

ADMB Meeting Minutes
Wyoming Game & Fish Headquarters Sage-Grouse Room
Cheyenne, Wyoming
Wednesday, January 8, 2020
Videoconference

Board Members Present:

Co-Chair Doug Miyamoto
Ron Cunningham
Kevin Kisicki
Bob Harlan
Shaun Sims
Tyler Abbott
Sy Gilliland

Co-chair John Kennedy (for Brian Nesvik)
Mike Foster
Bob Phillips
Gay Lynn Byrd
Jeff Boner
Brad Jost

Board Members Absent: Garret Falkenburg, Sandy Underhill

WDA Staff: Jerry Johnson, Stacia Berry

Public in attendance: Mike Barker, Jean Harshbarger, Erik Molvar, Lisa Robertson, Jen Hicks.

Meeting called to order by Co-Chair Doug Miyamoto 9:00 a.m.

Mike Foster moved to accept the agenda and Sy Gilliland seconded. Motion carried.

Doug asked if there were any additions or corrections to the November 1st minutes. Kevin Kisicki moved to accept the minutes as written and Mike Foster seconded. Motion carried.

Jerry Johnson gave the following updates: The ADMB website has been updated and the current minutes and agenda can be found on the main page as well as the next meeting date. All other minutes will be archived. All the website links have been updated and a link to purchase the wildlife damage management stamp has been added. The resource page for special projects cannot hold any more years on the page and therefore only the last 3-4 years projects will be kept and all earlier years will be on an archive page.

The funds spent in 2018-19 for wolf management conducted by USDA- Wildlife Services was \$61,098 and the funds spent in 2019-20 conducted by USDA-Wildlife Services, to date, is \$41,701 with some flying done in December not being billed yet. Lincoln County PMD was reimbursed for \$3,385 spent on wolf management and there is roughly \$100,000 left for wolf management until the end of the fiscal year.

The EPA sent out their interim decision in December with changes to the M-44 label restrictions. These changes will be sent out to all licensed applicators and also be presented at the annual training on January 22 in Casper.

Mike Barker, International Eagle Austringers Association, gave a presentation on the eagle work that the falconers and twenty "volunteer scientists" did across the state to document eagle depredation and how they assisted ranchers with completing the proper forms to receive removal and harassment permits. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service provided four falconry permits and two eagles were captured for falconers in Wyoming and one in Utah. There was discussion on ways to streamline the permits, depredation documentation and trapping processes.

Mike Foster, USDA-Wildlife Services, gave his update on wolf management in the Pinedale area and the number of wolves taken statewide was down significantly from previous years. The number of wolves removed by USDA-Wildlife Services in the predator zone was 17, and 23 statewide. Mike stated that USDA-Wildlife Services had completed their wolf environmental assessment and were under way on the predator environmental assessment which is out for agency comment and due back by early February.

Tyler Abbott, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, reminded everyone that Steve Small is the assistant regional director for Ecological Services. He also mentioned that Scott Becker the large carnivore biologist in Lander was working on the national wolf delisting and this is an ongoing process. Brian Smith has been very responsive to the eagle depredation issues and will continue to work with the various groups.

Stacia Berry asked for public comment.

Jean Harshbarger stated that prairie dogs in their area had been very bad in previous years, and asked if the ADMB had any money to help keep them down. The board suggested that Jean contact her local weed and pest board.

Being no further comments the meeting was adjourned at 10:25 am.

**Animal Damage Management Board Meeting
Tuesday May 12, 2020 & Wednesday May 13, 2020
Zoom Teleconference**

Meeting called to order at 9:00 am by Doug Miyamoto.

Board Members Present:

Doug Miyamoto (Co-Chair)	Shaun Sims	Kevin Kisicki
Brian Nesvik (Co-Chair)	Tyler Abbott	Sandy Underhill
Mike Foster	Ron Cunningham	Garret Falkenburg
Bob Harlan	Jeff Boner	Robin Naeve (for Brad Jost)
Bob Phillips	Gay Lynn Byrd	

WDA Support Staff Present: Jerry Johnson, Kent Drake, Ryleigh Vaughn, JD Sater, Stacia Berry

Public Attendees: Mark Davis, Kristin Combs, Lisa Robertson, Brady Smith, Amy Hendrickson, Diana Holcomb, Valerie Bjorhus, Kelon Smith, Rene LaBare

Shaun Sims moves to approve current agenda, GayLynn seconds. Motion carries.

