

From: [Shoemaker, Justin](#)
To: [Grizzle, Betty](#)
Subject: Re: Wolverine and trapping
Date: Monday, March 6, 2017 8:55:54 AM

Curious. Let me know what you find out.

Justin Shoemaker

Acting Branch Chief for Classification and Recovery
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 6
Phone: 303-236-4217
Email: justin_shoemaker@fws.gov

On Mon, Mar 6, 2017 at 8:48 AM, Grizzle, Betty <betty_grizzle@fws.gov> wrote:

Thanks John. I also received this message from Tony Clevenger last week (who I plan to call today): (highlight added)

I've been leading the Can Rockies wolverine research and have annual and summary reports that might help you. We still don't have all our genetics data analysed, waiting on 2016 results, should be done in a week or two. We've had setbacks due to significant genotyping errors we found that the RMRS lab made for our 2012-13 data from Banff Yoho Kootenay sampling.

I finally heard back from Alaska (voicemail left). I understood that I would ask them about their capability and time/resources needed to conduct a study, correct?

On Thu, Mar 2, 2017 at 12:47 PM, Guinotte, John <john_guinotte@fws.gov> wrote:

Rich is going to send me a shapefile with all of the trapping data for BC (2007-2015). He said there wasn't a lot of trapping going on along the border, said a lot of the area was not good wolverine habitat. Also, he said that Schwartz just finished running a bunch of genetics (mitochondrial and microsatellite) on 300 wolverine pelts from BC. He got the results 2 weeks ago. They plan to run another 100 pelts this year. Rich said if we get similar genetic info down here they would be very open to collaborating.

Steve - Rich said total cost for running 300 wolverines and 500 fisher samples was 40k CAD. He said there wasn't a lot of additional cost to go from the sex determination to the full workup w micro and mito.

Betty- I asked about den sites. He doesn't have that info, but said there were a couple of other efforts going on outside his group.

I'll let you know when I get the trapping data.

Best, John

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Weir, Rich ENV:EX** <Rich.Weir@gov.bc.ca>

Date: Thu, Mar 2, 2017 at 12:31 PM

Subject: RE: Wolverine and trapping

To: Shevenell Webb <Shevenell.Webb@ab-conservation.com>, "Guinotte, John" <john_guinotte@fws.gov>

Cc: "Mowat, Garth FLNR:EX" <Garth.Mowat@gov.bc.ca>

You are in luck – I just finished collating and compiling the wolverine harvest data for the province for 2007-2015. Let me know what you are looking for and I can probably help you out. It is public information, so easily share-able.

Rich

Richard D. Weir, R.P.Bio. | Carnivore Conservation Specialist

Ecosystems Branch, Ministry of Environment

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Victoria, BC | V8W 9M1 | 250.356.8186

From: Shevenell Webb [mailto:Shevenell.Webb@ab-conservation.com]

Sent: Monday, February 27, 2017 11:01

To: Guinotte, John

Cc: Weir, Rich ENV:EX; Mowat, Garth FLNR:EX

Subject: Re: Wolverine and trapping

Hi John,

I'm just checking with the Alberta government about releasing the data. I will get back to you once I can find out more. I don't know if there is a B.C. Furbearer Biologist, but Richard Weir or Garth Mowat might know how you could get B.C. wolverine harvest locations.

cheers, Shevenell

Shevenell Webb, Wildlife Biologist

Alberta Conservation Association

phone: 207-242-2875

email: shevenell.webb@ab-conservation.com

From: Guinotte, John <john_guinotte@fws.gov>

Sent: Monday, February 27, 2017 9:20 AM

To: Shevenell Webb

Cc: Betty Grizzle

Subject: Fwd: Wolverine and trapping

Dear Shevenell,

We are currently involved in a species status assessment for the wolverine in the lower 48 states and are trying to obtain all occurrence records, den sites, and trapline information for Alberta and BC. Would you be able to provide this information from your 2016 paper? And do you know who I should contact to obtain this information for BC? Happy to chat on the phone if you prefer.

Many thanks,

John

John Guinotte, PhD
Fish and Wildlife Biologist

Ecological Services
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Mountain Prairie Region 6

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john_guinotte@fws.gov

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Doherty, Kevin** <kevin_doherty@fws.gov>

Date: Mon, Feb 27, 2017 at 6:54 AM

Subject: Fwd: Wolverine and trapping

To: Stephen Torbit <stephen_torbit@fws.gov>, "Guinotte, John" <john_guinotte@fws.gov>

see below from Boyce. Two names for trap line. No effort data. Low density pops and little harvest is the short story from his experience.

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From: **Mark Boyce** <boyce@ualberta.ca>

Date: Sun, Feb 26, 2017 at 10:44 PM

Subject: Re: Wolverine and trapping

To: "Doherty, Kevin" <kevin_doherty@fws.gov>

Hi Kevin:

On Crown land (govt land in mtns) all trapping is restricted to registered traplines in Alberta. Although there has been an attempt to compile effort data, e.g., trap nights, it has not happened yet. On average about 50% of traplines are actively trapped in any particular year. Harvests of wolverines are rare in southern Alberta and BC. We know that they can move quite a long distance, especially young males, so there will be no surprise when wolverines are captured in southern Alberta and BC, but generally the densities are very low. I have a trapline at Nordegg and I had a wolverine ravaging my marten sets last year (2015). But it did not stick around and I never had an opportunity to trap him/her. We have a quota of 1 wolverine per trapline per year but I've never caught one.

Shevenell has compiled all wolverine harvest records from registered trapline fur reports, and I believe that these data would be the best available for Alberta. Similar records exist for BC.

I'm not sure that I told you anything new--we do not have records on trapping effort. And I doubt that trappers in southern areas are likely to be making many sets for wolverines. Most would be caught in wolf or lynx sets.

Cheers,

Mark

On Tue, Feb 21, 2017 at 1:04 PM, Doherty, Kevin <kevin_doherty@fws.gov> wrote:

Mark,

Some folks in the USFWS asked if I would reach out to you about your opinion on a potential Canada and United States boundary effect for Wolverine. Specifically, there is a desire to understand if there is any data on trapping effort and harvest totals for wolverines in southern B.C. and Alberta. From your Alberta Wolverine paper in JWM it appeared that wolverine trapping was low in the trapping record from Southern Alberta. So a couple questions:

Is there an information base that would include trapping effort and trapping success for wolverines that could be used to understand the potential effects of movement on Wolverine between the US and Canada?

If there is data, who would we need to contact to discuss getting access to the data?

Please let me know if you would like to discuss via the phone.

Cheers

Kevin

p.s. We have met a long time ago at the wildlife society meetings in Calgary, when I was a brand new Ph.D. student. When I was googling your information I saw that we were co-authors in Google Scholar, but could not figure out what the paper was. It looked this morning at my pubs, and it was Krissy Bush's Sage-grouse Genetics work.

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Kevin Doherty, PhD
Spatial Ecologist
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