

From: [Grizzle, Betty](#)
To: [Turner, Ed](#)
Subject: Re: M-56 info
Date: Friday, February 17, 2017 1:16:43 PM

I am fairly certain they confirmed through DNA testing that this male was the one that dispersed to Colorado. I need to track that information/article down.

On Fri, Feb 17, 2017 at 1:09 PM, Turner, Ed <ed_turner@fws.gov> wrote:

Here is text from a ND account:

The first wolverine to be spotted in North Dakota in nearly 150 years came to an unceremonious end last month after it was shot and killed while harassing livestock. The 30-pound male wolverine was shot by a ranch hand near Alexander after it was spotted in a calving pasture on April 24. The ranch hand, Jared Hatter, said the critter was “tormenting the cows” when he found it. It is unknown whether Hatter had identified the creature as a wolverine before he shot it, or thought it was some other predatory animal.

In either case, officials say that Hatter appeared to have done nothing wrong. Although North Dakota may not have had a visit from a wolverine in well over a century, the state surprisingly still has a closed hunting season for the animal. More to the point, the state also allows ranchers to kill predators that attack or harass livestock. In this case, it just happened to be an animal that covered a lot of territory.

Stephanie Tucker, a furbearer biologist for the North Dakota Game and Fish’s Wildlife Division, believes the wolverine may have made a record journey. Initially, wildlife officials suspected the wolverine may have come from Montana. Scattered and unconfirmed reports of a wolverine in the area can be traced back to March, and a wolverine may have last been seen in the Hingham area.

“It could be the same individual—it’s not often for these things to take off across the prairie,” Tucker told the *Helena Independent Record*. “The fact one was seen in northeast Montana before one turned up here, the odds are greater it’s the same individual than two individuals at the same time.”

However, data recovered from a tracking device on the animal showed that it may have actually come from as far away as Colorado. The wolverine was fitted with the tracking device in 2008 just south of Yellowstone National Park. In 2012, when the device’s battery died, the wolverine was enjoying a stay in Colorado.

On Fri, Feb 17, 2017 at 12:07 PM, Grizzle, Betty <betty_grizzle@fws.gov> wrote:

Thanks for letting me know. We can add to list to talk with John G. about next week.

On Fri, Feb 17, 2017 at 1:04 PM, Turner, Ed <ed_turner@fws.gov> wrote:

I just left a message with,

Stephanie Tucker, Bismarck 701- 220-1871

Game Management Section Leader. It sounds like she was involved with the kill report and taking the animal for ND F&G.

Maybe she will have exact location and more information from her reporting that she can share or will know if they have other records as they say they have had them in the state 100-150 years ago.

On Fri, Feb 17, 2017 at 11:49 AM, Grizzle, Betty <betty_grizzle@fws.gov> wrote:

So I think we could plot this location somewhere near the town of Alexander, as mentioned in the article. But it does make me wonder if ND Game and Fish have other records???

On Fri, Feb 17, 2017 at 12:45 PM, Turner, Ed <ed_turner@fws.gov> wrote:

<https://www.sott.net/article/318193-Welcome-back-First-wolverine-to-be-seen-in-North-Dakota-in-nearly-150-years-is-shot-for-tormenting-the-cows>

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Edwin Turner, Geographer
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