Doug Miyamoto entertains a motion to approve January 8, 2020 minutes. Jeff Boner moves; Shaun Sims seconds. Motion carries.

Current Funding Statuses—Jerry Johnson

Wolf Funding Status: There is currently \$100,000 of additional funds in the allocation amount for wolf work. Emergency rules are being drafted for this program, but will wait until the next legislative session is finished to finalize. Jerry suggested it would be good idea to take an additional \$100,000 from the budget allocation to make sure there is sufficient funding.

ADMB General Funding Status: There is currently \$6.061 million budgeted for the biennium – \$3.03 million per year. Due to likely upcoming budget cuts in response to COVID-19 shortages, Jerry recommends that 10% of funds be set aside, leaving \$2.727 million to allocate to each district this year.

Rabies Funding Status: After \$20k is deducted for the state vet lab contract and \$10k is deducted for emergencies, the biennial budget is \$90,000—\$45,000 per year. Campbell, Sheridan, and Johnson Counties are applying for use of these funds.

Doug Miyamoto once again noted the impending budget cuts he has been asked to prepare for and advised for 10% of funds held-back, in agreement with Jerry's earlier suggestion. He also stated that, by current order of the governor, any funding amounts over \$100,000 will require special approval. Shaun Sims questioned if these funds were held back, would these funds be reverted if not used, or could the board use them in subsequent years. It was determined by Doug and Jerry that the source of the funds will determine reversion status; however, any funds not utilized in the first year of the biennial fiscal budget may be reused in the second year. Doug or Jerry will clarify with Julie.

Shaun Sims motions to set aside \$100,000 for wolf work. Kevin Kisicki seconds. Motion carries.

Presentations:

Goshen County: Stan Smith and Jim Angle

Requested: \$53,735

Last year there was 480,000 acres worked on 61 different properties. There was \$4,999 of reported (unconfirmed) losses last season. There has also been a resurgence of rabies and distemper in the county. Coyote numbers have been trending slightly downward due to concentrated efforts during the calving and denning seasons. This county's large amount of reserve funds would help them stay afloat if budget cuts were mandatory. Underutilization of aerial programs has led to a slight increase in their reserves.

Carbon County: Josh Peterson, Luke Spanbauer, Charlene Abbott, and Dan Braig *Requested: \$203,000*

This county has a large black bear population and an "exploding" mountain lion population. There have been several incidences of mountain lions threatening personal safety and quick response time has minimized any black bear losses. There have been several wolf pack sightings—it is assumed that it is only a matter of time until they will appear on ranch lands. Coyote damage has increased by approximately 65%; however, the wildlife populations are flourishing with a very high doe-fawn survival rate. Raven, magpie, and crow populations have all been managed effectively by baiting and poisoning. No current rabies issues. Budget increases are due to adding a part-time/apprentice trapper to replace their valuable retiree. Other budget increases would allow for exploring new aerial areas with newfound helicopter access.

Weston County: Carson Keeline, Kassie Swartz, Brad Troftgruben, and Allen Slagle *Requested: \$203,000*

Their primary focus is on coyote predation due to higher reported losses last year. Coyote litter counts are high this year. This, in conjunction with an increase in sheep populations, will lead to trappers being spread much thinner. There was a verified wolf sighting in Newcastle last year with more reported. There were no other noticeable increases in other predator counts. The primary increase in their funding request was to hire an additional trapper for the denning season. Otherwise, they would like to continue their current program as producers are happy with the work. They have demonstrated exceptional reserve-fund management in past years.

Albany County: Joel Modey

Requested: \$154,500

They are looking to continue their current program. Coyote numbers are remaining steady with a slight increase in losses compared to previous years, possibly caused by the increase in reporting from cooperators. They would like to budget for 20 additional hours of helicopter time. Albany County runs a fairly frugal program and is looking to continue maximizing efficiency while meeting demands.

