management, Forest Service and Private lands . We offered assistance with a large variety of wildlife damage issues, human health and safety concerns and conducted



wildlife projects that benefit all entities and publics in Park County as well as all counties in the Bighorn Basin.

Park County's duties were conducted with the teamwork and cooperation of 13 WS employees during this last year to cater to the increasing requests to our program for assistance involving such wildlife species as: grizzly bears, beavers, coyotes, fox, raccoons, skunks, feral cats, feral dogs, porcupines, badgers, grey wolves, black bears, mountain lions, sage grouse, pigeons, ravens, golden eagles, muskrats, and American crow complaints. The majority of the Park County Specialist's time since July 1st, 2013 was spent answering the following complaints in Park County:

- 1,465 daily tasks for coyote predation or threats of predation on calves, sheep, swine, pheasants, sage grouse, mule deer, antelope, and livestock guarding animals.
- 45 beaver calls for private property and irrigation damage.
- 89 daily tasks for skunk complaints involving human health and safety, property damage on residences or out buildings.
- 33 feral dog tasks for private property and livestock damage.
- 4 daily tasks for grizzly bear damage cattle, landfills, and human health and safety.
- 5 complaints for black bear damage
- 16 Mountain Lion tasks for cattle damage or threat of damage.
- 137 daily tasks for grey wolf complaints involving cattle, horses, buffalo, mule deer, elk, and sheep.
- 87 daily tasks for fox complaints with sage grouse, chickens, and sheep.



Bighorn Basin Sage grouse Project

Park County has agreed to provide in-kind assistance with the use of personnel for being the lead and predominate data collection staff for field activities with research, predator control, and aerial support to the expanding Bighorn Basin Sage Grouse Predation Project. Park County has provided additional help by cooperating a full-time position with Bighorn County PMD who has allowed us to provide 1,668 hours towards field activities and 45.3 hours of aerial time for the project. Last year we provided \$58,380.00 for field data collection and activities and \$6,795.00 for aerial support to the sage grouse project and plan

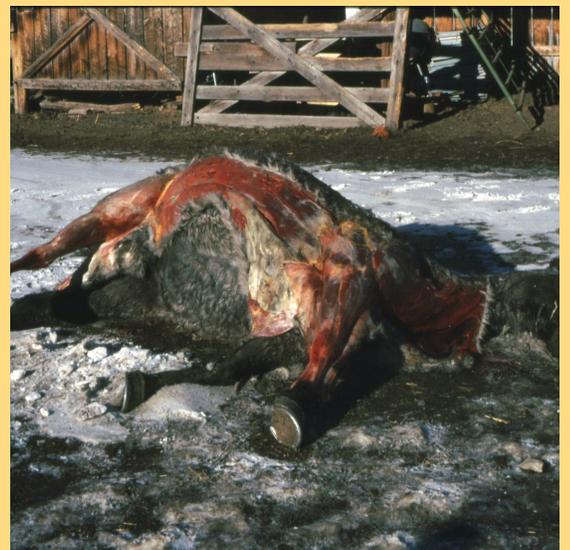


to continue until its conclusion. As of 2013 Wildlife Specialists have handled over 300 sage grouse for the sage grouse project. We are currently following 75 collared sage grouse in the Park County area for the project. Specialists have placed trail cameras on nests, necropsied predation events, and conducted both avian and terrestrial predator surveys. We are continuing to monitor and document predation events, identify movement and habitat selection, and how human activity has effected sage grouse in the Bighorn Basin. Dr. Jimmy Taylor of Oregon State University has taken the position of Lead Researcher to further the project in the future with emphasis on avian predation and how it effects the sage grouse population.



Wolf Depredation Management

Park County Wildlife Specialist's diligently assisted the Wyoming Game and Fish Department with capturing and collar wolves for population and monitoring management in the Bighorn Basin during 2013. Seven wolves were removed in depredation management efforts in Park County due to pre-



dation of 8 cattle. 108 hours and around \$4000.00, a cost to Park County PMD for wolf complaints in the predator designated area of Park County. Specialists reported to 137 complaints involving cattle, horses, buffalo, mule deer, elk, and sheep by gray wolves.

