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07/14/2010 09:03 AM

To <mike.a.linnell@usda.gov>, Kevin Bunnell  
<kevinbunnell@utah.gov>

cc

bcc

Subject Fwd: Center for Biological Diversity others Lawsuit Filed to  
Stop Federal, State-sanctioned Killing of Endangered  
Wolves

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From: (b)(6)

To: (b)(6)

Sent: Tuesday, July 13, 2010 4:46:16 PM

Subject: FW: Center for Biological Diversity others Lawsuit Filed to Stop Federal,  
State-sanctioned Killing of Endangered Wolves

For Immediate Release, July 1, 2010

Contact: Josh Laughlin, Cascadia Wildlands, (541) 434-1463  
Noah Greenwald, Center for Biological Diversity, (503) 484-7495  
Greg Dyson, Hells Canyon Preservation Council, (541) 963-3950 x 22  
Rob Klavins, Oregon Wild, (503) 283-6343 x 210

### **Lawsuit Filed to Stop Federal, State-sanctioned Killing of Endangered Wolves**

PORTLAND, Ore .— Four conservation groups sued the U.S. Department of Agriculture's predator control branch, Wildlife Services, today for its role in killing wolves at the behest of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. The state has issued, and now extended, a permit to Aug. 31 to the federal agency to hunt, track and kill two wolves across a 70-square-mile area in eastern Oregon. According to the conservation groups' lawsuit, Wildlife Services never conducted the environmental analysis required to disclose the impacts of killing a substantial portion of Oregon's wolves. Cascadia Wildlands, Hells Canyon Preservation Council, Oregon Wild and the national Center for Biological Diversity brought the suit, and are also strongly considering suing the state for its role in authorizing the kill permits. "Oregon is big enough for people and wolves," said Greg Dyson with the La Grande-based group Hells Canyon Preservation Council. "ODFW is acting too hastily in giving Wildlife Services authority to shoot these wolves before exhausting other management options. We were left with no choice but to

protect wolves in court.”

The kill order stems from recent livestock depredations by wolves in Wallowa County. In May and early June, six cattle deaths were confirmed as wolf depredations. For comparison, in 2005 — the year the wolf plan was created — *domestic dogs* killed 700 sheep and cows in Oregon, according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service. No new wolf depredations on livestock have occurred since June 4.

“Sixty years ago, we completed a sad chapter in our history by killing the last wolf in Oregon,” added Josh Laughlin of Cascadia Wildlands. “Today, we’re fighting in court to ensure that we do not repeat that history.”

According to the groups, Oregon’s wildlife agency is violating the wolf-management plan by issuing the kill permits when damage is not presently occurring, the wolves are not on the land where damage is occurring, and multiple carcass dump piles were left on ranch lands resulting in “unreasonable circumstances” that attract wolves to the area. Had Wildlife Services conducted the proper environmental analysis, the agency would have realized that wolves pose no current depredation threat and killing them is inappropriate. The state’s wildlife department has also failed to document how efforts by ranchers to avoid depredations through nonlethal means were “deemed ineffective” or to document unsuccessful attempts to solve the situation through nonlethal means — both of which are requirements of the plan.

“Oregon’s struggling wolf population cannot sustain these killings,” said Noah Greenwald, endangered species program director at the Center for Biological Diversity. “Issuance of permits to kill these two wolves by the state of Oregon is exactly why wolves continue to need protection under the federal Endangered Species Act.”

A decision is expected soon in a separate lawsuit brought by a large coalition of conservation groups — including all the groups involved in today’s suit — seeking to restore federal protections to wolves under the Endangered Species Act. If protections are restored, the permits may be invalidated.

To date, Gov. Ted Kulongoski’s office has had little to say about the actions of his state’s wildlife agency. The governor’s Natural Resources Policy Director, Mike Carrier, stated publicly that the governor cannot respond to requests to remove the kill order.

“Is this what Governor Kulongoski wants his wildlife legacy to be?” asked Rob Klavins with Oregon Wild. “The governor who signed off on the first state-sanctioned illegal wolf kills in the state’s history?”

Oregon is currently home to a confirmed population of 14 wolves in two packs, both in northeast Oregon. The Imnaha pack of 10 is led by wolf B-300. Another pack of four wolves located in the Wenaha wildlife unit was caught on film for the first time earlier this spring. The Oregon wolf plan is currently undergoing a mandated five-year review process. Since the current population numbers fewer than 14 confirmed wolves, conservationists are working to fully fund the wolf plan and empower biologists to make decisions regarding the state-listed endangered species.



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Sent: Monday, April 19, 2010 2:05:13 PM GMT -07:00 US/Canada Mountain  
Subject: Fw: Article in USA Today - Declining Deer Herds

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**Sent:** Monday, April 19, 2010 1:49 PM

**Subject:** FW: Article in USA Today - Declining Deer Herds

Please see the attachment-----C

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**From:** (b)(6) @yahoo.com]

**Sent:** Monday, April 19, 2010 1:24 PM

**To:** (b)(6)

**Subject:** Fw: Article in USA Today - Declining Deer Herds

(b)(6) problems we have!

--- On Mon, 4/19/10, Suzanne Scourby <[sscourby@ndow.org](mailto:sscourby@ndow.org)> wrote:

From: Suzanne Scourby <[sscourby@ndow.org](mailto:sscourby@ndow.org)>

Subject: Article in USA Today - Declining Deer Herds

To: "Suzanne Scourby" <[sscourby@ndow.org](mailto:sscourby@ndow.org)>

Date: Monday, April 19, 2010, 11:03 AM

*Suzanne Scourby Executive Assistant to Director Mayer  
Nevada Department of Wildlife  
1100 Valley Road  
Reno, NV 89512  
(775) 688-1599  
(775) 688-1207 fax  
[sscourby@ndow.org](mailto:sscourby@ndow.org)*

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USA Today Article - Declining Mule Deer Herds.pdf

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### Declining deer herds spark debate

Updated 5h 2m ago

By Jeff DeLong, USA TODAY



By Candice Towell, Reno Gazette-Journal

Sean Shea, of the U.S. Geological Survey, lowers a mountain lion from a tree.

RENO — Declining western deer herds have biologists, sportsman groups and environmentalists clashing over whether mountain lions and coyotes are largely to blame and should pay with their lives.

On one side are those who believe the number of deer predators should be reduced through targeted hunting programs. Others say factors such as the

loss of natural habitat and wildfires are the issue.

It's an emotional debate, says Jim Heffelfinger, regional game specialist with the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

"The scenario plays out in just about every state, Heffelfinger says. "When these things flare up, they're white hot."

That's the case now in Nevada, where the issue of killing lions and coyotes that prey on deer has state Department of Wildlife officials at odds with a governor-appointed commission that oversees them.

Nevada's mule deer numbered about 106,000 in 2009, down from a high of 240,000 in 1988, according to state estimates. Mule deer, characterized by their large, mule-like ears, are common throughout the western United States.

"We've got a war going on," says Cecil Fredi, president of Hunter's Alert, one of two hunters groups that petitioned the Nevada Wildlife Commission to approve three predator-control projects last December. It did so against the advice of

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department Director Ken Mayer and his biologists, who said killing mountain lions and coyotes was not scientifically justified.

Officials with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Wildlife Services, which has the final say, refused to proceed. Doing so without full support of state wildlife officials would put them in an "untenable position," says Jeff Green, director of the western region for Wildlife Services.

State biologists say the deer's troubles are not due to predators but to continuing loss of habitat from development, wildfire and invading non-native grasses.

Tony Wasley, Nevada's mule deer specialist, says when lack of habitat is the problem, "all the predator control in the world won't result in any benefit."

Gerald Lent, chairman of the Nevada Wildlife Commission, says predators are an important part of Nevada's mule deer problems and addressing them is "long overdue."

