MONTANA WOLF PROGRAM - WEEKLY REPORT

TO: Interested Parties

FROM: Ken McDonald, Wildlife Bureau Chief

SUBJECT: Wolf Program Activities and Related Information

WEEK OF: February 11-17, 2012

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.

PROGRAM UPDATES:

All Montana wolf management units closed to hunting Feb 15. A total of 166 wolves were legally harvested during the 2011-2012 take period. Final wolf harvest statistics will be available soon.

Weekly reports for 2012 will be shown in an additive, running tally fashion. New incidents will be pasted to the bottom of the tables each week.

Wolf specialists are busy preparing the 2011 Annual Report which will be available later this winter.

To learn more about Montana's wolf population, the Montana program and to help FWP monitor wolves by reporting wolf sign, visit FWP online. http://fwp.mt.gov/fishAndWildlife/management/wolf/

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 http://liv.mt.gov/default.mcpx Or, contact the Livestock Loss Reduction and Mitigation Program Coordinator, George Edwards at the Montana Department of Livestock at 406-444-5609.

WOLF-LIVESTOCK CONFLICTS

Date	General Area (County)	Pack Name	Livestock Type and # (injured livestock (i), probable kills (p) or confirmed kills (c)					Land Type	Authorized Control Action
			Cattle	Sheep	Goat/ Llama	Horse	Dog		
1/1/12	North of Niarada (Flathead)	Irvine	1c					Tribal	Initial response*
1/3/12	Grant (Beaverhead)	Unknown		1c				Private	Collar 1/Initial response
1/24/12	W of Arlee (Sanders)	Sleeping Woman (CSKT)	1c 2p						Initial response*
2/8/12	Potomac (Missoula)	Union Peak suspected					1	Private	None
2012 Running Total*			2c 2p	1c	0	0	1		

*Initial response allows for the removal of any wolves returning to the depredation site.

WOLF CAPTURE, COLLARING, REMOVAL ACTIVITIES

Date	General Area (County)	Pack Name	Capture/Collaring			Lethal Removal (# wolves)		Control Action -ongoing/ completed	Other Mortalities (by cause)
			FWP (monitoring/ research)	WS	Other (tribal/ incidental)	WS	Landowner		
1/12/12	Mt Haggin (Deer Lodge)	Pintler				2		Ongoing (Kill 3/Collar 1 from 12/2/11 cattle depredation incident)	
1/20/12	NW Niarada (Flathead)	Irvine				1		Ongoing	
1/25/12	(Gallatin)	Bear Trap	2						
1/24/12	Bitterroot Valley (Missoula)	One Horse Creek							1 (killed by a lion)
2/1/12	Jefferson Crk - E of Helmville (Powell)			1					
2/6/12	(Sanders)	Garden Crk			2 (CSKT/WS)	2 (incidental mortalities from CSKT/WS capture effort)			
2012 Running Total*			2	1	2	5			1** + 166 legal harvest as of 2/15/12

*There is often a lag time between activities and reporting due to ongoing investigations. Running tallies are estimates based on known data at the time of 'wolf weekly' publication and may not match final annual report numbers.

**Other mortalities to date include a lion kill.