Campbell County: Kevin Geis, Calvin Taylor, and Kenda Ford

Requested: \$204,505/ \$50,000 rabies

There has been a slight increase in predator populations but they are remaining steady for the most part. The lower prey base this year led to increased predation on livestock. They are able to realize a low cost per coyote as a landowner/aerial operator offers discounted prices. Their program is working well but the public demand is increasing. Increase in budgeted requests are due to adjustments in flying and trappers' expenses—it has been 8 years since there were any adjustments made.

Uinta County: Steve Sims and Wade Larson

Requested: \$220,190

They have stopped using government aerial contracts and have started working strictly with a private contractor—so far it has been cheaper than any other chopper applicators. They are also utilizing a trapper/denning specialist through this company. Thus far, they have been effective. There are no other large changes besides broadening their treatment focus to the entire county instead of lambing ranges only. Their large reserve balances are from historical assessment funds that were placed in CD's.

Big Horn County: Mike Burrell, Randall Jones, and Kay Neeves

Requested: \$183,853

They currently employ 1.5 trappers, but their budget request would allot for an increase to 2 full time trappers. They will need approximately \$146,000 minimum to keep program going. Cash reserves will be approximately \$200,000 at the end of the fiscal year. Coyote numbers are stable, possibly due to the preventive work being done.

Park County: Mike Burrell, Monte Nicholson, Rori Renner, Shane Smith, Jacob Jarrett, Reagan Smith

Requested: \$179,000

They are anticipating more wolf activity this year. Their budget request is similar to previous years', but they have increased their admin costs and would like to build a non-lethal trailer system. This trailer would have lights/noises on a timer that could control coyotes. They are passionate that this trailer would be effective. Sheep deaths were slightly higher last year from coyotes—there has also been some predation from ravens.

Crook County: Andrew Litzel and Nick Smith

Requested: \$175,000

Their budget has increased from last year as the Wildlife Service pilot they were utilizing has retired and will be hired as a contract pilot. They have also increased their budget to allow for 3 ground trappers (one more than last year) and would like to increase their chopper hours. The coyote population is growing and leading to more losses, but they are controlling as well as possible. Black bear numbers have increased every year. There have also been issues with wolves and smaller predators. These increased predation numbers have come from areas with large amounts of tree cover that prevents effective aerial application. 14 confirmed sheep losses from bears with other property losses, 11 sheep losses from lions, and an additional calf loss.

Sheridan County: John Auzqui, Kellan Little, Justin Lewis, and Bob Strausser

Requested: \$150,210/ \$20,000 rabies

Not a lot of changes in this program. As of January 1, they are attempting to mark predator GPS waypoints with On-X maps. This will help identify flow and trends for better resource utilization in the future. They received commissioner's tag funds last year that allowed them to take 257 coyotes along the Montana border. This has largely increased their winter survival rates. Because this has been very beneficial to their program, they would like to continue this aerial treatment and have thus requested a subsequent increase in their funding. There have also been issues with eagles in this area. Two new men have been hired to help mitigate rabies—42 tested with 3 positive cases.

Fremont County: Beth Evans, Gloria Philp, and Tracy Frye

Requested: \$233,625

Fremont County has one of the largest land masses in the state with the most diverse types of predators. Last year they purchased two pickups for trappers, which significantly reduced their reserve funds. Without significant funding they would have to do some major cuts to their program. In previous years there were significant wolf problems—they have been able to manage effectively. Mostly coyote predation currently. They have asked for more helicopter hours that would be a great advantage to their program and add safety benefits. Their raven and crow work stays relatively steady.

Public Comment:

Kristin Combs commented on the negative view of predators—she questioned if the board would be willing to learn about non-lethal predator control methods and how that information might be disseminated. The board concluded that more information is always welcome and Mike Foster stated that there will be an expert dedicated solely to non-lethal methods.

Meeting will reconvene at 8:00 on Wednesday—dismissed at 4:00 pm.