The issue is also heating up in Arizona and Oregon. Arizona's mule deer number about 120,000, half the size of the herd in 1986, according to the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

Oregon's mule deer numbered 216,154 in 2009, down from 256,000 in 1990, according to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Duane Dungannon, state coordinator of the Oregon Hunters Association, says that even though mountain lion hunting is allowed year-round, "it's not even putting a dent in the state's cougar population."

"It's no longer that uncommon to bump into a cougar when you're deer or elk hunting, but it's becoming more uncommon to run into a deer or elk," he says.

Brooks Fahy, executive director of the non-profit Predator Defense, based in Eugene, Ore., worries the state's cougar population is "crashing" because of year-round hunting.

*DeLong reports for the Reno Gazette-Journal.*

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12/19/2010 11:10 AM

To Kevin Bunnell <kevinbunnell@utah.gov>,  
(b)(6) @usu.edu  
cc (b)(6) @aggiemail.usu.edu, Mike Linnell  
<Mike.A.Linnell@aphis.usda.gov>,  
(b)(6) color-country.net, (b)(6) @yahoo.com  
bcc

Subject Fwd: Study finds mountain lions may be eating more than  
previously believed

Kevin/Mike- any correlation to our studies with GPS kill sites? Any tentative dates on  
start time for DNA study?

Hope you all have Merry Xmas and holiday season, thanx.B

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(b)(6) @fmglobal.com>, (b)(6) @xpressweb.com>,  
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<randy.bradbury@ut.usda.gov>, (b)(6) @comcast.net>, (b)(6)  
(b)(6) @yahoo.com>

Sent: Saturday, December 18, 2010 2:13:16 PM  
Subject: Fw: Study finds mountain lions may be eating more than previously believed

----- Original Message -----

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(b)(6)

**Sent:** Monday, December 13, 2010 9:58 AM  
**Subject:** FW: Study finds mountain lions may be eating more than previously believed

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**From:** (b)(6) [mailto:(b)(6)@alichel.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 10, 2010 9:30 AM  
**To:** (b)(6)  
**Subject:** Study finds mountain lions may be eating more than previously believed

----- Original Message -----

**Subject:** Study finds mountain lions may be eating more than previously believed  
**Date:** Fri, 10 Dec 2010 01:34:18 -0700  
**From:** MVSA <mesillavalleysportsmen@gmail.com>

**\*Mesilla Valley Sportsmen's Alliance \***  
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**Mountain lions, the largest members of the cat family in North America, may be heartier eaters than some researchers originally estimated.**

“One of the most interesting things we found was how much more prey they kill in summer,” said Kyle Knopff, lead author of a three-year Canadian mountain lion study that was recently published in the Journal of Wildlife Management. “Just how focused they become on young of the year ungulates was surprising.”

### **\*GPS aids study\***

Knopff is basing his conclusions on data collected from more than 1,500 kill sites while tracking 54 cougars with GPS collars. The collars allowed the University of Alberta researchers, including his wife Aliah, to move in quickly after a kill to identify what was taken and by which lion.

In the journal article Knopff writes that some previous studies “may have failed to identify higher kill rates for large carnivores in summer because methods in those studies did not permit researchers to locate many neonates or because sample size was too small.”

The use of GPS collars enabled Knopff and his colleagues to collect more data. As a result, he found that mountain lions killed more deer, elk and moose during the summer by focusing on juveniles and actually killed fewer animals in winter. The information contradicts previous studies conducted in Idaho.

“The Idaho estimates differed from our summer estimates by as much as 365 percent in terms of frequency of killing and 538 percent in terms of prey biomass,” Knopff wrote. “Because kill rate fundamentally influences the effect predators have on their prey, the discrepancy between studies represents a substantial difference in the capacity for cougars to impact ungulates.”

### **\*Built to kill\***

The study was conducted over 10 years in west-central Alberta, including the Bow Valley, Jasper National Park, portions of Banff National Park and in Clearwater County east of Banff. The terrain of the study area was a mixture of lodgepole pine and spruce forests at elevations ranging from 2,500 to 9,300 feet. The mountain lions' prey included deer, elk, bighorn sheep, coyotes, feral horses, beaver and porcupines.

Cougars aren't easy creatures to study. The secretive animals range widely to hunt - 250 to 600 square miles for males, 60 to 125 square miles for females.

Adult male cougars can weigh 140 to 165 pounds. One male cougar in Knopff's study tipped the scales at 180 pounds and primarily fed on moose and feral horses. Females typically weigh around 100 pounds. From nose to tail the big cats can measure 6.5 to 10 feet long. The average lifespan for a male is 8 to 10 years, 12 to 14 for females.

Great leapers and sprinters, cougars kill by latching onto their prey with their front claws and powerful forelegs and then biting the windpipe or spine along the neck with their large canine teeth. For smaller prey, lions may crush the animal's skull. On rare occasions lions have been known to attack humans.

"Our kill rate estimates indicate that adult cougars are highly effective predators, killing at rates at the upper end of those recorded for wolves in both frequency and biomass," Knopff wrote.

In one prey encounter they studied, Knopff said a cougar brought down a feral horse less than 30 yards from where it attacked.

"I think our study showed they are very efficient predators," he said.

Because of their adaptability, cougars are found from the Yukon to the Andes of South America, a larger range than any other big mammal in the Americas.

#### \*Study findings\*

In studying cougar kill sites, the researchers publicized a couple of interesting details. One is that that female mountain lions with kittens kill more deer; the other is that adult male lions kill larger but fewer animals.

"We had one male cougar kill 18 moose in less than a year," Knopff said.

Based on the Canadian data, the cougars killed on average .8 ungulates (mainly whitetail deer and moose) a week, an average of about 18 pounds a day. That statistic varied widely, though, based on the individual - from a low of .24 ungulates to a high of 1.38, or 18 to 41 pounds a day.

Those ungulates targeted tended to be young of the year or adults with yearlings, largely because they were easier to subdue.

Deer made up more than 75 percent of the diet for adult female lions in winter and summer. Adult males had a more varied diet, concentrating on moose (36 percent) in the summer and deer (44 percent) in the winter. All told, adult males targeted large ungulates for 62 percent of their diet. Subadult lions also ate more deer than other species, but like human teenagers they also varied their diet more opportunistically than adults.

On average, adult males killed an estimated 10,300 pounds of biomass annually compared to 9,400 pounds killed by females with young kittens.

**\*Humans vs. cougars\***

Aliah Knopff said her portion of the study focused more on cougar-human interactions and the lion's habitat selection.

She said that as people have continued to build in more remote areas, cougars have had to adapt.

"These are actually quite adaptable carnivores," she said, from changing their movements to become more nocturnal and avoid humans, to finding undisturbed islands within development to live in - such as along pipelines or well sites. The same can't be said for many other carnivores.

These more urban lions are mainly limited by human tolerance, she said. The people in rural Alberta who were interviewed for the study valued cougars highly, but not if they were killing pets or livestock.

"That's the challenge for cougar conservation when the backyard is becoming more overlapping," she said.

**\*Possible uses\***

Lion hunting is allowed in many Western states, including Montana and Wyoming. Hunters track and tree the big cats with hounds. Cougar kills are carefully regulated by state wildlife agencies.

Knopff writes that the Canadian study could be used by game managers to better calculate mountain lions' take of game animals and in turn reduce lion numbers to benefit deer, elk and moose populations. For example, hunting female cougars could reduce the number of deer taken in a specific area.

But such management can also produce unpredictable outcomes, he added. A lion population that is younger may lead to increased confrontations with humans.

Contact Brett French, Gazette Outdoors editor, at [french@billingsgazette.com](mailto:french@billingsgazette.com) at 657-1387.

