

Wyoming Game and Fish Department



2021

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Comprehensive Management System
Annual Report**

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

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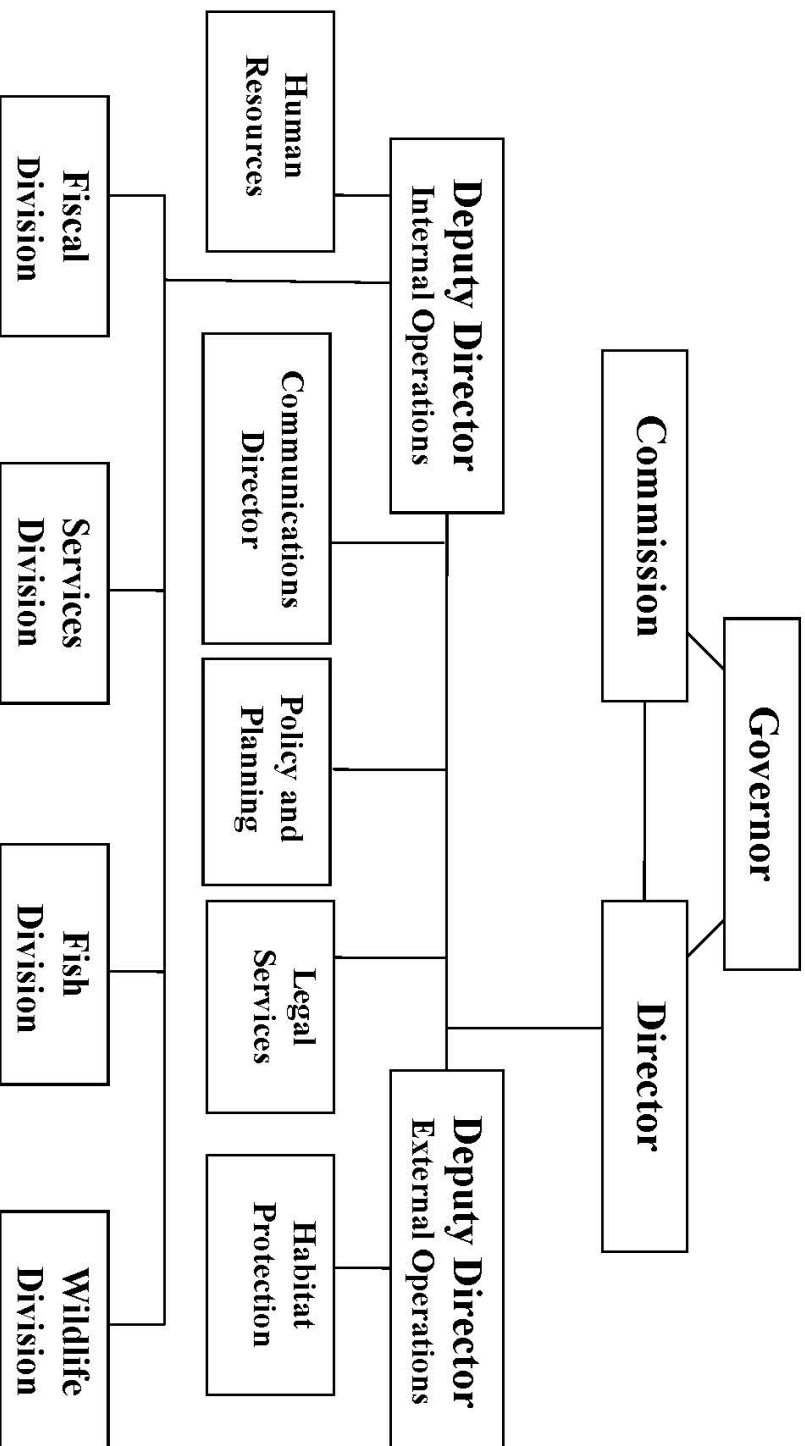
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Wyoming Game and Fish Department Organization Chart



PROGRAM-LEVEL REPORTS

APPENDIX A:

**INDIVIDUAL MANAGEMENT
PROGRAMS**

Program: Aquatic Wildlife Management

Division: Fish

Mission: Conserve and enhance all aquatic wildlife, reptiles, amphibians, and their habitats for current and future generations. We will provide diverse, quality fisheries resources and angling opportunities.

