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Mexican Wolf Reintroduction Project

Interagency Field Team

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Statement of Use and Receipt by Non-agency Individuals for Radio-telemetry Equipment to Monitor Mexican Wolves (Range Rider Receiver Agreement)

The Mexican Wolf Reintroduction Project has developed and implemented a program for limited loan of radio-telemetry receivers to private individuals within the MWEPA, who meet established criteria based on demonstrated need to utilize such equipment to assist ongoing management efforts (see "Assigning Radio Telemetry Equipment" below). The Project's Interagency Field Team (IFT) has been delegated authority to implement and administer this program.

The primary goal of this program is to provide monitoring tools to non-agency, private individuals being impacted by Mexican wolves that will assist in developing and implementing proactive management measures to reduce or eliminate depredation and nuisance incidents involving Mexican wolves. Non-agency personnel (private individuals or government agencies not associated with the IFT) can be issued radio-telemetry equipment to monitor wolves near livestock or private property for the purpose of aiding in detection and prevention of livestock depredation and nuisance behavior by Mexican wolves. For these goals/purposes to be achieved, it is important that equipment participants provide information back to the IFT so associated situations can be closely monitored and actions evaluated for effectiveness in order to facilitate the evaluation of additional proactive measures that may be taken by the IFT, as circumstances dictate. This Project SOP is structured to facilitate and promote a program and related processes that will be cooperative in nature, which will help to create and foster improved working relationships with stakeholders that are affected by this Project.

Agencies cooperating in the Reintroduction Project consider loan of radio-telemetry equipment a very sensitive issue. Therefore, it is critically important that participants in this program safeguard all equipment issued through the program.

Procedures:

1. Assigning Radio Telemetry Equipment

- a. Private individuals can verbally request radio telemetry equipment to IFT personnel for nuisance and/or depredation behavior by Mexican wolves.
- b. The appropriate IFT personnel (based on appropriate state, tribal, federal jurisdiction) will evaluate the request for radio-telemetry equipment. If the request is approved, IFT personnel will provide identified private individuals with the required instruction and

training on the use and care of equipment that is issued by the IFT. Conditions in which the temporary loan of radio telemetry equipment may be granted include:

- i. Any issuance of telemetry equipment will be contingent upon availability of such equipment and/or the availability of funds to purchase additional equipment.
 - ii. Radio collared Mexican wolves have been located in the equipment recipient's area of residence or operation.
 - iii. The presence of wolves is related to a specific issue such as a confirmed depredation, nuisance incident, or proactive management plan designed to reduce the potential for depredations, as determined by the IFT on a case-by-case basis.
- c. With the agreement (**see Appendix A**) to participate in the radio-telemetry equipment loan program, users also accept responsibility for utilizing equipment in the correct manner, maintaining equipment in working order, and returning equipment to the Project upon request by the appropriate IFT contact.
2. Conditions Governing Issuance, Maintenance, and Return of Telemetry Equipment
- a. Receivers provided to program participants will be programmed by IFT personnel with channels only for collared wolves identified in the area (i.e. specific frequencies will not be provided).
 - b. Telemetry receivers will be signed out to individuals by IFT personnel on a temporarily defined basis (3, 6, or 12 month period), as defined by the appropriate IFT personnel, and the identified equipment participants will assume full responsibility for the care of the equipment while it is in their possession.
 - i. The designated user will also be responsible for the return of assigned equipment in good working order within the agreed upon period of use.
 - ii. Any intentional tampering or damage to the receiver is unlawful and will result in the recall of all telemetry equipment and reconsideration of the equipment participant's ongoing eligibility to participate in this program.
 - c. With reasonable justification, notice and accommodation, IFT personnel have the right to inspect any loaned telemetry receivers.
 - d. In order to monitor and optimize the effectiveness of Project equipment use, the appropriate IFT personnel responsible for loaning the equipment will coordinate as necessary with individual equipment participants to determine the status of the situation supporting the issuance of the equipment, as well as to assess the continuing need for extending the use of any loaned equipment.
 - e. Equipment recipients are required to document the specific use of the equipment on the form provided by the IFT (**Appendix A**).
 - f. The Project retains the ability to retrieve program equipment from participants based on priority needs/uses that have been identified elsewhere within the Project. Any such determinations will take into account assessments of activity/circumstances tied to the equipment participant's area, Project needs in other locations or on other management activities that require IFT use of subject equipment and the presence of alternative monitoring approaches/actions in the affected area (e.g. range riders, etc.).