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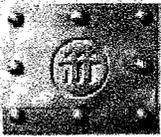
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Mike A  
Linnell/UT/APHIS/USDA  
11/24/2010 12:40 PM

To: (b)(6) @comcast.net, "Don Peay"  
<don@sfwsfh.org>

cc

bcc

Subject: Fw: Groups sue EPA in effort to prevent lead poisoning from hunting ammo, tackle

Fyi

Mike Linnell  
State Director, Utah

Wildlife Services,  
1860 W. Alexander St., Ste. A  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84119

(801) 975-3315 - office  
(801) 975-3320 - fax

(b)(6)

----- Original Message -----

From: (b)(6)

Sent: 11/24/2010 12:04 PM MST

Subject: Groups sue EPA in effort to prevent lead poisoning from hunting ammo, tackle

*Los Angeles Times*, November 23, 2010

**Groups sue EPA in effort to prevent lead poisoning from hunting ammo, tackle**

By Frederic J. Frommer, The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Three environmental groups sued the Environmental Protection Agency on Tuesday to force it to prevent lead poisoning from spent ammunition and lost fishing tackle.

The lawsuit was filed in U.S. District Court by the Center for Biological Diversity, Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility hunters group Project Gutpile. It comes after the EPA denied their petition to ban lead ammunition and lead fishing tackle, which kills 10 million to 20 million birds and other animals a year by lead poisoning.

"The EPA has the ability to protect America's wildlife from ongoing preventable lead poisoning, but continues to shirk its responsibility," said Miller, conservation advocate with the Center for Biological Diversity.

The lawsuit asks a judge to order the EPA to develop rules to prevent wildlife poisoning from spent lead ammunition and fishing tackle.

In August, the EPA denied the ammunition part of the petition, saying it didn't have authority under the Toxic Substances Control Act. Last week, it rejected the fishing tackle portion, saying the petition didn't demonstrate a ban was necessary to protect against unreasonable injury to health or the environment, as required by the law.

In the lawsuit, the groups say that EPA erred when it said it didn't have the authority to ban lead ammunition. They argued that the history of the Toxic Substances Control Act makes it clear that components of ammunition — shots and bullets — may be regulated as hazardous substances.

The groups' original petition cited nearly 500 peer-reviewed scientific articles that they said document the toxic effects of lead on wildlife. The lawsuit argues that large amounts of lead continue to be deposited into the environment. According to the lawsuit, animals often mistake shotgun pellets and fishing tackle for food, grit or bone fragments, and avian scavengers are particularly vulnerable to lead in carcasses and wounded prey species.

Gordon Robertson, vice president of the American Sportfishing Association, said the EPA got the decision right the first time.

"We fundamentally think this is the jurisdiction of state fish and wildlife agencies to address these types of problems where they may be best addressed," said EPA Administrator Carol Browner. "The data shows this is not a population problem as it relates to the use of lead in fishing gear."

In a statement Tuesday, the EPA said its "decisions were based on a careful analysis of the facts and the law."

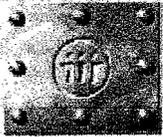
Only three of the original five groups that filed the petition in August joined Tuesday's lawsuit. Not participating were the Association of Veterinarians and the American Bird Conservancy.

The veterinarians group said it didn't have enough time to get a consensus from its members before the suit was filed. The bird conservancy said that it decided to approach the problem "from a different angle," said spokesman Robert Johns.

The petition, filed three months ago, stoked alarm among outdoorsmen, and prompted members of the House and Senate to introduce legislation aimed at preventing the EPA from regulating ammunition or fishing tackle.

In 1994, under President Bill Clinton and EPA administrator Carol Browner, now the White House energy adviser, the EPA proposed to regulate lead and zinc in certain smaller-size fishing sinkers. In a statement at the time, the agency said: "The ingestion of even one small fish containing lead or zinc can result in the death of a water bird."

The proposal sparked a backlash in Congress. Sen. Tom Harkin, D-Iowa, introduced the "Common Sense in Fishing Regulations Act" that would have blocked the EPA from implementing it. The agency eventually abandoned the proposal.



**Mike A**  
**Linnell/UT/APHIS/USDA**  
08/30/2010 06:01 PM

To **Jared R Zierenberg/UT/APHIS/USDA, "Michael Burrell"**  
<**Michael.B.Burrell@aphis.usda.gov**>, (b)(6)  
(b)(6) @comcast.net, "Don Peay" (b)(6)

cc

bcc

**Subject Fw: EPA Denies Ammo Ban Petition**

Fyi

Mike Linnell  
State Director, Utah

USDA Wildlife Services,  
1860 W. Alexander St., Ste. A  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84119

(801) 975-3315 - office  
(801) 975-3320 - fax  
Gary A Littauer

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Gary A Littauer

**Sent:** 08/30/2010 10:28 AM MDT

**To:** Alton Dunaway; Janet Bucknall; Jeffrey Green; Kirk Gustad; Charles Brown; Bill Clay; Jeffery Jones; Alan May; Craig Coolahan; David Williams; David Bergman; John Steuber; Kevin Grant; Mark Jensen; Mark Collinge; Michael Bodenchuk; Mike Linnell; Mike Yearly; Mike Pitzler; P Mastrangelo; Rodney Krischke; Roger Woodruff; Thomas Halstead; Timothy Veenendaal; Kevin Christensen; Kenneth Gruver; Samuel Crowe; George Graves; Bruce Leland; Dennis Orthmeyer; Daniel Vice; Larry Clark; Mark Tobin

**Subject:** Fw: EPA Denies Ammo Ban Petition

**FYI -- This was pretty fast for EPA, probably because all they had to determine was that they don't have jurisdiction.**

Gary Littauer  
Assistant Regional Director, Western Region  
USDA, APHIS, WS  
2150 Centre Avenue, Bldg. B  
Mail Stop 3W9  
Fort Collins, CO 80526-8117  
(970) 494-7451 (office)  
(970) 372-7529 (mobile)  
(970) 494-7455 (FAX)  
gary.a.littauer@aphis.usda.gov



**NRA-ILA GRASSROOTS ALERT**  
**Vol. 17, No. 34 08/27/10**  
EPA Denies Ammo Ban Petition

[Click here to vote in this week's poll.](#)

Responding to a grassroots outcry from gun owners, the Environmental Protection Agency today announced that it has denied a petition by the Center for Biological Diversity and other radical groups that had sought to ban the use of lead in ammunition.

Agreeing with the position of the NRA and the firearms industry, the agency explained in a news release that it "does not have the legal authority to regulate this type of product under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)." Further crushing the hopes of anti-gun and anti-hunting activists, the release added: "nor is the agency seeking such authority."

Please do not reply to this email as you will not receive a response. This email is a broadcast email generated by an automated system. To contact NRA-ILA call 800-392-8683.  
Address: 11250 Waples Mill Road Fairfax, Virginia 22030

If you wish to be removed from this list please click this link and you will be removed immediately:  
<http://www.ilaalerts.org/UM/U.asp?B1.2.8759.5105278>

**\* Please note: In their efforts to curb SPAM, many ISPs, servers and SPAM filters treat legitimate and legal bulk emails as SPAM. In order to ensure you receive NRA-ILA email alerts in a timely manner, please adjust your SPAM settings to accept bulk emails from the "nraila.org" and "ilaalerts.org" domains. Otherwise, there is a possibility that our email alerts will not make it to your inbox.**

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[Contribute](#) | [Edit Your Profile](#)



Mike A  
Linnell/UT/APHIS/USDA  
01/27/2011 10:22 AM

To "Kyle Stephens" <kylestephens@utah.gov>, "Commissioner Leonard Blackham" <lblackham@utah.gov>  
cc  
bcc  
Subject Fw: Wolf bill [REHBER\_067]

Fyi

Mike Linnell  
State Director, Utah

Wildlife Services,  
1860 W. Alexander St., Ste. A  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84119

