

# **Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board**

## **2021 Annual Report**



Compiled by the Wyoming Department of Agriculture





# ANIMAL DAMAGE MANAGEMENT BOARD

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## MEMORANDUM

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

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

**DATE:** November 22, 2021

**SUBJECT:** 2021 Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board Annual Report

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

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

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



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**WYOMING  
ANIMAL DAMAGE  
MANAGEMENT  
BOARD**

**Directory**

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

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

**Co-Chairs (2)**

Doug Miyamoto, Director  
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**Domestic Sheep Producer Representative**

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Term - To 8/2025

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Term: To 8/2023

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

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Term: To 8/2025

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Term: To 8/2023

**President, Predatory Animal Advisory Board**

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**Urban Representative**

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**WY Game & Fish Commissioner**

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**WY Board of Agriculture**

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Term: To 8/2023

**Non-consumptive User of Wildlife Representative**

Vacant

Term: To 8/2021

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

Russell Bacon  
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Term: Indefinite

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**United States Bureau of Land Management Representative**

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5353 Yellowstone Road  
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[vaarmstrong@blm.gov](mailto:vaarmstrong@blm.gov)  
Term: Indefinite

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## **2021 Major Issue Overview**

### **Predator Management District Funding**

The \$6.26 million that was originally budgeted for Predator Management Districts was cut during the budget funding shortage. The ADMB Board during its May allocation meeting distributed \$2,727,000 to the 19 predator districts that applied to the program for the current year.

The ADMB and local predator management districts have been working together to manage this reduction in funding. Districts have used nearly all the reserve cash they have and have reduced personnel dedicated to reducing predator depredation in the state. In the last three years, 19 contracted personnel positions were eliminated and will not be replaced. Several County districts have worked together to keep a valuable trapper by reducing his contract to half time and sharing his contract costs between the two districts. Additionally several county boards have chosen to use private contractors to reduce costs, these trappers have not had raises for several years due to the cuts to the ADMB budget. The cost of predator control continues to rise and the Districts struggle to maintain predator control at current funding levels.

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

With the gray wolf returning to state management in 2017, wolf management in the “predator” area of the state falls back to predator districts to provide management to Wyoming ranchers. Returning gray wolves to state management has certainly helped Wyoming ranchers in the “predator” area, allowing them to protect their livestock. For the period between October 2020 and September 2021, 14 wolves were removed having caused verified livestock damage as follows: 23 lambs, 16 ewes, 39 calves, 12 cows, and 10 chickens and 1 cat. The total cost of this control was \$14,240 in the Trophy zone and \$34,873 in the Predator zone. Producers still need help with depredating, chronic problems that they do not have the resources to handle on their own. The legislature provided a line item increase of \$40,500 to the predator control budget for a gray wolf depredation compensation program. The ADMB has promulgated rules for

this program to be implemented over the budget fiscal year 2021 and 2022. The program had no claims thru the fiscal year ending June 30<sup>th</sup> 2021.

## **2021 Overview**

1. **Meetings:** The Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board (ADMB) met four (4) times over the course of the calendar year; January 19<sup>th</sup>, May 18th-19th, June 10th, and November 4<sup>th</sup>. Due to the corona virus regulations, the ADMB met virtually VIA Zoom meeting in 2020 and has continued to offer meetings both virtually and live which has allowed more county board members to attend without having the cost of travel. The ADMB board meetings will be offered both ways in the future. Agendas and meeting minutes are included in this report.

2. **Predator District Funding:** The ADMB received applications from 19 qualifying Predator Management Districts from across the state. These requests totaled approximately \$3 million. On May 19<sup>th</sup>, the ADMB granted \$2.72 million for those districts.

3. **Projects:** Eighteen different research/special project proposals were evaluated by the ADMB, which totaled \$314,000, at their June 10th meeting and the ADMB approved \$245,000 in funding for 14 projects (5 new, 9 renewing multiple years,). Project synopses are included with this report. Complete project reports are available upon request.

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

County PMD's continued a state-wide rabies surveillance program, with laboratory validation of rabies prevalence. Three on the ground management programs are in operation and were funded for \$36,000

**5. Program Partnerships:** The ADMB and Wyoming Ag in the Classroom have joined forces in developing and distributing predator management related curriculum to classrooms across Wyoming through the Teacher Rendezvous and the Stewardship project curriculum development. Jerry Johnson has continued the use of the education trailer for various events across the state.

**6. Public Relations:** Staff also worked with the local Predator Management Boards for continued board training.

**7. Legislative:** Over the past year, The Joint Ag Committee has worked with the Department of Agriculture to address the collaboration within the predator management program on BLM grazing allotments. The WDA will be contracting with USDA/Wildlife Services to report the compiled county PMD activity reports to the BLM. This report will be attached to the USDA/WS annual Predator Damage Management Plan with the BLM. This report will allow County predator management activities to be in one document.

**8. Information Dissemination:** The ADMB website at <http://www.wyadmb.com> continues to be maintained and provides available information regarding the current activities and programs for the ADMB.

**In Progress:**

1. The Wyoming Department of Agriculture met with the Joint Ag committee to provide legislation for the WDA to work with USDA/APHIS/Wildlife Services to facilitate reporting to the BLM for predator control on BLM lands.
2. The next regular meeting of the ADMB will be January 18th, 2022.
3. Project applications for the June 2022 meeting will be accepted from March 15 to May 13, 2022.

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WYOMING

# ANIMAL DAMAGE MANAGEMENT BOARD

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## MEMO

**TO:** Wyoming Game & Fish Commission

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

**DATE:** June 28, 2021

**SUBJECT:** Request for Funds

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In accordance with Wyoming Statute 11-6-307, the ADMB is requesting \$200,000.00 (one-hundred thousand dollars) from the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission. A synopsis of the projects selected for funding by the ADMB at the June 10, 2021 board meeting is listed below.

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

The board shall annually request two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000.00) from the Wyoming game and fish commission. These funds shall be expended for wildlife priorities. The game and fish commission may provide recommendations to the board regarding expenditure of these funds. Priority shall be given to projects that directly involve predator control that will have the greatest benefit to wildlife or will reduce the cost to the department for animal damage payments.

## **FY '20-21 ADMI Projects**

### **Project 1: Summary**

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

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

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

**Funding \$22,500**

### **Project 2: Summary**

**Project Title: Natrona County Raven Removal**

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

**Submitted By / Affiliation:** Robert Harlan and Mary Owens (Natrona County Predator Board) and the Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD).

**Funding \$5,000**

### **Project 3: Summary**

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

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

**Submitted By / Affiliation:** Mary Owens and Bob Harlan (Natrona County Predator Board) and Brian Olsen (Wyoming Game and Fish Department).

**Funding \$20,000**

### **Project: 4 Summary**

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

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

**Submitted By / Affiliation:** Bob Harlan and Mary Owens (Natrona County Predator Management Board) and the Wyoming Game and Fish Department.

**Funding \$17,500**

**Project: 5 Summary****Project Title Summer Nutrition, Disease, or Predation? Quantifying Causes of Poor Lamb Survival in Northwest Wyoming**

**Brief Description of Project:** Respiratory disease has afflicted populations of bighorn sheep for the past century and, despite substantial research on the topic, pneumonia continues to be one of the most poorly understood diseases that afflict wildlife in North America. Although we have learned much in recent years, most research has been myopically focused on identifying the primary infectious agent associated with pneumonia. Nevertheless, evidence continues to support multiple primary and perhaps secondary infectious agents, and in most instances, we now manage herds that are chronically infected as opposed to those subject to new exposure. Moreover, fundamental components underlying any large ungulate population including, habitat quality and quantity, and predation remain operational and yet, are often neglected when considering disease dynamics. Indeed, performance of bighorn sheep in northwest WY is mostly asynchronous, despite 3 herds possessing a similar suite of pathogens. Of great concern in particular, is the abysmal lamb recruitment in what historically was one of the largest and most robust populations of bighorn sheep in the West: the Whiskey Mountain bighorn sheep herd. Following an all-age pneumonia die off in 1991, the herd has exhibited consistently low lamb recruitment, and more recently in the past 3 years has been near or below 10 lambs per 100 ewes. Finally, in the past year the presence of wolves on their winter range and the apparent redistribution of some animals has highlighted the question associated with the potential interactive role of predation on this highly cherished bighorn sheep herd. Our aim is to take a multi-pronged approach to address multiple causal factors contributing to population dynamics of bighorn sheep in northwest Wyoming, and how that broadly will aid in future management of chronically infected sheep herds. Specifically, we will quantify the relative contributions of nutrition, disease, and predation on population performance, and assess the current state of forage on summer ranges. Our approach is to continue our longitudinal monitoring of adult females from each of the 3 herds, which will yield valuable information on nutritional status and deaths resulting from predation. We will link data on nutrition and reproduction to patterns of pathogen presence over time. With this next phase of the work, we will apply increased efforts to understand contributions of summer nutrition, disease, and predation to lamb survival by monitoring summer diet, forage quality, and survival, and cause specific mortality of lambs in the Dubois and Jackson herds.

**Submitted By / Affiliation:** Greg Anderson, Daryl Lutz, Aly Courtemanch, Gary Fralick, Tony Mong, Hank Edwards, Doug McWhirter, and Corey Class / Wyoming Game & Fish Department; Kevin Monteith / University of WY

**Funding \$27,500**

**Project: 6 Summary****Project Title: Effects of predation on mule deer in the Wyoming Range following the devastating 2016-17 and 2018-19 winters**

**Brief Description of Project:** This project continues to build on previous research in the Wyoming Range and enters into the next phase of the work which will quantify and separate the roles of predation, habitat, nutrition, and disease on survival of mule deer, and in particular, if the role of predation changes following the dramatic reduction in density after the severe 2016-17 and 2018-19 winter. During those winters, nearly the entire surviving cohort of collared fawns perished, and mortality rates of collared adult females exceeded 30%. Moreover, nutritional condition of adult females in March was lowest on record, and fetal growth was clearly suppressed. With these extraordinary winters, the question remains as to how quickly the population will recover, to what level will it recover, and what factors will limit its recovery. One primary concern that continues to be voiced is the potential effects of predation on limiting growth of this mule deer herd. During the first two summers of our work, disease was the leading cause of mortality in 2015 for neonates, but that switched to predation during 2016. Nevertheless, dynamics may well change following the marked reduction in deer density, and with increased food available per female, the relative role of predation in limiting this herd may be altered. Given the severity of the '16-17 and '18-19 winter and the questions surrounding performance of this cherished herd, and what factors will limit its recovery, the Wyoming Game and Fish Department deemed continuation of the Wyoming Range Project one of its highest priorities. Indeed, the marked decline of the Wyoming Range deer population following the 1992-93 winter, and the near absence of any substantial recovery thereafter, also begs the question to what extent recovery will occur given historic patterns. Regardless, the overwhelming management desire is for recovery, and our aim is to document recovery and the mechanisms that underpin it.

The overall goal of our continued work in the Wyoming Range will be to build on our understanding of the nutritional and population ecology of this herd to document the carryover effects of the severe winter of 2016-17 and 2018-19, and how and to what extent the population will rebound from the dramatic reduction in abundance, and what factors limit recovery. Our approach will allow us to continue to elucidate the relative roles of habitat, nutrition, predation, and disease on the regulation of deer in western WY, and fully grasp the magnitude and extent of the effects of the transient, but clearly regulatory role of winter. This project will quantify the effects of predation on survival of mule deer, which will 1) understand the role that predators have played in reducing population performance of Wyoming Range mule deer, and 2) evaluate the relative role of predation on survival of adult male mule deer.

With this phase of our work, we seek to add a focused point on understanding the role of predation by mountain lions in particular, by learning more about the ecology of this key predator. For example, we continue to observe heightened levels of predation during periods of migration, which calls to question how mountain lions may be adjusting their space use in correspondence with massive shifts in prey distribution. Indeed, the large migrations associated with this mule deer population can make prey abundant in some ranges during one season, and virtually absent during the next season. Therefore, it would be logical for mountain lions to shift their space use accordingly, however, migration among mountain lions is an understudied phenomena that holds implications for predator prey dynamics. We seek to add greater resolution to these questions by radiomarking mountain lions with GPS collars near the winter ranges occupied by the 2 segments of this herd and subsequently, evaluating lion movement in conjunction with deer movement.

**Submitted By / Affiliation:** Gary Fralick / Wyoming Game & Fish Department; Kevin Monteith / UW; Tayler LaSharr/ UW

**Funding \$32,500**

**Project: 7 Summary**

**Project Title: Absaroka Carnivore-Livestock Interaction Study**

**Brief Description of Project:** This research project aims to improve our understanding of the key factors that influence the incidence of cattle depredation by large carnivores, providing information that can be used by wildlife managers, land managers, and livestock producers as they work to mitigate these conflicts. This project will also quantify and update our understanding of the rates at which producers detect and report cattle depredation. Lastly, cattle movements will be assessed to further our understanding of cattle responses to depredation risk.

**Submitted By/Affiliation:** Dr. Arthur Middleton, Research Associate, Draper Museum of Natural History/Bufalo Bill center of the West; Clint Atkinson/WYG&F

**Funding \$20,000**

**Project: 8 Summary**

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

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

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

**Funding \$32,500**

**Project: 9 Summary**

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

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

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

**Funding \$2,500**

**Project 10: Summary**

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

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

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

**Funding \$12,500**

**Project 11: Summary**

**Project Title:** Fremont County Southern mule deer project

**Brief Description of Project:** Coyote removal during critical times for mule deer enhancement in Fremont County hunt area 36

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

**Funding \$10,000**

**Project 12: Summary**

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

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

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

**Funding \$10,000**

**Project 13: Summary**

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

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

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

**Funding \$12,500**

**Project 14: Summary**

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

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

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

**Funding \$12,500**

*Note:* These approved projects total \$245,000. If Commission funds are approved, projects will be funded from the \$200,000 provided, in addition to funds from the regular ADMB account.

**The following projects are recommended for Commission Funds.**

- 1) Large Carnivore-Livestock project - \$22,500
- 2) Absaroka Carnivore-Livestock Interaction study - \$20,000
- 3) Carbon CO. Coyote removal to enhance South Ferris Antelope survival - \$12,500
- 4) Carbon CO. Coyote removal to enhance Baggs mule deer fawn survival - \$12,500
- 5) Coyote control targeted on mule deer fawning grounds Basin Mule Deer Washakie Co. - \$12,500
- 6) Coyote Removal to Enhance Bates Hole Mule Deer Fawn Survival - \$20,000
- 7) Effects of depredation on mule deer in the Wyoming range - \$32,500
- 8) Summer Nutrition, Disease, or Predation? Quantifying Causes of Poor Lamb Survival in Northwest Wyoming - \$27,500
- 9) Converse Co. sand and sage cr. mule deer project - \$17,500
- 10) Fremont County mule deer project - \$10,000
- 11) ADMB Best practices to relocate Golden Eagles - \$4,500
- 12) Coyote Removal to Enhance Stove Gulch & Big Sulfur Mule Deer Fawn Survival - \$4,000
- 13) Natrona County Raven Removal - \$4,000

The balance of the projects along with the Wyoming Agriculture in the Classroom Stewardship project will be funded with ADMB funds.



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# ANIMAL DAMAGE MANAGEMENT BOARD

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## ADMB Meeting

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

Time: January 19, 2021 10:00 AM Mountain Time (US and Canada)

### Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86154607035?pwd=WWZQZ2habkpGZFdCaC9Lck1ncVorQT09>

Meeting ID: 861 5460 7035

Password: 561777

### Phone call in list

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

Meeting ID: 861 5460 7035

Password: 561777

## Agenda

### Tuesday, January 19, 2021

- 10:00 a.m. - Call to Order – Co-Chairs Doug Miyamoto – Brian Nesvik
  - Introductions of board, guests, & public
  - Additions/Corrections/Approval of Agenda
  - Approval of December 1, 2020 Minutes
- 10:10 a.m. - Jerry Johnson, Meredith Wood update on landowner coupon and implementation. Gray Wolf Depredation Compensation Program Regulations.
- 10:30 a.m. - Falconers' update on Eagle trapping during 2020 lambing season – Mike Barker, Chairman, International Eagle Austringers Association
- 11:00 am. - ADMB Strategic plan update for 2021-2026
- 11:30 am - Board Comment / Public Comment
- 11:50 am - Adjourn

**ADMB Meeting  
January 19, 2021  
Zoom Teleconference**

**Members Present:** Brian Nesvik (Co-Chair), Kevin Kisicki, Mike Foster, Ron Cunningham, Bob Harlan, Sandy Underhill, Bob Phillips

**Board Members Absent:** Doug Miyamoto (Co-Chair), Jeff Boner, Tyler Abbot, Garrett Falkenburg, Lori Armstrong, Gay Lynn Byrd, Shaun Sims

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

**Public in Attendance:** Mike Barker, Mark Davis, Sheldon Nicolle, Meredith Wood, Martin Geleynse, Trevor Walch, Rene Liber, Donal O'Toole, Kristin Combs, Suzanne, Lisa Robertson, Steve Behrg, Nate Bickford

Meeting called to order at 10:02 am

Brian entertained a motion to approve December 1 minutes. Kevin moved. Ron seconded. Motion carries.

**Update on Landowner Coupon and Implementation Grey Wolf Depredation Compensation Program Regulations**

Regarding the ongoing issue of landowner coupon designations, Meredith stated that, after her research, there is nothing in the statute that allowed for the previous coupons' "county designation" language. She also clarified that there is no record of the funds received being distributed to the counties over the last 20 years as indicated. To correct the issue going forward, the previous language on the coupon has been removed and restricted to allow the ADMB to distribute the funds received "accordingly". Jerry stated that a decision will need to be made on what to do with the previous funds collected for this purpose.

Brian recommended that the board implement a standing policy that allows funds provided to the ADMB from landowner coupons be allocated back to the same Predator Management District (PMD) as the address indicated on the form, and that all coupons without an address designation be added to the ADMB general fund. Bob Harlan moved. Kevin seconded the motion. Motion carries.

Mike Foster moved to allocate the funds previously submitted for the landowner coupons to the various PMD counties for operations. Ron seconded the motion. Meredith clarified that records to do so only go back to 2013, and do not span over the 20+ years the coupons have been collected.

Mike Foster amended his motion to distribute the county funds back to 2013 per available document retention and to leave the remainder of the funds in the general fund. Ron seconded the amendment to the motion. Motion carries.

Finally, Jerry confirmed that the regular rules for the Grey Wolf Depredation Compensation have passed and that program is up and running according to the promulgated rules.

### **Falconers' Update on Eagle Trapping During 2020 Lambing Season**

Mike Barker provided a presentation on the North American Falconer's Association (NAFA). He shared the proceedings of the Pacific Flyway Council (PFC) report and some various issues that the NAFA found. For example, one eagle, in "rough" condition, was trapped in SW Wyoming was trapped and taken to a rehabilitation center. While it was in the center, it lived for 10 days and died from confirmed lead poisoning. Per the PFC's guidelines, the death of this eagle would count towards the 6 allowable eagles taken for the State of Wyoming. The NAFA considered this unfair because the death of a lead poisoned eagle was not due to NAFA negligence. Another issue found with the PFC report dealt with the State of Wyoming splitting their eagle permits into two, 45-day permits rather than one 90-day permit to allow accommodation to the ranchers' request of trapping eagles before lambing season. PFC questioned these proceedings. The NAFA/IEAA/WWGA drafted and sent a letter to the PFC addressing these concerns and answered questions about communication, proper authority, and operating procedures. USFWS responded to this letter confirming the consecutive 90-day permit rule and the lead-poisoned eagle counting against their 6 allotted. NAFA responded to USFWS with a letter bringing up concerns regarding mortalities conflicting with regulations and science-raised questions and with consulting with ranchers on the best time for ranchers to trap these eagles, which would ideally be in the spring.