Program Facts: The Aquatic Wildlife Management Program is comprised of eight sub-programs, listed below with the number of staff and FY 21 budget:

| <u>Sub-programs</u> | <u># FTEs*</u> | <u>2021 Annual Budget</u> |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| Fish Hatcheries and Rearing Stations | 41.0 | \$5,750,936 |
| Regional Aquatic Wildlife Mgmt. | 34.5 | \$3,525,934 |
| Aquatic Invasive Species | 23.3 | \$1,487,687 |
| Boating Access | 0.0 | \$883,905 |
| Statewide Aquatic Wildlife Mgmt. | 8.0 | \$956,790 |
| Fish Spawning | 2.6 | \$278,822 |
| Fish Distribution | 0.0 | \$148,318 |
| TOTAL | 109.4 | \$13,032,392 |

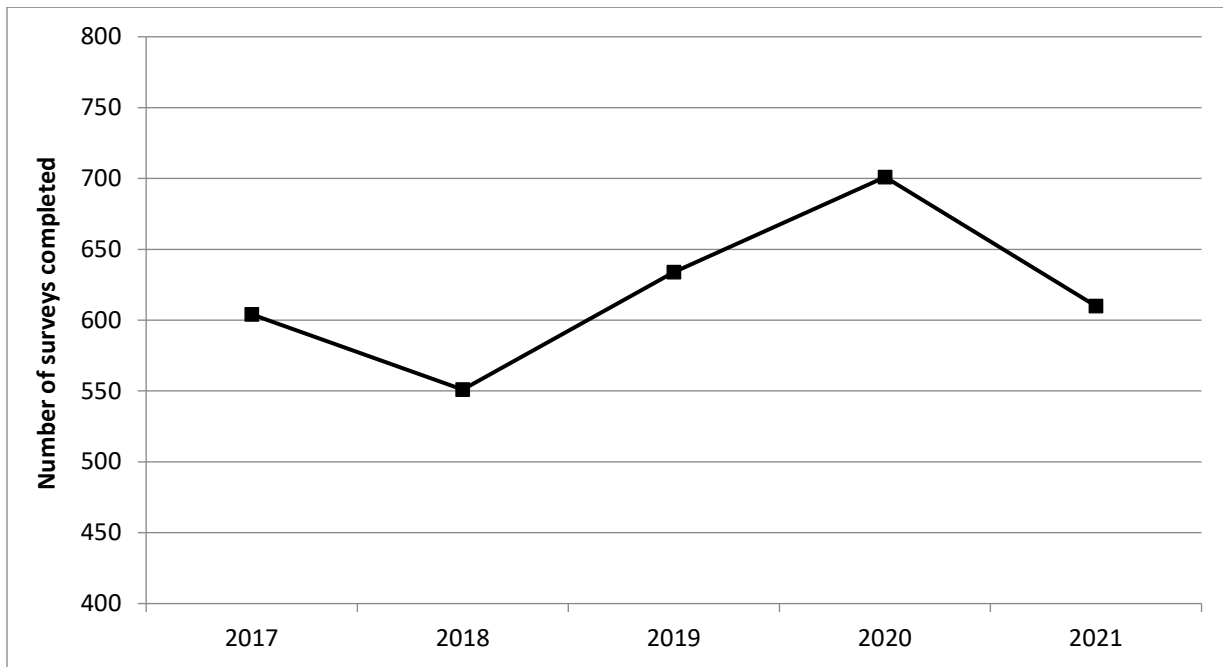
** Includes permanent, contract, and temporary positions authorized in the FY 21 budget. Any positions added during the budget cycle require Commission authorization or must be funded from supplemental grants.*

The Aquatic Wildlife Program is located across the state in eight regional offices, Cheyenne Headquarters, and ten remotely located fish hatcheries and rearing stations.