(801) 975-3315 - office  
(801) 975-3320 - fax  
Jeffrey S Green

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Jeffrey S Green  
**Sent:** 01/27/2011 06:14 AM MST  
**To:** Alan May; Dennis Orthmeyer; David Williams; David Bergman; Gary Littauer; Jeffrey Green; John Steuber; Kevin Grant; Kirk Gustad; Mark Jensen; Michael Bodenchuk; Mike Linnell; Mike Yearly; Mike Pitzler; P Mastrangelo; Rodney Krischke; Roger Woodruff; Thomas Halstead; Timothy Veenendaal; Todd Grimm; Bill Clay; (b)(6)  
**Subject:** Fw: Wolf bill [REHBER\_067]

fyi

Jeff Green, Director  
Wildlife Services, Western Region  
2150 Centre Ave., Bldg B  
Ft. Collins, CO 80526  
Office: 970-494-7453  
Fax: 970-494-7455

"If the wind will not serve, take to the oars."  
Latin Proverb

Strive for Personal Excellence

----- Forwarded by (b)(6) CO/APHIS/USDA on 01/27/2011 06:08 AM -----



(b)(6) @msn.com>  
01/26/2011 04:40 PM

To (b)(6) @RMEF.ORG> (b)(6)  
(b)(6) @muledeer.org>, (b)(6) @wysga.org>  
Don Peay (b)(6) comcast.net> (b)(6)  
(b)(6) @sportsmenslink.org>, (b)(6)  
(b)(6) @crshq.com>, (b)(6) @safariclub.org>  
cc (b)(6)  
(b)(6) @capitolconsultingaz.com> (b)(6)  
(b)(6) @wildblue.net>, (b)(6)  
(b)(6) @aol.com>, (b)(6)  
(b)(6) @hotmail.com> (b)(6)  
(b)(6) plmw.com> (b)(6)



(b)(6) @wispwest.net>, (b)(6)  
(b)(6) @yahoo.com>, "Groen,Cal"  
<cal.groen@idfg.idaho.gov>, Jim Karpowitz  
<jimkarpowitz@utah.gov>, Larry Voyles  
<lvoyles@azqfd.gov>, Jack Husted <jhusted@azqfd.gov>,  
(b)(6) @mndeerhunters.com>, (b)(6)  
(b)(6) :om>, (b)(6) @pacwestcom.com>,  
(b)(6) @watershedresults.com>,  
(b)(6) @mt-sfw.org" (b)(6) @mt-sfw.org>  
Subject FW: Wolf bill [REHBER\_067]

### Wolf Delisting Supporters,

The House announced the introduction of new national wolf delisting legislation today. The bill is attached and included below. The original cosponsors of the legislation this year are: Jim Matheson (D-UT), Cynthia Lummis (R-WY), Mike Ross (D-AR), Rob Bishop (R-UT), Leonard Boswell (D-IA), Dan Boren (D-OK), Paul Broun (R-GA), Dennis Cardoza (D-CA), Jason Chaffetz (R-UT), Dean Heller (R-NV), John Kline (R-MN), Raul Labrador (R-ID), Mike Simpson (R-ID), Greg Walden (R-OR) and Don Young (R-AK). We have commitments from several other co-sponsors that appear to not be listed primarily due to timing issues. Thank you to each of these 15 cosponsors from 12 states for their willingness to work on a bipartisan basis.

Thanks to everyone who has been working so hard to make return of wolf populations to state wildlife managers a reality. The list of wildlife groups who have officially endorsed national wolf delisting continues to grow. I would encourage all of us to reach out personally to these Congressman and thank them for getting in the fight for responsible wildlife management.

You will notice that the language is a bit different from 2010. The effect is largely the same as both HR 6028 and S.3919. We anticipate that the Senate will introduce a similar bill early next week. We don't have a final list of cosponsors, but here are the Senate cosponsors from last year. Risch (Idaho), Crapo (Idaho), Barrasso (Wyoming), Enzi (Wyoming), Hatch (Utah), McCain (Arizona). We expect Lee (Utah) will join the bill as well. We are also in conversations with a number of other potential cosponsors but have not seen any final lists.

We have seen the politics of divisiveness used to pit sportsmen against sportsmen, multiple use group against multiple use group, state against state, and party against party in the past. I strongly urge us all to recognize that we must avoid politics, stick together and avoid all efforts from wolf delisting opponents to divide and conquer.

Administrative attempts to delist have been and will continue to be blocked due to numerous lawsuits to use federal laws to block any wolf management. Returning balance to our ecosystems and our wildlife populations simply cannot wait any longer. We strongly feel that Congressional wolf delisting, pursuant to agreements with the Federal Government and wolf advocates, is the right course to protect our rights to manage wildlife responsibly.

Working together as a nation of united sportsmen to support our friends in Congress we can be successful in this important endeavor.

--

(b)(6)

<http://biggameforever.org/>

(b)(6) @msn.com

(801)870-5307

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled

SECTION 1. EXEMPTION OF GRAY WOLF FROM ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT OF 1973.

Section 4 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1533) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(j) EXEMPTION OF GRAY WOLF.—This Act shall not apply to the gray wolf (*canis lupus*).”.

## A BILL

To amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to provide that Act shall not apply to the gray wolf (*canis lupus*).

----- Forwarded Message

**From:** Eric Bierwagen <[Eric.Bierwagen@mail.house.gov](mailto:Eric.Bierwagen@mail.house.gov)>

**Date:** Wed, 26 Jan 2011 12:11:08 -0500

**To:** (b)(6) <[@msn.com](mailto:(b)(6)@msn.com)>

**Subject:** FW: Wolf bill [REHBER\_067]

Hey (b)(6)

Are you fine with the attached language, from a legal perspective?



----- End of Forwarded Message REHBER\_067\_xml.pdf

.....  
(Original Signature of Member)

112TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**H. R.**

To amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to provide that Act shall not apply to the gray wolf (*canis lupus*).

\_\_\_\_\_  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. REHBERG introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**A BILL**

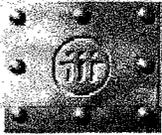
To amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to provide that Act shall not apply to the gray wolf (*canis lupus*).

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. EXEMPTION OF GRAY WOLF FROM ENDAN-**  
4       **GERED SPECIES ACT OF 1973.**

5       Section 4 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16  
6       U.S.C. 1533) is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
7       lowing:

8       “(j) **EXEMPTION OF GRAY WOLF.**—This Act shall  
9       not apply to the gray wolf (*canis lupus*).”.



Mike A  
Linnell/UT/APHIS/USDA  
02/10/2011 07:51 PM

To: (b)(6)@yahoo.com>

cc

bcc

Subject: Fw: Dear Colleague

Mike Linnell  
State Director, Utah

Wildlife Services,  
1860 W. Alexander St., Ste. A  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84119

(801) 975-3315 - office  
(801) 975-3320 - fax  
John E Steuber

----- Original Message -----

**From:** John E Steuber  
**Sent:** 02/09/2011 10:49 AM MST  
**To:** Jeffrey Green; Kirk Gustad; Gary Littauer; Todd Grimm; Rodney  
Krischke; Mike Linnell; Roger Woodruff; David Williams  
**Subject:** Fw: Dear Colleague

John

---

John E. Steuber  
State Director/Supervisory Wildlife Biologist  
USDA-APHIS-Wildlife Services  
P.O. Box 1938  
Billings, Montana 59103  
(406) 657-6464 (office)  
(406) 696-1932 (cell)

**From:** (b)(6)@msn.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 09, 2011 9:42 AM  
**To:** (b)(6)  
**Subject:** FW: Dear Colleague

(b)(6)

I thought you might be interested to see the "Dear Colleague letter" that was sent today to every member of Congress.

