

**Feb. 6, 2015**

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service**

**Statement Regarding Incident with Unidentified Canids in Catron County, New Mexico**

On February 4, 2015, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) was notified of an incident that occurred in the afternoon of February 3, in Catron County, New Mexico, in which a rancher and several of his dogs had an altercation with a group of canids of unknown origin. According to the report received, the rancher and his dogs encountered the eight canids at a possible depredation site of a calf.

The Service and U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Wildlife Services personnel are conducting a thorough review of the incident. The agencies are working with the rancher to gather information to determine the species of the canids that were involved in the altercation with the dogs. Wildlife Services investigated and found no injuries to the dogs.

The Service is taking this incident very seriously and will provide additional information as more is known about the incident.