Wednesday May, 13, 2020: Meeting called to order at 8:00 am by Doug Miyamoto

Presentations Continued:

Natrona County: Mary Owens

Requested: \$200,000

Last year provided prime conditions for coyotes and thus they utilized a large portion of their fly hours. This resulted in over 1550 coyotes killed, which is increased from previous years by about 200. Deer numbers have also increased which illustrates the effectiveness of their efforts. The increase in their budget request is to fund more flying hours. They had raven issues last year, although work is spotty.

Converse County: Tim Pexton and Casey Tillard

Requested: \$252,064

The operation of this program is dependent on receiving state funds. Funds will be used for 2.5 trappers and a private pilot, which has been effective in keeping coyote numbers controlled. The increase in budget request includes funding for an additional trapper to cover the South part of the county as well as they do the North and/or to cover denning season where the most losses were realized. There has been a slight upward trend in number of losses. Last year, they started a small Raven program but it is undetermined as to whether or not it will be continued.

Johnson County: John Camino, TJ Tavegie, and Dave Hall

Requested: \$150,000/\$20,000 rabies

They employ 2 trappers that split the county as well as 2 seasonal skunk trappers for rabies control. The bulk of their revenue is from ADMB grants. Johnson County, the City of Buffalo, and the Town of Kaycee all contribute matching funds. Their budget increases consists mostly of contract changes. Over 95% of budgeted expenses are for "boots on the ground". They have taken roughly 1,000 coyotes which is on track to be the highest number in 10 years. There has been a large influx of bears and lions as well as wolf sightings. Coyote and raven losses have both increased. Livestock losses amounted to over \$100,000. Rabies incidents are trending down, with 1 positive rabies test last year.

Hot Springs County: Mike Burrell and Brett Belden

Requested: \$199,000

Changes to their budget for this year show a cut in aerial and operating hours, which they planned to use to replace their side-by-side. A minimum of \$185,000 is needed to run the program with no changes. This county is geographically small but has a very complex predator system. Predations have included coyote, fox, raven and eagle. Coyote predation has been low due to work by the county predator management board. There were 3 wolves removed since April of this year. Annual kills show 0-5 from wolves, 5-15 from coyotes, and a large number of losses (no exact estimate) from grizzly bears.

Niobrara County: Barb Kilmer and Kitson Boldon

Requested: \$150,000

This county takes roughly 1300 coyotes annually, with an average cost of \$182 each. Their 2 trappers cover their own expenses. There seems to be an endless supply of predator seed stock coming from South Dakota and Nebraska. They choose not to utilize helicopters because of the high associated costs. This program is efficient and is known for their low-cost operation. Funds in their reserve were obtained before this state program was established. Ravens, crows, and eagles are not a large problem because sheep numbers have decreased. Mountain lions have been a large problem.

Washakie County: Mike Burrell, Rolly Redland, and Mark Dooley

Requested: \$215,000

1.5 trappers have been managing numbers in this county well. Coyote numbers are stable with a slight increase from previous years. Overall predation rates were average this year—8 verified cases. Mountain lion and black bear predations have increased in the summer. Last year, they decreased their budgeted aerial hours but would like to increase again as their aerial program has proven very effective. If they are to face budget cuts, they would like the priority to remain on increasing aerial hours. \$143,000 would be needed to cover aerial hours increase.

Sweetwater: Jim Burnett, Dick Thoman, and Gary Zakotnik

Requested: \$145,000

Sweetwater PMD has reworked their program and they are now using a private contractor for predator work; the budget surplus shown was due to underutilization of fly hours by WS over the last two years. They are largely dependent on state funding and have been working very hard to get caught up on predator requests. There have been wolf activity reports although none were confirmed. They would like to start earlier next year to focus on killing female coyotes that are still pregnant. Ravens are dealt with by producers alone as WS is the only entity allowed to do the work. Other birds have not been an issue.

Lincoln County: Steve Moyle and Jon Child

Requested: \$200,000

They took 342 coyotes this year, 190 of which were taken by air. Employees were reduced from 3 down to 1 which has spread them pretty thin. Their wolf situation is ongoing and is time consuming/expensive to control. Verified losses this year from wolves: 24 lambs and 2 ewes. Verified losses from coyotes: 4 calves and 95 lambs to coyotes. There have been additional eagle and raven losses. Their raven problem is ongoing, especially on calving and lambing grounds. 127 ravens removed last year helped considerably with predation. The supply of predators is seemingly endless and their current budget request would cause them to dip into their reserve funds by approximately \$7,000.