--

(b)(6)

<http://biggameforever.org/>

(b)(6)@msn.com

(801)870-5307

----- Forwarded Message

**From:** Kristen Lingley <kristen.lingley@mail.house.gov>

**Date:** Wed, 9 Feb 2011 10:46:12 -0500

**To:** Don Peay <don@sfwsfh.org>, (b)(6) @msn.com>

**Subject:** Dear Colleague

**Hey-wanted to let you know know this went out today.**

---

**Kristen Lingley**

Senior Legislative Assistant

U.S. Congressman Jim Matheson (UT-02)

2434 Rayburn House Office Building

Washington, D.C. 20515

Phone: 202-225-3011 -- Fax: 202-225-5638

Sign up for Jim's e-newsletter: [www.house.gov/matheson](http://www.house.gov/matheson) <[www.house.gov/matheson](http://www.house.gov/matheson)>



----- End of Forwarded Message Dear Colleague--H.R. 509.pdf

Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20515

## Restore Wolf Management to the States

### *Cosponsor the bipartisan American Big Game and Livestock Protection Act*

Current cosponsors: Bishop (UT), Boren, Boswell, Broun, Cardoza, Chaffetz, Heller, Kline, Labrador, Lummis, Matheson, Ross, Ryan (WI), Simpson, Walden and Young (AK)

Endorsed by the *American Farm Bureau, American Sheep Industry Association, Big Game Forever, Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation, Mule Deer Foundation, National Association of Conservation Districts, National Cattlemen's Beef Association, National Rifle Association, National Shooting Sports Foundation, National Trappers Association, Public Lands Council, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Safari Club International, Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife, U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance, and the Wild Sheep Foundation.*

Dear Colleague:

We invite you to cosponsor the "*American Big Game and Livestock Protection Act*" (H.R. 509), a bipartisan measure to prevent wolves from being listed under the Endangered Species Act.

Wolves are a recovered species, and the science is there to prove it. Unfortunately, environmental extremists have put politics in front of sound science, wrenching control from states with responsible wolf management plans. With states unable to control the predator, populations of deer, elk and moose have plummeted, and livestock depredations are on the rise. We need to call attention to this abuse and solve an issue that should have been put to rest years ago.

When its reintroduction efforts began in the 1990s, the federal government initially set out to establish 300 wolves in the Northern Rockies. Today, biologists say there are at least 1,700 wolves in areas of six Western states. In the Western Great Lakes region, where more than 4,000 wolves currently reside, populations have far surpassed the original recovery goals. Consequently, wolves were removed from the endangered species list by both the Bush and Obama administrations, only to be relisted again by the courts based on legal technicalities.

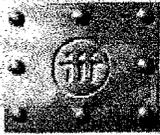
Please join us, along with thousands of hunters, farmers and ranchers, conservationists and small business owners who are demanding a permanent solution to this ongoing problem. We strongly feel that congressional action is the only way to protect our rights to responsibly manage wildlife by avoiding further litigation.

If you have any questions or would like to cosponsor this legislation, please contact Eric Bierwagen in Congressman Rehberg's office at [Eric.Bierwagen@mail.house.gov](mailto:Eric.Bierwagen@mail.house.gov).

Sincerely,

  
Denny Rehberg  
Member of Congress

  
Jim Matheson  
Member of Congress



Mike A  
Linnell/UT/APHIS/USDA  
08/10/2010 03:32 PM

To Brook Zscheile/UT/APHIS/USDA@USDA  
cc  
bcc  
Subject Fw: August 18 Meeting

Mike Linnell  
State Director  
Utah Wildlife Services

1860 W. Alexander St.  
Salt Lake City, UT 84119

(801) 975-3315 - office  
(801) 975-3320 - fax

----- Forwarded by Mike A Linnell/UT/APHIS/USDA on 08/10/2010 03:32 PM -----



Justin Dolling  
<justindolling@utah.gov>  
08/10/2010 03:13 PM

To Steve Madsen <Steve\_C\_Madsen@blm.gov>, (b)(6)  
(b)(6) @byu.edu>, (b)(6)  
(b)(6) @byu.net>, (b)(6)  
(b)(6) @comcast.net>, (b)(6)  
(b)(6) @dishmail.net>, Danielle Chi  
<dkchi@ts.fed.us>, (b)(6) @gmail.com>,  
(b)(6) @gmail.com>, (b)(6)  
(b)(6) @hotmail.com>, (b)(6)  
(b)(6) @msn.com>, "Mike Linnell"  
<mike.a.linnell@usda.gov>, Anis Aoude  
<anisaoude@utah.gov>, Anita Candelaria  
<anitacandelaria@utah.gov>, Kevin Bunnell  
<kevinbunnell@utah.gov>, Wade Paskett  
<wadepaskett@utah.gov>, (b)(6)  
<lvox@xmission.com>, (b)(6)  
(b)(6) @yahoo.com>  
cc Bill Bates <billbates@utah.gov>, Charles Greenwood  
<charlesgreenwood@utah.gov>, Craig Clyde  
<craigclyde@utah.gov>, Douglas Messerly  
<dougnesserly@utah.gov>, Eric Larson  
<ericlarson@utah.gov>, John Fairchild  
<johnfairchild@utah.gov>, Justin Shannon  
<justinshannon@utah.gov>, Kent Hersey  
<kenthersey@utah.gov>, Kevin Christopherson  
<kevinchristopherson@utah.gov>, Randy Wood  
<randywood@utah.gov>, Ron Hodson  
<ronhodson@utah.gov>, Teresa Bonzo  
<teresabonzo@utah.gov>  
Subject August 18 Meeting

Advisory Committee,

Our next and final meeting will be Wednesday August 18.

**Committee Assignments:**

- 1) **Committee members will email their thoughts on the proposed management system to Justin Dolling by August 16. We will spend a little time at the beginning of our meeting addressing your thoughts.**
- 2) **Review the last objective proposed for the plan.....research. The attached draft contains this objective.**
- 3) **Committee members will review the plan with their constituents and come prepared to discuss any outstanding issues or concerns. We will spend about an hour reviewing your concerns.**

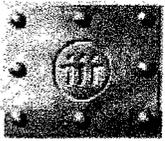
**Finally, we would like to poll the committee to determine the level of support for the proposed plan.**

**I look forward to seeing you on the 18th.**

**Justin**



2011\_2023\_Draft\_Black\_Bear\_Management\_Plan.doc Black Bear Management System.doc



Mike A  
Linnell/UT/APHIS/USDA  
04/20/2010 12:42 PM

To David L Bergman/AZ/APHIS/USDA@USDA, Mark A  
Jensen/NV/APHIS/USDA@USDA  
cc  
bcc

Subject Fw: Article in USA Today - Declining Deer Herds

I'm sure you both have probably already seen this, but this was forwarded to me by Byron Bateman, president of SFW (Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife).

Mike Linnell  
State Director  
Utah Wildlife Services

1860 W. Alexander St.  
Salt Lake City, UT 84119

(801) 975-3315 - office  
(801) 975-3320 - fax

----- Forwarded by Mike A Linnell/UT/APHIS/USDA on 04/20/2010 12:39 PM -----



(b)(6) @comcast.net  
(b)(6) @comcast.net  
04/20/2010 11:48 AM

To (b)(6) yahoo.com" (b)(6) yahoo.com>,  
(b)(6) @msn.com" (b)(6) @msn.com>,  
(b)(6) @comcast.net (b)(6) @comcast.net>,  
"Mike.A.Linnell@aphis.usda.gov"  
<Mike.A.Linnell@aphis.usda.gov>  
cc (b)(6) @msn.com" (b)(6) @msn.com>,  
(b)(6) @ARI-slc.com" (b)(6) @ARI-slc.com>,  
(b)(6) @digis.net" (b)(6) @digis.net>,  
(b)(6) @yahoo.com" (b)(6) @yahoo.com>  
Subject Fwd: Article in USA Today - Declining Deer Herds

You need to read this!