Crop, Irrigation, Pheasant Enhancement, and Human Health and Safety Activities



Park County Wildlife Specialists have reported to 327 requests for assistance dealing with damage complaints and requests for assistance with raccoons and striped skunks to chickens, pheasants, sage grouse, crops, irrigation damage, residence damage, livestock feed and buildings, leaf-cutter bee hives, damage to equipment and machinery, and human health and safety concerns. Wildlife Specialists have conducted pheasant crow-

count surveys to document the benefits to the populations as a result of this project activity. Specimens were sent for disease testing by the State Veterinary Laboratory from animals thought to possess human health and safety concerns throughout Park county. Numerous species such as red fox, striped skunks, porcupines, badgers, feral cats, beavers, and ravens also have been reported and confirmed as wildlife related damage culprits in our area.



Trophy Game Assistance to Wyoming Game and Fish Department

Park County Wildlife Specialists responded to 162 trophy game damage complaints and 525 hours of field work for species such as grizzly bears, black bears, mountain lions, and gray wolves. This was at the cost of the Park County PMD (\$18,375) Requests for assistance from specialists involved cattle depredation and harassment, damage to bee hives, and human health and safety concerns. With the growing number of large predators and decreasing prey base in northwestern Wyoming the



Park County Predator Management District Board has made it their goal to continue to support our wildlife specialists with their effort to respond to the increasing number of requests wildlife damage assistance and human health and safety concerns in the Bighorn Basin.



Sheridan County Management Plan 2012 – 2013 Fiscal Year

- 1 The mission of the Sheridan County Predator Management District (PMD) is to provide predator control for the benefit of livestock producers and wildlife populations within Sheridan County.

- 2 Sheridan County is located in the north central part of the state and has a land mass of just over 2,500 square miles. According to the National Agriculture Statistics Service, Sheridan County livestock numbers in 2011 total approximately 4,000 sheep and 42,000 beef cattle.

- 3 **A) *Wildlife Issues*** – The numbers of ravens, crows, skunks, raccoons, coyotes, and foxes in Sheridan County are at healthy levels. Many of the livestock producers in the county also receive additional income from wildlife activities, i.e. hunting.

B) *Wildlife Goals* – The Sheridan County PMD would like to facilitate an increase in numbers of wild game through effective management of those predator species having the most impact on numbers.

C) *Proposed Actions* – The Sheridan County PMD proposes the following:
Expanding the use of aerial hunting to better manage predator numbers in specific areas within the county. The PMD has designated six areas for concentrated aerial control using the helicopter:

AREA 1 – From Ucross, WY along Hwy 14/16 east to the Campbell Co. line and south of 14/16 to the Johnson Co. line. Primary purpose will be to depopulate coyotes from the target area, helping sage grouse recovery on spring leks and nesting areas, as well as control on spring lambing grounds. 500 hrs

AREA 2 – From Sheridan, WY to Wyarno. Southeast along Ulm County Rd. to the junction with Hwy 14/16, then south to the Johnson Co. line. From there, west on the county line to the face of the Big Horn Mountains and back to Sheridan. Area of concentration will be spring calving grounds. 250hrs

AREA 3 – From Wyarno, east to Passic Rd, following Buffalo Creek Rd east and Ulm County Rd southwest to Hwy 14/16. Everything east of Ukm County Rd and every thing south of Buffalo Creek Rd to Hwy 14/16. The control will be directed at helping sage grouse on spring leks and breeding grounds, as well as lambing grounds. 250 hrs

AREA 4 – North along Leiter and Passaic County Rd's to the Montana state line, east to the Campbell County line, south to Hwy 14/16. Primary purpose is to remove coyotes from the Powder River area, for mule deer recovery and calving grounds. 250 hrs