Public Comment:

Amy Hendrickson questioned the review needed for amounts over \$100,000 and what that might mean. Doug and Brian explained that under this review, the approved amounts may be changed. Amy noted that this brings a large amount of uncertainty for these predator management boards.

Gary Zakotnik raised concerned because Sweetwater was one of the only counties that had a decrease in funding because they had a cash carryover, but noticed today that other counties have larger reserves. Shaun Sims commented that cash carryover is a simple screenshot and is not an accurate depiction of trends, and that many other items go into consideration when deciding on allocations.

Allocation Discussion:

Bob Harlan moved that 10% be reduced from the total allocation amounts in light of likely budget cuts. Shaun Sims seconds. Motion carries.

After the 10% reduction, \$2,727,000 is available to allocate this fiscal year, with an additional \$45,000 in rabies funds.

Bob Harlan moves to allocate funds according to 2019 amounts and adjust additional funds individually thereafter. Gay Lynn Byrd seconds. The motion carries with 6 votes in favor and 5 against.

Brian Nesvik motions that they allocate additional funds to Big Horn County to raise approved amount to \$146,000. Bob Harlan seconds. Motion carries.

Bob Harlan suggested his adjusted amounts for each county which included increases to Carbon County (by \$12,000 to \$150,000 total), Hot Springs County (by \$10,000 to \$190,000 total), and Washakie County (by \$27,000 to \$157,000 total). Ron Cunningham would like to move the leftover funds to Fremont County which would raise their final amount to \$190,000. Shaun motioned that he would like to see Sweetwater get more funding due to lack of predator fees, however final amounts were never agreed upon and the motion was withdrawn. Reference final allocation spreadsheet for exact amounts.

Bob Harlan made a motion to approve final amounts as presented. Gay Lynn seconds. Motion carries.

Rabies Allocation Discussion:

Rabies requests exceeded funding totals by approximately 50%. Doug Miyamoto questioned the need in each county. Jerry Johnson stated that all counties have significant need. Shaun Sims made a motion to fund Campbell and Johnson counties for \$17,500 each and Sheridan county for \$10,000. Brian Nesvik seconds. Motion carries.

Other Business:

Next meeting will be on June 11th via Zoom, specific times to be determined.

Doug Miyamoto entertained a motion to adjourn. Garret Falkenburg moved. Shaun Sims seconds. Motion carries—meeting adjourned at 12:33 pm.

Animal Damage Management Board Meeting
Thursday, June 11, 2020
Zoom Meeting

Call to order 8:00a.m. – Co-Chair, Brian Nesvik

Introductions

Board Members Present:

Co-Chair Doug Miyamoto	Ron Cunningham
Co-Chair Brian Nesvik	Kevin Kisicki
Bob Phillips	Bob Harlan
Gay Lynn Byrd	Mike Foster
Garret Falkenburg	Jeff Boner
Tyler Abbott	Robin Naeve
Sandy Underhill	

Board Members Absent: Sy Gilliland

WDA Support Staff: Jerry Johnson, Stacia Berry

Public in attendance: Mark Davis, Amy Hendrickson, Lisa Robertson

Co-chair Brian Nesvik had ADMB members introduce themselves and the agenda was approved.

Tyler Abbott moved to approve the May 12-13, 2020 minutes Shaun Simms seconded. Motion carried.

Jerry Johnson gave a breakdown of the funding for the projects; there will be \$274, 000 available for special projects as the Game and Fish has committed to \$200,000 per year and the balance will be ADMB funds. He also informed the board that the Wildlife Services contract needed to be amended due to the budget cuts from \$100,000 to \$80,000.

Shaun Sims moved to amend the Wildlife Services contract to \$80,000, Kevin Kisicki second, motion passed.