Primary Functions of the Aquatic Wildlife Management Program:

- **Conserve and enhance all aquatic wildlife, amphibians, and reptiles** by scientifically assessing populations at both local and watershed levels, controlling exotic species where necessary, and where ecologically and economically feasible reintroducing native species into suitable habitats in order to conserve these taxa for future generations.
- **Provide diverse, quality fisheries resources and angling opportunities** through a system of fish management that attempts to first manage wild fisheries where possible, but relies upon an evaluation-based fish-stocking program. The sub-program meets angler desires by stocking salmonids (trout, grayling, and kokanee) that come from egg sources within Wyoming and are reared using modern fish culture practices. Non-salmonid (walleye, bass, catfish, etc.) fisheries are maintained through the trade of excess eggs with federal and other state agencies. Efforts will balance the productive capacity of habitats with public desires.

Performance Measure #1: Number of stream and lake surveys completed (Personnel with this program will work to complete at least 540 stream and lake surveys per year).



Story behind the performance:

In FY 21, a total of 610 stream and lake surveys were completed (344 stream surveys and 266 lake surveys). The number of surveys has exceeded the minimum target of 540 for seven consecutive years, averaging 624 per year since 2015. The number conducted in FY 21 was nearly equivalent to the average of the previous ten years (n=618). The FY 21 totals were not significantly impacted by the many travel and other logistical challenges associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.

Major Accomplishments:

Eight regional crews and one statewide fish management crew conducted hundreds of surveys to monitor the status of important sport fisheries and populations of native nongame aquatic wildlife throughout the state. Biologists utilized a diverse array of gears and techniques to monitor aquatic wildlife populations, including nets (gill, fyke, trammel, midwater curtain, seine), electrofishing gear (backpack, bank, boat and raft mounted), hand and boat mounted trawls, zooplankton nets, environmental DNA (eDNA), hydroacoustics, passive implant transponder tags, and radio telemetry. The following highlights include stream and lake surveys on important sport fisheries, native cutthroat, native mollusks, introduced crustaceans, and nongame fishes. Hundreds of other surveys were conducted, including many amphibian and reptile surveys, that are not described below. Department funded contractors at regional universities and the Wyoming Natural Diversity Database also conducted hundreds of additional stream and lake surveys that are not presented in this report.

Stream surveys included trout population estimate monitoring in many of the state’s most important large river fisheries. Estimates were completed on the Snake River below Wilson

Bridge, multiple reaches of the Green and North Platte rivers, and sections of the Bighorn, Shoshone, Greys, Gros Ventre, Laramie, Encampment, Wind and Bear rivers. Although a few trout populations remain well below objective due to ongoing poor recruitment (e.g., Gray Reef and Bessemer Bend reaches of the North Platte River), others were the highest ever recorded (e.g., 40 Rod reach of the Green River and the Shoshone River below Buffalo Bill Reservoir).

Many stream surveys were associated with native cutthroat trout management. Sixteen stream surveys were conducted as part of a new project on the North Fork Shoshone River to determine Yellowstone cutthroat spawning movements into tributaries and to estimate angler catch and harvest rates in the mainstem river. Stream surveys on the Hoback River were conducted to monitor the recovery of the Snake River cutthroat trout population following the 2018 Roosevelt Fire. While the population estimate at one site remained approximately 25 percent below the pre-fire estimate, the trout population at a second sight exceeded the pre-fire estimate. These stream surveys documented negligible impacts of the wildfire on the native cutthroat trout population in the Hoback River. Other native cutthroat stream surveys were conducted to identify suitable streams for future cutthroat restoration projects, to monitor effectiveness of past chemical treatment projects, to determine the effectiveness of fish passage structures, and to identify important spawning tributaries.

FY 21 lake surveys included monitoring of trout populations in the Cloud Peak, Bridger, Teton, Popo Agie and Fitzpatrick wilderness areas. At least 31 lake and 4 stream surveys were completed in wilderness areas to monitor populations of cutthroat, brook, golden and tiger trout. An intensive survey of the Dinwoody Creek drainage in the Fitzpatrick Wilderness Area also assessed potential barriers to fish passage and involved the collection of tissue samples from cutthroat trout for use in a range-wide Yellowstone Cutthroat Conservation Team genetics project. Results from this project will provide important information on the origin of Yellowstone cutthroat trout within the Dinwoody Creek drainage.

