

Monthly "tweet sheet" of activities assisting the Eastern Shoshone and Northern Arapaho Tribes on the Wind River Reservation, WY - February 2020

US Fish & Wildlife Service, Lander Fish & Wildlife Conservation Office



To meet our trust responsibilities of assisting the Tribes with sensible fish and wildlife conservation, we performed the following activities:

Installed wolverine camera monitoring sites at Bold Mountain and Trail Ridge, completing the set-up of 5 sites.

Conducted a 2-day aerial survey of the elk population in the Owl Creek Mountain herd. Used GPS-collared elk as marks in a mark/resight method to estimate population size.

In cooperation with University Wyoming's Migration Initiative and Shoshone and Arapaho Fish & Game, we surveyed mule deer on winter range to determine presence of juvenile with GPS collared does. We intend to capture and collar their off-spring to look at generational learning of migration patterns.

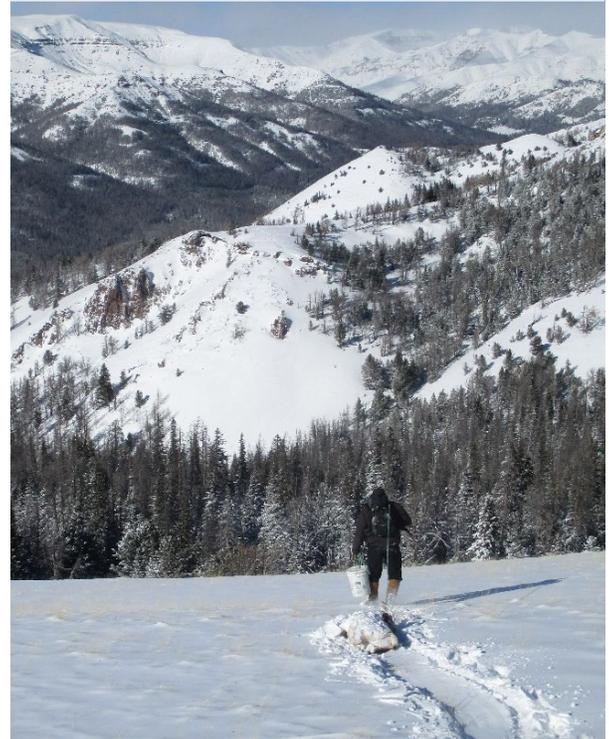
Retrieved a GPS collar located above Upper Dinwoody Lake. Investigated scene and determined that the collared mule deer doe was predated by a coyote pack.

Counted the number of trumpeter swans present along Bull Lake Creek, and Dinwoody Marsh and Lower Lake observing 62 total swans (46 adults, 16 juveniles). A pair of juveniles were found dead on Dinwoody Marsh and sent to the Wyoming Game & Fish Lab for necropsy. It was determined that both died from ingesting lead shot that they likely picked up when sifting through pond muck in search of food. We are uncertain as to the origin of the lead as these swans may have migrated from distant reaches.

Attended a livestock producer meeting hosted by the Wyoming Game & Fish and presented the results of brucellosis testing in elk on Wind River. Meeting was to address chronic elk damage to haystacks and co-mingling with livestock in the North Fork Popo Agie area.

Met with the Wyoming Game & Fish personnel regarding collaborative sauger management and future research needs. Discussed appropriate

Heading to a wolverine monitoring site



Mule deer winter range along the North Fork Little Wind River



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Acknowledgements: The Fish & Wildlife Conservation Office located in Lander, Wyoming, has assisted the Eastern Shoshone and Northern Arapaho Tribes with fisheries conservation since 1941 and wildlife conservation since 1975. We greatly appreciate the opportunity to assist the Tribes with conserving and enhancing their 2.2 million acres of beautiful landscape, and the abundant fish and wildlife that reside there. Our special thanks go to the Shoshone & Arapaho Fish & Game Department: Art Lawson, Ben Snyder, Justin Friday, Wilma Wagon, and Ivan Brown without whose cooperation we could not accomplish our mission.

techniques for assessing the effectiveness of the temporary hatchery and stocking program used between 2012 and 2016 to stimulate sauger recruitment in the Wind River.

Met with BIA range personnel to discuss potential weed treatment projects and other fish and wildlife habitat improvements projects.

Met with Shoshone Business Council, sub-committee members, S&A Fish & Game and local Wyoming Game & Fish representative to discuss the Eastern Shoshone Tribe's pursuit of off-Reservation hunting per 1868 treaty rights.



2 juvenile trumpeter swans that perished after ingesting lead shot, Dinwoody Marsh

March 2020 proposed activities:

Capture and collar juvenile off-spring of collared mule deer does to assess the degree of generational learning of migration routes.

Recapture GPS collared bighorn ewes in the Red Creek area to collect disease, body condition and pregnancy data as part of on-going nutritional and lamb survival study headed by University of Wyoming.

Begin lek surveys for sage grouse.

Investigate mortality sites and retrieve deer & elk GPS collars as-needed.

Continue monthly swan survey.

April 2020 proposed activities:

Continue lek surveys for sage-grouse

Investigate mortality sites and retrieve deer & elk GPS collars as-needed.

Continue monthly swan survey.