AREA 5 – From Sheridan, north along Interstate 90, then east along Buffalo Creek to Passaic County Rd as the east and southern border. From there, north to the Montana state line. Primary purpose is mule deer recovery. 500 hrs

AREA 6 – West of Sheridan and north of Banner, WY along the Big Horn Mountains, then north to the Montana state line. Primary purpose is mule deer recovery. 250 hrs

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

4 **A) *Livestock issues*** – Sheridan County is experiencing regular depredation to livestock as a result of a healthy coyote population.

B) *Livestock goals* – The Sheridan County PMD is dedicated to minimizing the loss of livestock to predation, thereby enabling viability of local producers.

C) *Proposed Actions* – The addition of the aforementioned 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. The PMD is also budgeting for part-time and a full time contract hunter to help the current full time trapper. This help is necessary to relieve some of the burden from our trapper, and some of the funds may be used to compensate Wildlife Services for any wolf work they do in the county. Sheridan does not participate with Wildlife Services in cost sharing. As such, all labor is on a contract basis. The flight time mentioned above, as well as the hours of fixed wing flying and continued ground work will improve effectiveness in minimizing livestock losses.

5 ***Pre-and post work monitoring:*** The PMD board, with the help of Alan Plummer, the full time trapper, will seek to provide data on deer and sage grouse populations in relation to aerial hunting and ground work locations. The before and after wildlife numbers for these areas will be solicited from the Game and Fish Department, in combination with Mr. Plummer's inventories. The board does not anticipate any additional costs associated with these activities.

TRAPPERS REPORT FOR 2012-13

Area 1

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

Area 2

We did more aerial hunting in this area to alleviate pressure on the calving grounds. The beaver creek hills have shown a large decrease in predation for the past three years due to a increase in aerial hunting.

Area 3

We have seen slight decreases in the numbers of grouse. Not sure the lower numbers are due to predation by coyotes or eagles. Eagles show up on the leks in large numbers in this area. Again due to a milder winter eagle numbers were down in this area.

Area 4

In this area we put a high emphases on trapping and snaring as well as aerial hunting. The mule deer numbers are holding steady. Fawn numbers are up slightly. Coyote numbers have increased dramatically from coyotes coming across the Montana border.

Area 5

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

Area 6

We mainly do aerial hunting in this area from Fall to late Spring. In the summer we work this part of Sheridan county on the ground with calling and dogs. We have a large population of lions in this area. What we have seen is a drop in coyote numbers and a increase in mule deer. This year we have killed more coyotes in this area than in previous years. Again this is caused by a growing coyote population on the Crow Reservation.

Area 4, 5, & 6

In the past year we have increased our efforts along the Montana border on coyote control. Our damage calls for this area are down from the past year. We still have bear killings on the Bighorn Mountains, however Wildlife Services has stopped the problem for the time being.

All Areas

With the unseasonably warm weather we are seeing a resurgence of skunk numbers, above what we saw last year. Also our skunk problem calls are up this Spring. We are assisting the City of Sheridan on more skunk calls. The Towns of Dayton and Story Wyoming are becoming hot beds of skunk activity.