Mike also suggested that the Central Flyway Council would be better suited for the State of Wyoming and even suggested that Wyoming handle this lottery. Wyoming has more Golden Eagles than any other state and has done a great job in the managing of these animals.

Mike provided an update on 2020/2021 Depredation efforts of the NAFA in Wyoming. There was confirmed eagle depredation by USDA on 6 ranches; 3 eagle permits were issued by USFWS allowing the removal of two eagles per permit. Falconers removed 5 Golden Eagles and relocated 11 others. To date, 4 ranchers have applied for these permits for 2021. At least one of these permittees is set to allow falconer removal of 2 Golden Eagles.

Nate Bickford shared the NAFA efforts and stated that transmitters for birds will be coming into Wyoming at the end of February. They will be conducting surveys of prey and densities at potential relocation points to help improve the likelihood of relocated birds staying. After relocation, they will track the movement of birds and analyze this data.

### **ADMB Strategic Plan Update for 2021-2026**

Jerry provided recommendations for changes to the existing strategic plan. Brian asked for any board comments or additions to Jerry's recommendations. With no comments, Brian entertained a motion to approve the strategic plan with Jerry's recommended updates. Bob Harlan moved. Bob Phillips seconded. Motion carries.

### **Board Comment**

No additional board comments.

### **Public Comments**

Donal inquired about the current status of jackrabbits--he pointed out that they are listed as predators and often used as target practice. He wondered if it was appropriate, given the declining populations of jackrabbits, to list them as small game species rather than predators. Brian responded, stating that the ADMB has no statutory authority over these designations.

Donal inquired with Mike Foster if he had researched further about using rabies control vaccines in skunks as well as raccoons. Mike stated that, after his research, there are currently no rabies vaccine baits for skunks, however, he did not have a formal presentation prepared at this time.

Donal asked Mike Barker how the confirmation of lead poisoning was made on their eagle, and if the carcass was submitted for postmortem confirmation of lead poisoning. Martin answered on behalf of Mike and stated that the blood was tested by an accredited lab and confirmed having high lead levels.

Rene Liber inquired if the Gray Wolf regulations were ever addressed. Jerry confirmed that the regular rules have passed and that program is up and running according to the promulgated rules. She asked about the budget cuts and how much was now available. Jerry confirmed that \$36,000 was allocated to this program.

Kristin Combs questioned Mike Foster on how many sheep were confirmed depredations from Golden Eagles each year. Mike did not have those numbers on hand but would follow up with her at a later time. She also asked if there were any preventative measures taken to prevent sheep depredation from Eagles. Mike answered that ranchers take their own preventative measures but that there is not an official program for this purpose.

No further business.

Ron moved to adjourn the meeting. Bob Harlan seconded. Meeting adjourned at 11:12 am .

# ADMB May 18<sup>th</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> 2021 Agenda

## May 18th Zoom Meeting Information Below:

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

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

Topic: ADMB Board May Allocations

Time: May 18, 2021 09:00 AM Mountain Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87670017054?pwd=bksvZWNyRDRBUWI4V3JqMkloZTc2UT09>

Meeting ID: 876 7001 7054

Passcode: 972702

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## May 19<sup>th</sup> Zoom Meeting info:

Topic: ADMB Board May 19th Allocations

Time: May 19, 2021 08:00 AM Mountain Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88083068099?pwd=bjZUcld1MjhmM2R1bUgrWDcvUkphQT09>

Meeting ID: 880 8306 8099

Passcode: 137423

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## ADMB May 18-19, 2021

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

**Tuesday May 18: Call to Order 9:00 a.m., Welcome, Approval of last minutes, ADMB updates – PMD Funding availability, -- Rabies allocation and --- contract with vet lab, --- interview process**

Start Time	End Time	Interview	Request
9:30	10:00	Goshen	\$65,000
10:00	10:30	Carbon	\$155,000
10:30	11:00	Weston	\$115,000
11:00	11:30	Albany	\$149,500
11:30	noon	Campbell	\$170,000 rabies \$20,000
noon	1:30	Lunch	
1:30	2:00	Uinta	\$205,000
2:00	2:30	Big Horn	\$145,356
2:30	3:00	Park	\$174,900
3:00	3:30	Crook	\$150,000
3:30	4:00	Sheridan	\$151,055 rabies \$20,000
4:00	4:30	Fremont	\$190,400
4:30	5:00	Public Comment	
Wednesday	May 19		
8:00 a.m.	8:30	Natrona	\$180,000
8:30	9:00	Converse	\$191,606
9:00	9:30	Johnson	\$150,000 rabies \$20,000
9:30	10:00	Hot Springs	\$202,717
10:00	10:30	Niobrara	\$165,000
10:30	11:00	Washakie	\$140,000
11:00	11:30	Sweetwater	\$125,000
11:30	noon	Lincoln	\$200,000
Noon	1:00	Lunch	
1:00	1:30	Public Comment	
1:30	3:30	Board allocation and adjournment	

**Animal Damage Management Board Meeting**  
**Tuesday May 18, 2021 & Wednesday, May 19, 2021**  
**Casper Regional Game & Fish Office**  
**Casper, Wyoming**

Call to order 9:05 a.m. – Co-chair Brian Nesvik

**Board Members Present:**

Co-Chair Doug Miyamoto	Ron Cunningham
Co-chair Brian Nesvik	Tyler Abbott
Amanda Hulet	Garret Falkenburg
Kevin Kisicki	Bob Harlan
Gay Lynn Byrd	Jeff Boner
Melissa Walker (in place of Mike Foster)	Bob Philips

**Board Members Absent:** Sandy Underhill, BLM representative

**WDA Support Staff:** Stacia Berry, Kent Drake, JD Sater

**Public Attendees:** Brady Smith, Amy Hendricks, others on Zoom connection

Gay Lynn Byrd moved to approve minutes from the January meeting, Garret Falkenburg seconded.  
Motion carried.

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

**Presentations**

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

They have one person on the ground in the area for predator control. Seven WS employees worked in the county last year. Jim was severely ill over the winter and WS employees covered in his place. Turkey vultures are an increasing nuisance species. The district would like to add a part time employee to help in busier times and with special projects.

*Carbon County: Josh Peterson, Roger Cox, Sharon O'Tolle, Board and Luke Spanbauer, Rod Merrill, WS* **Request: \$155,000**

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

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

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

*Albany County: Joel Moody, WS, Roger Newkirk and Todd Slager, Board* **Request: \$149,500**

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

*Campbell County: Kevin Geis, Board, Calvin Taylor(trapper), Kenda Ford(bookkeeper)* **Request: \$170,000**  
**rabies: \$20,000**

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

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

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

*Big Horn County: Randall Jones, Kay Neves, Board, and Mike Burrell, WS* **Request: \$145,356**

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

*Park County: Rori Renner, Regan Smith, Breanne Theil, Board and Mike Burrell, Monty Nicholson, WS* **Request: \$174,900**

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

*Crook County: Andrew Litzel, Board* **Request: \$150,000**

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

*Sheridan County: John Auzqui, Kellen Little, Board* **Request: \$151,055**  
**Rabies: \$20,000**

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

*Fremont County: Rob Krause, Beth Evans, Allen Sinner, Gloria Philp, and Dave Fowler and Tracy Frye WS* **Request: \$190,400**

Seventy-two percent of county acreage is covered with agreements. 116 private landowner agreements in the county. They have a large county and could use more money. 41 individuals inside the

reservation also have agreements. They have a large population of cow calf operations. They also do some human health and safety. Wolf depredation has been pretty quiet as of late. They also do a seasonal bounty program.

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

No public comment from Zoom participants

Amy Hendrickson provided comment on PMD presentation time allotment and zoom participation.

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

Meeting will reconvene at 8:00 a.m., Wednesday, May 19, 2021

Adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

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

Called to order– 8:01 a.m. by Co-Chair Brian Nesvik

#### **Presentations continued.**

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

*Request: \$180,000*

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

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

*Request: \$191,606*

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

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

*Request: \$150,000*

*Rabies: \$20,000*

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

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

*Request: \$202,717*

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

*Niobrara County: Barb Kilmer, Buttons Jackson, Kitson Boldon, Board*

*Request: \$165,000*

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

*Washakie County: Rolly Redland, Mark Dooley, Alan Barnett, Board and Mike Burrell, WS*

*Request: \$140,000*

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

*Sweetwater County: Jim Burnett, Gary Zokotnik, Board*

*Request: \$125,000*

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

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

*Request: \$200,000*

Work in Lincoln County is traditional work for livestock protection, with 25 herds of sheep (27,500 head). Some work in the fall and winter in Sweetwater County for the protection of sheep of Lincoln County producers. Coyote numbers were up mainly due to lack of helicopter and not much snow this winter. Lincoln County is in migratory corridors for deer and antelope and these are in cattle and sheep wintering areas. Work relationships with Game and Fish, Forest Service, and private trappers and pilots is good. They have one WS specialist and two part time private contract trappers

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

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

Bob Harland moved to allocate \$12,000 to Campbell, \$12,000 to Sheridan, and \$12,000 to Johnson. Gay Lynn Byrd seconded the motion. Motion carried.

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

Doug Miyamoto moved the following allocation. Jeff Boner seconded.

Albany \$100,000  
Big Horn \$145,000  
Campbell \$150,000  
Carbon \$145,000  
Converse \$180,000  
Crook \$135,000  
Fremont \$180,000  
Goshen \$50,000  
Johnson \$145,000  
Hot Springs \$185,000  
Lincoln \$171,000  
Natrona \$180,000  
Niobrara \$143,000  
Park \$164,000  
Sheridan \$135,000  
Sweetwater \$110,000  
Uinta \$185,000  
Washakie \$135,000  
Weston \$100,000

Bob Harlan moved to move \$10,000 from Sheridan and move it to \$5,000 Campbell and \$5,000 Johnson. Seconded by Bob Phillips. Motion carried.

Kevin Kisicki shared an email on net income per county with the board.

Jeff Boner asked if the board had a rule that each PMD had to receive a minimum of \$50,000 allocation. JD Sater, Attorney General's Office, stated that after his review of the statutes and Department rules that the only mention of \$50,000 was in rule for the initial allocation of funds in 2006 and did not apply anymore. He stated that the ADMB did not have to provide a minimum allocation to any county PMDs that applied for the ADMB grants.

Gay Lynn Byrd moved to transfer \$10,000 from Big Horn and \$10,00 from Natrona and allocating that to \$10,000 Sweetwater and \$10,000 Niobrara. Garret Falkenburg seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Jeff Boner moved to transfer 10,000 from Sweetwater and put it in Natrona. Bob Harlan seconded. Motion carried.

The main motion was voted on as amended. Motion carried.

The final allocation that passed was:

Albany \$100,000  
Big Horn \$135,000  
Campbell \$155,000  
Carbon \$145,000  
Converse \$180,000  
Crook \$135,000  
Fremont \$180,000  
Goshen \$50,000  
Hot Springs \$185,000

Johnson \$150,000  
Lincoln \$171,000  
Natrona \$180,000  
Niobrara \$153,000  
Park \$164,000  
Sheridan \$125,000  
Sweetwater \$110,000  
Uinta \$185,000  
Washakie \$135,000  
Weston \$100,000

Jeff Boner reminded the board that a long-time board member Gene Hardy passed away and that he did a good job on this board during his many years of tenure.

Public Comment: No public comment

The next board meeting will be June 10, 2021 at Casper, starting at 9:00 a.m.

Garret Falkenburg moved to adjourn. Gay Lynn Byrd seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:34 p.m.



# ANIMAL DAMAGE MANAGEMENT BOARD

6607 Campstool Road, Cheyenne, WY 82002-0100

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## ADMB Meeting

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

Time: Jun 10, 2021 09:00 AM Mountain Time (US and Canada)

### Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81773595322?pwd=Z0YrWTNBcEhvYWE1SjZUNUF1ZHNRQT09>

Meeting ID: 817 7359 5322

Password: 164801

### Phone call in list

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+1 669 900 6833 US

+1 253 215 8782 US

+1 346 248 7799 US

+1 646 876 9923 US

+1 301 715 8592 US

+1 312 626 6799 US

Meeting ID: 817 7359 5322

Password: 164801

## Agenda

### Thursday, June 10, 2021

- 9:00 am. - Call to Order – (Miyamoto, Nesvik)
- Introductions of board, guests, & public
  - Approval of May 18-19th, 2021 Minutes
  - Approve Wildlife service contract agreement
- 9:10 am. - **Project Proposals-Renewals w/Updates** (20 minutes each)
- \* Wyoming Stewardship Project, Educator Workshops 20-21 – J. Dafoe, R. West
  - \* Natrona County Raven Removal – B. Harlan and M. Owen
  - \* Coyote Removal to Enhance Bates Hole mule deer fawn survival – M. Owen and B. Harlan
  - \* Coyote Removal to Enhance Stove Gulch & Big Sulfur Mule Deer Fawn Survival – B. Harlan and M. Owen

- 10:15 am      \* Bighorn Sheep lamb survival study – G. Anderson, A. Courtemanch, G. Fralick, T. Mong, H. Edwards, D. McWhirter and C. Class, K. Monteith
- \* Effects of predation on mule deer in the Wyoming Range 2019 – G. Fralick and K. Monteith, T. LaSharr
- \* Absaroka Carnivore- Livestock interaction study – Dr. A. Middleton – C. Atkinson
- \* Evaluating best practices for relocating Golden Eagles - N.Bickford, K. Amicarelle
- \* Large Carnivore-Livestock Depredation Prevention and Control – S. Edberg, B. Debolt
- Noon            Break for Lunch
- 1:00 pm. -    **Project Proposals – New (20 min. each)**
- \* Fremont county mule deer project – R. Crofts
- \* Washakie CO. Basin mule deer project – R. Redland, M. Burrell, B. Kroger
- 2:00 pm.      \* Carbon CO. Coyote removal to enhance South Ferris Antelope survival – J. Peterson
- \* Carbon CO. Coyote removal to enhance Baggs mule deer fawn survival – K. Olson, P. Damm, J. Peterson
- \* Converse Co. sand and sage cr. mule deer – C. Tillard, B. Olsen
- 3:00 pm -     Break
- 3:15 pm -     Public Comment / Board Comment
- 3:30 pm -     Discussion and determination of grant awards
- 4:45 pm-      Adjourn

**Animal Damage Management Board Meeting**  
**Thursday, June 10, 2021**  
**Zoom Meeting**

Call to order 9:00a.m. – Co-Chair, Doug Miyamoto

*Introductions*

**Board Members Present:**

Co-Chair Doug Miyamoto	Ron Cunningham
Co-Chair Brian Nesvik, Angie Bruce	Kevin Kisicki
Bob Phillips	Bob Harlan
Gay Lynn Byrd	Mike Foster
Garret Falkenburg	Jeff Boner
Amanda Hulet	

**Board Members Absent:** Tyler Abbott, Sandy Underhill, Lori Armstrong

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

**Public in attendance:** Amy Hendrickson, Shaun Sims, Amanda Atkinson

Co-chair Doug Miyamoto had ADMB members and attending public introductions.

Amanda Hulet moved to approve the June agenda Garret Falkenburg seconded. Motion carried.

Ron Cunningham made a motion to approve the minutes as written, Gay Lynn Byrd second, motion carried.

Jerry Johnson gave a breakdown of the funding for the projects; there will be \$245, 000 available for special projects as the Game and Fish funds will be \$200,000 per year and the balance will be ADMB funds.

The wolf work plan with USDA/WS was discussed and was delayed until afternoon until the board had a chance to look at the agreement.

**Project presentations**

- Wyoming Stewardship Project, Educator Workshops – Jessie Dafoe and Rindy West
- Natrona County Raven Removal – Mary Owens, Heather Obrien
- Coyote Removal to Enhance Bates Hole mule deer fawn survival – Mary Owens, Heather Obrien
- Coyote Removal to Enhance Stove Gulch Mule Deer Fawn Survival - Heather Obrien, Mary Owens
- Bighorn Sheep lamb survival study – Kevin Monteith
- Effects of predation on survival of newborn mule deer in the Wyoming Range – Kevin Monteith
- Absaroka Carnivore- Livestock interaction study – Clint Atkinson
- Evaluating best practices for relocating Golden Eagles – Nate Bickford, Sheldon Nichols, Mike Barker
- Large Carnivore - Livestock Depredation Prevention and Control – Brian DeBolt
- Fremont county mule deer project – R. Crofts

**Public comment**

Shaun Sims and Amy Hendrickson gave support to the Eagle relocation project and the benefits to the other research projects.

Shaun Sims was recognized for his service to the Board and Doug presented him with a picture of “Young Coyote Smith”

**The board broke for lunch at 12:30 and reconvened at 1:45 p.m. for the final project proposals.**

- Coyote Control Targeted on Mule Deer Fawning grounds to protect the Basin Mule Deer –Mike Burrell
- Carbon CO. Coyote removal to enhance South Ferris Antelope survival – J. Peterson
- Carbon CO. Coyote removal to enhance Baggs mule deer fawn survival – K. Olson, P. Damm, J. Peterson
- Converse Co. sand and sage cr. mule deer – C. Tillard, B. Olsen

Mike Foster presented the board with a copy of the Annual Wolf work plan Jeff boner made the motion and Kevin Kisicki 2<sup>nd</sup> and the board approved the plan for \$80,000 for wolf work.

**Public comment:** No further public comments

***Allocation & committee discussion:***

Doug Miyamoto led the discussion on funding and stated that after a starting point for funding, the board would discuss any changes to be made before voting.

The board discussed the issue of research projects versus actual coyote removal projects, J.D. Sater read the revised Statute 11-6-307 which gives priority to projects with Coyote removal and it was noted that these projects are ranked by G&F prior to the board meeting.

After discussion Doug made a motion Gay Lynn 2<sup>nd</sup> to fund the projects as listed below, question was called and the motion passed.

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Project</u>
\$22,500	Large Carnivore - Livestock Depredation Prevention and Control
\$20,000	Absaroka Carnivore- Livestock interaction study
\$12,500	Carbon County coyote removal on Ferris Mountain Antelope herd
\$12,500	Carbon County coyote removal on Baggs Mule Deer herd
\$12,500	Washakie County Coyote Control to protect Basin Mule Deer
\$20,000	Coyote Removal to Enhance Bates Hole mule deer fawn survival
\$32,500	Effects of predation on survival of newborn mule deer in the Wyoming Range
\$27,500	Bighorn Sheep lamb survival study
\$17,500	Converse County Sand & Sage Creek mule deer project
\$10,000	Fremont County Mule Deer Project
\$32,500	Best practices for relocating Golden Eagles
\$17,500	Coyote Removal to Enhance Stove Gulch Mule Deer Fawn Survival
\$ 5,000	Natrona County raven removal project
\$2,500	Wyoming Ag in The Classroom Stewardship project

With no further comments the meeting adjourned at 3:55pm.



