### **REFERENCE GUIDE**

Wolf Trophy Game Management Area (year-round) and Seasonal Wolf Trophy Game Management Area (Oct 15- last day of February) Predatory Animal Area (year-round) and Seasonal Wolf Trophy Game Management Area (March 1- Oct 14)

#### What ability does a landowner have to deal with wolves harassing or killing livestock?

- Gray wolves designated as trophy game animals may only be taken with a valid hunting license, in an open hunt area, and within the designated hunting season except:
   Any gray wolf in the act of damaging livestock or a dog
- may be immediately taken (killed) by the owner.
  In the act of damaging means actual biting, wounding, grasping, or killing of livestock or a dog, or chasing, molesting, or harassing of livestock or a dog by a wolf that would indicate to a reasonable person that actual biting, wounding, grasping or killing is likely to occur at any moment.
- Owner means the owner, lessee, immediate family, employee, or other person who is charged by the owner with the care or management of livestock or dog.
   The owner shall notify the WGFD of the kill within 72 hours.
- The carcass of a gray wolf shall not be removed from the site of kill and the area around the carcass shall not be disturbed until investigated by the WGFD.
   Landowners may request a lethal take permit from the WGFD upon verification that a wolf has harassed, injured, maimed, or killed livestock or domesticated animals, or are occupying a chronic wolf predation area.

#### What does a landowner do if a depredation by a wolf is suspected?

Preserve the scene; do not disturb the carcass or surrounding areas.

Landowners seeking compensation must notify the WGFD immediately (no later than 15 days) for verification purposes. A WGFD representative will investigate. • Take must be reported to the WGFD within 10 days of the date the wolf was killed.

Gray wolves designated as predatory animals may be

taken (killed) without a license at any time.

- Must provide name, address, date and location of kill, and sex of wolf.
- The WGFD may request the person to voluntarily provide a genetic sample from the wolf for testing to assess genetic connectivity.
- The WGFD will not conduct control actions or management of wolves that damage private property.
   Landowners may contact the Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board or a local Predator Management
- Management Board or a local Predator Management District for assistance with wolf damage.

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- Seasonal Wolf Trophy Game Management Area (Year-Round): Preserve the scene; do not disturb the carcass or surrounding areas.
   Landowners seeking compensation should notify the WGFD immediately (no later than 15 days) for verification purposes.
- Predatory Animal Area: Landowners may contact the Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board or a local Predator Management District for assistance with wolf damage.

Do landowners receive compensation for verified livestock loss caused by wolves?

- Yes, landowners may be compensated for verified damage to livestock caused by wolves. Landowners must submit a signed and notarized damage claim affidavit to the WGFD.
- Seasonal Wolf Trophy Game Management Area: Yes, landowners may be compensated for verified damage to livestock caused by wolves year-round. Landowners must submit a signed and notarized damage claim affidavit to the WGFD.
- If you own contiguous property on both sides of the WTGMA boundary, you may qualify for compensation for livestock damage that occurs in the predatory animal area (see Wyoming Statute 23-1-901).

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

For questions about wolf damage to livestock within the **Wolf Trophy Game Management Area or Seasonal Wolf Trophy Game Management Area** contact one of the following Game and Fish Offices or a game warden within these areas:

**Cody Regional Office:** (307) 527-7125

Jackson Regional Office: (307) 733-2321

Lander Regional Office: (307) 332-2688

**Pinedale Regional Office:** (307) 367-4353

For questions about wolf damage to livestock within the **Predatory Animal Area Contact:** 

Wyoming Animal Damage Management Program: (307) 777-6781

Local Predator Management District Boards: call (307) 777-6781 for contact information.

## WOLVES IN WYOMING

### A guide for livestock producers



WYOMING GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT CONSERVING WILDLIFE – SERVING PEOPLE

# **WOLF DESIGNATION IN WYOMING**



Livestock producers should be aware that wolves in Wyoming are currently managed under two different legal designations (trophy game animal or predatory animal) in three management areas throughout the state. Different laws and regulations apply depending on geographic location.

**Wolf Trophy Game Management Area:** Wolves are designated as trophy game animals on a year-round basis — and harvest is regulated by state law and regulation.

**Seasonal Wolf Trophy Game Management Area:** Wolves are classified as trophy game animals and their harvest is regulated from October 15 to the last day of February of the subsequent year. Wolves are classified as predatory animals March 1– October 14 and can be taken without a license in any legal manner, at any time.

**Predatory Animal Area:** Wolves are designated as predatory animals on a year-round basis and may be taken (killed) without a license, at any time on all lands except tribally-owned lands in the Wind River Reservation.



## **DAMAGE CLAIMS**

Producers within the Wolf Trophy Game Management Area or Seasonal Wolf Trophy Game Management Area may be eligible to receive compensation for verified livestock depredations by wolves year-round in accordance with Wyoming statutes and Chapter 28 of Wyoming Game and Fish Commission Regulation.

Livestock damage must be reported to the WGFD within 15 days of discovery.

A signed and notarized damage claim affidavit must be submitted to the WGFD **no later than 60 days** from the last day the livestock were present on the grazing allotment or geographic location where the damage occurred.

For additional information on damage statutes, regulations, and requirements pertaining to wolves and livestock compensation, please contact any WGFD office or game warden.

See Gray Wolf Hunting Regulations for boundary descriptions at http://wgfd.wyo.gov/web2011/Departments/Hunting/pdfs/REGULATIONS\_CH210002741.pdf