- g. Any equipment provided through this program may not be transferred to other individuals without prior approval from the appropriate IFT personnel.

3. Telemetry Equipment Lending Procedures

- a. Upon receiving a request from a qualifying member of the public, the IFT member assigning the equipment will:
 - i. Determine if a receiver is available.
 - ii. Identify the appropriate wolf radio-collar frequencies to program into the receiver with the qualifying member of the public, based on conditions that exist in the specific area.
 - iii. Fill out **Appendix A** and initial each page of the agreement in duplicate (one for the member of the public and one for the IFT records).
 - iv. Program the receiver with the appropriate frequencies and test the equipment to ensure that it is functioning properly before issuance.
- b. Upon completion of 3.a., the IFT member assigning the equipment will schedule a personal meeting with the qualifying non-agency person requesting the telemetry equipment to accomplish the following:
 - i. Demonstrate the use and proper care of the telemetry equipment;
 - ii. Sign the form in **Appendix A** and initial each page of the agreement (in duplicate) recording issuance and use of the equipment to the requesting participant;
 - iii. Test the receiver on collared wolves in the area in which the loaned equipment will be used, preferably with the equipment recipient if time and circumstances permit.

4. Telemetry Equipment Return Procedures

- a. Telemetry equipment may be returned by the participant or requested to be returned by the IFT for any of the following reasons;
 - i. Wolves involved in the depredations or nuisance behavior have left or are removed from the recipient's area;
 - ii. The IFT requires the telemetry equipment for other higher-priority uses in another location and/or for addressing other management needs;
 - iii. The recipient notifies the IFT that they no longer want or need the telemetry equipment;
 - iv. Collared wolves, different than those originally programmed into the loaned telemetry equipment, are utilizing the area and the telemetry equipment accordingly needs to be updated/replaced to include the appropriate frequencies.
- b. When it is determined that loaned telemetry equipment will be returned to the IFT or replaced by the IFT, the IFT member that has assigned the telemetry equipment will complete the following steps:
 - i. Schedule a personal meeting with the non-agency recipient of the equipment to obtain the loaned equipment and complete the original form initially completed by the IFT and Recipient (**Appendix A** – at the time of equipment issuance) to record the return of the loaned telemetry equipment to the IFT.

- ii. In cases where new or different telemetry equipment is being re-issued to the same recipient, the IFT member issuing the equipment must repeat the steps outlined in 3., above, to properly record issuance of the new equipment.

Appendix A: Range Rider and Radio-Telemetry Equipment FormThis individual: Range Rider Law Enforcement Permittee Nuisance Behavior (circle all that apply)Primary Name: Jess CareyCell Phone #: 575-518-8752Home Phone#: 575-533-6668Address: HC 62-Box 1-8 Reserve, NM 87830

If a Range Rider, for what Permittee: _____

Reason for Individual: Catron Count investigator - Cattle/Nuisance investigations

Grazing Allotment

Channel # (if receiver)

Wolf ID (if receiver)

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All NM
And Dispersers
in AZ

By signing this document, you agree to comply with all of the above referenced conditions associated with your participation in the radio telemetry receiver loan program.

Equipment Issued: For: 3 month _____ 6 month _____ 1 year XReceiver Type: TR-4 Serial #: 585607 Antenna: YNOthers authorized for use of equipment (Print Names): Jess CareyPrimary Name (Print): Jesse CareySignature: [Signature] Date: 11-11-2018

Issued By:

Print Name: John K. Oakleaf Signature: [Signature]Instructed how to use: X Date: 1/10/18

Returned to IFT by:

Print Name: _____ Date: _____

Accepted by IFT Personell:

Print Name: _____ Date: _____

Comments: _____