# ANIMAL DAMAGE MANAGEMENT BOARD

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## ADMB Meeting

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

**Topic: ADMB November 4th meeting**

Time: **Nov 4, 2021 08:00 am** Mountain Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82684797892?pwd=L2UvemZMNVBByUGtvWGIYcVhzdkN0UT09>

**Meeting ID: 826 8479 7892**

**Passcode: 051680**

Phone call in list

1-408-638-0968 US

1-669-900-6833 US

1-253-215-8782 US

1-346-248-7799 US

1-646-876-9923 US

1-301-715-8592 US

1-312-626-6799 US

**Thursday, November 4, 2021**

## Agenda

- 8:00 am Call to order—(Miyamoto, Nesvik)  
Introduction of board, guests and public  
Approval of June Minutes
- 8:10 am Rabies testing update: --- Dr. Myrna Miller Wyoming State Vet Lab
- 8:30 am Wolf management update for year ----- Mike Foster
- 8:40 am Program updates:  
Land owner coupons 2020-2021 and reconcile for previous allocations.  
Wolf Compensation program update-----Jerry Johnson
- 8:55 am set dates for 2021-2022 meetings.  
Jan 20<sup>th</sup> 2022 10am Zoom  
May 17<sup>th</sup> 9am - 18th 8am 2022 Casper live and Zoom  
June 16<sup>th</sup> 2022 9am Casper live and Zoom  
Nov 9<sup>th</sup> 2022 10am Zoom
- 9:00 am PUBLIC COMMENT
- 9:05 am Adjourn

**Draft**  
**ADMB Meeting**  
**November 4, 2021**  
**Zoom Teleconference**

**Members Present:** Doug Miyamoto (Co-Chair), Brian Nesvik (Co-Chair), Amanda Hulet, Mike Foster, Ron Cunningham, Bob Harlan, Gay Lynn Byrd, Brett Belden

**Board Members Absent:** Valorie Armstrong, Garrett Falkenburg, Bob Phillips, Jeff Boner, Russ Bacon, Tyler Abbott

**WDA Staff:** Jerry Johnson

**Public in Attendance:** Myrna Miller, Amy Hendrickson, Kat Urbigit, Alex Hargrave

Meeting called to order at 8:02 am by Brian Nesvik

Ron moved to approve June 2021 minutes as provided, Gay Lynn second, Motion carries

### **Rabies Testing Update**

Dr. Myrna Miller shared the progress of recent rabies cases across the state for 2021, there were 403 animals tested with 11 positive results. Positive results in Sheridan and Johnson common occurrences and again in 2021 most cases were in the northern part of the State. There was a positive case for a horse in Sheridan County in 2021 and this was genetically traced to the northern skunk variant of rabies. The Department of Health was notified for the contact tracing for human exposure. Rabies cases had increased in Goshen and Laramie County in 2018 and 2019 and 2020 but there have been no cases this year. The rabies variant in Southern Wyoming is a different strain than that in Northern Wyoming and tends to be short lived. While only 2 to 5% of bats tested have a positive result, human exposure is always a concern. The only positive case of Human Rabies in 2015 was because of bat exposure. Testing funded by the ADMB allows peace of mind and can alert the public as needed.

### **Wolf Management Update**

Mike Foster reported during fiscal year 2021, 14 wolves were taken—7 of which were caught in the “predator zone” and 7 of which were in the “trophy game area”. Losses reported to WS in trophy zone were 11 cows 38 calves 12 sheep 1 cat 10 chickens. Losses verified in predator zone by WS were 1 cow, 1 calf, 4 sheep, and 23 lambs. An additional 12 sheep were reported but not verified in the predator zone. The total spent on wolf control in 2020 was \$14,240 in TZ and \$34,873 in PZ. The total to date in this fiscal year is 6,039 with 2 additional flights yet to be invoiced.

They are in the process of hiring a new pilot and the plane will be moved from Rock Springs area to Riverton. There was discussion on the lethal control of wolves and that WS is back to a normal operating procedure with wolf work with a new weekly requirement on reporting wolf work.

Mike let the board know that the USDA gave a two year waiver on the administrative fees through 2024.

Doug mentioned to Mike that he had drafted a letter in response to the stop work of lethal wolf control but due to the response of the regional director to continue the lethal control he had not yet sent a letter.

Brett Belden let the board know that he received a thank you letter from USDA/WS regional director Janet Bucknall thanking him for the warm welcome she received on her trip to Wyoming.

## **Program Updates**

### Landowner Coupon County Designation Discussion

Jerry Johnson shared that the Game & Fish Land Owner Coupon form has been updated and the county designation portion has been removed from the form. The county distribution of funds for the years 2013-2020 will begin and the distribution total is \$11,928 and that all counties except Teton will be reimbursed.

Wolf Compensation Update: Jerry Johnson shared that the compensation program had not received any request thru June 30 2021, and he then sent out a letter to the County Predator boards reminding them of the program. There have now been a few inquiries and he answered questions on filling out the application. He answered the question of how much funding the program received; the total funds available are \$40,500.

## **Public Comments**

Cat Urbigit voiced concern over the recent stop work by USDA/WS on lethal wolf control and was happy to hear that it was resolved and wondered if the ADMB could write a letter in support of the decision to continue and the importance of wolf control continuing.

Amy Hendrickson agreed with Cat and also asked if the board could write a letter, and gave an update on the eagle project. An eagle was banded and relocated and has not returned to the area as of early October.

Doug and Brian agreed that a letter could be written and stated they would work on a draft letter.

No further business

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 by Brian Nesvik



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## WYOMING GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

5400 Bishop Blvd. Cheyenne, WY 82006  
Phone: (307) 777-4600 Fax: (307) 777-4699  
wgfd.wyo.gov

**GOVERNOR**  
MARK GORDON  
**DIRECTOR**  
BRIAN R. NESVIK  
**COMMISSIONERS**  
PETER J. DUBE – President  
GAY LYNN BYRD – Vice President  
RALPH BROKAW  
MARK JOLOVICH  
RICHARD LADWIG  
ASHLEE LUNDVALL  
KENNETH D. ROBERTS

November 22, 2021

### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board  
**FROM:** Meredith Wood, Chief Fiscal Officer  
**COPY TO:** Brian Nesvik, Director; File  
**SUBJECT:** Animal Damage Management Board Annual Report

In accordance with W.S. 11-6-305 (a) and 23-3-105(b), the following information regarding wildlife damage management stamp and landowner coupon designations to the ADMB for fiscal year (FY) 2021 is being provided.

Landowner coupons designated and transferred to ADMB	\$ 2,320.00
Wildlife damage management stamp	
Sales deposited 7/1/2019 through 6/30/2020	\$ 1,324.00
(License agent reports through 6/30/2020)	
Costs of program administration	
Management stamp:	
Printing	\$ 0.00
Administrative time	\$ 646.91 (24 hours)
Total administrative costs for FY 2021	<u>(\$ 646.91)</u>
FY21 collections over expenditures	\$ 677.09
Deficit collections previous years	(\$2,820.00)
Amount due to be transferred to ADMB for FY20201	= <u>\$ 0.00</u>

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

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

MW



ADMB - RABIES 0313	BUDGETED		EXPENDED		PERCENT OPTIMUM		NOTES
	FY 21 - 22	YTD	ENCUMBERED	BALANCE	EXPENDED	54.17%	
<i>SUPPORTIVE SERVICES 200.00</i>							
Equipment Rep & Minc	202.00	0	0	0			
Utilities	203.00	0	0	0			
Freight & Postage	204.00	100	0	100	0.00%		
Supplies/Printing	231.00	0	0	0			
Equipment Rental	252.00	0	0	0			
<b>200 SERIES TOTAL</b>	<b>\$100</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$100</b>	<b>0.00%</b>		
<i>Grants and Aid Payments 600.00</i>							
Grants	626.00	103,221	83,234	16,516	3,471	96.64%	Step 2 reduction 12,136
<b>0600 SERIES TOTAL</b>	<b>\$103,221</b>	<b>\$83,234</b>	<b>\$16,516</b>	<b>\$3,471</b>	<b>96.64%</b>		
<i>CONTRACTUAL SERVICES 900.00</i>							
Professional/Consulting Fees	901.00	0	0	0			
<b>0900 SERIES TOTAL</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>			
<b>ADMB - RABIES 03.13</b>	<b>\$103,321</b>	<b>\$83,234</b>	<b>\$16,516</b>	<b>\$3,571</b>	<b>96.54%</b>		

		YTD Revenue	YTD %
General funds	103,321	99,750	97%
	0	0	
	<b>\$103,321</b>	<b>\$99,750</b>	<b>97%</b>

<p><b>DISCUSSION ITEMS</b></p> <p>Step 2 reductions proposed 6/30/2020</p> <p>Gov Approved Step 2 B-11 21154 11/20/2020</p> <p>Session Approved Portions of Step 3 processed 6/2021</p>
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RODENT & PREDATOR 0315	BUDGETED		EXPENDED		PERCENT OPTIMUM		NOTES
	FY 21 - 22		YTD	ENCUMBERED	BALANCE	EXPENDED 54.17%	
<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	100	19		81	18.66%	
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	100	260		(160)	259.90%	
Medical/Lab Supplies	235.00	0	0		0		
Other Repair Supplies	239.00	0	0		0		
Equipment Rental	252.00	0	0		0		
<i>200 SERIES TOTAL</i>		\$200	\$279	\$0	(\$79)	139.28%	
<i>DATA PROCESSING</i>	400.00						
Telecommunications - A&I	420.00	0	0		0		
<i>400 SERIES TOTAL</i>		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		
<i>GRANTS &amp; AID PYMTS</i>	600.00						
Grant Payments	626.00	0	0		0		
<i>600 SERIES TOTAL</i>		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		
<i>NON-OPERATING EXP</i>	800.00						
Purchases for Resale	801.00	900	0		900	0.00%	
<i>800 SERIES TOTAL</i>		\$900	\$0	\$0	\$900	0.00%	
<i>CONTRACTUAL SRVS</i>	900.00						
Professional/Consulting Fees	901.00	0	0		0		
<i>900 SERIES TOTAL</i>		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		
<b>RODENT &amp; PREDATOR 031: TOTAL</b>		<b>\$1,100</b>	<b>\$279</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$821</b>	<b>25.32%</b>	

139.28% excluding 600 and 800 series expenditures

	YTD Revenue	YTD %	
General Funds	0	0%	DISCUSSION ITEMS Reduced budget by 32,281 for sales funding
Other Funds			
Rodent Control - Sales 5421	1,100	435 40%	
TOTAL	\$1,100	\$435 40%	
	0		

ANIMAL DAMAGE MGMT 0317	BUDGETED		EXPENDED		PERCENT OPTIMUM		NOTES
	FY 21 - 22	YTD	ENCUMBERED	BALANCE	EXPENDED	54.17%	
<b>Fund 047</b>							
<i>SUPPORTIVE SERVICES 200.00</i>							
Equipment Repairs & Minc	202.00	0	0	0			
Utilities	203.00	0	0	0			
Freight & Postage	204.00	600	2	598	0.33%		
Travel In State	221.00	0	538	(538)			
Board Travel In State	228.00	4,725	3,004	1,721	63.57%		
Supplies/Printing	231.00	1,424	0	1,424	0.00%		
Equipment Rental	252.00	150	0	150	0.00%		
<i>200 SERIES TOTAL</i>		\$6,899	\$3,544	\$0	\$3,355	51.36%	
<i>RESTRICTIVE SERVICES 300.00</i>							
Cost Allocation	301.00	72	72	0	100.00%		
<i>300 SERIES TOTAL</i>		\$72	\$72	\$0	\$0	100.00%	
<i>DATA PROCESSING 400.00</i>							
Telecommunications - A&I	420.00	0	0	0			
<i>400 SERIES TOTAL</i>		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		
<i>GRANTS &amp; AID PYMTS 600.00</i>							
Grants	626.00	322,022	168,228	45,112	108,682	66.25%	
UW Grants & Aid Payments	667.00	0	29,954	46	(30,000)		
<i>600 SERIES TOTAL</i>		\$322,022	\$198,182	\$45,158	\$78,682	75.57%	
<i>CONTRACTUAL SRVS. 900.00</i>							
Professional/Consulting Fees	901.00	7,378	0	7,378	0.00%		Step 2 reduction 41,430
<i>900 SERIES TOTAL</i>		\$7,378	\$0	\$0	\$7,378	0.00%	
<b>ANIMAL DAMAGE MGMT 0 TOTAL</b>		<b>\$336,371</b>	<b>\$201,797</b>	<b>\$45,158</b>	<b>\$89,416</b>	<b>73.42%</b>	

		YTD Revenue	YTD %
General Funds	127,871	197,925.45	155%
Other Funds			
Livestock Brand Fee-5353	1,000		0%
Wildlife Damage Stamp-2634	1,000		0%
Landowner Coupons-6204	6,500	3,872	60%
Predator Boards - 6301	0		0%
Game & Fish - 5040	200,000	200,000	100%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$336,371</b>	<b>\$401,797</b>	<b>119%</b>
	0		
Cash Balance	705,696.48		

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**  
 Reduced by 288,948 to account for revenues not collected  
 Step 2 reductions proposed 6/30/2020  
 Gov Approved Step 2 B-11 21154 11/20/2020  
 Session Approved Portions of Step 3 processed 6/2021

PREDATOR MANAGEMENT 1501	BUDGETED		EXPENDED		PERCENT OPTIMUM		NOTES
	FY 21 - 22	YTD	ENCUMBERED	BALANCE	EXPENDED	54.17%	
<i>PERSONAL SERVICES</i>	<i>100.00</i>	\$202,116	\$103,364	\$98,752	51.14%		
<i>SUPPORTIVE SERVICES</i>	<i>200.00</i>						
Equipment Repairs & Mtnc	202.00	749	0	749	0.00%		
Utilities	203.00	840	491	349	58.48%		
Freight and Postage	204.00	1,750	690	1,060	39.40%		
Employee Development	207.00	1,750	0	1,750	0.00%		
Advertising	208.00	0	203	(203)			
Travel In State	221.00	3,500	1,490	2,010	42.58%		Step 2 reduction 4,000
Travel Out of State	222.00	1,813	0	1,813	0.00%		Step 2 reduction 1,000; Step 3 1812.50
Permanently Assigned Vehicles	223.00	14,813	2,528	12,285	17.06%		Step 3 reduction 4687.50
Office Supplies/Printing	231.00	8,000	3,271	4,729	40.88%		
Vehicle Supplies	233.00	0	0				
Educational Supplies	236.00	0	0	0			
Other Repair Supplies	239.00	3,000	16	2,984	0.54%		
Transportation Equipment	243.00	0	0	0			
Equipment Rental	252.00	1,000	0	1,000	0.00%		
Maintenance Contracts	292.00	0	562	(562)			
<i>200 SERIES TOTAL</i>		\$37,214	\$9,250	\$0	\$27,964	24.86%	
<i>DATA PROCESSING</i>	<i>400.00</i>						
Telecommunications A&I	420.00	926	360	566	38.93%		
<i>400 SERIES TOTAL</i>		\$926	\$360	\$0	\$566	38.93%	
<i>GRANTS &amp; AID PYMTS</i>	<i>600.00</i>						
Grants	626.00	5,615,095	4,635,162	47,129	932,805	83.39%	\$160,000 - wolf management total
<i>600 SERIES TOTAL</i>		\$5,615,095	\$4,635,162	\$47,129	\$932,805	83.39%	Step 2 reduction 606,122 PMD, 44,300 wolves
<b>PREDATOR MANAGEMENT TOTAL</b>		<b>\$5,855,351</b>	<b>\$4,748,136</b>	<b>\$47,129</b>	<b>\$1,060,086</b>	<b>81.90%</b>	

\$5,895,851

0

		YTD Transfers	
General Funds	5,855,351	4,795,265	82%
TOTALS	\$5,855,351	\$4,795,265	82%

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Step 2 reductions proposed 6/30/2020

Gov Approved Step 2 B-11 21154 11/20/2020

Session Approved Portions of Step 3 processed 6/2021

0

Wolf Damage Payments 1510	BUDGETED		EXPENDED		PERCENT OPTIMUM		NOTES
	FY 21 - 22		YTD	ENCUMBERED	BALANCE	EXPENDED 54.17%	
<i>PERSONAL SERVICES</i>	100.00				\$0		
<i>SUPPORTIVE SERVICES</i>	200.00						
Freight and Postage	204.00	0	0		0		
Office Supplies/Printing	231.00	0	0		0		
Equipment Rental	252.00	0	0		0		
<i>200 SERIES TOTAL</i>		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		
<i>DATA PROCESSING</i>	400.00						
Telecommunications A&I	420.00	0	0		0		
<i>400 SERIES TOTAL</i>		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		
<i>GRANTS &amp; AID PYMTS</i>	600.00						
Grants	626.00	40,500	0		40,500	0.00%	
<i>600 SERIES TOTAL</i>		\$40,500	\$0	\$0	\$40,500	0.00%	
<b>Wolf Damage Payments 1510 TOTAL</b>		<b>\$40,500</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$40,500</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	

		YTD Transfers	DISCUSSION ITEMS
General Funds	40,500	0 0%	
TOTALS	\$40,500	\$0 0%	

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## Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(a) Submit the following to the ADMB:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Adopted: January 19, 2021

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

**MISSION STATEMENT:**

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

**GOALS:**

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

**ACRONYMS USED IN STRATEGIC PLAN**

**ADMB** – Animal Damage Management Board

**ADM** – Animal Damage Management

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

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

**MOU** – Memorandum of Understanding

**PMB** – Predator Management Boards

**PMD** – Predator Management Districts

**WDA** – Wyoming Department of Agriculture

**WS** – USDA/APHIS/Wildlife Services

**WAIC** – Wyoming Ag in the Classroom

**WLB** – Wyoming Livestock Board

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

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

**OBJECTIVE 1.1**

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

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

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

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

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

**OBJECTIVE 2.1**  
**W.S. 11-6-304(b)(iii)**

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

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

**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><b>ACTION</b></i>	<i><b>RESPONSIBILITY</b></i>	<i><b>DATE TO COMPLETE</b></i>	<i><b>DATE COMPLETED</b></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><b>ACTION</b></i>	<i><b>RESPONSIBILITY</b></i>	<i><b>DATE TO COMPLETE</b></i>	<i><b>DATE COMPLETED</b></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.

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

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

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

**GOAL 4: Develop a public education and involvement plan.**  
**STATUTORY AUTHORITY: W.S. 11-6-301 – 11-6-312**

**OBJECTIVE 4.1**  
**W.S. 11-6-301 – 11-6-312**

**Establish broad based, comprehensive plan directed towards the public.**

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

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

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

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

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

**GOAL 6: Develop and implement legislative strategies.**

**OBJECTIVE 6.1**

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

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

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### Overview of Activities to Date:

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

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

Through the work of the ADMB, \$2.738 million has been awarded to the nineteen qualified districts in the past year. In 2021, the ADMB received \$3.026 million in requests from these districts.

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

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

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

Depredation by eagles was a major concern in several areas of the state and Wildlife Services along with U.S. Fish and Wildlife worked with ranchers to help solve this problem. Harassment permits were issued in some areas. The Wyoming Association of County Predator Boards applied for an expanded research grant with the ADMB to study the relocation of golden eagles to help ranchers with eagle depredation. This was again a combined effort with CSU Pueblo, the North American Falconers Association, the International Eagle Austringers Association, USFWS, and Wyoming Game & Fish to see if relocation can be an effective way to relocate eagles to minimize depredation on livestock. They will be banding Golden Eagles to see if the relocated eagles will stay in an area with sufficient wildlife as prey and not return to the rancher's livestock.

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

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

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

**Predator Management Program Allocations**

<b>Grantees</b>	<b>Date Approved</b>	<b>Board Approved</b>
Albany County PMD	May 19, 2021	\$100,000.00
Big Horn County PMD	May 19, 2021	\$135,000.00
Campbell County PMD	May 19, 2021	\$155,000.00
Carbon County PMD	May 19, 2021	\$145,000.00
Converse County PMD	May 19, 2021	\$180,000.00
Crook County PMD	May 19, 2021	\$135,000.00
Fremont County PMD	May 19, 2021	\$180,000.00
Goshen County PMD	May 19, 2021	\$50,000.00
Hot Springs County PMD	May 19, 2021	\$185,000.00
Johnson County PMD	May 19, 2021	\$150,000.00
Lincoln County PMD	May 19, 2021	\$171,000.00
Natrona County PMD	May 19, 2021	\$180,000.00
Niobrara County PMD	May 19, 2021	\$153,000.00
Park County PMD	May 19, 2021	\$164,000.00
Sheridan County PMD	May 19, 2021	\$125,000.00
Sweetwater County PMD	May 19, 2021	\$110,020.00
Uinta County PMD	May 19, 2021	\$185,000.00
Washakie County PMD	May 19, 2021	\$135,000.00
Weston County PMD	May 19, 2021	\$100,000.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,738,000.00</b>

On May 19, 2021 the Board also granted \$36,000 to fund rabies program in three Counties: Campbell Co. \$12,000.00, Johnson Co. \$12,000.00 and Sheridan Co. \$12,000.00.

