

Summary of Proactive Management Activities conducted in the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area in 2008

The Interagency Field Team (IFT), working with Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO), the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), and livestock producers implemented proactive management activities to assist in eliminating or reducing wolf livestock conflicts in the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area (BRWRA). The Mexican Wolf Reintroduction Project (Project) and NGOs spent approximately \$134,400 on proactive management activities affecting an estimated 12,000 livestock. This represented approximately 25% of the permitted livestock grazing in the BRWRA. The IFT and agency contract employees spent approximately 4000 hours implementing proactive management activities.

The IFT installed and maintained turbo fladry for five livestock producers (two in Arizona, three in New Mexico) to protect livestock, dogs, goats, and chickens on both public lands and private property. No livestock depredation incidences occurred within the fenced areas following the installation of the turbo fladry.

The Project and NGOs purchased hay during the calving season for three livestock producers (one in New Mexico, two in Arizona). No livestock depredation incidences occurred during calving season on these three ranches.

The Project contracted three range riders to assist three livestock producers (one in Arizona, two in New Mexico) with monitoring wolves found in close proximity to cattle. Range riders monitored approximately 3380 livestock within three wolf pack home ranges. One livestock depredation incident occurred in Arizona while a range rider was monitoring livestock and collared wolves. The livestock depredation incident was associated with uncollared wolves.

The Project and NGOs provided funding to a stakeholder in New Mexico to assist with moving livestock. Livestock were moved to a different pasture when wolves denned in an active USFS grazing allotment. No livestock depredation incidences occurred within denning and rendezvous areas associated with this proactive management activity.

The Project and NGOs provided funding to construct a permanent exclusionary fence for livestock protection on private property in New Mexico. The exclusionary fence is approximately two miles in length and protects approximately 3000 livestock.

The IFT issued radio telemetry equipment to livestock producers in areas where wolf/livestock conflicts were prevalent. Four sets of telemetry equipment have been issued to livestock producers in Arizona, while nine sets of telemetry equipment have been issued in New Mexico. The IFT trained livestock producers to use the telemetry equipment to monitor wolves in the vicinity of cattle or residences. The IFT instructed livestock producers on non-injurious hazing techniques. Livestock producers were encouraged to contact the IFT for assistance and report any wolf livestock conflicts requiring intensive hazing efforts.

Proactive management activities conducted in Arizona and New Mexico during 2008

Proactive Management Activity	Purpose	Date	Location	Wolf Pack or #	Management Result
Fladry – 3 miles	Reduce the probability of livestock depredation within a small area.	May to October	Sheep Springs, AZ	Paradise	No livestock depredation occurred.
Fladry – 1.5 miles	Reduce the probability of livestock depredation within a small area.	May to November	East of Greens Peak, AZ	Paradise	No livestock depredation occurred.
Fladry – 0.25 mile	Reduce the probability of livestock depredation within a small area.	January to May	Antelope Mountain, AZ	Paradise	No livestock depredation occurred.
Hay	Reduce the probability of livestock depredation during vulnerable calving season.	January to March	Blue River, AZ	Uncollared Wolves	No livestock depredation occurred.
Hay	Reduce the probability of livestock depredation during vulnerable calving season.	January to March	Blue River, AZ	Uncollared Wolves	No livestock depredation occurred.
Hay	Reduce the probability of livestock depredation during vulnerable calving season.	January to March	Corner Mountain, NM	Dark Canyon	No livestock depredation incidences.
Livestock Grazing Rotation	Reduce the probability of livestock depredation during wolf denning season.	April to July	Corner Mountain, NM	Dark Canyon	No livestock depredation incidences occurred.
Range Rider	Reduce the probability of predator depredation on free-ranging livestock.	June to August	Corner Mountain, NM	Dark Canyon	No livestock depredation incidences occurred.
Range Rider	Reduce the probability of predator depredation on free-ranging livestock.	July to October	Greens Peak, AZ	Paradise Uncollared Wolves	One depredation incident occurred.
Range Rider	Reduce the probability of predator depredation on free-ranging livestock.	April to August	Black Mountain, NM	Middle Fork	No livestock depredation occurred.
Exclusionary Fencing	Reduce the probability of livestock depredation and nuisance within fenced areas of private property.	September to December	Negrito, NM	Luna Dark Canyon	No livestock depredation occurred within the exclusionary fence area.
Fladry - 0.25 mile	Reduce the probability of chicken interactions within a small area.	September to December	Apache Creek, NM	Uncollared wolf or dogs	No chicken-wolf interactions reported.
Fladry - 0.25 mile	Reduce the probability of dog interactions within a small area.	July to August	Gila Hot Springs, NM	Laredo	No dog – wolf interactions.
Fladry - 0.25 mile	Reduce the probability of goat interactions within a small area.	July to August	Gila Hot Springs, NM	Laredo	No goat-wolf interactions.
Fladry -1 mile	Reduce the probability of livestock depredation within a small area	December	Antelope Mountain, AZ	F836, M619	No livestock depredation occurred.