Project presentations

- Wyoming Stewardship Project, Educator Workshops – Jessie Dafoe and Rindy West
- Coyote Control Targeted on Mule Deer Fawning grounds to protect SW Big Horn Mule Deer – Mike Burrell
- 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
- Gros Ventre Elk and Wolf Interaction Project – Allison Courtemanch
- 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

- Dart Rifles for Large Carnivore (Trophy Game Animals) Control - Brian DeBolt
- Rifles for Large Carnivore (Trophy Game Animals) Control - Brian DeBolt
- Cadaver Mannequins and simulated shotguns for Predator Attack Training – Brian DeBolt

The board broke for lunch at noon and reconvened at 12:55 p.m. to hear more project proposals.

- Sweetwater enhanced predator control sheep and wildlife control – Gary Zakotnik, Jim Burnett
- Laramie Region New bear trap – Teal Cufaude
- Laramie Region Pennock Mtn. Bear Resistant Food Storage - Teal Cufaude
- Mapping Bobcat Habitat Suitability across Wyoming – Tim Woolley, Joe Holbrook

Public comment

Brian Nesvik asked for Public comments. -- Mark Davis asked if the funding decision of the meeting would be open to the public and Brian Nesvik let him know that the entire meeting was open to the public.

Amy Hendrickson thanked everyone for their input and reminded the board the focus of the ADMB was for predator control. There were no more comments from the public.

Allocation & committee discussion:

Brian Nesvick led discussion to go through the projects individually.

During discussion Shaun Sims moved Bob Harlan 2nd that the Wyoming Stewardship Project be funded for \$6000 - \$2,250 with ADMB funds and \$3750 900 series funds. Motion Passed

With further discussion Shaun Sims moved with Gay Lynn Byrd 2nd to fund the projects with Jerry Johnson to follow up on the Eagle project Federal Banding permit before the Eagle project could be funded with the following amounts:

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Project</u>
\$25,000	Large Carnivore - Livestock Depredation Prevention and Control
\$12,000	Coyote Control on Mule Deer Fawning grounds to protect SW Big Horn Mule Deer
\$4,000	Natrona County Raven Removal
\$25,000	Coyote Removal to Enhance Bates Hole mule deer fawn survival
\$25,000	Coyote Removal to Enhance Stove Gulch Mule Deer Fawn Survival
\$45,000	Bighorn Sheep lamb survival study
\$30,000	Effects of predation on survival of newborn mule deer in the Wyoming Range
\$18,000	Gros Ventre Elk and Wolf Interaction Project
\$40,000	Absaroka Carnivore- Livestock interaction study
\$25,000	Evaluating best practices for relocating Golden Eagles
\$22,750	Sweetwater enhanced predator control sheep and wildlife control
\$0	Dart Rifles for Large Carnivore (Trophy Game Animals) Control
\$0	Rifles for Large Carnivore (Trophy Game Animals) Control
\$0	Cadaver Mannequins and simulated shotguns for Predator Attack Training
\$0	Laramie Region New bear trap
\$0	Laramie Region Pennock Mtn. Bear Resistant Food Storage
\$0	Mapping Bobcat Habitat Suitability across Wyoming

Brian Nesvick called for further discussion a motion was made by Garrett 2nd by Bob Phillips to move \$2,750 from the Sweetwater county project to the Cadaver mannequin project. With no other changes Brian called for question on the amendment and the amendment was passed.

Brian then called for question on the funding as amended motion passed. The projects were funded as amended below:

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Project</u>
\$25,000	Large Carnivore - Livestock Depredation Prevention and Control
\$12,000	Coyote Control on Mule Deer Fawning grounds to protect SW Big Horn Mule Deer
\$4,000	Natrona County Raven Removal
\$25,000	Coyote Removal to Enhance Bates Hole mule deer fawn survival
\$25,000	Coyote Removal to Enhance Stove Gulch Mule Deer Fawn Survival
\$45,000	Bighorn Sheep lamb survival study
\$30,000	Effects of predation on survival of newborn mule deer in the Wyoming Range
\$18,000	Gros Ventre Elk and Wolf Interaction Project
\$40,000	Absaroka Carnivore- Livestock interaction study
\$25,000	Evaluating best practices for relocating Golden Eagles
\$20,000	Sweetwater enhanced predator control sheep and wildlife control
\$0	Dart Rifles for Large Carnivore (Trophy Game Animals) Control
\$0	Rifles for Large Carnivore (Trophy Game Animals) Control
\$2,750	Cadaver Mannequins and simulated shotguns for Predator Attack Training
\$0	Laramie Region New bear trap
\$0	Laramie Region Pennock Mtn. Bear Resistant Food Storage
\$0	Mapping Bobcat Habitat Suitability across Wyoming