By July 1, 2021, each district provided to the ADMB a Year-End Report, detailing actions taken and results, monies expended, and the most recent audit report. The following County reports contain some statistics from across the state, and a brief overview of wildlife projects being conducted in conjunction with livestock and wildlife related management efforts.

## ALBANY COUNTY PREDATOR MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

### 2021-2022 MANAGEMENT PLAN

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

# Big Horn County Predator Management District

## 2020-21 Annual Report

PO Box 613  
Greybull,  
Wyoming  
82426



### Board Members

#### President

Randall Jones, Otto, Wy.

#### Vice President

Terry Mueller, Shell, Wy.

#### Secretary/Treasurer

Kay Neves, Hyattville, Wy.

Raymond Jolley, Lovell, Wy.

Carl Nielsen, Hyattville, Wy.

Nicholle Geis, Shell, Wy.

Keith Hamilton, Hyattville, Wy.

Albert Henderson, Burlington,  
Wy.

Dave Blakeman, Basin, Wy.

#### WS Specialists

Brandon O'Brien, Full-time

Josh Zimmerman, Half-time

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

Presently, there is one full-time and one half-time WS employee that covers Big Horn County. Big Horn County also received assistance from 5 other WS employees (pilots, additional trappers, and biologists). In the time frame from March 1st, 2020-February 28th, 2021 (the most recent 365 day period to generate activity data), the total hours worked in Big Horn County was 3955 man hours on 52 different properties totaling 2,101,720 acres.

In Big Horn County, 188 hours were flown by fixed-wing during the reporting period.



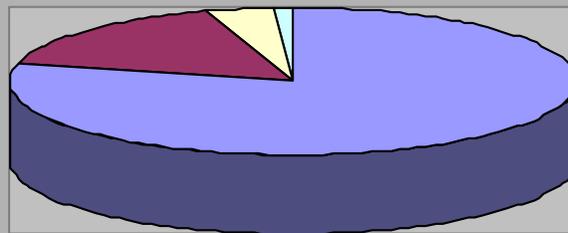
*The table below is a report of animals taken during the reporting period, in response to conflicts with livestock, wildlife, property, nuisance, or human health and safety.*

- **Coyotes: 459**
- **Coyote Dens: 10**
- **Common Raven: 17**
- **Raccoons: 130**
- **Red Fox: 27**
- **Red Fox Dens: 11**
- **Striped Skunk: 4**



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

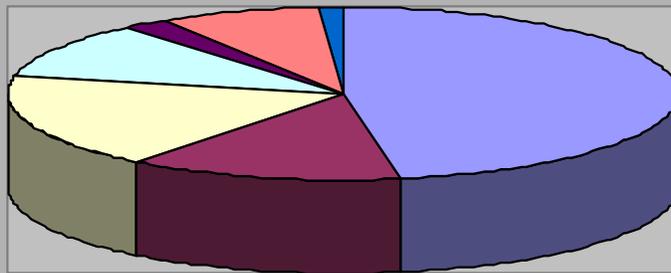
The Pie chart below depicts the percentage of site visits by WS per category for this 20-21 reporting period:



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



The Pie chart below shows the percentage of site visits by WS per wildlife species for the 20-21 reporting period:



- Coyotes
- Raccoons
- Fox
- Ravens
- Eagles
- Lions
- Others



## District Management Plan 2021-2022

Big Horn County Predator Management District's goal for 2021-2022 is to provide a professional wildlife damage management service through USDA's WS. It has been beneficial to bring in a half-time position to help the full-time employee. Ideally, this county needs two full-time employees for coverage and that is our long-term goal.

1) **Livestock:** Coyote numbers are stable and take numbers reflect that. Even with stable coyote numbers, predation events have been minimal. Wolves are now considered predatory animals county-wide, and we will keep close tabs on wolf presence within the county. We anticipate black bear and mountain lion predation on the high-country allotments this summer. We would like to continue working on crow and raven infestations where they have caused damage to cattle and lamb mortalities.

2) **Crop and General Property:** The trend in the past five years has been a reduction in small mammal take county-wide but we saw an increase of take this year with additional help. Raccoon and red fox still top the list as the most requested species for general property damage county-wide. Ravens continue to be a problem in parts of the county. We plan on using a combination of DRC-1339, and shooting to alleviate bird problems. Present staff levels still do not allow us to do much corvid work, unless it becomes a larger priority to our customers.

3) **Wildlife:** Important wildlife species that are valuable to the public inhabit the same areas where WS conducts predator removal. There is no doubt the amount of predator removal county-wide directly benefits these local wildlife populations and the public.

**Human Health and Safety:** We strive to continue learning the most effective, efficient way to resolve corvid and blackbird disease threats to livestock and humans in the county with today's most updated science.

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



The addition of strategic flying time has had a tremendous impact on prevention of livestock losses, as this method is often one of the best tools for coyote control. The PMD proposes 14 hours of fixed wing aircraft use with Wildlife Services in case of emergency predation control and 216 hours of fixed wing with private aerial pilots. Due to the retirement of pilot Kelly Huseby from Wildlife Services, we have decreased our aerial hours with Wildlife Services but in turn have increased our private aerial hours.

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

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

trouble calls a month just for skunk issues and we expect this spring to be very busy. Each one of those calls requires multiple trips to the location to set and check traps. We are asking the ADMB board for some extra funding to help with this program, as we had 14 positive rabid skunks in 2020 and 2 already in 2021. If funding is decreased again this year from the county and the ADMB board, we may need to only satisfy the educational aspect of the statute when it comes to the rabies program and not be able to fund a person to do the actual trapping and removal of skunks in and around the area. The citizens that we help are very appreciative and pleased with our services, but due to funding, the services may need to be limited. We have heard of multiple people that have had to receive the rabies vaccine since they had human contact with rabid skunks. The cost in Campbell County is around \$10,000 per person to be fully vaccinated for rabies. The Campbell County Predatory Board is being proactive in the rabies program and will do what we can with the funds that are available.

*b) Human and Domestic Animal Health/Safety Goals:* Our three trappers which rotate their duties continue to receive phone calls daily regarding skunk issues. The calls are dispatched by local law enforcement. Our trappers also are available to provide information and education to school aged children at the AG Expo and the Natural Resource Expo. Rabies education and animal safety is the main topic that they discuss when time permits. The 2020 AG Expo was canceled due to COVID-19 and we just received an email that this year's AG Expo has also been cancelled due to remaining COVID procedures.

*c) Human and Domestic Animal Health/Safety Monitoring:* The public demand for this service is well documented by our trappers. Last fiscal year (2019-2020) our trappers harvested 309 skunks (which is a 52% increase from the prior fiscal year), 22 raccoons and 1 bat. This fiscal year as of the end of February 2021, our trappers have already removed 485 skunks, 25 raccoons and 1 bat for the area and the spring litters have yet to be born. The next few months will be busy as the weather is favorable for skunk activity. We have been testing any suspicious animal for rabies. We have had 14 rabid skunks in 2020 and 2 rabid skunks already for 2021. We will continue to be proactive with our current program, but if an outbreak were to occur with-in the city limits, we

would be increasing our program regardless of city/county boundaries.

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

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

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

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

# **Year End Report**

## **Campbell County Predatory Board**

**June 30, 2020**

The Campbell County Predatory Board has been actively working to provide predator control for the benefit of livestock producers and wildlife populations. Along with the predator control we are also very proactive in the control of skunks around the city of Gillette and surrounding rural areas.

Our three trappers which take turns now taking care of the skunk issues, have been very busy. For the last year, our three contract trappers have spent over 7393 hours in the field while covering 1,380,356 acres in Campbell County. Our trappers worked with 125 individual landowner agreements over the year as they provided predator control. We budgeted \$23,250.00 all for fixed wing aerial time with Wildlife Services and we budgeted \$25,500 for private aerial. The total aerial budgeted was \$48,750.00 in which we spent \$42,880.70. With the retirement of Wildlife Services pilot, Mr. Huseby, we used more private aerial than we used Wildlife Services. The number of animals that were harvested using aerial hunting was 329 coyotes. Along with aerial we have had some helicopter time that was an in-kind donation from one of our livestock producers. We have flown 39 hours and have harvested 147 coyotes. Aerial hunting is very beneficial with predator control in our county.

All three of our predator control trappers continue to be very beneficial in Campbell County. Calvin Taylor mostly works with livestock producers in the Northern part of Campbell County while Duke Campbell and Kory Study work directly with livestock producers in the Southern part. The North and South areas of Campbell County are very different. The Northern part of the county is primarily cattle producers. Calvin has been very successful in getting new ranchers to sign agreements with us. One of the ranchers in the Northern part of Campbell County leases their land for 1500 head of sheep to graze for the summer. Calvin was very busy controlling the predators on this ranch. The Northern part is also a more rugged terrain so more aerial is needed in that area, wildlife population is affected more in this area as well. The southern part of the county is comprised mainly of sheep producers so Duke and Kory deal more with problem coyotes. The Southern part of the county is flatter and has better vehicle access, yet aerial is best when getting problem coyotes in the area. All of our trappers are very good at responding to trouble calls from our ranchers. Our trappers responded to 140 livestock trouble calls where the calls were regarding problem coyotes that have confirmed livestock losses. 56 lambs, and 5 ewes, and 2 calves are among the losses.

All of our trappers are very knowledgeable and are very precise when it comes to gathering information. The board has asked the trappers to continue recording GPS locations of traps, snares and actual harvest location of the coyotes. The board has split the county into 6 regions. The trappers document their harvest per region for control purposes. Docking numbers on sheep seem to be at the same percentage than last year. Per the sheep producers report, shipping numbers are good and profitable. Even though coyote numbers are still steady, trappers been working to keep the problem coyotes down. All three trappers have been very successful in obtaining mine access for predator control. The trappers also had to attend MSHA training to access mine property.

Our three trappers have harvested (July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020) 1414 coyotes, 90 fox, 1 bobcat, 22 raccoons, 2 badgers, and 1 muskrat, and 1 bat.

Our Rabies program consists of all three of our trappers as they take turns with the position and answering calls from the public. They all deal with the skunk/human public safety issues and testing for rabies in "questionable" animals. Campbell County continues to deal with skunks coming into the city limits since there are so many small rural plots close to town. The trappers do an excellent job in the control of skunks for Campbell County. As of the fiscal year (2019-2020), they have harvested 309 skunks which is an increase of more than 100 skunks than the previous fiscal year. The Board has been very successful in working with the County Commissioners, but the city of Gillette has not been funding our efforts in being proactive with the nuisance/rabies program position. In years past when we have not had the funding to continue our present control, the number of skunks has almost doubled and we are working hard to prevent this from happening. Board members and bookkeeper, Kenda Ford has attended many County Commissioners meeting and they are very pleased with our proactive Rabies program. The County Commissioners are able to continue funding us, yet the city continues to want the help from the board but not fund it. The Animal Control department does not want to handle the skunk control trouble calls, so they are trying to work with the board whenever they can so we can maintain our program. **As of the end of June 2020, we have tested quite a few questionable animals for rabies and unfortunately we have had 8 skunks and 1 raccoon test positive for rabies.** All of the rabid animals have come from south of town on ranches and they have not had any human contact. Our trappers are being very proactive in this area and trying to control the spread of the rabid animals getting closer to town.

We received \$140,000.00 from ADMB grant; we utilized that money to pay for trappers and part of the aerial which for fiscal year totaled \$230,282.87. The expenses for the Rabies program are \$3,7221.34 for the fiscal year. We are utilizing 100% of the \$20,000.00 Grant money/Rabies money that we are receiving. The County money helps continue to pay for the remaining rabies control expenses and some predator control in the small acreage lots near the

city limits. The remaining money needed for our operation comes from our Livestock Predatory fees and from our reserves when needed.

We are continuing as planned for the upcoming fiscal year. The Campbell County Predatory Board has been very diligent in trying to maintain a good faith effort to minimize our budget each and every year. We appreciate the opportunity to receive funding from the ADMB board, and with that help the Campbell County Predatory Board has a very strong effective predator control program.



## ***Carbon County Predator Management District 2021-22 Management Plan***

### ***Mission:***

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

### ***Livestock:***

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

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

### ***Wildlife:***

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

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

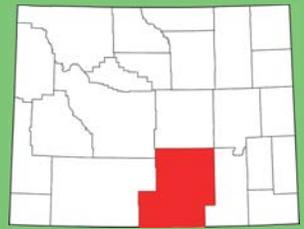
### ***Human Health & Safety:***

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

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

# CARBON COUNTY PREDATOR MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Secretary: Whitney Merrell



## ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2020/2021



Photo by Beverly Braig

### **CATTLEMEN**

JOSH PETERSON  
JOHN HANSEN  
J STRATTON  
WILL HUDSON

### **SHEEPMEN**

SHARON O'TOOLE  
SCOTT KERBS

### **SPORTSMEN**

JOHN ENGSTROM  
ROBERT O'CONNELL  
ROGER COX

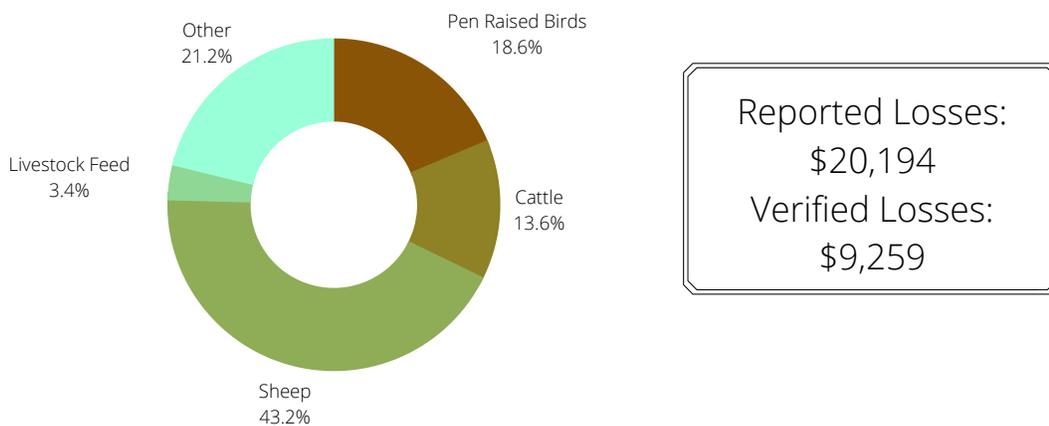
### **AT-LARGE**

JOHN STRAND-2020  
DAN BRAIG-2021

# MANAGEMENT PLAN AND ACTION

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

## Livestock Damage and Losses From Various Predators



## Wildlife Specialists

**Rod Merrell - Supervisor**

**Tracy Villwok**

**Luke Spanbauer**

**Ben Acres-PT**



Photo by Beverly Braig

Carbon County's Wildlife Specialists spent over 4,540 hours in the field and covered 1,584,416 acres. This includes BLM, private, State, and Forest Services properties. Their work is done on the ground and in the air as they address many different species of predators that harm or kill livestock and Wyoming's wildlife.

# MANAGEMENT PLAN AND ACTION CONTINUED

Carbon County has regularly managed issues with coyotes, ravens, fox, beaver, skunks, racoons, etc. However, this past year we have noticed a growing concern with mountain lions and black bears killing livestock compared to years past. This is especially the case in southern Carbon County. In the past year, the Wildlife Specialists have followed 3 separate mountain lions and 5 individual black bears that were causing concern particularly on lambing grounds. Our Wildlife Specialists are currently working with Wyoming Game and Fish personnel to resolve these growing concerns.

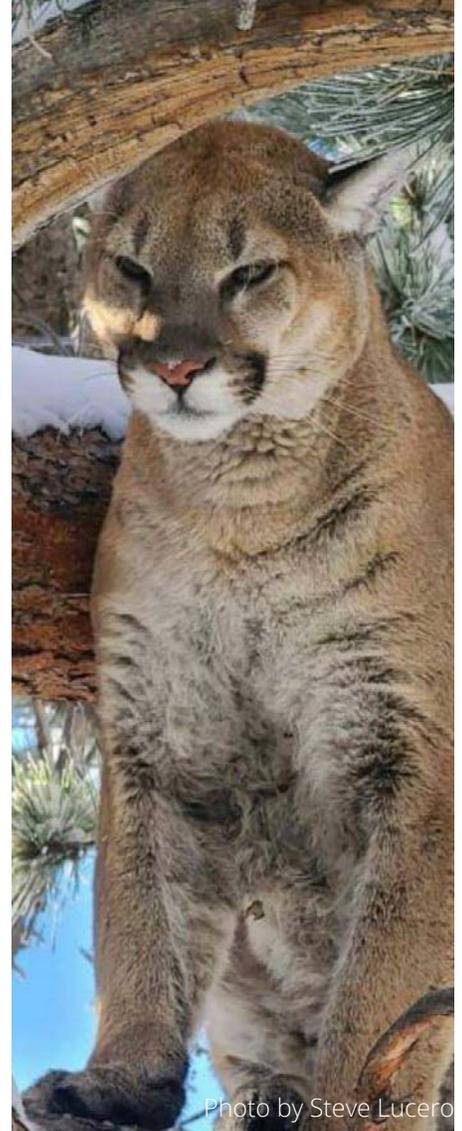


Photo by Steve Lucero



Photo by Colton Braig



Photos by Whitney Merrell

## LIFETIME OF SERVICE

In November of 2020, Dan Braig retired as Carbon County's part-time trapper. He has spent countless hours in the field and assisting producers with their predator control needs. Dan originally started his career with Wildlife Services as a volunteer in the mid-1990's while working for Union Pacific Railroad. After his retirement from the Railroad, he became an official employee in 2007. His many years of experience can't be replaced, but we are excited to have him as part of our County Board as our newest At-Large member.

## CONVERSE COUNTY PREDATOR MANAGEMENT DISTRICT 2021-2022 MANAGEMENT PLAN ADDENDUM

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

Being the largest sheep producing county in the state our trappers are stretched very thin traveling more miles and working more hours to get their job done. We have continued our bounty system for coyotes and fox which we fund from predator assessment fees collected during brand inspections. Our bounty is a very modest amount accounting for a small percentage of our overall budget. A majority of our predator fees go to funding our aerial hunting program.

We currently have two full time and one part time trapper. We will contract with WS for the use of their airplane, gunner, and pilot for up to 25 hours. With the increased use of our private pilots and reduction in state funding, we haven't had the funding to use the WS plane as much, but we do need to have it available for hunting on Federal lands and in the event of breakdowns. The WS plane along with our private trappers ground crewing are a very effective way to target problem coyotes. The CCPMD Board (the Board) will be asking the ADMB for funds for this expense as well as for the salaries of the trappers.

The trappers are contract workers and answer directly to the Board with detailed monthly reports. They account for every predator taken, where and methods used. The trappers are required to have landowner permission and do not work on that land without notification. Ears from the predators taken are presented and counted at CCPMD's monthly meetings.

Converse County is split by the North Platte River. The bulk of the county's area lies north of the river and is generally less steep and with little timber. The vast majority of the county's sheep herds are in this area as well as antelope and sage grouse habitat. For trappers, it is a huge area to cover effectively.