Conservation and restoration of endemic sauger populations has been a priority in recent years. The population of native sauger in the Wind River and Boysen Reservoir declined significantly in the recent past, was composed almost entirely of old adult fish and was considered imperiled. The Department initiated stream-side spawning and captive rearing operations for many years to rebuild the population. Native sauger recruitment was monitored in the Wind River and Boysen Reservoir in FY 21. Although estimates of young-of-year sauger in reservoir bays were lower than in the past few years, age 0 sauger abundance has been relatively stable since 2014 and the sauger population is now considered robust and secure. Dam construction, habitat alternation and water pollution resulted in the extirpation of sauger from the North Platte River in the latter half of the last century. About 160,500 fingerling sauger have been reintroduced to the river upstream of Glendo Reservoir since 2017. Eight stream surveys were conducted to begin monitoring the relative abundance of sauger in the river and to determine whether or not an existing weir is a barrier to upstream movement. Twelve sauger ranging in length from eight to 17 inches were sampled in the river and two were captured in Glendo Reservoir. Ongoing tagging studies will determine whether or not weirs are impacting the movement of the species in the river.

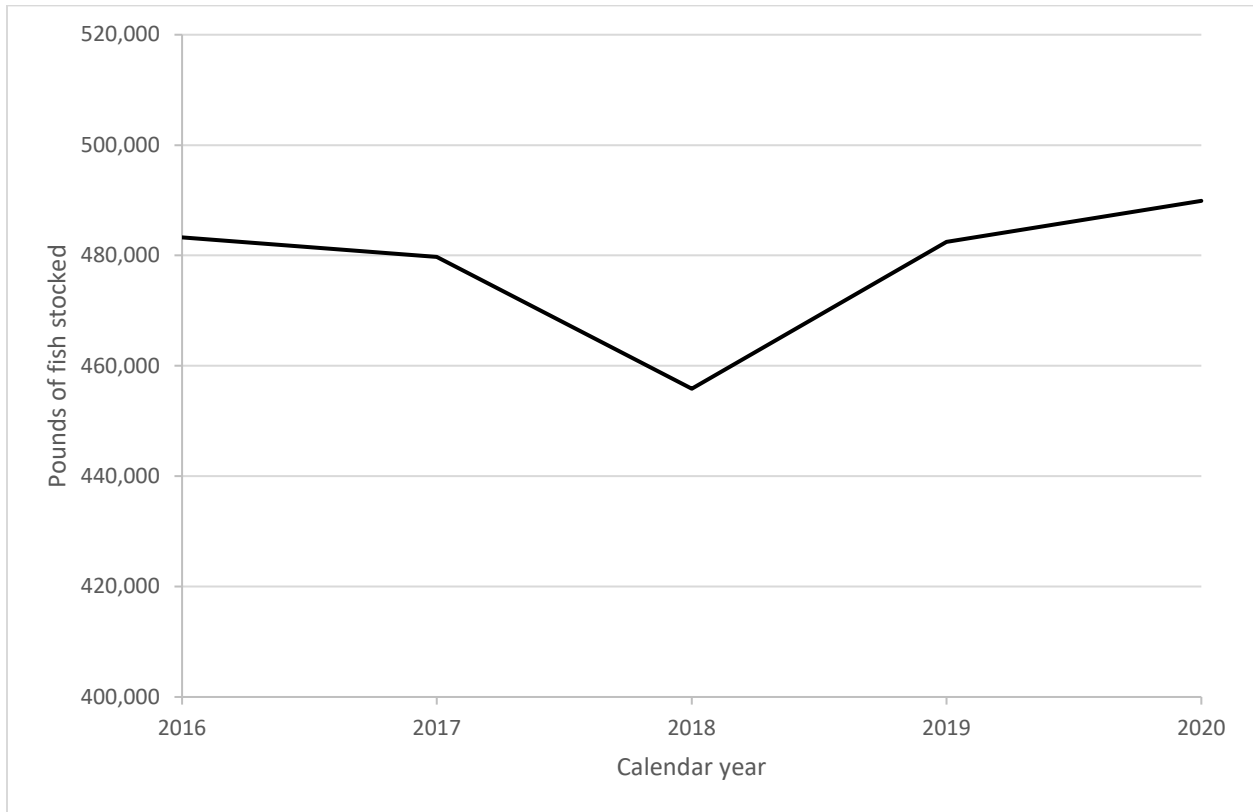
Plain pocketbook mussels are believed extirpated from the state of Wyoming. Beginning in 2020, the fish division began a multi-year effort to re-establish the species of greatest conservation need