The board changed the date of the November meeting to November 5th at 9am to avoid conflict with the election date.

With no further comments the meeting adjourned at 2:35pm.

**ADMB Meeting
September 10, 2020
Zoom Teleconference**

Members Present: Doug Miyamoto (Co-Chair), Brain Nesvik (Co-Chair), Bob Phillips, Jeff Boner, Kevin Kisicki, Mike Foster, Ron Cunningham, Sandy Underhill, Tyler Abbott, Bob Harlan

Board Members Absent: Brad Jost, Garrett Falkenburg, Gay Lynn Byrd, Shaun Sims, Sy Gilliland

WDA Staff: Jerald Johnson, JD Sater, Kent Drake, Ryleigh Vaughn

Public in Attendance: Amy Hendrickson, Scott Becker, Diana Holcomb, Brain DeBolt, Lisa Robertson

Meeting called to order at 11:05 am by Doug Miyamoto

Discussion on Gray Wolf Depredation Compensation Program Regulations and Budget

Jerry Johnson explained the gray wolf depredation compensation program was added as a line item for the budget in the most recent legislature session. The original allotment for this program was \$45,000. In light of the Stage 2, 20% mandated budget reductions it is suggested that the amount of available funds be reduced to \$36,000 for the biennium.

Doug asked for a motion to accept the proposed budget cuts. Ron motioned to approve, Jeff seconded. Motion carries.

JD briefly explained the emergency rules for the project: it will only apply to areas where the gray wolf is designated as a predatory animal. The ADMB officer will receive and review applications for completeness. Funds will be allocated in two time periods: September 30, 2020 through June 30, 2021 and July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. Approved funds can be prorated or eliminated as a result of budget cuts, and leftover funds can roll over to the next year. These emergency rules have been prepared along with regular rules. Initially proceeding with the emergency rules will allow claims to be submitted and reviewed sooner, after which the regular rules can be adopted.

Doug added as clarification that the definition of "livestock" in these rules would allow the inclusion of guard animals in verified losses.

Mike stated that issues may arise in the timely verification of losses for the counties in which the US Wildlife Service does not have a presence. While this is not a major concern, Mike would like to address this possibility. Kent stated that Game and Fish had helped in the past. Brian

Nesvik stated that Game and Fish has taken a look for unknown losses, but once it was determined a predatory animal outside of the trophy game area was responsible it was immediately turned over to Wildlife Services. Doug suggested that those who might be affected by Wildlife Services' delay in response time take necessary measures to help while waiting for a response, such as taking detailed pictures.

Doug asked for a motion to approve the emergency rules as written. Mike Foster made the motion to approve the emergency rules. Kevin seconded the motion. Motion carries.

Doug asked for motion to approve the regular rules. Mike made the motion to adopt the regular rules as written. Ron seconded. Motion carries.

Fremont County Mule Deer Project Extension

Jerry explained that Fremont County was not able to find an aircraft in a timely manner to carry out their 2020 Mule Deer Project. They would like to seek an extension from the board to use these funds next year. Jerry explained that, after board approval, this would require an amendment to their grant signed by both the department and the county.

Brain Nesvik moves to allow for a one-year extension for Fremont County. Ron seconded the motion. Motion Carries

Public Comments

Diana Holcomb inquired if training trappers to identify wolf kills was part of the emergency rules. Doug clarified that this was not included in the rules.

Amy thanked Doug for following up on her question about guard animals being included in the definition of "loss of livestock".

Board Comments

Brian Nesvik provided an update on the process of the Game and Fish's potential changes in statutes and regulations for trapping.