Our personnel, trapping and snaring as well as working with the airplanes are extremely effective and are taking care of problem coyotes that have become educated and are very difficult to find. They also address other problem animals like beaver, skunks, and raccoons that require ground time to target. Our trappers along with the private aircraft have been instrumental in the success we had in last three years. Their contracts are reviewed annually and will be renegotiated in June before the start of the fiscal year.

We have seen a severe decline in cattle prices over the last four years and a down trend in lamb prices. At a time like this, it is imperative to keep predation to a minimum. Losses to predation last year were higher than previous years. That combined with low lambing percentages made for a very challenging year for our sheep producers. We are hoping to add a full time trapper to help slow these losses.

Livestock producers are not the only ones to reap the benefits of predator management. Hunters and outfitters have noticed a rise in the number of Mule Deer. With drought and disease taking its toll on Converse County's wildlife, we feel it is imperative to keep predation to a minimum.

With the increased use of aircraft, both from WS and private entities, many coyotes have become extremely "aircraft wary" and virtually impossible to take by aircraft alone. While we have always realized that ground crew working with the aircraft is absolutely essential, we have also concluded that a good trapper can get the coyotes that the aircraft cannot. Generally these coyotes are the ones doing the damage to sheep. Folks on the ground are also the only way to take care of dens.

The Board will continue to work with city and county officials to control skunks and raccoons. Crow and raven numbers continue to increase with reports of damages to baby calves and other nesting birds including Sage Grouse. Since poisoning these birds is only authorized for WS personnel, we will be monitoring the situation closely to further decide if and when to ask for their assistance.



# 2021-2022 MANAGEMENT PLAN

## MISSION

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

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

**For the 2021-2022** fiscal year CCPMD will plan to employ two full time and one part time trapper. We will contract with Wildlife Services (WS) for the use of their airplane, gunner, and pilot for up to 25 hours. With the increased use of our private pilots and reduction in state funding, we haven't had the funding to use the WS plane as much, but we do need to have it available for hunting on Federal lands and in the event of breakdowns.

The WS plane along with our private trappers that are ground crewing are a very effective way to target problem coyotes. The Converse County Predator Management District (CCPMD) will be asking the ADMB for funds for this expense as well as for the salaries of the trappers.

The trappers are contract workers and answer directly to the Board of CCPMD with detailed monthly reports. They account for every predator taken, where and methods used. The trappers are required to have landowner permission and do not work on that land without notification. Ears from the predators taken are presented and counted at CCPMD's monthly meetings.





# Converse County

Predator Management District

## BOARD MEMBERS

Jeff Boner – Chairman  
Casey Tillard – Vice Chairman  
Bob Hageman – Treasurer  
Tim Pexton – Budget Officer  
David Moore – Secretary  
John Moore – Producer  
Erick Mares – Non-Producer  
John Wolfe - Wildlife  
Curtis Maxwell - Wildlife  
Bret Frye - Wildlife

Our personnel, trapping and snaring as well as working with the airplanes are extremely effective and are taking care of problem coyotes that have become educated and are very difficult to find. They also address other problem animals like beaver, skunks, and raccoons that require ground time to target. Our trappers along with the private aircraft have been instrumental in the success we have had in the last several years. Their contracts are reviewed annually and will be renegotiated in June before the start of the fiscal year. In the event we do not receive the requested funding and the shortfall is too much to take from our savings we will need to make some hard decisions regarding salaries and/or number of employees.

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

Livestock producers are not the only ones to reap the benefits of predator management. Hunters and outfitters have noticed a rise in the number of mule deer and antelope. With drought and disease taking its toll on Converse County's wildlife, we feel it is imperative to keep predation to a minimum. By having a large number of landowners/sheep producers assisting with predator control, high doe/fawn ratios are maintained.

In addition to our aerial hunting program, we have always realized that ground crews working with the aircraft is absolutely essential and maximizes cost effectiveness. We have also concluded that a good trapper can get the coyotes that the aircraft cannot. Generally these coyotes are the ones doing the damage to sheep. Folks on the ground are also the only way to take care of dens.

The CCPMD Board will continue to work with city and county officials to control skunks and raccoons. Crow and raven numbers continue to increase with reports of damages to baby calves and other nesting birds including Sage Grouse. Since poisoning these birds is only authorized for WS personnel, we will be monitoring the situation closely to further decide if and when to ask for their assistance.



# Crook County Predatory Animal District Annual Report



2021  
Box 1497  
Sundance, WY 82729

## Executive Summary

# Crook County Management Plan

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

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

### **Summary:**

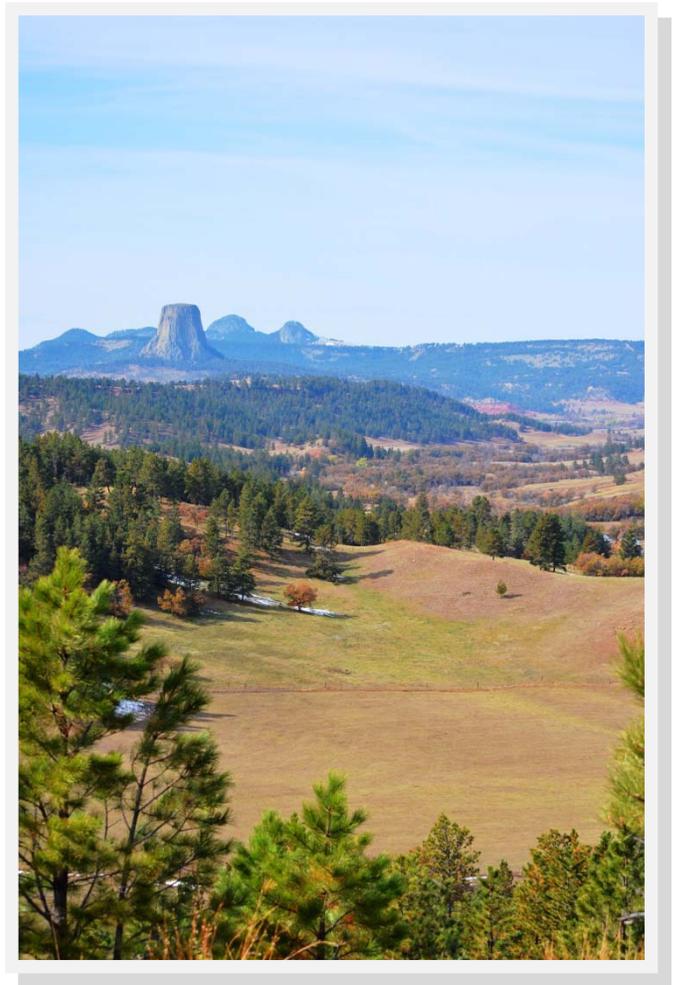
- **Contract Trappers:** Three contract trappers are used for hunting by air, and on-the-ground trappers. These trappers report directly to the Board.
- **Cooperator Agreements:** Our trappers work with cooperative agreements between land owner/operators.
- Crook County is located in the northeast corner of the state, bordered by South Dakota and Montana, with a land mass of just over 2800 square miles.

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

Crook County has had a predatory management program since the mid 1940's. Since the inception of the granting process with Wyoming Department of Agriculture through Legislative action in 2006 the program has proven itself. Successes are determined by analyzing information gathered by Wildlife Service specialists as well as on-the ground information collected from sportsmen and agricultural producers.

Wyoming Game and Fish Department numbers are also tracked in order to assess goals & objectives against outcomes and identify future target areas.

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



**BOARD MEMBERS:**

President:  
**Carlisle "Fonzy" Haskell**  
307-689-2865

Vice President:  
**Roger Ballou**

Treasurer:  
**Andrew Litzel**  
307-399-7202

**Johnie Ridinger**  
307-878-4474

**Mike Dirks**  
307-467-5929

**Wade Dennis**  
307-680-3813

**Dusty Buckmiller**  
307-756-2123

**Will Nuckolls**  
307-290-2701

**Dennis Williams**  
307-756-9350

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The Predator Board is comprised of three representatives for sheep, three for cattle, three are appointed sportsmen by County Commissioners, and one representative is appointed as "at large." Terms are staggered and three year appointments.

The Board of Directors holds meetings five times annually. These meetings include, but are not limited to: Public Meeting for financials and approval of budget in July, prior to the third Thursday as is required by State Statute. The Board meets in December for their annual election of officers, usually the second week of the month.

The Board also meets in March to establish a budget for the next fiscal year, establish parameters for grant application should they deem necessary.

Other meetings are called periodically to handle special programs, any concerns that arrive and relative program administrative duties.

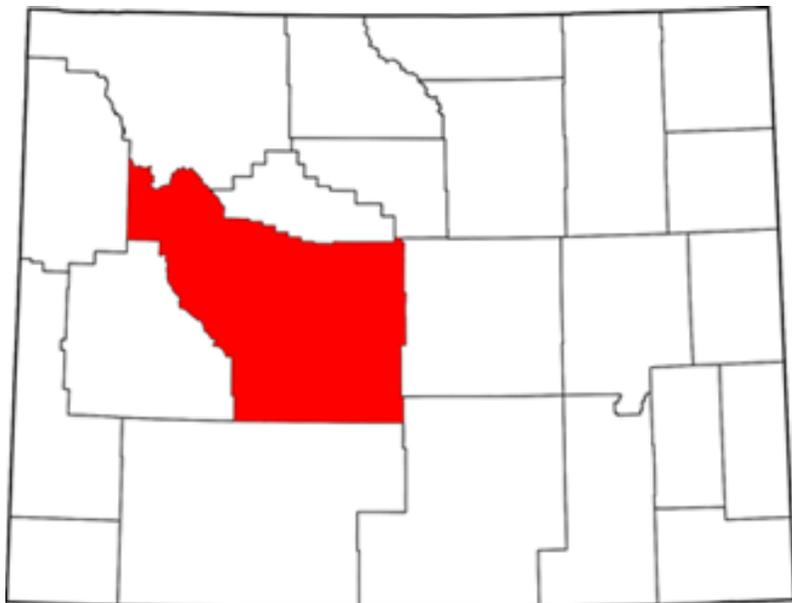
All meetings are open to the public. Minutes to the meetings are available for public view at the Crook County Courthouse, Clerks Office.

Income to operate the predator management program in Crook County comes from fees assessed from every sale of cattle and sheep in our County. The Livestock Board collects these fees at a rate of \$1.00 per head. Crook County averages between \$50,000 to \$56,000 annually collected from the livestock producers in which the program serves.

The second source of income comes from a grant process through the Wyoming Department of Agriculture. The 2019-2020 fiscal year brought \$135,000. The program, as is, would not be possible without these funds.

# Fremont County Predatory Animal Management District

## Annual Report 2020



**Fremont County has one of the most aggressive and ambitious wildlife enhancement programs of all county PAMB's. Extensive time and financial resources have been invested in their past and present programs.**

### Five Year Completed Programs

#### **Sage grouse/mule deer project hunt area 90**

- Identified which predators depredate sage grouse nests and determined that predator control greatly increased mule deer population

#### **Dubois Bighorn Sheep Project**

- The purpose of the project was to increase bighorn sheep numbers and ewe/lamb percentages in the Whiskey and Spring Mt. areas

### **PAMD Members:**

#### **Cattle:**

Beth Evans, President  
Rob Crofts, Vice President  
Justin Jamerman

#### **Sheep:**

Coleen Jennings  
Ivan Laird  
Rob Philp

#### **Sportsmen:**

Vic Mosbrucker  
Alan Sinner  
Albert Herbst

#### **Wildlife Specialists:**

Tracy Frye  
Dave Fowler

#### **Treasurer, Bookkeeper:**

Gloria Philp

#### **Secretary:**

Chance Marshall



## Continuing Projects

### **Ocean Lake Pheasant Project**

- This is in cooperation with Fremont County and the WY Game and Fish. Predator control is done just prior to the opening of bird season.

### **Southern Bighorn Deer Project**

- This is the second year of a three year project with ADMB providing \$15,000 per year. Coyote control is performed through trapping and aerial hunting at critical times of the year in hunt area 36.



## FAST FACTS

### **Land**

- Fremont County is Wyoming's 2<sup>nd</sup> largest county: Approximately 6,000,000 acres.
- Number of Signed Agreements to perform predator work: 60
- Diversity: Private land, city, county, state, BLM, Forest Service, Tribal

### **AG Stats**

- Number of Farms and Ranches: 1,152
- Average Size Farm and Ranch: 1,011 acres
- Cattle: 88,000; third ranking county in WY
- Sheep: 15,800; ninth ranking county in WY
- Hay and Alfalfa: ranks second in WY
- Total Ag Value: \$151,614,000
- Jobs in Ag: 2,045 producers



**Verified Losses 2019-2020 : \$53,209**

# Coyote Management

Coyotes are the number one predator of calves, sheep, lambs, goats, and fawns. However, the majority of their diets are rodents and small animals. Predation increases during spring months with pup rearing, so flying and other methods of control are imperative during that time of year. Aerial hunting is our primary and most successful method of control. With much of our terrain being 'rough' having a helicopter or airplane located in Fremont County would save significant funding.

**Table 1. Predator management in Fremont County**

<b>Predators Taken</b>	<b>Predators Released</b>	<b>Person-Day Visits - 624</b>	<b>Rabies Tests – Skunks (4)</b>
Wolves – 1	Badgers – 2		
Coyotes – 300	Bobcats – 1		
Crows – 955			
Ravens – 373			
Racoons – 7			
Skunks – 16			



## Goshen County PMD

### FY 2121-2122 Management Plan

GCPMD plans to keep moving forward with assistance to our livestock and crop raising cooperators, enhancing wildlife populations, and working to ensure human health and safety. Although we concluded a mule deer project in 2019 we did not participate in 2020. Predator control for livestock will continue and our Board would like to pursue a mule deer project with Wyoming Game & Fish along the Goshen Hole Rim in the near future.

GCPMD is continuing to closely monitor the rabies situation in Goshen County. The skunk population has not come back as fast as we thought it might from the last outbreak of rabies but it has rebounded some. Our trapper has been actively trapping skunks, having them tested, and will continue doing so. We know that four skunks and one raccoon tested positive in Goshen County and that several rabid skunks were found in Laramie County last year. The county will continue to address all related issues and work closely with the state veterinarian lab to handle pet, human, and livestock exposure instances.

The coyote population is still on the rise because of a decreasing incidence of management. Older ranchers are selling their places and some of them are being split into smaller units. People are moving in from out of state to get away from Covid-19 related issues and do not know the importance of predator control, and some will not sign agreements. Others are calving in the fall so our trapper is getting calls for assistance through the summer and fall instead of just in the spring.

Our trapper has signed up quite a few new cooperators all over the county so at times he is very busy. We are considering contracting someone to assist him and to work on a deer project if we are successful in being funded. Our trapper has studied the geography of the county and has identified seven areas we would like to concentrate aerial hunting in. If we could fly each of these seven areas twice a year, we think we can control the coyote problem efficiently without a lot of ground time. It will take about seven plus hours of ferry time and hunting time to cover each area each time, 49-50 hours total. Therefore, we are requesting 110 hours of aerial time. Hopefully we can use most of this aerial time in FY 2121-22.

We will continue extensive control efforts for raccoons, skunks, and feral cats to limit crop and property damage and protect health and human safety. There will never be a coyote shortage in Goshen County with no organized control of them on three sides of the county, those being Platte County, Laramie County, and the state of Nebraska. We will work hard to control the coyote numbers and those taken will be sampled throughout the year for various infectious diseases and parasites. The PMD will continue with diverse efforts and projects to manage livestock depredation, protect wildlife populations, and handle human health and safety issues.

# **Goshen County Predatory Management District**

## **Annual Report**

**FY 2020-2021**



### **GCPMD Board Members:**

Brodie Mackey – President (Sheep)  
Gary Kirchhefer – Vice President (Sportsman)  
Stan Smith – Treasurer (Cattle)  
Dan Heilbrun – (Sportsman)  
Travis Grosz – (Sheep)  
John Maier – (Sportsman)  
Jason Norris – (At-Large)  
Doyle Meyer – (Sheep)  
Jennifer Scheer – (Cattle)  
Sam Kessler – (Cattle)

**Cover Photo:** Two-week-old Angus calf killed and consumed by coyotes in Goshen County.

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## **Goshen County, Wyoming**

Founded in 1911.

Seat-Torrington (also largest city).

Population- 13,249 (2010 census). Density-6/sq mi(2.3/km<sup>2</sup>)

Area- 2,232 sq mi (5,781 km<sup>2</sup>) total. Land- 2,225 sq mi (5,763 km<sup>2</sup>)

Water- 36 sq mi (93 km<sup>2</sup>)

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### **Goshen County PMD (GCPMD) Responsibilities and Mission:**

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

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

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

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**Identifiable and Measurable Actions:**

Lands worked in Goshen County in Acres:

BLM : 1640

Private: 399,853

State: 9060

Total lands worked Under WS agreements: 410,553 acres

Seven Wildlife Services Employees worked a total of 2494.54 hours helping 78 different Cooperators.

45.4 Total Hours of Fixed Wing Aerial was used so far this year with almost two months left to go out of a total of 110 hours available.

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**Summary of Damage and Loss**

\$0 of Reported Livestock Injuries and Loss by Predators.

\$882.00 of Verified Livestock Injuries and Loss by Predators.

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

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

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## **Take Summary**

Coyotes: 298; This take is down by 18

Burrow/Dens: 1; This take is the same as previous year for reported period

Raccoons: 25; This take is up by 7 from previous year

Striped Skunk: 1; This take is down by 1

Turkey Vulture:2; This take is up by1

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## **Accomplishments**

Our trapper Jim Angal has formed strong relationships with landowners. Preventative measures have helped to successfully limit losses for livestock producers this past year. Additionally, many new property agreements have been signed for the first time and several expired cooperative agreements have been renewed. The total number of cooperators is still continuing to grow.

A number of Wildlife Services employees did a great job helping out and filling in this winter when Jim became seriously ill.

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## **Summary**

As always, GCPMD is committed to providing service to the community in a prompt, professional manner, and is strongly dedicated to our mission statement. GCPMD is looking forward to adding a part-time employee to help during early and late spring when losses are the heaviest as well as with any special projects that may occur. So far this year, no cases of rabies or suspicious behavior have been reported in nuisance animals in Goshen County. Goshen County has approximately 665 active farms and is ranked number one for agricultural importance to Wyoming's economy, leading the state in corn and livestock production. For these reasons, GCPMD and Wildlife Services are critical for the protection of these valuable resources.



# HOT SPRINGS COUNTY PREDATOR MANAGEMENT DISTRICT



## Annual Report

February 2020-March 2021

There are 1,294,080 acres of land in Hot Springs County. These acres are split approximately 38% private land and 62% public land and are owned/controlled by the Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, the State of Wyoming, local governments and private landowners.

This report will outline the '21-22 management plan which lists our County's wildlife issues and goals for the upcoming year. The report also includes the results for the '20-21 year ( the most current reporting period being March 1st, 2020-February 28th, 2021).

## HOT SPRINGS COUNTY PREDATOR MANAGEMENT DISTRICT MANAGEMENT PLAN 2021-2022

At present the HSCPMD provides animal damage control to 48 co-operators and the municipalities within Hot Springs County.

### I **Mission Statement:**

The Hot Springs County Predator Management District, (HSCPMD) by statutory authority, assumes the responsibility to the citizens of Hot Springs County to protect agriculture, game birds and animals, and human health and welfare.

### II. a) **Wildlife Issues:**

Several species with issues of concern or threatened are found in Hot Springs County. These species range from grizzly bears, wolves to sage grouse and other sage brush obligates.