Sweetwater County Predator Management District

Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board

1. The mission of the Sweetwater County Predator Management District has been and is to provide predator control throughout the county for the benefit of livestock producers and wildlife populations within Sweetwater County.
2. Sweetwater County encompasses 10,500 square miles and provides winter range for about 52,000 sheep and winter and summer range for about 14,000 cattle. This is also one of the best areas in Wyoming for antelope, deer and elk populations.
3. a) *Wildlife Issues* - The numbers of predatory animals in Sweetwater County have been at healthy levels. Areas south of Rock Springs have experienced a decline in deer and pronghorn fawning ratios, due to the fact that the sheep production, that used to exist in the area, is now gone and subsequently predator control has basically been non-existent for many years. However, last year and again this year we have increased predator control by having a full time trapper within the county and dedicated more funds to aerial control through the use of a helicopter to supplement the aerial control program throughout Sweetwater County.
b) *Wildlife Goals* – The Sweetwater County Predator Management District is committed to increasing wildlife reproductive rates through effective management of those predator species have the most negative impact on wildlife reproduction and survival.
4. *Proposed Actions* – We are working on protecting wildlife within Western Wyoming and our county and have entered into two projects (cooperatively funded by Lincoln and Sweetwater County Predator Management Districts) to study the effects of predators and their control on big game species (deer and pronghorns) and the effects of predators, including ravens on sage grouse within the two counties. (A summary of these projects have been provided to the Department of Agriculture as we received them from our project managers at the Berryman Institute of Utah State University.)
5. *Livestock Issues* – Predators have always been a great problem for livestock producers and our Board is dedicated to minimizing the loss of livestock due to predation, thereby enhancing Sweetwater County and its ability to produce livestock and their by-products.
a) We are presently using tools that have proven to be selective and effective in the past. We are using more helicopter services, especially in the rugged areas of the county where fixed winged aircraft is somewhat limited, we may expand the helicopter effort as it seems to be very effective, especially in some of the wildlife areas.
6. We have a very active Board made up of concerned ranchers, sportsmen and the public. We believe there have been some dramatic results and benefits evident for both wildlife and livestock within this County.
7. We are preparing for the delisting of the wolves in the fall and have concerns of how this will affect our management area. Since this will be the first time we will have to face this predator, we hope that our planning efforts to deal with wolves will be sufficient.

William R. Taliaferro - Chairman

**UINTA COUNTY PREDATOR MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
ANNUAL REPORT**

UINTA COUNTY PREDATOR MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT

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ACTIONS TAKEN

This year we again tried to utilize some of the same methods employed last year. The trappers made an attempt to clear designated areas of coyotes before the sheep were moved into the specific areas. We have found that pre-emptive work before the livestock arrives, is one of our most beneficial methods.

This last fall (2012) we worked the standard areas used during the fall by our producers. We had a slight increase in trouble calls reported by Kent Officer our most senior trapper. Kent has been with Wildlife Services for about 30 years and his experience has been invaluable to the district and our producers. He noted that the coordinated efforts with Jeff Hansen and our contract ultra-lite pilot Jim Hickey has resulted in the ability of the aerial crew with Wildlife Services to spend some valuable time working wolf problems in the Upper Green River area. We were able to work some of the trouble areas with our contract trapper and he was able to use the ultra-lite plane with good weather conditions to limit our producers losses. Some pre-emptive work was accomplished late in the fall before the snows on the winter ranges. We had hoped for some heavier snow conditions this winter to not only help with the condition of the range but to facilitate snowmobile use for increased take numbers. Unfortunately this winter we experienced abnormally low snowfall again. The winter herds were able to cover basically all of the winter sheep range available and feed conditions were tight resulting in producers augmenting feed for the herds. There were trouble calls in specific areas during the winter. Conditions were favorable for the use of the fixed wing on days of less wind.

Jeff Hansen our junior trapper with Wildlife Services worked with producers to realize the value of specific herding techniques to lessen producer losses. He noted that producers that bedded herds at or near the camp reduced losses and also allowed herders to better determine direction of incoming predators thus allowing increased success on take of offending animals. The trappers were able to respond and a number of problem animals were taken in a more efficient manner.

Helicopter flying time was hardly utilized this spring due to the poor snow conditions. We used it primarily during the early summer in conjunction with the Game and Fish Mule deer study in southeastern Uinta County. Limited snow cover made it more difficult to take animals from the chopper but we did have some success. We again covered the sheep ranges utilized in the first part of the summer but only on a limited basis while the helicopter was here for some work with the Mule deer study. With the limited helicopter time we are able to cover more wooded areas and inaccessible areas to fixed wing measures as the sheep are moved to higher summer ranges.

