

WYOMING WOLF PROGRAM WEEKLY REPORT

To: Regional Director, Region 6, Denver, Colorado

From: USFWS Wyoming Wolf Recovery Project Leader, Jackson, WY

Subject: Status of Gray Wolf Management in Wyoming and the NRM

WYOMING WOLF WEEKLY- June 21 through June 25, 2010

Web Address – USFWS reports (past weekly and annual reports) can be viewed at <http://westerngraywolf.fws.gov> . All weekly and annual reports are government property and can be used for any purpose. Please distribute as you see fit.

2009 Annual Report

The 2009 Interagency Annual Wolf (*Canis lupus*) Report for the NRM DPS in 2009 can be viewed on-line at <http://westerngraywolf.fws.gov> . The Idaho and Montana state sections of the annual wolf report are also available on-line at the websites for Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks <http://fwp.mt.gov/wildthings/management/wolf/default.html> and Idaho Department of Fish and Game <http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/cms/wildlife/wolves>. The annual wolf report is composed of five Sections: 1) Montana; 2) Wyoming; 3) Idaho; 4) USFWS overview of dispersal, funding, litigation, and relevant publications; and 5) Tables and Figures of wolf population statistics and wolf depredations.

Litigation Status

Wyoming: Oral arguments were heard in federal court in Cheyenne, WY on January 29 to address the state of Wyoming's request that the USFWS accept the Wyoming Wolf Management Plan. A decision from Judge Allen Johnson is pending.

Northern Rocky Mountains: Oral arguments were heard in federal court in Missoula, MT. on June 15. The court will address the Service's approach of conferring ESA protections to a "significant portion of the range" of a species, as opposed to designating the entire species as a threatened or endangered species. Judge Malloy said he would issue a decision as soon as possible.

Monitoring: At least 12 packs have denned this spring in Wyoming (outside YNP), including: Absaroka, Beartooth, Buffalo, Chagrin River, Elk Fork Creek, Green River, Hoodoo, Pacific Creek, Phantom Springs, Pinnacle Peak, Sunlight, and Owl Creek.

Figure 1. Wolf population growth in Wyoming (outside YNP) 2000-2009.

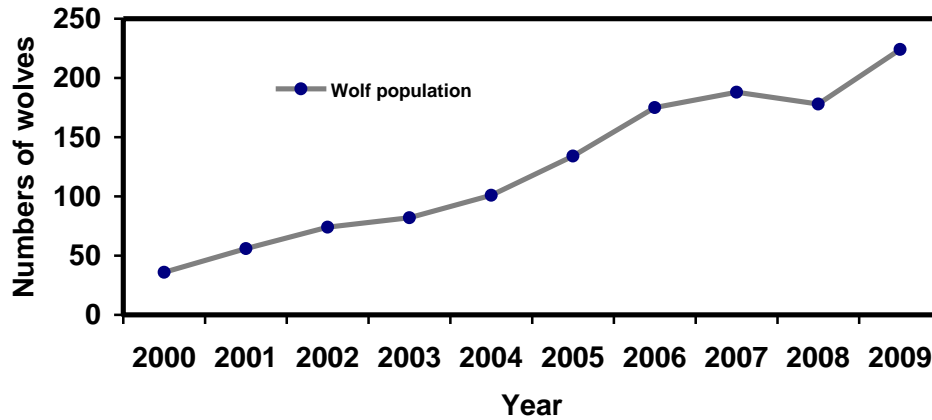


Table 1. Total wolf mortality in Wyoming (outside YNP) from 2003-2010.

Cause of Mortality	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Depredation Control	18	29	41	44	63	46	31	19
Natural	3	0	3	1	2	3	2	1
Under Investigation	5	1	5	8	5	8	0	3
Unknown	1	0	0	1	2	8	7	1
Other	0	7	2	5	3	14	0	3
Total	27	37	51	59	75	79	40	27

**Control
Wyoming:**

On 6/9/10, USFWS examined a US Forest Service horse with a broken leg. The horse had to be euthanized. Based on the investigation, it was determined that the horse was injured when a wolf(s) chased the horse over a cattle guard. The incident was recorded as a probable wolf depredation, but no control action was taken at that time. On 6/18/10, the USFS reported another horse injured in the same area. The horse was taken to a vet and will survive injuries sustained at the cattle guard. USFWS and USFS personnel inspected the area, but could not find evidence of wolves at the site. To minimize future problems, the USFS will install a gate to keep horses away from the cattle guard.

On 6/19/10, WY Wildlife Services confirmed **a lamb** killed by wolves near Dempsey Creek, northwest of Kemmerer, WY. Remains of additional dead sheep were found, but the cause of death could not be confirmed. At the request of the USFWS, **Wildlife Services removed an old adult male wolf. On 6/20/10, Wildlife Services removed an adult female wolf and 6 pups.** *[the emphasis here is mine -- Ralph Maughan]*

On 6/9/10 and 6/13/10, WY Wildlife Services confirmed 2 calves were killed on private land by a new pack of wolves west of Cody, WY. At the request of the USFWS, Wildlife

Services removed two adult wolves at the depredation sites on 6/10/10 and 6/14/10. On 6/18/10, an adult male was radio collared. On 6/23/10, Wildlife Services removed 2 adults and 4 pups wolves after wolves from this new pack killed a 3rd calf on the same private property on 6/21/10.

Table 2. Confirmed livestock depredations and control actions in WY from 2003 - 2010.

Depredations	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Cattle	34	75	54	123	55	41	20	4
Sheep	7	18	27	38	16	26	195	1
Dogs	0	2	1	1	2	0	7	0
Goats	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0
Horses	2	0	1	0	1	0	0	1*
Wolves Controlled	18	29	41	44	63	46	31	19

*One foal was killed by wolves (recorded as confirmed), 2 horses were chased by wolves and injured when they were run through a fence (recorded as 1 confirmed and 1 probable), and 1 horse was chased by wolves and broke its leg when it was run over a cattle guard (recorded as probable). All 3 injured horses had to be euthanized.

Research

Nothing to report at this time.

Law Enforcement and Related Activities

Nothing to report at this time.

Outreach and Education

Mexican Wolf Recovery Program - Two job announcements:

1) Field coordinator in the Mexican wolf recovery program.

Anyone can find the two announcements (one public DEU; the other for government employees) via the search engine at USA jobs during June. They can also try the following link:

http://jobsearch.usajobs.gov/Search.aspx?lid=336&sort=rv%2c-dtex&cn=&rad_units=miles&brd=3876&pp=50&fn=4326&fn=4355&jbf574=IN15&vw=b&re=134&FedEmp=N&FedPub=Y&caller=advanced.aspx

The attached advertisement file also summarizes additional information.



Info Mx W Field Coordinator Position June 2010.pdf

2) Wolf biologist to work on the Mexican Wolf Program at the New Mexico Dept. of Game and Fish.

The position will supplement an existing Department wolf biologist on the same program. We're looking for someone that has a little experience with large carnivores and who can relate to the local stockmen.



Applicant Searches.htm

Further Information

To request an investigation of livestock injured or killed by wolves, please contact the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture Wildlife Services at (307)261-5336.

For additional information, please contact:

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