## HSCPMD Board Members

President: Jack Baird

Vice Pres.: Tom Anderson

Secretary/Treasurer: Josh Longwell

Shawn Smith

Weston Jones

Everett Jones

Josh Longwell

Ron Aylor

Mark Phipps

Leif Polson

Brett Belden

## WS Employees

Steve Richins

Dusty Southworth



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

**b) Wildlife Goals:**

Hot Springs County wishes to provide both recreational and economic opportunities by maintaining the populations of big game, upland game, waterfowl and small game through predator management within the county.



Actions taken: The HSCPMD has 2 full time control agents. These agents are employed through USDA Wildlife Services. Their control efforts address all predators that directly impact our big and small game populations.

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



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

There is an increase of farmed acres and improved acres (new land leveling, gated pipe, etc.) every year, which has resulted in more grain crops being raised. All commodities in the county need protection from large and small predators.

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



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

#### b) **Livestock**

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

Actions taken:

HSCPMD personnel use ground and aerial control methods. Ground control methods include trapping, snaring, shooting, and the use of EPA registered chemicals. At certain times of the year aerial control may be the best method due to snow cover. HSCPMD logged 144 aerial hours during this reporting period. Our pilot is Scott Jensen and is doing a great job in the basin.

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

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

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

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

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

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

#### b) **Goals:**

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



## **Actions taken:**

All field personnel assist in disease prevention as a result of normal day to day activities. They are on-call for any immediate safety issues that may arise. The HSCPMD monitors the presence of rabies by sending all bats collected and a number of skunks to the state laboratory for testing. 7 skunks and 1 bat were sent in from Hot Springs County with no positive results during the 20-21 reporting period.

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

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

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

Air rifles have been used within the city limits to disperse crows, ravens and roosting vultures. We are looking to include thermal equipment in our tool box for night work.

## **VI. Additional Information:**

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



**# of problem animals removed:**

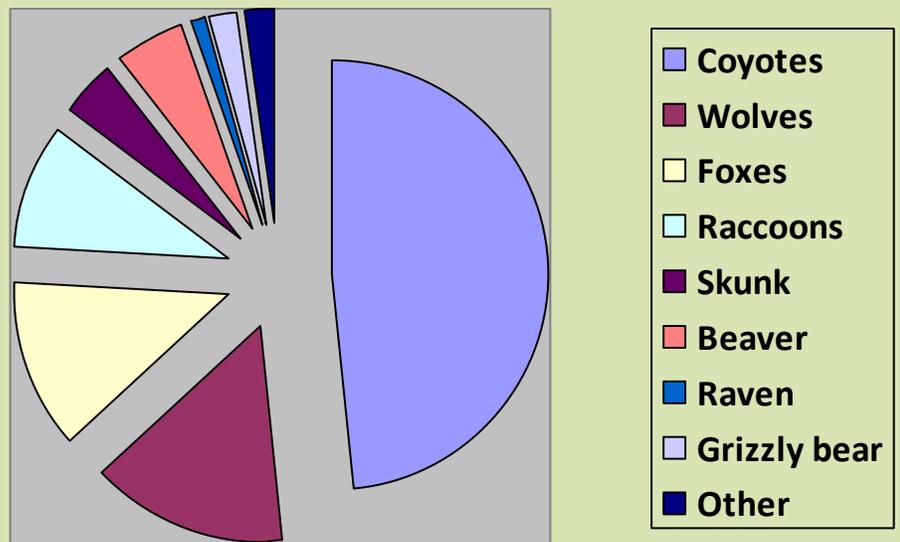
- Bats: 1
- Beavers: 4
- Bobcats: 1
- American crows: 271
- Coyotes: 344
- Coyote dens: 10
- Lion, mountain: 1
- Ravens: 52
- Red Fox: 24
- Red Fox dens: 5
- Raccoons: 84
- Starlings: 860+
- Striped Skunks: 25
- Wolves: 9



During this reporting period (March 1, 2020-February 28, 2021), Hot Springs County currently maintains 2 FTE positions,.

Hot Springs County's duties were conducted with the teamwork and cooperation of 8 WS employees during this reporting period to cater to the increasing requests to our program for assistance involving such wildlife species as: grizzly bears, black bears, beavers, coyotes, fox, raccoons, skunks, feral cats, feral dogs, porcupines, badgers, grey wolves, mountain lions, pigeons, ravens, golden eagles, muskrats, raven, and American crow complaints. There was \$12,042 in livestock damage verified by the Hot Springs County Specialist's during this reporting period.

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





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

## **Updated 3-28-21**

### *Mission Statement*

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

### *General Issues --*

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

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

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

### *Wildlife Issues –*

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

### *Wildlife Goals and Actions –*

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

initiated a very successful cooperation program and contributed to our aerial hunting program.

#### *Livestock Issues –*

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

#### *Livestock Goals and Actions –*

Our goal is to maximize livestock production by minimizing losses by predators. This control is most effective by winter and spring time control, while coyotes are paired and denning. Aerial hunting, although expensive, is very effective if snow conditions are right. Trapping, snaring, calling and M44's are other tools used for effective control. Success in this area includes private fixed wing and helicopter as well as cooperative use of aircraft with Wildlife Services and working closely with livestock producers. We changed from 2 ½ to 2 full time trappers, one in the north and one in southern Johnson County and we have been able to keep losses in check with the help and efficiency of a contractor owned helicopter and fixed wing aircraft. We have producer meetings and joint meetings were held with the G & F to address problems kill confirmations and compensation.

#### *Pre and Post-work monitoring –*

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

#### *Human Health and Safety issues –*

The Johnson County Management District has, for the past ten years, conducted a successful rabies mitigation project. This project targeted skunks, raccoon, feral cats, and red fox as rabies carrying animals. The emphasis of the project was in the areas immediately surrounding the towns of Buffalo and Kaycee. With the use of two part-

time employees we have nearly eliminated the ‘problem animal’ calls by the Buffalo and Kaycee police departments.

*Health and Safety Goals and Actions –*

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

*Cooperative Efforts-*

We are now beginning to implement a program to identify the location, by GPS points, of each predator “take”. This information may be mapped and these maps overlaid to those of the Game & Fish, Sage Grouse working groups, NRCS and others. A new appointment to our board is a sportsman and wildlife biologist. He adds a new enthusiasm to the ‘science of predator control’ and will be very valuable asset as we work toward additional funding for our work through these wildlife and sage grouse groups. Our goals are to prove the worth of predator control to those and the general public.

*Other District Goals -*

The district has implemented electronic payroll and bill paying methods to save time and eliminate postage and mailings. Nearly all reports are made by contractors and distributed to board members via email. As a Wyoming special district, we are now required to make several changes as to meeting laws, bookkeeping, and public records and notices. These policies are in the process of being implemented.

**Johnson County Predator Management District  
 Rabies Mitigation Project  
 FY 2020-2021 Projected Year-end Revenue & Expenses**

<b>Revenues</b>	<b>Revenue FY 20-21 As Funded</b>	<b>Received thru 3/15/2021</b>	<b>Projected to 6/30/2021</b>	<b>Projected FY 20-21 year-end</b>	<b>% of FY 20-21 budget</b>
Rabies Mitigation Grant	17500	17500	0	17500	100.00%
Town of Kaycee	1000		500	500	50.00%
City of Buffalo	5000		5000	5000	100.00%
Johnson County	10000		10000	10000	100.00%
<b>Total Revenues -</b>	<b>33500</b>	<b>17500</b>	<b>15500</b>	<b>33000</b>	<b>98.51%</b>

<b>Expenses</b>	<b>Budgeted Expenses FY 20-21</b>	<b>Expended thru 3/15/2021</b>	<b>Projected to 6/30/2021</b>	<b>Projected FY 20-21 year-end</b>	<b>% of FY 20-21 budget</b>
Salaries	24000	9200	10200	19400	80.83%
*Related Expenses	2970	1048	1122	2170	73.06%
Bookkeeping	3000	2000	1000	3000	100.00%
Equipment & Supplies	300	0	100	100	33.33%
Liability Insurance	700	100	500	600	85.71%
Other administrative costs	500	442	100	542	108.40%
<b>Total Expenses -</b>	<b>31470</b>	<b>12790</b>	<b>13022</b>	<b>25812</b>	<b>82.02%</b>

\*Related Expenses -  
 workmans comp.  
 unemoloyment  
 FICA / Medicare Taxes

\*\*Other administrative costs -  
 dues  
 postage  
 advertising  
 board exp.  
 accounting  
 office exp

# Jonson County Predator Management Dist. Rabies Program

## 2019/2020 Summary

	<i>Skunks</i>	<i>Raccoon</i>	<i>Fox</i>	<i>Fox Pups</i>	<i>Other Animals</i>
July	5	28	1		5
August		15	1		3
September	3	10	1		4
October		6			5
November	7	4	7		
December		1	6		
January	1		5		
February	4		4		
March	14	6	2		2
April	13	10	2	14	34
May	11	7	8	5	7
June	8	3	5		32
FY 19-20 Totals	66	90	42	19	92

compared to -

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



March 25, 2021

Dear Jerry & AMDB Members

As stated in previous years the goals and objectives of the Lincoln County AMDB is to provide services to prevent excessive economic losses to the agriculture industry, human health issues, and wildlife management in Lincoln County. Lincoln County had 2 fulltime trappers but because of budget cuts we had to let 1 trapper go, so now we only have 1 full time trapper, and 1 part time contract trapper, from the 1<sup>st</sup> of April to the 1<sup>st</sup> of Sept. We also pay for flying both on fixed wing and helicopter. The helicopter is used to fly rough country higher elevation, lambing areas, and wildlife wintering areas. The fixed wing is used for winter ranges and lambing ranges where problems occur

Arial gunning is an important tool to South Lincoln County. Most sheep lambing areas overlap with deer and antelope wintering area especially for the Wyoming Range wintering areas. The only problem with this tool, is that it can be very expensive to use. Therefore, this requires that we have an adequate amount of funding to keep the Arial work going. With the allotted funding that we currently have we are limited on what we do with the Arial.

There are other factors affecting fawn survival of deer and antelope, and sage grouse broods. Some factors are weather, drought, cover, and forage quality and quantity. Regardless, predation is a big factor as more sheep men go out of the business. Flying, trapping, and denning become less, and so predation increase and wildlife population decreases. Wyoming is being scrutinized because of sage grouse and the threat of reevaluation occurs and they could be put on the threatened and endangered list.

It has really helped the past several years, not only on livestock but sage grouse. Since raven control has taken place, sage grouse numbers have greatly increased in Southwest Wyoming. Our trapper is doing a lot of work in Star Valley area where coyotes are killing calves. This is hard area to work because of sub-divisions and hobby ranchers. We are trying to get people to sign up to perhaps be able to do more flying in the winter. This would also help on the sheep summer ranges. As you can see we try to service all of Lincoln County where there is a need and work one of the most important wintering areas for the Wyoming Range mule deer population. Deer migrate more than 100 miles south using habit from the Hoback and Pinedale areas.

The LCAMD is able to stay even with the coyotes and fox, but wolves and bear are a big problem. Our hands are tied with wolves. For instance, last summer we only had 1 government trapper for Lincoln County. As soon as the sheep arrived in the Grey's River Allotments the wolves started killing sheep. The terrain proved to be very difficult, so as is, he spent most of the summer working with the wolf problem and as a result, was not able to spend much time on the coyote problems on the other allotments throughout the rest of the county.

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

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

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

From this discussion I hope that the board will realize how important a good predatory is to Lincoln county, its agriculture and wildlife. As previously stated, the Bridger Teton Forest is the largest UNSF to have a large amount of sheep utilizing its ranges. Believe me when I tell you that not very many ranches can stay viable when they lose ten-plus percent of their crop to predators year after year.

We know that dollars are short. Ranchers know from their bankers the prices we are receiving for our goods, lamb, wool, and calves. What we cannot absorb is excess loses especially to predators. It can be the difference between breaking even or losing.

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

Sincerely,

Jon Child President

Lincoln County PAB

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

**2021-2022**  
**District Management Plan**

**Outline:**

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

**District Management Plan**

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

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

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

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

**27Natrona County Predator Management District  
Coyotes and Fly Time Log**

**Fiscal Year 2020-2021 \* Coyotes to date: 1,605**

	Rock B. Ground	Rock B. Aerial	Will R. Ground	Will R. Aerial	Clint C. Ground	Clint C. Aerial	Wildlife Services	Reno Air	WY. Helicopters	Bob Cheney
July	31	0	39	0	56 (14)	0				
August	25	0	22	0	29 (11)	3				
September	0	0	23	3	30 (10)	10		3.2 hrs 3 (Will)	2.91 hrs 7 coyotes	
October	0	0	33	0	44 (7)	0				
November	7	35 (12-Deer)	35	0	32 (4)	0				
December	41	0	71	3	110 (44)	0		3.4 hrs 3 (Will)		
January	54	0	34	0	73 (20)	29				
February	46	9	30	12	56 (13)	14 (14)		4 hrs 12 (Will) 9 (Rock)		
March	27	53	29	19	32 (7)	16 (0)		5.9 hrs 32 (Will) 52 (Rock)		
April	38	9 (Deer study)	61	10	38 (8)	8 (8)		2 hrs 9 (Rock)		
May	51	25 (Deer study)	93	25	39 (7)	27 (0)		9.9 hrs 38 1.9 (Rock) 4.4 (Will)		
June										
<b>Total</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>470</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>539</b>	<b>107</b>				

Clint Cummings Bates Hole Wildlife Project: 196  
Rock Buckingham Stove Gulch Wildlife Project: 46

# Niobrara County Management Plan

Revised, 2020

- I The mission of the Niobrara County Predator Management District (PMD) is to provide predator control for the benefit of livestock producers and wildlife populations within Niobrara County.
- II Niobrara County is located in the eastern side of the state and has a land mass of just over 2,600 square miles. According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service, Niobrara County livestock numbers in 2018 total approximately 4,200 sheep and 46,000 cattle.
- III a) *Wildlife Goals* – The Niobrara County PMD would like to facilitate an increase in numbers of mule deer, sage grouse, antelope, and turkey through effective management of those predator species having the most impact on numbers.
- b) *Proposed Actions* – The Niobrara County PMD proposes emphasis in the following areas:

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

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

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

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

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

- IV
- a) *Livestock Issues* – Niobrara County is experiencing regular depredation to livestock as a result of a healthy coyote population.
  - b) *Livestock Goals* – The Niobrara County PMD is dedicated to minimizing the loss of livestock to predation, thereby enabling viability of the local producers.
  - c) *Proposed Actions* – The addition of strategic flying time will have a tremendous impact on prevention of livestock losses, as this method is often one

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

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

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

**NIOBRARA COUNTY PREDATOR MANAGEMENT DISTRICT REPORT**  
July 1, 2019 thru June 30, 2020

**Contract Personnel**  
2 Contract Trapper Full-Time

**Aerial Services**  
Wildlife Services 21.9 hours  
2 Contract Aerial Providers 243.4 hours  
1 Contract Aerial Hunter per coyote basis

**Acres in County**  
Private 1,364,100  
State 162,927  
BLM 136,489  
**Total 1,663,516**

**COUNTY TAKE SUMMARY**

Category	Ground Methods		Aerial	Totals	Predators Taken
Coyotes-Dens	41			41	
Pups in dens*	254			254	
Pups, unborn**	95		73	420	
Other Coyotes	252		690	942	Total Coyotes
Total Coyotes	601		763		1364
Fox-Dens	0			0	
Fox, Pups in den***	0				Total Fox
Fox, Red	16			16	16
Skunk	27			27	
Raccoon	5			5	
Porcupine	22			22	

**TARGET AREA Coyote Take**

	Rawhide		NorthWest	
	Ground	Aerial	Ground	Aerial
Dens	0		3	
Pups in dens*	39		18	
Pups, unborn**	40		0	
Other Coyotes	0	34	10	43
<b>Totals</b>	<b>113</b>		<b>71</b>	

\*\*Estimated based on average of 6 pups per pregnant female.  
\*\*\*Estimated @ 5 fox pups per den

\*Estimated based on an average of 6 coyote pups per den

**PMD SURVEY IN MULE DEER TARGET AREAS, CONDUCTED November 18, 2019**

Deer Counts	Number by Category				Fawn/Doe Data	
	Bucks	Yrlng Bucks	Does	Fawns	Current Ratio	Ave to Date
<b>Rawhide Area (Niobrara)</b>	13	5	39	27	69.2%	62.3%(12 yrs)
Goshen County Portion	3	0	14	6	42.9%	55.7% (12 yrs)
<b>Northwest Areas</b>						
Cow Creek	15	4	28	25	89.3%	67.9%(13 yrs)
Snyder Creek	4	1	9	8	88.9%	69.9% (13 yrs)
Twenty Mile Creek	5	0	20	11	55.0%	61.8% (13 yrs)
<b>Total, NW</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>77.2%</b>	<b>59.6% (13 yrs)</b>

Notes  
Like 2018-19 there are still no rabbits and few prairie dogs, likely increasing predation on fawns.  
2019 was an exceptional grass year.  
It was noted deer were a little more scattered in roughs than last year.

**Other Observations**

Pronghorn Population is increasing  
Swift Fox Population is increasing. Swift fox are not a predator targeted by the district  
Sage Grouse Leks & strutting grounds observed, population stable.  
Turkey Population stable and increasing.  
Other Game Birds Sharptail Grouse & Hungarian Partridge population increasing  
**Mange** Trappers note they are not seeing much for mange in the coyotes, except a few over towards the NE line.  
**Stomach Contents, etc** Trappers note that the stomach contents of coyotes show they are consuming mostly rodents. In June, virtually all of the dens taken had evidence of predation of fawn antelope ar

**Use of Funds**  
ADMB Funds  
Operations 100%  
All Funds  
Operations 95.6%  
Admin & Other 4.4%

## 2022 Grant Narrative and Program Overview –Niobrara County

We are now out of money. For the past few years we had budgeted to voluntarily spend carryover funds, reducing our grant request by \$17,000 each year. On top of this, our grant award was also reduced by at least the same rate as other districts. As a result of these double cuts we now have almost no money in the bank.

We had to reduce our aerial hunting this past year which was disheartening since our aerial take has been averaging nearly 3 coyotes per hour flown with an average cost per coyote at well under \$100. We are still overrun with coyotes and critical months are still ahead. Fixed wing airplanes are our most efficient tool, and by locating coyotes and coordinating through radio contact the trappers maximize the efficiency. When not flying our guys also excel at ground methods. They provide 100% of their expenses, work for the least of any trapper in the state, and they have NEVER been given a raise. Now their jobs are in jeopardy.

We are asking for enough funding to be able to maintain our program and to bring our aerial hours back to a level we need. We feel we have probably the most efficient program in the state, taking a tremendous number of predators at the lowest cost of any district. We have always been conservative with our spending; that is how we were able to maintain some carryover when other districts were broke. Time and time again we have seen our funding cut in order to bail out some other district. Hopefully the board will now be as sympathetic with us.

Operating according to our original Management Plan we implement a cyclical program of general control through the fall and winter, then work the calving areas in early spring before shifting the focus to preventing lamb losses and over predation of both antelope and deer fawns. We not only work our entire county, we also are requested to do work for northern Goshen County producers. Another neighbor, Platte County, has no predator program at all, and we do some work on ranches there that are adjacent to Niobrara County. We have the added burden of our eastern border being shared with Nebraska and South Dakota, each a willing supplier of fresh predator seedstock. If we have to curtail our program neighboring counties will definitely be impacted.



# Park County Predator Management District



## 2020-2021 Annual Report



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

The PCPMD funds 1.5 WS employees. Most duties within the county were conducted by these 2 employees; however, 9 other WS employees (including pilots, gunners, and biologists) helped out within Park County during this reporting period. The data for this report is from March 1st, 2020-February 28th, 2021. There were 37 different properties totaling 1,358,300 acres of public and private land that requested services from WS during this reporting period. The total man hours worked in the county was 4,356 hours.