Coordinated efforts between our contract ultra-lite pilot Jim Hickey and the Wildlife Service specialists allowed increased take numbers for Jim. He noted the excellent and unselfish efforts of the Wildlife Specialists Kent Officer and Jeff Hansen working as ground crew locating offending animals allowed Jim to take them from the air. This resulted in significant take percentage increase. We are extremely impressed with the effectiveness of the coordinated efforts of these experts.

During the lambing season, we were able to put both fulltime trappers and our contract trappers covering the lambing herds. As opposed to last year, limited snow conditions this winter made it easier to access the spring lambing and calving areas to accomplish this pre-emptive work.

We have continued with raven control projects which have benefited the producers in our area. We have had some problems to both cattle and sheep producers resulting from the ravens. The efforts of the Barryman Institute's studies working with Wildlife Services have provided an additional measure of control. This has not only helped our producers, but the Wyoming Game and Fish Department's wildlife have enjoyed the added measure of work accomplished.

IDENTIFIABLE AND MEASUREABLE RESULTS

LIVESTOCK AND WILDLIFE NUMBERS:

Lamb counts, according to producers were less than normal again this year. This was mostly attributable to less than normal precipitation last winter. This resulted in less than normal moisture for spring grasses. Subsequently we were hit with some cold weather for about two weeks right in the middle of the lambing season then turning extremely dry and very windy into the beginning of summer. This is the second year of similar weather patterns. Predator problems reported this spring were similar to those reported last spring.

The Wyoming Game and Fish Department reported on the continuing Mule Deer Study in southeastern Uinta County. The study has been going for 2 years and a total of \$70,000 has been infused into the project. The study is to determine if targeted predator control benefit's the fawn survival rate. The primary methods employed were the collaring of female Mule Deer and then tracking them to determine pregnancy rate and birthing rates then following fawns to maturity. Predator control then implemented in certain areas to compared to non-control areas. The data showed that 80% of females birthed live fawns. There was also a high (96%) pregnancy rate among the doe population. December monitoring showed a 50% rate of does with fawns at their side. The data also showed that 80% of Mule deer fawn loss occurred at less than 5 months of age. They concluded in areas with predator control the survivability rate of fawns was significantly increased. A third year of work is planned to increase the fawn success rate in the Mule deer population.

Dr. Mike Conover with the Berryman Institute and his graduate assistants are still engaged in the Sage Grouse/Raven study. They reported that raven numbers were substantially higher in Southwest Wyoming. They attributed the increase to primarily two factors; Increased road mortality on highways and The number of landfills. They also reported that most failed sage grouse nests were the result of predation from ravens and red fox. They have implemented studies to quantify the benefits of raven removal and along with the assistance of Wildlife Services used the pesticide DRC-1339 in this effort. Wildlife Services monitored three categories during their removal efforts; 1. Proportional application 2. Time of event 3. Proxicality of application to population. They concluded; 1. To achieve population reduction in ravens, application of DRC-1339 needs to be done on a yearly basis. 2. Success ratios are best if application is within 15km of raven population 3. Sage Grouse actively seek nesting sites away from areas of raven concentration. Subsequently the Wyoming Game and Fish have requested removal efforts in a five county area of western and southwester Wyoming to benefit sage grouse populations.

Wildlife Services reported that an estimated 60-70% reduction in the raven population as a result of their coordinated efforts with the Berryman Institute. They reported that they had just received permits to include wildlife in DRC-1339 application to benefit wildlife populations. The amount of infield hours worked by staff was 2940 hrs. Aerial time was reported to be 162.5 hrs. Take numbers were; 4 badgers, 11-15 dens, 253 coyotes, 283 coyotes surveyed, 1 raccoon, 137 ravens, and 11 skunks. Wolf take numbers were; 56 in the trophy area and 37 taken by Wildlife Services in the predator zone. The number taken near Uinta County was 2 near Fossil Butte just north of the Uinta County Line and 1 near Hay Reservoir. These numbers were as of the December 2012 meeting.