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: (b)(6) @infowest.com>  
To (b)(6) @droubaychevrolet.com>, (b)(6) @wirelessbeehive.com>, "Don Paey" (b)(6) @comcast.net>, (b)(6) @hotmail.com>, (b)(6) <roldroy@msn.com>, "Jim Lamb" <jimlamb@utah.gov>, (b)(6) @comcast.net>, (b)(6) @comcast.net>, (b)(6) @gmail.com>, (b)(6) @beyondbb.com>, (b)(6) gto@yahoo.com>, (b)(6) @cableone.net>, (b)(6) @comcast.net>, "Randy Bradbury" <randy.bradbury@ut.usda.gov>, (b)(6) @usu.edu>, (b)(6) @hotmail.com>, (b)(6)

(b)(6)@hotmail.com>

Sent: Monday, April 19, 2010 2:05:13 PM GMT -07:00 US/Canada Mountain  
Subject: Fw: Article in USA Today - Declining Deer Herds

----- Original Message -----

**From:** (b)(6)

**To:** (b)(6)@aol.com (b)(6)  
(b)(6) 'WC'; (b)(6)  
(b)(6)@suu.edu; (b)(6)@bitterrootmotors.com; (b)(6)@aol.com;  
Wildergarten Press (b)(6)@sfwsfh.org; (b)(6)  
(b)(6)@3rivers.net; (b)(6)  
(b)(6) (b)(6)21@gmail.com; (b)(6)@sbcglobal.net (b)(6)@bitterrootmotors.com;  
(b)(6)@shoshonewilderness.com; (b)(6)  
; (b)(6)@nv.blm.gov; (b)(6)@aol.com; (b)(6)@earthlink.net; (b)(6)  
(b)(6)@redshift.bc.ca;  
(b)(6)@skyviewmail.com (b)(6)@joinmda.org (b)(6)comcast.net;  
(b)(6)@gmail.com; (b)(6)@ptd.net; (b)(6)@wyfb.org;  
(b)(6)@blm.gov; (b)(6)@saveelk.com; (b)(6)@gmail.com;  
(b)(6)@gmail.com; (b)(6)@calpoly.edu; (b)(6)

**Sent:** Monday, April 19, 2010 1:49 PM

**Subject:** FW: Article in USA Today - Declining Deer Herds

Please see the attachment-----C

---

**From:** (b)(6)@yahoo.com]

**Sent:** Monday, April 19, 2010 1:24 PM

**To:** (b)(6)

**Subject:** Fw: Article in USA Today - Declining Deer Herds

(b)(6) problems we have!

--- On Mon, 4/19/10, Suzanne Scourby <[sscourby@ndow.org](mailto:sscourby@ndow.org)> wrote:

From: Suzanne Scourby <[sscourby@ndow.org](mailto:sscourby@ndow.org)>

Subject: Article in USA Today - Declining Deer Herds

To: "Suzanne Scourby" <[sscourby@ndow.org](mailto:sscourby@ndow.org)>

Date: Monday, April 19, 2010, 11:03 AM

*Suzanne Scourby Executive Assistant to Director Mayer  
Nevada Department of Wildlife  
1100 Valley Road*

*Reno, NV 89512  
(775) 688-1599  
(775) 688-1207 fax  
[sscourby@ndow.org](mailto:sscourby@ndow.org)*

---

Teach InfoWest Spam Trap if this mail is spam:

[Spam](#)

[Not spam](#)

[Forget previous vote](#)

**REMEMBER:** Never give out your account information, password, or other personal information over e-mail.



USA Today Article - Declining Mule Deer Herds.pdf

---

Jeffrey S  
Green/CO/APHIS/USDA  
01/27/2011 06:14 AM

To Alan May/NM/APHIS/USDA@USDA, Dennis L  
Orthmeyer/CA/APHIS/USDA@USDA,  
david.e.williams@aphis.usda.gov,  
cc  
bcc

Subject Fw: Wolf bill [REHBER\_067]

History: This message has been forwarded.

fyi

Jeff Green, Director  
Wildlife Services, Western Region  
2150 Centre Ave., Bldg B  
Ft. Collins, CO 80526  
Office: 970-494-7453  
Fax: 970-494-7455

"If the wind will not serve, take to the oars."  
Latin Proverb

Strive for Personal Excellence

----- Forwarded by Jeffrey S Green/CO/APHIS/USDA on 01/27/2011 06:08 AM -----



(b)(6) @msn.com>  
01/26/2011 04:40 PM

To (b)(6) @RMEF.ORG>, (b)(6)  
(b)(6) @muledeer.org>, (b)(6) @wysga.org>,  
Don Peay (b)(6) @comcast.net>, (b)(6)  
(b)(6) @sportsmenslink.org>, (b)(6)  
(b)(6) @crshq.com>, (b)(6) @safariclub.org>  
cc (b)(6)  
(b)(6) @capitolconsultingaz.com>, (b)(6)  
(b)(6) @wildblue.net>, (b)(6)  
(b)(6) @aol.com>, (b)(6)  
(b)(6) @hotmail.com> (b)(6)  
(b)(6) @plmw.com>, (b)(6)  
(b)(6) @wispwest.net>, (b)(6)  
(b)(6) @yahoo.com>, "Groen, Cai"  
(b)(6) @idfg.idaho.gov>, Jim Karpowitz  
<jimkarpowitz@utah.gov>, Larry Voyles  
<lvoyles@azgfd.gov>, Jack Husted <jhusted@azgfd.gov>,  
(b)(6) @mndeerhunters.com>, (b)(6)  
(b)(6) .com>, (b)(6) @pacwestcom.com>,  
(b)(6) @watershedresults.com>,  
(b)(6) @mt-sfw.org" (b)(6) @mt-sfw.org>

Subject FW: Wolf bill [REHBER\_067]

Wolf Delisting Supporters,

The House announced the introduction of new national wolf delisting legislation today. The bill is attached and included below. The original cosponsors of the legislation this year are: Jim Matheson (D-UT), Cynthia Lummis (R-WY), Mike Ross (D-AR), Rob Bishop (R-UT), Leonard Boswell (D-IA), Dan Boren (D-OK), Paul Broun

(R-GA), Dennis Cardoza (D-CA), Jason Chaffetz (R-UT), Dean Heller (R-NV), John Kline (R-MN), Raul Labrador (R-ID), Mike Simpson (R-ID), Greg Walden (R-OR) and Don Young (R-AK). We have commitments from several other co-sponsors that appear to not be listed primarily due to timing issues. Thank you to each of these 15 cosponsors from 12 states for their willingness to work on a bipartisan basis.

Thanks to everyone who has been working so hard to make return of wolf populations to state wildlife managers a reality. The list of wildlife groups who have officially endorsed national wolf delisting continues to grow. I would encourage all of us to reach out personally to these Congressman and thank them for getting in the fight for responsible wildlife management.

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We have seen the politics of divisiveness used to pit sportsmen against sportsmen, multiple use group against multiple use group, state against state, and party against party in the past. I strongly urge us all to recognize that we must avoid politics, stick together and avoid all efforts from wolf delisting opponents to divide and conquer.

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Working together as a nation of united sportsmen to support our friends in Congress we can be successful in this important endeavor.

--

(b)(6)

<http://biggameforever.org/>

(b)(6)@msn.com

(801)870-5307

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled

SECTION 1. EXEMPTION OF GRAY WOLF FROM ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT OF 1973.

Section 4 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1533) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(j) EXEMPTION OF GRAY WOLF.—This Act shall not apply to the gray wolf (*canis lupus*).”.

**A BILL**

To amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to provide that Act shall not apply to the gray wolf (*canis lupus*).

----- Forwarded Message

**From:** Eric Bierwagen <Eric.Bierwagen@mail.house.gov>

**Date:** Wed, 26 Jan 2011 12:11:08 -0500

**To:** (b)(6)@msn.com>

**Subject:** FW: Wolf bill [REHBER\_067]

Hey (b)(6)

Are you fine with the attached language, from a legal perspective?