A total of 83 hours of fixed wing was spent in Park County during the reporting period. Flying will increase this last quarter if weather improves. Scott Jensen is the pilot for the Bighorn Basin and doing a great job. WS removed the following animals in response to damage conflict: during the reporting period:

- Coyotes: 343+ 1 dens
- Fox, Red: 7 + 1 dens
- Gulls: 25
- Raccoons: 44
- Ravens: 50+
- Striped Skunks: 2
- Wolves, Gray: 7



### Board Members

- \* President Rori Renner, Meeteetse, Wy.
- \* Vice President Shane Smith, Powell, Wy.
- \* Sec/Treasurer Regan Smith, Powell, Wy.
- \* Ben Anson Meeteetse, Wy.
- \* Doug Heny Powell, Wy.
- \* George Joest Cody, Wy.
- \* Keith Schuebel Cody, Wy.
- \* Jacob Jarrett Cody, Wy.
- \* Tim Hockhalter, Cody, Wy.
- \* Breanne Thiel Powell, Wy.

### WS specialists:

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



## Livestock Protection



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

Wolf management was turned over to the Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD) in April of 2017. WS assists WGFD with wolf depredations when requested. During the reporting period, WS made 53 visits in response to verified wolf depredations involving livestock in Park County, and 7 wolves were removed on damage. 6 of those 7 were removed conducting ground work (shooting), while the one was taken by aerial hunting. Wolf numbers remain stable and growing in and around livestock operations for the 21-22 season.

There was \$24,119 of verified livestock damage caused by predators in Park County during this reporting period. This figure does not include grizzly bear damage that was verified by WGFD. Coyote densities are lower than normal county-wide, particularly in chronic livestock damage areas.

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

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



## Wildlife Protection

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



We continue to learn through GPS collar research that Park County is major wintering grounds for big game, as far as Jackson Lake. With the decline in mule deer populations, the removal of big game predators will certainly have positive impacts on these wintering big game populations. This past winter/spring, we've been working with sportsmen's group and their dollars to address coyote/deer conflict on the Clarks Fork mule deer herd. 51 coyotes were removed within the target zone in the 19-20 winter/spring.

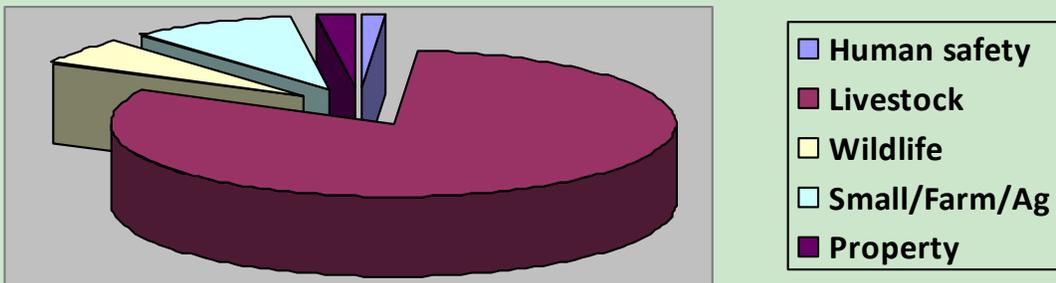


## Crop, Irrigation, and Human Health and Safety Resources Protection

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

Starlings and other blackbirds carry a plethora of diseases. Large infestations of these species can create a disease threat that is transmissible to both livestock and humans. WS provides assistance in Park County with the use of DRC-1339, a blackbird-specific avicide, and successfully reduced bird infestations where livestock feed was damaged and where there were real threats of disease to both livestock and producers.

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



## Park County Predator District's Management Plan for 2021-22

Park County Predator Management District's management plan is to continue working with USDA- Wildlife Services. WS enters into agreements, on an annual basis with Shoshone National Forest, the District BLM office, WGFD, and USFWS. WS also cooperates with other government agencies and private landowners county-wide. The cooperation puts our PMD in a position to best deal with all species and localities of our county regardless of state and federal protections with professionally-trained personnel.

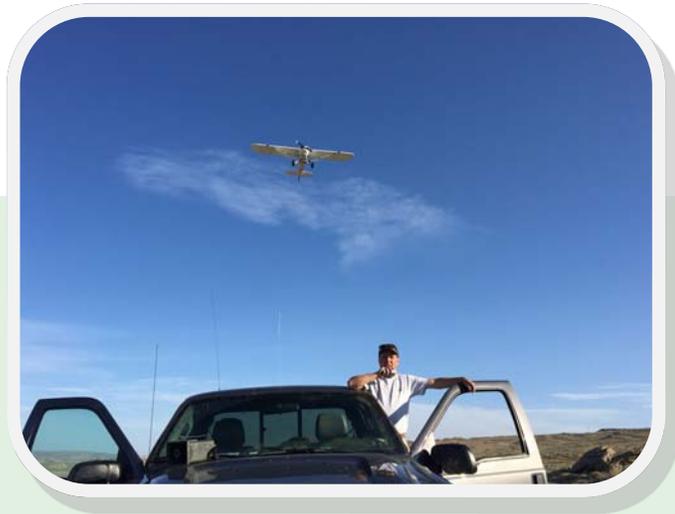




Services will include pro-active, non-lethal, as well as lethal approaches to solve wildlife damage problems, along with technical assistance to reduce or avoid future damage issues by wildlife. All activities performed by the PCPMD and WS will be performed in a professional manner, following all federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

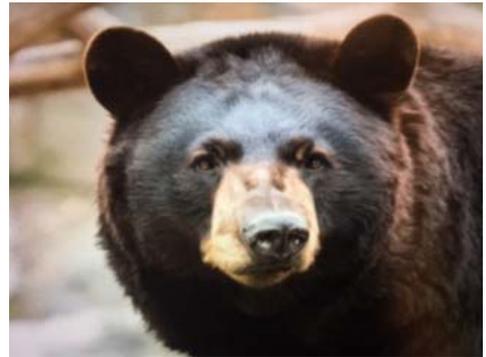
It appears that wolves will continue to have strong numbers in western Park County and we anticipate wolf predation this upcoming year to be on the same level as the last few years, if not higher. WS and WGFD have a strong working relationship and plan to respond to trophy game carnivore conflicts in a timely manner.

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

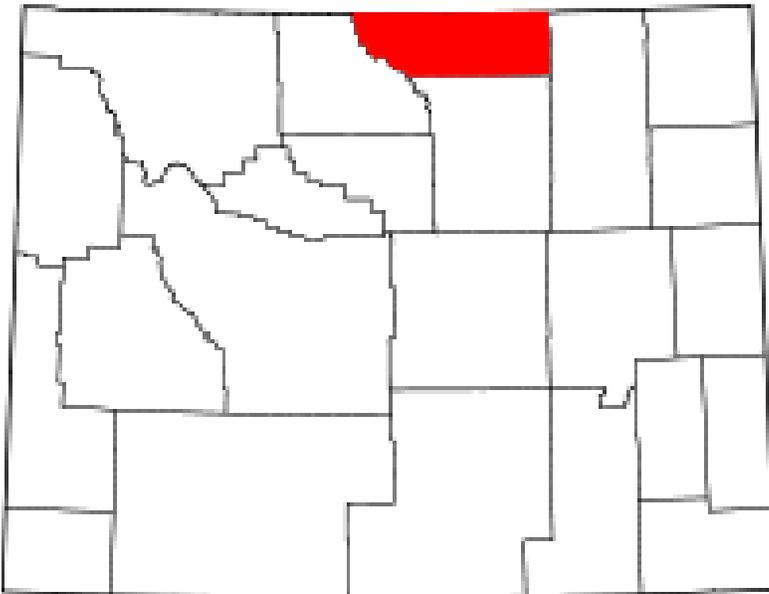


# **Sheridan County Management Plan 2021-2022 Fiscal Year**

# Predator Control is a tool in Livestock and Wildlife Management



## Sheridan County and PMD Selected Areas



**Area 1:** From Ucross, WY along HWY 14-16 East to Campbell County Line and South of 14-16 to Johnson County Line. Primary purpose will be to depopulate coyotes from the target area, helping doe to fawn ratio and Sage Grouse recovery on spring leks and nesting areas, as well as control on spring lambing grounds. We have a couple of new sheep producers in area 1, which has pulled more coyotes into the area. (500 hours of predator control)

**Area 2:** From Sheridan, WY to Wyarno, Southeast along Ulm County RD. to the junction with 14-16, then south to the Johnson County Line; from Johnson County Line west to the face

of the Big Horn Mountains and back to Sheridan. Area 2 is in hunt area 24 which had a ratio of 76 fawns per 100 does and 24 bucks per 100 does which are primarily whitetail deer. Area 2 has so many small ranches which makes aerial hunting less effective than in the rest of the county. We concentrate on the ground with calling and trapping. Area of concentration will for the spring calving grounds. (250 hours of predator control)

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

More ranchers are asking us to step up with more control in this area as well as area 4&5. In 2020 we observed more birds such as Sharptail and Hungarian Partridge. We believe this is due to our stepped up trapping and flying and will continue to do so. (250 hours of predator control)



**Area 4:** North along Leiter and Passic County RD. to the Montana State Line, east to Campbell County Line, south to HWY 14-16. Primary purpose to remove coyotes from the Powder River area, for Mule Deer recovery and calving grounds. The number of coyotes seem to keep increasing every year with the lack of control to our north. (250 hours of predator control)

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

**Area 6:** West of Sheridan and north of Wolf along the Big Horn Mountains, then north to the Montana State Line. Primary purpose is Mule Deer recovery. Area 6 is also in hunt area 24 with a mix of whitetail and mule deer (350 hours of predator control)

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

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## Findings

**Area 1 & 3:** Due to the request from the Wyoming Game and Fish Department, we will be increasing predator control work to include targeting the red fox, raccoons and skunks in nesting and brood rearing habitat surrounding Sage Grouse leks sites. We will focus on an area within a couple miles of the lek. Also at the request of WGFD, we will be stepping up efforts to control coyotes in deer hunt area 23 and 24 and antelope hunt areas 17 and 109 in 2019. This resulted in an increase of the fawn to doe ratio in 2019 of 90 fawns per 100 does well above the ratio of 70 fawns per 100 does in 2018.

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

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

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



## Sheridan County Facts

### **Predator Management District Members:**

Chairman - Cole Benton, Clearmont WY  
Vice Chairman - Kellen Little, Leiter WY  
Treasurer - Mike Connell, Big Horn WY  
Secretary - Robert Strauser, Sheridan WY  
John Auzqui, Clearmont WY  
Regina Leath, Banner WY  
Jimmy Gibbs, Arvida WY  
Robert Hamilton, Sheridan WY  
Bob Rolston, Sheridan County Commissioner, Sheridan WY  
Dan Powers, Ranchester WY  
Bruce Yates, Dayton WY

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

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



### **Wildlife Goals:**

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



### **Proposed Actions:**

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



**Livestock Issues:**

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

**Livestock Goals:**

The Sheridan County PMD along with the field specialist is dedicated to minimize the loss of livestock from predation through any means possible such as more trapping and M44 use in the spring and summer time.





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



**Proposed Action:**

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

**Pre and Post Work Monitoring:**

The PMD board, with the help of our specialist Alan Plummer (a full-time trapper) will work with our local Game and Fish Department to provide data on wildlife and Sage Grouse populations in relation to the work that our specialist has accomplished through aerial and ground work. The board does not anticipate any additional cost associated with these activities. This all would not be happening for Sheridan County PMD without the help of Wyoming Legislative through the Animal Damage Management Board. With that being said, we the board, livestock producers and sportsmen thank you for your hard work and belief in what we are accomplishing.

**2015 - 2019 Postseason Classification by Hunt Area  
for Mule Deer**

Year	Area	Males					Total Male	Females	Juveniles	Total	Ylg
		# Ylg	# 2+ Cls 1	# 2+ Cls 2	# 2+ Cls 3	# 2+ Other		#	#		
2015	23	67	0	0	0	146	213	404	298	915	17
	24	59	86	0	0	0	145	392	349	886	15
	26	37	0	0	0	75	112	239	173	524	15
2016	23	48	0	0	0	122	170	303	216	689	16
	24	51	0	0	0	87	138	411	313	862	12
	26	49	0	0	0	87	136	351	232	719	14
2017	23	52	0	0	0	122	174	375	259	808	14
	24	61	0	0	0	112	173	501	387	1,061	12
	26	40	0	0	0	139	179	452	298	929	9
2018	23	83	35	40	22	156	336	550	362	1,248	15
	24	38	54	11	0	0	103	284	221	608	13
	26	45	90	11	0	25	171	367	220	758	12
<b>2019</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>537</b>	<b>508</b>	<b>1,302</b>	<b>11</b>
	<b>24</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>281</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>621</b>	<b>10</b>
	<b>26</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>409</b>	<b>289</b>	<b>860</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>2014-19</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>434</b>	<b>329</b>	<b>992</b>	<b>14</b>
	<b>24</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>374</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>808</b>	<b>13</b>
	<b>26</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>364</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>758</b>	<b>12</b>

## 2015 - 2019 Postseason Classification by Hunt Area

### for White tailed Deer

Year	Area	Males			Females	Juveniles	Total	Males/100 Females			Young/100
		# Ylg	# Adult	Total Male	#	#		Ylg	Adult	Males	Female
2015	23	48	49	97	271	218	586	18	18	36	80
	24	35	67	102	413	252	767	8	16	25	61
	26	25	51	76	179	138	393	14	28	42	77
2016	23	37	46	83	213	148	444	17	22	39	69
	24	55	93	148	423	232	803	13	22	35	55
	26	45	64	109	269	191	569	17	24	41	71
2017	23	22	70	92	229	149	470	10	31	40	65
	24	77	117	194	660	483	1,337	12	18	29	73
	26	29	74	103	276	223	602	11	27	37	81
2018	23	35	70	105	278	197	580	13	25	38	71
	24	88	195	283	746	612	1,641	12	26	38	82
	26	25	37	62	138	90	290	18	27	45	65
<b>2019</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>576</b>	<b>496</b>	<b>1,278</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>86</b>
	<b>24</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>986</b>	<b>810</b>	<b>2,196</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>82</b>
	<b>26</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>431</b>	<b>362</b>	<b>925</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>84</b>
2014-19	<b>23</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>672</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>77</b>
	<b>24</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>646</b>	<b>478</b>	<b>1349</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>74</b>
	<b>26</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>259</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>556</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>78</b>

## 2015 - 2019 Preseason Classification by Hunt Area

for Pronghorn

Year	Area	Males			Females	Juveniles	Total	Males/100 Females			Young/100
		#	#	Total	#	#		Ylg	Adult	Males	Female
		Ylg	Adult	Male							
2015	10	39	108	147	265	181	593	15	41	55	68
	15	70	90	160	325	193	678	22	28	49	59
	16	84	85	169	242	227	638	35	35	70	94
	109	8	12	20	92	36	148	9	13	22	39
2016	10	20	75	95	110	88	293	18	68	86	80
	15	51	133	184	455	252	891	11	29	40	55
	16	63	73	136	198	145	479	32	37	69	73
	109	25	45	70	221	128	419	11	20	32	58
2017	10	39	102	141	232	168	541	17	44	61	72
	15	49	95	144	318	232	694	15	30	45	73
	16	25	117	142	279	177	598	9	42	51	63
	109	14	21	35	108	80	223	13	19	32	74
2018	10	43	87	130	203	126	459	21	43	64	62
	15	95	146	241	466	260	967	20	31	52	56
	16	40	114	154	376	292	822	11	30	41	78
	109	19	32	51	167	102	320	11	19	31	61
<b>2019</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>68</b>
	<b>15</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>454</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>963</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>63</b>
	<b>16</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>424</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>66</b>
	<b>109</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>433</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>74</b>
<b>2015-19</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>457</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>69</b>
	<b>15</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>404</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>839</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>61</b>
	<b>16</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>592</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>75</b>

**P.A.B. of SHERIDAN COUNTY  
TRAPPERS REPORT SUMMARY**

YEAR	COMMENTS	ACTIVITY	COONS	COYOTES	FOXES	SKUNKS	WOLF
2010		GROUND		482			
		FLYING		96			
	<b>TOTAL</b>		41	578	12	213	0
2011		GROUND		603			
		FLYING		248			
	<b>TOTAL</b>		33	851	18	212	0
2012		GROUND		647		144	
		FLYING		261			
	COLE BENTON					19	
	<b>TOTAL</b>		30	908	11	163	0
							<b>WOLF</b>
2013		GROUND	14	704	10	92	1
		FLYING		239			
	COLE BENTON					18	
	<b>TOTAL</b>		14	943	10	110	1
							<b>WOLF</b>
2014		GROUND	47	500	25	99	1
		FLYING		136	3		
	COLE BENTON					1	
	<b>TOTAL</b>		47	636	28	100	1
							<b>B. BEAR</b>
2015		GROUND		598	54	171	1
		FLYING		332			
	COLE BENTON					3	
	<b>TOTAL</b>			930	54	174	1
							<b>PUPS</b>
2016		GROUND		583	12	151	346
		FLYING		535	1		
	COLE BENTON					8	
	<b>TOTAL</b>			1118	13	159	346
							<b>PUPS</b>
2017		GROUND		557	1	177	
		FLYING		259	2		36
	MOUNTAIN LION						1
	<b>TOTAL</b>			816	3	177	36 + 1

YEAR	COMMENTS	ACTIVITY	COONS	COYOTES	FOXES	SKUNKS	WOLF
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							<b>PUPS</b>
2018		GROUND	49	629	20	380	19
		FLYING		342			
	<b>TOTAL</b>		49	971	20	380	19

							<b>PUPS</b>
2019		GROUND	4	665	14	329	264
		FLYING		324			
	<b>TOTAL</b>		4	989	14	332	264

							<b>PUPS</b>
2020		GROUND	90	531	9	186	648
		FLYING		418			
	<b>TOTAL</b>		90	949	9	186	648

## Sweetwater County Predator Management District

April 1, 2021

Mr. Jerald Johnson – Wyoming Department of Agriculture

## Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board

1. The mission of the Sweetwater County Predator Management District has been and is to provide predator control throughout the county for the benefit of livestock producers and wildlife populations within Sweetwater County.
2. Sweetwater County encompasses 10,500 square miles, the largest county in Wyoming, and provides winter range for about 52,000 sheep and winter and summer range for about 14,000 cattle. This is also one of the best areas in Wyoming for antelope, deer and elk populations.
3. Sweetwater County contains a very large percentage of public lands. These lands allow the public access for hunting, fishing, and other outdoor activities. Maintaining our wildlife populations is essential to these activities.
4. a) *Wildlife Issues* - The numbers of predatory animals in Sweetwater County have been at healthy levels. Areas south of Rock Springs have experienced a decline in deer and pronghorn fawning ratios, due to the fact that the sheep production that used to exist in the area is now gone. However, the G&F had a project where they conducted predator control in this area to help the wildlife.  
b) *Wildlife Goals* – The Sweetwater County Predator Management District is committed to increasing wildlife reproductive rates through effective management of those predator species have the most negative impact on wildlife reproduction and survival.
5. *Proposed Actions* – We are working on protecting wildlife within Western Wyoming and have received information from the Game and Fish Department on areas that they are concerned with low fawn numbers and have targeted these areas to help improve these ratios.
6. *Livestock Issues* – Predators have always been a great problem for livestock producers and our Board is dedicated to minimizing the loss of livestock due to predation, thereby enhancing Sweetwater County and its ability to produce livestock and their by-products.  
a) We are presently using tools that have proven to be selective and effective in the past. We are using more helicopter services, especially in the rugged areas of the county where fixed winged aircraft is somewhat limited, and we plan to expand the helicopter effort as it seems to be very effective, especially in some of the wildlife areas.  
b) We are seeing the success rate of fixed wing aircraft hunting diminishing. The predators are adapting to this technique and we feel that our use of a helicopter is showing good success. Although the rates to use a helicopter are far greater than fixed wing, the board feels this needs to be expanded to keep the predator numbers in check.
7. We have a very active Board made up of concerned ranchers, sportsmen and the public. We believe there have been some dramatic results and benefits evident for both wildlife and livestock within this County.
8. We have entered into a new contract for our predator control program with Wildlife solutions after many concerns on the effectiveness of Wildlife Services administering the program.
9. Wildlife Solutions has designed a program that we feel effectively manages our predator concerns.