No further business

Meeting Adjourned at 11:52 am.

**ADMB Meeting
November 5, 2020
Zoom Teleconference**

Members Present: Doug Miyamoto (Co-Chair), Angi Bruce for Brian Nesvik, Bob Phillips, Jeff Boner, Kevin Kisicki, Mike Foster, Ron Cunningham, Tyler Abbott, Bob Harlan, Gay Lynn Byrd

Board Members Absent: Brad Jost, Garrett Falkenburg, Shaun Sims, Sy Gilliland, Sandy Underhill

WDA Staff: Jerald Johnson, Ryleigh Vaughn, JD Sater, Stacia Berry

Public in Attendance: Scott Edberg, Myrna Miller, Josh Jackson, Amy Hendrickson, Trevor Walch, Scott Becker, Mark Davis, Rene LaBare Donal O'Toole, Lisa Robertson, John Kennedy, Meredith Wood

Meeting called to order at 9:02 am by Doug Miyamoto

Ron motioned to approve June and August 2020 minutes as presented. Kevin seconds. Motion carries

Rabies Testing Update

Dr. Myrna Miller shared the progress of recent rabies cases across the state for 2018, 2019, and 2020. Sheridan and Johnson are common occurrences; there was a positive case for a cow and horse in Laramie County in 2018. Rabies cases then increased in Goshen in 2019. For 2020, Campbell has had several positive cases which is an unusual occurrence. While only 3-5% of bats tested have a positive result, 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/Nonlethal Summer Program

Mike Foster reported during fiscal year 2020, 31 wolves were caught--21 of which were caught in the "predator zone" (including 2 trapped, collared, and released) and 10 of which were trophy game animals. The bulk of their funds for 2020 was spent on Helicopter work in Sublette County. Wolf work is down this year compared to previous years (37, 51, 52, and 111, respectively). They are not sure about what has caused this decline.

With funds received from congress, they did a lot of preventative fencing (bee hives, livestock enclosures, etc) in order to prevent large predator conflicts. They also purchased two non-lethal trailers 1) to remove livestock carcasses that could attract predators and 2) to deter predators with lights, sirens, music run by motion sensors. These methods have been effective in preventing conflicts thus far.

Landowner Coupon County Designation Discussion

Jerry Johnson shared that there was an issue with landowner coupons properly designating the 50% funds to be distributed back to the various counties. After researching, Jerry concluded that the ADMB had not received the proper affidavit from landowners designating their county. John Kennedy stated that, after some research they understand the process better and have a solution to get the funds allocated to the counties correctly. Meredith Wood shared some shortfalls in the documentation system in the past and shared their plan to increase documentation so that the ADMB has the paperwork necessary to proceed. Meredith will work with the Wyoming Department of Agriculture to find a process that works.

Program Updates

Wolf Compensation Rules Update: Jerry Johnson shared that the emergency rules were accepted by the Governor's Office and shared that the 45 day comment period would end on November 9, 2020. There has only been one comment received so far in regards to the predation area, to which the ADMB will have to draft a response. The regular rules will be revisited at the next meeting in December.

HD Ranch Project Update: Jerry Johnson shared that \$5,000 was designated to run electric fencing around their property. They were not able to reach an agreement and this funding was never issued to them. This funding will revert to the program.

Possibility to Adopt Resolution to set dates for 2021 Meetings

By accepting this resolution, it would allow the proposed dates (Dec 1, 2020; January 19, 2021; May 18&19, 2021; June 10, 2021 and November 4, 2021) to become regular meetings. This would allow greater flexibility in what topics can be discussed at each meeting. There was no interest by the board at this time, so special meetings will continue to be set up as needed.

Public Comments

Donal O'Toole (State Vet Lab) inquired if the ADMB has considered vaccines for rabies in skunks and racoons. Doug and Jerry stated that they had not been made aware of any such efforts. Jerry asked if the Vet Lab would be able to put a presentation for the special project meeting in June. Doug asked that the appropriate entity send that proposal and the ADMB would not be opposed to looking more into it.

No further business

Meeting adjourned at 10:04 by Doug Miyamoto