# **MONTANA WOLF PROGRAM - WEEKLY REPORT**

**TO:** Interested Parties

**FROM:** Ken McDonald, Wildlife Bureau Chief

**SUBJECT:** Wolf Program Activities and Related Information

WEEK OF: December 11-17

Contributors to the Montana Wolf Weekly are Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP), Universities, USDA Wildlife Services (WS), the National Park Service (NPS; Glacier NP; Yellowstone National Park will be reported in the Wyoming Wolf Weekly), US Forest Service, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, and the Blackfeet Nation.

Highlighted activities relate to: monitoring, wolf-livestock interactions, outreach and education, research, law enforcement, and other miscellaneous topics of public interest. The Weekly Report will be available each Monday, covering the previous week. It and other wolf program information (including the 2009 annual report) can be found on the FWP website.

NOTE: Beginning January 1, 2011, the Weekly Report will no longer be distributed through email and will continue to be available online at: http://fwp.mt.gov/wildthings/management/wolf/default.html

## **WOLF MONITORING ACTIVITIES:**

Flights: Dec 16 – Lance completed a monitoring flight.

Bradley and volunteer Janina Bradley (no relation), have been conducting snow track surveys in the Fish Creek drainage for the Cache Creek pack and in the west Bitterroot for the Lake Como pack. Current estimates for both packs from tracking are 7 and 4, respectively.

## **WOLF-LIVESTOCK ACTIVITIES:**

12/15: WS investigated and confirmed a stock dog as being killed by wolves in the West Boulder within the territory of the Baker Mountain pack. WS has been authorized to remove two wolves from this pack and the landowner has been issued a Shoot On Site permit.

12/18: Bradley received a call from a landowner in the Blackfoot Valley who reported wolf tracks in their cow pasture. Bradley visited on 12/19 and confirmed tracks of at least 2 wolves and hung fladry around the perimeter of the pasture.

### **OUTREACH AND EDUCATION:**

#### **RESEARCH ACTIVITIES:**

### LAW ENFORCEMENT AND RELATED ACTIVITIES:

## **OTHER UPDATES:**

To learn more about Montana's wolf population, the Montana program and to help FWP monitor wolves by reporting wolf sign, visit FWP online. Use the following shortcut link and be sure to update your bookmarks: <a href="http://fwp.mt.gov/wolf">http://fwp.mt.gov/wolf</a>

To anonymously report a dead or injured wolf or suspected illegal activity, call: 1-800-TIP-MONT or 1-800-847-6668.

To request an investigation of injured or dead livestock, call USDA Wildlife Services directly in western Montana / Helena area at 406-458-0106 or in eastern Montana at the statewide office at 406-657-6464. Or, call your nearest FWP representative to have your call referred to Wildlife Services.

If you have a confirmed or probable livestock death loss due to wolves, USDA Wildlife Services will supply you with a copy of the Loss Reimbursement Application form. For more information, see <a href="http://liv.mt.gov/liv/LM/index.asp">http://liv.mt.gov/liv/LM/index.asp</a> Or, contact the Livestock Loss Reduction and Mitigation Program Coordinator, George Edwards at the Montana Department of Livestock at 406-444-5609.