Gary Zakotnik - Chairman



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## WYOMING WILDLIFE SOLUTIONS 2020/2021 SWEETWATER COUNTY WINTER PREDATOR CONTROL PROGRAM

### objective

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

### Goals

Reduce coyote population.  
Reduce/Prevent Coyote predation on livestock.  
Reduce predation on migrating wildlife.

### Strategic Approach

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

### Project Outline

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

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## TIME LINE OF SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED

- **NOVEMBER:** Two trappers will began Using Traps and snares in areas we found to be productive during last years program. We will focus most of our efforts in areas that the sheep will not be in until later in the winter.
- **DECEMBER:** Both Trappers will maintain their Lines established in November moving around the sheep bands as they travel around the winter range.
- **JANUARY:** By mid r both trappers will have trapped their way to the south of Rock springs. We will leave behind strategically

placed and maintained bait stations to provide the maximum support for ariel operations as well as, remove coyotes located in areas where livestock will be located. During this time trappers will utilize the tools found to be the most effective in the given conditions. These tools will include; M-44s, traps, snares, and calling/shooting.

- January, February, March: By January 1st weather conditions make conducting a ground effort difficult and far less effective while at the same time providing ideal flying conditions. Through January and February Wyoming Wildlife Solutions in coordination with Sweetwater PMD will Use a Fixed Wing and a Helicopter focusing on areas where trappers have established bait stations, and other areas that coyotes are concentrated. In March we will conduct a last effort with aircraft to remove as many coyotes as possible in areas where calving and lambing will occur. A trapper will continue (as needed) through March to assist with the aerial program.

**Budget:**

Description	Quantity	Unit Price	Cost
Ezra Cluff (with vehicle, equipment, etc.)	4 months	\$ 8,000	\$ 32,000
Asher Cluff (with vehicle, equipment, etc.)	3 months	\$ 8,000	\$ 24,000
Aerial Budget/ Fixed wing cost	200 hours	\$ 250	\$ 50,000
Helicopter cost	40 hours	\$ 850	\$ 34,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$ 140,000</b>



**GRANT APPLICATION  
2020-2021**

*Predator Management District of Uinta  
County*

# ANNUAL OVERVIEW

## Strategic Highlights

The District recently implemented a change in contracted services to Predator Control Corporation. The district also utilizes an additional private contractor to achieve control goals for the district.

## Financial Highlights

The change in contractors has provided significant reductions in cost to the district which has allowed for an increase in the ability to provide additional services for the district.

## Operating Highlights

Predator Control Corporation has provided increased responsiveness and increased effectiveness, thereby increasing protection and production to the Uinta County districts' livestock and wildlife.

***PCC provides MORE livestock and wildlife to Uinta County.***

## Looking Ahead

The Predator Management District of Uinta County is comprised of progressive sportsmen, livestock producers, citizens and board members interested in the continued success of the control efforts of the district. We believe the future is bright for Uinta County.

**Steve Sims**  
**President**  
**Uinta County PMD**

# Uinta County Predator Management District

**District Mailing Address:** PO Box 1468 Lyman, WY. 82937

**Phone:** 307-679-1540

**Fax:** 307-787-3894

**Contact Person:** Steve Sims (per below)

## Livestock Board Members:

Steve Sims-President Expires: 12/23  
545 Almy Rd. #107 Evanston, WY 82930  
307-679-1540

Garie Henry Expires: 12/22  
PO Box 711 Robertson, WY 82944  
307-782-6559

Wade Larson-Secretary Expires: 12/21  
PO Box 1468 Lyman, WY 82937  
307-747-8294

Chris Aimone Expires: 12/23  
1226 County Rd. 263 Ft. Bridger, WY 82933  
307-780-5025

Wade Stoddard Expires: 12/21  
PO Box 178 Mountain View, WY 82939  
307-780-7643

Vance Broadbent Expires: 12/22  
PO Box 1102 Evanston, WY 82930  
307-799-7666

**County Appointed Board Members:**

Sharden Miner  
912 County Road 101  
Evanston, WY 82930  
307-679-5898

Appointed: 1/2021

Expires: 1/2024

Dave Hoover  
PO Box 3342  
Evanston, WY 82931  
307-677-5527

Appointed: 1/2019

Expires: 1/2022

Randy Chandler-Vice President  
102 Liberty  
Evanston, WY 82930  
307-679-2591

Appointed: 1/2020

Expires: 1/2023

Shaun Harris  
4263 County Rd 231  
Lyman, WY 82937  
307-780-6186

Appointed: 1/2020

Expires: 1/2023

# MANAGEMENT PLAN

## Livestock Issues

- Reduction of predation to newborn livestock
- Increase in fall shipping numbers

## Wildlife Issues

- Increase Mule deer herd numbers
- Increase Antelope herd numbers

## Health & Human Safety

- Sampling for rabies testing
- Reduction for human predator conflicts

## Proposed Actions

- Contract with Predator Control Corporation
- Contract with Private Specialist

## Monitoring

- Predator Control Corporation GIS reports
- Private Contractor reports

# AERIAL SUMMARY

<u>Contractor</u>	<u># Hours</u>	<u>\$ Amount</u>
Wildlife Services Fixed Wing	47.35	\$7,576.05
PCC Fixed Wing	47.93	\$8,867.50
PCC Helicopter	98.85	\$59,310.00
Private Contractor	232.18	\$19,735.00
<b>TOTALS</b>	426.31	\$95,488.55



# Washakie County Predator Management District



## 2020-2021 Annual Report

The mission of the Washakie County Predator Management District (PMD) is to provide reasonable solutions to wildlife damage issues county-wide. This includes agricultural protection, disease testing and monitoring of zoonotic diseases, and conducting projects to ensure the protection and conservation of natural resources. The District plans to meet all challenges to solve wildlife damage in the most cooperative, efficient, and cost effective manner.

Washakie County contracts with United States Department of Agriculture—Wildlife Services (WS), who are professionally trained to respond to all damage complaints. WS has agreements and strong-working relationships with federal, state, and local government which helps facilitate an effective wildlife damage program.

Washakie County has dropped to 1.5 FTE WS trappers in 2019 due to shrunken budgets, but with hopes to increase back to 2 FTE's when budgets get better. 5 other WS employees, including pilots, gunners, wildlife specialists from neighboring counties, and WS biologists also assisted in Washakie during this reporting period. This data report shows the most recent 365 day period (March 1st, 2020– February 28th ,2021) to generate the number of hours worked/hours flown, and animals taken. The total man hours worked in the County during this time period is 3,127 hours on 48 different properties county-wide.

During this reporting period, 183 hours were flown. The following animals were taken in response to conflicts with livestock, wildlife, nuisance, property, or human health and safety. There was \$2,364 in livestock damage verified during this reporting period.

Coyotes: 541+ 5 dens

Foxes, Red: 4 red fox

Pigeons: 10

Raccoons: 84

Ravens: 14

Striped skunk: 7

## Board Members

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

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

**Sec/Treasurer:** Alan Bar-  
nett, Worland, Wy

Mark Brewster, Cattle

Aaron Anderson, Sheep

Jeff Nelson, Cattle

Tom Yonquist, At Large

Nick Wall, Wildlife

Jeff Schweighart, Wildlife

Adam Martinez, Sheep

### **WS' Specialists:**

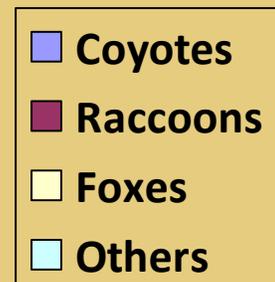
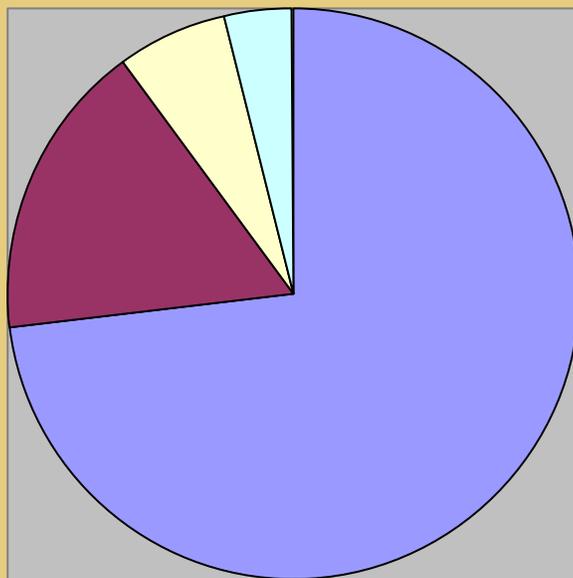
Brad Seaman—Full time

Josh Zimmerman—Half time





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



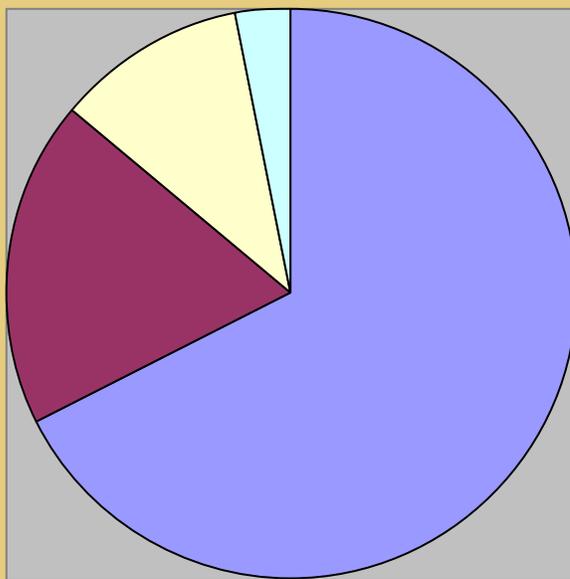
### **Mule Deer Fawn Protection Project**

There was \$12,000 received from the ADMB to remove coyotes to protect southwest Bighorn mule deer fawns in the spring of 2020. Spring 2020 was our fourth year on this project. The results were 100 coyotes removed. The study will continue in Spring 2021 for it's last year of the project.

WS, Washakie PMD, and Wyoming Game and Fish are working together to identify other major fawning areas, with hopes of having another wildlife project within Washakie County in 21-22.



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



### **District Management Plan for 2021-22 year:**

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

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



WCPMD depends on the 1.5 FTE's to continue a combination of ground and aerial work county-wide to alleviate wildlife damage. Washakie County's plan is to continue with an effective livestock protection program county-wide.

Coyote numbers are overall low and damage has been minimal due to a heavy amount of aerial and ground-work in historical damage areas.

Wolves are defined as a predator within Washakie County. While there hasn't been any reported livestock kills by wolves, we are vigilantly keeping tabs on reports or observations.

With reducing employees to 1.5 FTE, the amount of time spent protecting resources such as crop/property/gamebird project and targeting smaller mammals like red fox, raccoons, beavers, and striped skunks has decreased. This is a valuable service that also allows for the sampling of diseases from these mammals including rabies, tularemia, and distemper. WCPMD plans to submit wildlife samples to the Vet Lab to test for these diseases within the county.



Weston County Predator Management District

Board Members Contact Information and Terms

WCPMD PO BOX 1030 UPTON, WY 82730

Updated: March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>End Date</u>	<u>Phone #</u>	<u>E-mail</u> <u>Mailing Address</u>
Allen Slagle <b>Sec./Treasurer</b>	Cattlemen	Dec. 2022	746-2804	sec.treas.wcpb@rtconnect.net 2114 Cheyenne River Rd Newcastle WY 82701
Carson Keeline <b>Chairman</b>	Cattlemen	Dec. 2023	746-5911	ckeeline@gmail.com 4269 Hwy 450 Newcastle, WY 82701
Rob Taft	Cattlemen	Dec. 2021	629-0057	thetatranch@gmail.com 391 Dry Creek Rd Upton, WY 82730
Rick Wehri	Sheepman	Dec. 2022	629-0885	rawehri@gmail.com 753 Morrissay Rd Newcastle, WY 82701
Kennedy Kimsey	Sheepman	Dec. 2023	468-2875	PO Box 845 Moorcroft, WY 82721
Ray Norris	Sheepman	Dec. 2021	468-2683	r_norris246@hotmail.com PO Box 315 Upton, WY 82730
Justin Stevenson <b>Vice Chairman</b>	Sports-man	Dec. 2022	C 746- 8541 H 746- 2579	crazymarine_2111@hotmail.com PO Box 667 Newcastle, WY 82701
<i>Vacant Position</i>	Sports-man	Dec. 2023		
Jason Williams	Sports-man	Dec. 2021	629-0328	leterbuck80@gmail.com 731 S. Seneca Newcastle, WY 82701
Bradley Troftgruben	Wildlife Services Trapper		941-0715	bradley.j.troftgruben@aphis.usda.gov 151 Butte Dr. Newcastle, WY 82701
Kassie Swartz	Book-keeper		660-0669	kswartz717@gmail.com PO Box 981 Moorcroft, WY 82721

Weston County Predator Management District  
Management Plan FY 2021-2022

1. The mission of the Weston County Predator Management District (WCPMD) is to provide predator control, with cooperation from Wildlife Services (WS) and the Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board (ADMB), for the benefit of livestock producers and wildlife populations within Weston County. Weston County is located in the north-eastern part of the state and has a land mass of approximately 2,400 square miles.
2. *Partnerships and Cooperative Agreements required* - The WCPMD currently has one full-time wildlife specialists contracted for active predator control through contract with Wildlife Services. Wildlife Services has 5 other employees (pilots, biologists, etc.) that provide assistance to Weston County. According to Wildlife Services annual report (December 2019 through November 2020), predator control was conducted on 605,775 acres of private land and 1,000 acres of County or City land for a total of 606,775 worked acres. Fifty-two (52) landowners signed cooperative agreements allowing access for predator control. Ground and aerial work is conducted to accomplish predator control measures.
3. *Wildlife Issues and Goals*
  - a. *Issues* – The Brown, Osage, and Cellars Community Pastures and the Six Mile Basin are all public land areas important to local deer and antelope populations. The aforementioned public land areas are used by sports people and have been identified as control work areas in need of predator control by the wildlife specialists. This past year, small animal prey numbers have been lower than in the past, subsequently driving coyotes and other predators to seek other prey such as deer, antelope, sheep, and cattle.
  - b. *Goals* – The WCPMD would like to execute predator control in hopes to see an increase in game animal species populations, herd health, and overall wildlife progression.
  - c. *Proposed Actions* – The Weston County Commissioners appoint three sportsmen and one public member to the Board. These board members have the opportunity to provide input crucial to the development of wildlife-benefitting predator control. The County Commissioners plan to continue this appointment of sportsmen and a public member. WCPMD’s trapper works to educate landowners and public land users of the benefits of predator control for

wildlife populations. The WCPMD is informed of local issues from Joe Sandrini and Troy Achterhof, of the Wyoming Game and Fish, during board meetings and plans to stay in contact with them throughout the year. WCPMD gains input and suggestions to learn where and what type of predator control methods should be used to remove predators that are preying upon or threatening wildlife.

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

- a. *Issues* – Cattle are the dominate livestock class in the county and coyote predation during calving season (generally February through May) has become a serious economic concern for producers. Weston County is also the home of many sheep producers who deal with constant depredation due to the current coyote population. Lamb loss seems to generally coincide with coyotes whelping. Additionally, the decrease in the wildlife prey drives predators towards livestock for food sources. Wildlife Services provided the board with a report from December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019 to November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020. 323 coyotes, 18 coyote dens, 11 red fox, 5 fox dens, 8 badgers, 14 bobcats, 37 pigeons, 1 porcupine, 3 racoon, and 1 skunk were removed during that time period. 1 calf and 31 lambs were reported losses due to depredation by coyotes and foxes. 1 adult beef cattle, 8 chickens, and 6 lambs were verified losses by coyotes foxes, and golden eagles. The total fiscal amount of losses equaling \$7,306. The predation and damage levels show how important an efficient predator control program is to Weston County’s livestock producers. Selective removal of coyotes in late winter/early spring season is crucial for producer’s success in the calving and lambing seasons. The WCPMD depends on the ADMB’s funding in order to continue a program efficient in decreasing livestock losses.
- b. *Goals* – The WCPMD is dedicated to minimizing the loss of livestock to predation, thereby enabling viability and financial success of the local producers.
- c. *Proposed Actions* – The appointment of three cattlemen and three sheepmen to the Weston County Predatory Board provides an opportunity for crucial input to be given in the development of livestock-benefitting predator control. In addition, the wildlife specialist works to educate livestock producers of the benefits of predator control for their operations. The addition of strategic flying

time has had a tremendous impact on prevention of livestock losses, as this method is often one of the best tools for coyote control. Of the 323 coyotes removed by Wildlife Services, 175 of those were removed using the fixed-wing aerial method. The WCPMD proposes that 140 hours of fixed wing aircraft (120 hours through Wildlife Services and 20 hours private pilot) be budgeted for the upcoming fiscal year, in order to efficiently control coyote populations. Other control methods will be used selectively to remove predators that are preying upon or threatening livestock. These methods include the use of foot-hold and cage traps, foot snares, neck snares, gunning, and using M-44 devices.

5. *Human and Domestic Animal Health/Safety Issues:* Weston County has not had any major Human or Domestic Animal issues and has not received funds from Weston County Commissioners. WCPMD does not currently plan on asking for any additional funds for the Fiscal Year ending in 2022.
6. *Pre- and post-work monitoring:* Monitoring wildlife has been done by routine wildlife observations and watching migratory behaviors. These observations will continue to routinely be done. Stomach contents of coyotes have been and continue to be analyzed, these analyses provide information to the wildlife specialist that aids in the harvesting of coyotes. The progress of livestock focused activities will continue to be monitored through the Weston County Predator Board wildlife specialist's data collection. The Weston County Predatory Board has asked the specialist to give a report at each of their meetings in order to monitor progress. Predator control in Weston County is a necessity to the livelihood of its livestock producers. Producers and sportsmen alike appreciate the predator control and the support that the WCPMD can provide due to ADMB funding. WCPMD is hoping to receive the needed funding to be able to continue controlling the predator population. The district appreciates the ADMB support that has been received in the past and looks forward to continuing a cooperative relationship in the future.

W/CPM/D Trapper Report FY 2020-2021

Month	Hours	Aerial Hours	Coyote Ground	Coyote Air	Fox	Dens/Pups	Skunk	Porcupine	Beaver	Losses
July '20	147.5	0	13	0	4	1 fox	0	0	0	2 Chicken
August '20	126	1.8	1	3	0	1 coyote	0	0	0	3 lambs
Sept '20	74	6.5 P	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Oct '20	81.5	2.9 P	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Nov '20	110	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Dec '20	149	20.7	14	109	1	0	0	0	0	
Jan '21	154	6.3	19	18	0	0	0	1	2	
Feb '21	131	4.1	23	76	0	0	0	0	0	
Mar '21										
April '21										
May '21										
June '21										
TOTALS	973	32.9 WS/9.4P =Private	98	206	5	1 fox/1 coy	0	1	2	2 Chick/3 lambs