The summarizations by the ADC trappers for the period July 1 2012 through June 27 2013 are included with this report. Results from the contract service/private trappers are also included.

**2013
Annual
Report**

Washakie County Predator Management District

July 1, 2012

to

June 30, 2013

BOARD MEMBERS

- **President**
Rolly Redland
Ten Sleep, Wy
- **Vice President**
Mark Dooley
Worland, Wy
- **Sec/Treasurer**
Chris Scheltzer
Worland, Wy
- Kent Hensman
Worland, Wy
- Larry Hieser
Worland, Wy.
- Mark Brewster
Tensleep, Wy.
- Jeff Stocklin
Ten Sleep, Wy.
- Kirt Toleman
Worland, Wy.
- Joe Winkler
Worland, Wy.

Please refer to the attached MIS Report provided by USDA/Wildlife Services for more detail reporting if needed.

Mission:

Washakie County Predator Management District's (PMD) mission is to provide reasonable and prudent solutions to damage caused by wildlife, provide disease testing and monitoring of zoonotic wildlife diseases which can risk human health and safety, and conduct projects to ensure the protection and conservation of natural resources. Washakie County's plan involves a contract with the United States Department of Agriculture – Wildlife Services (WS) who has signed national Memorandums Of Understanding with the United States Fish and Wildlife Services, Bureau of Land Management, United States Forest Service, Cooperative Extension Service, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Defense, and many other state wildlife, agricultural, natural resource, and public health and safety agencies to assure Washakie County has positioned itself to deal with nearly any request for assistance made to our professionally trained personnel. Our goal is to provide service or respond to all damage complaints within 48 hours after our personnel have been contacted. Services will include pro-active, non-lethal, and lethal approaches to solve wildlife damage problems along with technical advice for best practices to reduce or avoid future damage by wildlife species. Lethal control will be performed in a professional manner and follow all federal, state, and local laws and regulations. Special consideration will be given to Threatened and Endangered Species of wildlife and control actions the United States Fish and Wildlife Services to minimize the impact to private property, irri-predators and protect-projects in the county. Washakie County will plan to provide additional help to not only requests for assistance to protect federal property, crops from meso-ed species of wildlife but to also life and human health and safety. Washakie County's plan is to continue to assist John-game damage activities and also support the expanding Bighorn Basin Sage Grouse Predator Research Project with "in kind" funds for field personnel and aerial support. Washakie County PMD plans to add additional personnel for more efficient cooperation with Wildlife management agencies to deal with trophy game species and address gray wolf damage as Wyoming continues towards delisting. We feel it is our responsibility to be prepared to deal with wolf damage for livestock and wildlife species as our county is located in the predator zone and has a history over the last ten years of wolf damage on private property south of, and including, the Bighorn Mountain range. Our plan will continually make sure that all interests are taken into considerations while wildlife damage management control actions are performed. We plan to assess all requests for assistance, decide proper action to be taken, and monitor all results. In conclusion, Washakie County Predator Management District plans to meet all challenges to solve wildlife damage in the most cooperative, efficient, cost effective, and expeditious manner.



Wildlife related issues for Washakie County Predator Management District



Washakie County Predator Management District Program and its cooperation with Wildlife Services reach 68 different landowners in Washakie County and many others in neighboring counties covering 1,134,641 acres in Northwest Wyoming including State, Bureau of Land Management, Forest Service and Private lands . We offered assistance with a large variety of wildlife damage issues, human health and safety concerns and conducted wildlife projects that benefit all entities and publics in Washakie and Johnson County as well as the rest of the Bighorn Basin.

