

DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

news release

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Parker 202/343-5634

PUBLIC HEARINGS ANNOUNCED FOR ANIMAL DAMAGE CONTROL STUDY

Four public hearings will be held in late May 1978 to take oral or written testimony on substantive aspects of the Animal Damage Control Policy Study now being conducted by Interior's U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, according to a notice in the April 20, 1978, Federal Register.

The study is an examination of the predation problems affecting the western livestock industry and of the environmental concerns and impacts associated with predator damage control. It will present options, including the consequences of various levels and methods of predator control. The first draft report of the study will be available to the public on May 5.

The Federal Register notice also announced a meeting, open to the public, of the Animal Damage Control Policy Study Advisory Committee at 9 a.m. on May 21 at the Rodeway Inn, 29th and Chinden Road, Boise, Idaho 83704.

The committee provides advisory services in coordination with a policy analysis the Fish and Wildlife Service is making of the problems of mammal predation on western livestock with major emphasis on coyote depredation. The analysis is addressing issues related to mammal predation damage as opposed to migratory bird damage control. Any member of the public may submit to the committee written statements concerning the matters to be discussed.

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The first draft report of the study may be obtained from the following Fish and Wildlife Service offices.

Lloyd 500 Building, Suite 1692, 500 N.E. Mulnomah Street, Portland, Oregon 97232 (503/231-6118)

500 Gold Avenue, S.W. (P.O. Box 1306), Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103 (505/766-2321)

Denver Federal Center, 10597 West Sixth Avenue (P.O. Box 25486), Denver, Colorado 80225 (303/234-2209)

18th and C Streets, N.W., Room 3240, Washington, D.C. 20240 (202/343-5634)

The dates and locations of the public hearings are listed below. Each hearing will begin at 9 a.m. Oral testimony will be limited to 15 minutes for each witness. Written testimony is limited to 10 double-spaced pages, and it must be submitted no later than the close of the final hearing in Washington, D.C.

Those wishing to testify orally should submit a written notice of their intent no later than May 15 to Sheila Minor, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240 (202/343-4945). A witness list indicating the order of witness participation will be sent to all those desiring to testify and will be posted in the hearing room vicinity one day prior to the hearing.

Persons wishing further information about the committee meeting or the public hearings, or who wish to submit written statements, should contact Ms. Minor.

May 22, 1978	Boise, Idaho, Main Ballroom, Boise State University, 1910 University Drive
May 23, 1978	Casper, Wyoming, Main Ballroom, Ramada Inn, I-25 and Center Street
May 25, 1978	San Angelo, Texas, Main Ballroom, Houston-Harte Center, San Angelo State University
May 31, 1978	Washington, D.C., Auditorium, Department of the Interior, 18th and C Streets, N.W.