----- End of Forwarded Message REHBER\_067\_xml.pdf



Mike A  
Linnell/UT/APHIS/USDA  
07/19/2010 10:35 AM

To Jared R Zierenberg/UT/APHIS/USDA@USDA  
cc  
bcc  
Subject Fw: July 21 Meeting

Mike Linnell  
State Director  
Utah Wildlife Services

1860 W. Alexander St.  
Salt Lake City, UT 84119

(801) 975-3315 - office  
(801) 975-3320 - fax

----- Forwarded by Mike A Linnell/UT/APHIS/USDA on 07/19/2010 10:35 AM -----



Justin Dolling  
<justindolling@utah.gov>  
07/19/2010 10:21 AM

To Steve Madsen <Steve\_C\_Madsen@blm.gov>, (b)(6)  
(b)(6) @byu.edu, (b)(6)  
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(b)(6) hotmail.com>, (b)(6)  
(b)(6) @msn.com>, "Mike Linnell"  
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<anisaoude@utah.gov>, Anita Candelaria  
<anitacandelaria@utah.gov>, Kevin Bunnell  
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cc Bill Bates <billbates@utah.gov>, Charles Greenwood  
<charlesgreenwood@utah.gov>, Craig Clyde  
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<ronhodson@utah.gov>, Teresa Bonzo  
<teresabonzo@utah.gov>

Subject July 21 Meeting

Advisory Committee,

This is a reminder that our next bear meeting will be Wednesday July 21 in the Salt Lake Office starting at 5:30 and ending at 8:00 pm.



Rod J  
Merrell/WY/APHIS/USDA  
02/15/2011 09:27 AM

To Samuel A Crowe/WY/APHIS/USDA@USDA, Rodney F  
Krischke/WY/APHIS/USDA@USDA  
cc  
bcc

Subject Fw: Article for SFW on predator management

Here is my first email contact with Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife. Any others I find will follow.

Rod J. Merrell  
District Supervisor  
USDA/APHIS/WS Wyoming  
Southwest District  
307-362-7238 office  
307-320-5109 truck

----- Forwarded by Rod J Merrell/WY/APHIS/USDA on 02/15/2011 09:26 AM -----

Rod J Merrell  
03/15/2006 06:58 PM

(b)(6)@allwest.net  
cc:  
Subject: Article for SFW on predator management

Hello (b)(6)

Attached is the article we have talked about. It was given the green light by our LPA as written. Sorry that it came to you just under the wire but if it is what you are looking for, feel free to put it into a later issue if you receive it too late. Let me know what your thoughts are. And feel free to keep in touch on future predator issues.

Sincerely,  
Rod J. Merrell  
Asst. Dist. Supervisor  
USDA/APHIS/Wildlife Services Wyoming



Predator Damage Management.doc

## **Wildlife Damage Management: a way to help weakened populations rebound**

One of the oldest debates in wildlife management is predator control or no predator control and both opponents and proponents are as adamant about their side as the other. Then, to add to the mix there is another type of management known as wildlife damage management. This specific science maintains the middle ground between predator control versus no predator control. This where people ask the question: What agency conducts wildlife damage management, and who in that agency can help us with a damage problem like, say for instance, coyote predation on antelope fawns?

Beginning in 2000, with funding from the Wyoming Animal Damage Management board, Carbon County Predatory Animal Board with the help of Wyoming Game and Fish identified two areas in Carbon County where predator management could be used to enhance struggling Pronghorn antelope populations. Carbon County PAB and Wildlife Services in Wyoming, the federal agency responsible for implementing wildlife damage management, conducted a study called "Observations on Coyote Predation in Relationship to Fawn Antelope Recruitment in South Central Wyoming". Here is the condensed version of the scientific study: The two areas that were identified where the antelope populations were struggling to rebound back to normal from a very bad winter that occurred in 1991 to 1992 were called ADMB Area 55 and ADMB Area 63. Area 55 was an antelope hunting unit south and west of Rawlins WY. Area 63 was also an antelope hunt unit and the North Ferris herd unit located about 30 miles north east of Rawlins, WY.

- Prior to 1991 on Area 55 an individual hunter could take up to seven antelope. On Area 63 there were more than 2,000 permits were given each year.
- By 1998 Area 55 offered only 25 permits and Area 63 gave 200. Populations failed to rebound in spite of favorable environmental conditions. The estimated population on area 63 was around 2,700 animals with an objective of 5,000 animals in the calendar year 2000.

All this, in spite of 7 years of very limited hunting. We suspected that the classic "predator pit" theory was at work. What this theory suggests is that a healthy population of ungulates can sustain heavy predation and still maintain itself. But if that population is degraded by climactic events, over-hunting, drought or any number of things, a sustained level of predation will keep that prey population from rebounding.

In simpler terms, if you have a healthy population of 5,000 animals and they are being preyed on by 200 coyotes; the antelope can sustain their population. But if that same antelope population is brought down to say 1,500 animals, you still have those same 200 coyotes preying on them and the antelope population becomes unable to rebound through recruitment to their former population level. Studies show that predation, especially by coyotes, can be as significant as 80 percent of the fawn crop.

In the Observations on Coyote Predation in Relationship to Fawn Antelope Recruitment in South Central Wyoming study, we removed an average of 79 percent of the coyote population in each area for four years, the antelope responded and in Area 63 the population grew to 3,500 animals.

Total viewed antelope in Area 63 went from pre-treatment of:

136 animals in 2000

381 in 2002

876 in 2003

1,154 in 2004

In Area 55 they went from:

269 in 2000

331 in 2001

534 in 2002

675 in 2003

648 in 2004.

**These increases were in spite of the worst drought in recent Wyoming history.** Total permits for deer and antelope issued in 1999 (pre-treatment) were 525, currently they are at 700. Things are moving in the right direction.

The results of this study in Wyoming mirror a number of other studies being conducted in the Rocky Mountain West:

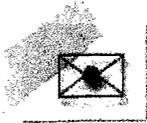
- The Arizona 3-Bar study being conducted by Arizona Game and Fish states: “Deer numbers 10 times higher in predator proof enclosure than outside. With no habitat degradation, no other changes than predator control in spite of worst drought in recent history.”
- Health Evaluation and Factors Affecting Survival of Pronghorn fawns on Hart Mountain National Antelope Refuge, Oregon, 1999 conducted by Mike R. Dunbar: “72 percent fawn mortality on collared fawns from coyotes leaving only 38/100 fawns/does”. Struggling population from climactic event.
- Pronghorn Fawn Survival in Central and Southeastern Wyoming conducted by Jason E. Zimmer: “54 percent of collared fawns taken by coyotes in the first 30 days of life. Left 77 fawns/100 does. Healthy population able to sustain itself.”

And finally, Smith et al. 1986: “100 percent annual increase in populations on mule deer using predator control”.

Wildlife damage management, direct predator control for the benefit of wildlife, can be very effective when used at the right time under the right conditions. Healthy game populations probably need no predator management, but in areas where game populations have declined for one reason or another, one of the controllable factors in the damage management of those game populations, is definitely predator management. We cannot control the climate, we cannot control habitat degradation in a short time, nor the encroachment of humans in some areas, but we can control the level of predation on a weakened population. Predator management for the benefit of wildlife need only be used for relatively short periods of time and applied at the right time of year and has been proven to be effective.

Rod J. Merrell

Wyoming Wildlife Services.



Gary A  
Littauer/CO/APHIS/USDA  
11/01/2010 09:22 AM

To: David L Bergman/AZ/APHIS/USDA@USDA, Rodney F  
Krischke/WY/APHIS/USDA@USDA, Mark D  
Collinge/ID/APHIS/USDA, John E  
cc: Jeffrey S Green/CO/APHIS/USDA, Kirk E  
Gustad/CO/APHIS/USDA@USDA

bcc

Subject: Re: Wolf is unique in maintaining ecosystem health;  
Management of wolves needs to be left up to the states 

Did you see this article by Jim Peek in The latest Wildlife Professional (starts p. 64) ? Interesting bit of history in the first several paragraphs re sport/fur hunting/trapping being important to maintaining wolf populations, perhaps.

