



Getting the answers to many wildlife management problems through research is another objective of the unit program. Animals studied have ranged from grizzly bears to cotton rats.

The grizzly has been studied comprehensively by students and personnel of the Montana Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit. Located at Montana State University at Missoula, the unit has made a total of 1,809 different observations of marked and unmarked grizzly bears over a three-year period. All the marked bears were trapped in Yellowstone National Park, anesthetized, weighed, measured, tagged, and color-marked before being released. One phase of the study has indicated that there is a high mortality of grizzly bear cubs during their first winter.

Cotton rat studies are being conducted by the Oklahoma unit at Oklahoma State University, Stillwater. The cotton rats, which multiply rapidly, cause millions of dollars in crop damage annually throughout the South. The Oklahoma unit research includes studies of such natural population controls as parasites and diseases.

A few of the wildlife species being studied by units around the country include bobwhite quail in Alabama, beaver in Maine, peccary or javalina in Arizona, muskrat in Ohio, and elk in Idaho.

Conservation education activities with Boy Scouts, 4-H Clubs, sportsmen's clubs and other organizations and technical assistance to State and similar agencies are other objectives of the unit program.

Other Cooperative Wildlife Research Units are functioning in Alaska, Colorado, Massachusetts, Missouri, New York, Pennsylvania, Utah, and Virginia.

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