Washakie County's duties were conducted with the teamwork and cooperation of 11 WS employees during this last year to cater to the increasing requests to our program for assistance involving such wildlife species as: black bears, beavers, coyotes, fox, raccoons, skunks, feral cats, feral dogs, porcupine, badgers, grey wolf, mountain lion, sage grouse, pigeon, ravens, golden eagle, muskrats, and American crow complaints. The majority of the Washakie County Specialist's time since July 1st, 2013 was spent answering the following complaints and providing assistance to:



1,205 daily tasks for coyote predation or threats of predation on calves, sheep, horse colts, pheasants, sage grouse, mule deer, and livestock guarding animals.

337 daily tasks dealing with raccoons on chickens, sheep, pheasants, sage grouse, crops, irrigation damage, residence damage, livestock feed and buildings, and human health and safety concerns.

27 beaver calls for damage to private property, irrigation systems, trees stands, and county roads and bridges.

191 daily tasks for skunk complaints involving chickens, sage grouse, pheasants, calves, livestock feed, human health and safety, and property damage on residences or out buildings.



5 complaints for black bear damage on sheep ranges in Johnson County.

53 Mountain Lion tasks for cattle and sheep damage in Johnson and Washakie County.

16 daily tasks for grey wolf complaints involving sheep.

3 daily tasks for fox complaints with sage grouse, chickens, and sheep.



Bighorn Basin Sage grouse Project

Washakie County has agreed to provide in-kind assistance with the use of personnel for being the lead and predominate data collection staff for field activities with research, predator control, and aerial support to the expanding Bighorn Basin Sage Grouse Predation Project. Washakie County has cooperated a full-time position for personnel who provided 237 hours towards field activities costing the Washakie County PMD \$8,295.00 for field data collection for the Sage Grouse Project and plan to continue until its conclusion. Specialists have placed trail cameras on nests, necropsied predation events, and conducted both avian and terrestrial predator surveys. We are continuing to monitor and document predation events, identify movement and habitat selection, and how human activity has effected sage grouse in the Bighorn Basin. Dr. Jimmy Taylor of Oregon State University has taken the position of Lead Researcher to further the project in the future with emphasis on avian predation and how it effects the sage grouse population.



Wolf Depredation Management

Washakie County Wildlife Specialist's diligently assisted livestock producers with wolf complaints and damage threats in Washakie and Johnson County. 84.5 hours and around \$2,957.50, a cost to Park County PMD, for wolf complaints in the predator designated area of both counties. Specialists reported to 16 complaints involving cattle and sheep as a result of gray wolves.



Crop, Irrigation, Pheasant Enhancement, and Human Health and Safety Activities



Washakie County Wildlife Specialist's have reported to 528 requests for assistance dealing with damage caused by raccoons and striped skunks to chickens, pheasants, sage grouse, crops, irrigation damage, residence damage, livestock feed and buildings, leaf-cutter bee hives, damage to equipment and machinery, and human health and safety concerns. Specimens were sent for disease testing by the State

Veterinary Laboratory from animals thought to possess human health and safety concerns throughout Washakie County. In addition, numerous species such as red fox, porcupines, badgers, feral cats, beavers, and ravens also have been reported and confirmed as wildlife related damage culprits in our area.



Trophy Game Assistance to Wyoming Game and Fish Department

Washakie County Wildlife Specialists responded to 58 trophy game damage complaints for a total of 106 hours under the direction of the Wyoming Game and Fish Department for black bears and mountain lions in Johnson and Washakie County. This activity costs the Washakie County PMD \$5,355.00. Requests for assistance from specialists involved cattle and sheep depredation and human health and safety concerns.



With the growing number of large predators the Washakie County Predator Management District Board has made it their goal to continue to support our wildlife specialists with their efforts to respond to the increasing number of requests wildlife damage assistance and human health and safety concerns in the Johnson and Washakie County as well as the rest of the Bighorn Basin.