<http://www.wildlifeprofessional-digital.org/wildlifeprofessional/fall2010#pg66>

(you have to be a TWS member and log in to see the article, or you probably have a hard copy if you're a member)

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David L Bergman      Kirk Robinson is executive director of Western...      10/30/2010 11:54:22 AM

From: David L Bergman/AZ/APHIS/USDA  
To:  
Date: 10/30/2010 11:54 AM  
Subject: Wolf is unique in maintaining ecosystem health; Management of wolves needs to be left up to the states

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Kirk Robinson is executive director of Western Wildlife Conservancy in Salt Lake City.  
Wolf is unique in maintaining ecosystem health

By kirk robinson

Published Oct 30, 2010 12:00AM  
Updated Oct 30, 2010 12:00AM

In his commentary "Management of wolves needs to be left up to the states" (Opinion, Oct. 16), Don Peay argued that the Endangered Species Act should be rewritten to exclude gray wolves from endangered species protection throughout the United States.

This would include all wolves in the northern Rockies and the upper Midwest, as well as the struggling Mexican gray wolf population in the Southwest which illegal killing has reduced to a mere 42 individuals.

The reason Peay gave for this startling proposal is essentially that hunters have a proprietary right to wildlife. They can shoot trophy elk for wall decorations because they buy licenses and pay excise taxes on hunting equipment, but it is unacceptable for wolves to eat elk to survive.

Wolves do eat elk and deer, and occasionally cows and sheep. But surely this cannot be a good reason to discriminate against this one species, excluding it from federal protection at the behest of special interests and in total disregard of science.

Peay asked the Utah Wildlife Board to endorse two federal bills that will do exactly this. And in a meeting on Oct. 19, they obliged him. The seven geriatric white male members of the Wildlife Board voted unanimously to endorse Sen. Orrin Hatch's S. 3919 and H.R. 6028, endorsed by both Reps. Jim Matheson and Jason Chaffetz. Never mind that there is not a single shred of science to support these bills or that their passage would set an egregious precedent.

There is no other species of animal on the continent capable of occupying the supremely important role of wolves in maintaining ecosystem health. Hunters can't do it. They don't alter the behavior of ungulates in the way wolves do (dubbed "the ecology of fear"), and they generally select for completely different classes of animals (robust adults as opposed to small, sickly or weak animals). As a result of replacing wolves with hunters we have deteriorating watersheds, biological impoverishment, and diseases spreading through game populations.

What an irony! The animal species most maligned, vilified and persecuted by human beings turns out to be necessary to the very health of the land on which we too depend.

It is a fact not yet recognized in our lore or our ethics.

Published Oct 27, 2010 08:51:19AM [3 Comments](#)

Here are more facts:

Coyotes have been documented to kill 20-30 times more sheep and 20-30 times more cows than wolves do, and they eat a lot of deer and elk, too. Wolves will permanently cut coyote populations in half practically for free.

There were 16 percent more elk in the northern Rockies in 2009 than there were in 1995 when wolves were reintroduced.

There are only 1,700 wolves, compared to half a million elk and a couple of million deer, in the northern Rockies gray wolf recovery area, which is larger than the state of Texas.

A recent 10-year study showed that the moose population in western Wyoming grew too large because of lack of predation, and then collapsed almost entirely due to poor nutrition. If wolves had been reintroduced earlier, they might have prevented this.

Wolves occasionally eat a cow or sheep, but wolf depredation accounts for less than 1 percent of total losses in the northern Rockies. In Idaho one year, the numbers of livestock killed by dogs and wolves, respectively, were 1,400:270 sheep and 100:20 cows.

So far as researchers have been able to document, wolves have killed only two people in North America since 1900, while cougars have killed 22 and black bears have killed 61. Dogs have killed 345 people in Canada and the United States since 1982.

Kirk Robinson is executive director of the Western Wildlife Conservancy.

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Management of wolves needs to be left up to the states

By don peay

Published Oct 18, 2010 09:32AM

Updated Oct 16, 2010 12:25AM

An editorial about wolves published by The Tribune on Sept. 29 was wrong on three major points (“A political animal: Congress targets gray wolves of West”).

First, Wyoming’s wolf management plan does not call for wolves to be shot on sight. Wyoming’s plan, carefully crafted by its state fish and game agency biologists with extensive public input, has two components. The first has a large trophy game management area around Yellowstone and in the wilderness areas around Jackson and Cody.

Wolf numbers will be managed in balance with prey. Hunting will be carefully controlled, but clearly wolf numbers will be sustained at levels all parties agree upon.

And then, Wyoming’s plan has a shoot-on-site area outside these boundaries. Interestingly enough, for the past five years the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has killed more than 180 wolves in this “predator zone” using helicopters and other “controversial” methods.

Why is there not an outcry about aerial hunting of wolves, using taxpayer money? Wolves are killed in these areas, entire packs eliminated, because they get into trouble with private property and pets and human safety.

So, in fact, Wyoming’s plan, supported strongly by Democratic Gov. Dave Freudenthal, is the

right plan for Wyoming. Let local people make local decisions. They have to live with them.

Second, the editorial claimed that Congress was exceeding its authority by taking away the Environmental Protection Agency's authority to protect wolves. Sorry, wolves are handled under the Department of Interior and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Finally, the editorial said that Reps. Jim Matheson and Jason Chaffetz were acting as amateur biologists in co-sponsoring legislation to allow states the right to manage wildlife.

Published Oct 23, 2010 05:49:40PM [0 Comments](#)

A federal judge who recently ruled that the West's wolf population must be protected or delisted as a whole placed the wolves back on the Endangered Species Act. He said he had no choice because of the way the act was written — some 25 plus years ago, by Congress — and that individual states could manage their wolf populations only if Congress changed the ESA to allow it. So, that is exactly what Matheson and Chaffetz are doing, playing their proper role. They are not being biologists. They are being congressmen, making sure the laws of the land are correct and serve the people.

Every sportsman, rancher and person who cares about local economies, jobs, and fair and balanced protection of wildlife and pets and livestock supports and thanks the congressmen for fighting to give states the ability to manage and protect these animals by fixing a law that the courts say has some flaws.

Finally, in America, wildlife has been managed for 100 years by state wildlife agencies. And because of these agencies, funded nearly exclusively by hunters and land provided by ranchers, America has more wildlife today than at any point since the European colonization. State agencies manage cougars, bears, elk, deer, moose and bighorn sheep.

Hunters pay to help spotted owls, desert tortoise and neotropical songbirds.

The animal rights groups — who want to see 90 percent of elk calves killed by wolves each year — should explain the rights of elk calves. They fund no land or species conservation and they are not for the animals. They have a purely political agenda to destroy the ranching and hunting economies of the West.

As America struggles to find jobs, it is important the media be a part of the solution, not the problem. Making a bunch of false statements merely fans the flames of discontent. Wolves need to be managed.

Don Peay is the founder of Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife.

**COUGAR TAKE, HHS AS RESOURCE**

WT_STATE	NUMBER KILLED
AZ	2
CA	8
NM	1
NV	1
OR	5
UT	4

**COUGAR TAKE, LIVESTOCK AS RESOURCE**

WT_STATE	NUMBER KILLED
AZ	24
CA	94
CO	11
ID	6
MT	17
NM	6
NV	41
OR	63
TX	19
UT	25
WY	4

**COUGAR TAKE, BOTH HHS AND LIVESTOCK AS RESOURCE**

WT_STATE	NUMBER KILLED
CA	2
NV	2
OR	15