Picture by Wyoming Game and Fish Department

**Weston County Predator Management District
Annual Report
June 29, 2013**

1. The Weston County Predator Management District (WCPMD) is created under Wyoming State Statute. The mission of the WCPMD, in cooperation with Wildlife Services (WS) and the Wyoming ADMB, is to provide predator management for the benefit of livestock producers and wildlife populations within Weston County and to assist in Rabies Control when possible.

2. The WCPMD currently has two wildlife specialists employed through contract with Wildlife Services. Predator control work is conducted on public lands as well as private. The Brown Community Pasture, Osage Community Pasture, Cellers Community Pasture, and the Six Mile Basin are all important deer and antelope areas which are major public land areas used by sports people and are identified for control work which are covered by our specialists. Cattle are the dominant livestock class in the county and coyote predation has become a serious economic concern with some producers during calving season. The majorities of the sheep in the county are mainly located in the northwest quadrant of the county, therefore, this allows more concentrated predator control in that area. Ground work, as well as aerial work is conducted by the WS Specialists. Both technicians work to educate landowners and the public on the benefits of predator control work for wildlife, beyond the scope of livestock protection. Spring calving starts generally in March of each year and is complete generally by late May. Lambing generally occurs from February to April for confined operations and in May for range operations in Weston County. As in most any typical lambing operations, lamb loss generally coincides with whelping of the coyotes. Wildlife prey, such as rabbits and mice, for predators to feed upon are low in numbers, and it is expected that the coming year will find more depredation attempts upon livestock.

3. Funding: In FY2013, WCPMD requested funds from the Weston County Commissioners and the Weston County Commissioners granted an amount of \$2000.00 to the WCPMD for rabies control work. WCPMD has again requested funds from the County for the FY2014 budget year. WCPMD is anticipating a decrease in livestock revenues during FY 2014 as livestock owners restock or maintain lower numbers after the drought of 2013. Also, in FY 2013, the trappers salvaged furs in excess of \$7,500 to help with the budget. In the proposed 2014 WCPMD budget, planned aerial time is 180 hours. WCPMD is very aware of increasing costs and limited revenues and is making every effort to contain costs, and be prudent with their budget each year. The goal of the district is to maintain the program in place, provide predator management, county wide to benefit livestock and wildlife and also provide public health safety with skunk control. Funding awarded by the Wyoming ADMB to the District for FY 2014 amounts to \$176,364.

4. Equipment: In FY 2013 the district purchased one space heater for the workshop and 2 sirens and speakers for the ATV's that the district owns. The WCPMD is budgeting \$1,000 in funds to purchase equipment in Fiscal 2014. No major vehicle equipment items are being looked as equipment is in good condition.
5. The WCPMD is budgeting 180 total hours of fixed wing flying including ferry time, for Fiscal 2014. Ferry time is approximately one hour per day while flying.
6. Human Health and Safety – Skunk removal and assistance in removal continues as calls come in. Box traps are used mainly to trap skunks and have greatly enhanced the district's ability to assist with this problem. Skunk populations change in numbers, lagging a year or two, generally based on skunk prey such as mice and insects. With the increase of vegetation the spring of 2013, the district anticipates increased prey for the skunks. The Weston County Commissioners have provided funds in past years for Rabies control and it is anticipated that those funds will continue FY 2014.
7. Pre- and post-work Monitoring -- Monitoring wildlife is being done by routine wildlife observations and watching migratory behavior. Stomach content analysis continues on coyotes as the situation provides.
8. WCPMD also works in conjunction with the Wyoming Game Warden in checking on Mountain Lion reports in the towns and the county for possible removal for trouble animals. No Lions have been removed by any WS Specialists in the county during FY 2013.
9. Operation Expense: The WCPMD owns and maintains their ATV's and other related equipment such as trailers. Among expenses for the ATV's are fuel, tires, and repairs. Supplies and other small items include small tools, gloves, and miscellaneous supplies including fuel to heat the workshop only while working in the shop. The District has also supplied shot gun shells for the trappers use while on the job along with reloading supplies for predator control work.