(SGCN) in the Laramie River near Fort Laramie and upstream of Grayrocks Reservoir. Hatchery reared mussels were provided by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission for the effort. Nearly 2,500 mussels were tagged and released at the two sites in 2021 and nine stream surveys were conducted to monitor post stocking survival. Mussels had survived at both sites and will be closely monitored in FY22.

In FY21, invasive rusty crayfish were discovered in the Laramie River downstream of Wheatland Reservoir #3. Intensive follow up sampling was conducted to describe the distribution of this aquatic invasive species in the drainage. Department biologists conducted approximately three dozen surveys in the Laramie River drainage and determined that rusty crayfish populations were concentrated in ponds on two private ranches; one near Centennial, WY and the other downstream of Wheatland Reservoir #3. Law enforcement investigations determined that the populations were established via illegal stocking of crayfish as trout forage by an out of state fish hatchery in the late 1990s. The Department is currently focusing efforts on containing the species at these locations and considering options to control the existing populations.

In the Bighorn and North Platte rivers, biologists continued work on a project initiated in 2017 to determine the distribution and relative abundance of small bodied nongame fishes in large rivers in the Missouri River drainage of Wyoming. Additional objectives are to describe the status of SGCN fishes and develop a sampling methodology for regional crews to monitor small bodied, nongame fish in the future. Biologists used a modified-Missouri benthic trawl and backpack electrofishing to sample 13 sites in the Bighorn River and 57 in the North Platte River in FY21. Eleven species were sampled in the Bighorn River, including three SGCN; shovelnose sturgeon, sturgeon chub and flathead chub. Twenty-three species were sampled in the North Platte River, including four SGCN; bluntnose minnow, bigmouth shiner, common shiner and Iowa Darter. While the sturgeon chub is presumed extirpated from the North Platte River drainage, sampling in the Bighorn River expanded the known distribution of sturgeon chub by 13 miles. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is in the process of reviewing the status of this species in order to determine if it should be listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act.

Performance Measure #2: Pounds of fish stocked (Personnel with this program will work to produce 375,000 pounds annually)



Story behind the performance:

By Commission Policy, “Fish reared at Department facilities shall be stocked only in waters with insufficient natural recruitment where public access is provided, except in very limited conditions, as provided by policy”. Fish stocking thus occurs primarily in artificial reservoir and downstream tailwater habitats. The Department’s four native cutthroat trout brood stocks are also used to restore populations of genetically pure trout in their native drainages. Fish stocking is the culmination of a process that begins with egg taking from captive and wild brood stocks (egg sources) and ends with the stocking of the right strain or type of fish into waters at the scheduled time and fish size. The eggs are hatched and reared at one of 10 facilities and then stocked using the fish culture sub-program’s distribution trucks/system. The fish culture sub-program meets its trout, salmon (kokanee), and grayling needs in state. The fish culture sub-program also receives, in trade for surplus grayling and trout eggs, warm or cool water sport fishes not available in Wyoming.

In 2020, 4,838,358 trout, kokanee, and grayling totaling 489,896 pounds were stocked from 10 Wyoming facilities. The five-year rolling average for fish production in Wyoming fish culture facilities is 478,250 pounds.

All fish culture facilities were in full operation and met production goals under the stocking plan. The recent expansion at Speas Hatchery continues to be the main factor for the increased production since 2009. Future fish production schedules at the facility are dependent upon the number of catchable-size rainbow trout requested for five large reservoirs (Flaming Gorge, Seminoe, Pathfinder, Alcova, and Lake Desmet).

Beyond rearing tiger muskie at Speas Hatchery, warm or cool water sport fishes not available in Wyoming are received in trade for surplus grayling and trout eggs. This year, the fish culture sub-program stocked 10 coolwater and warmwater fish species from other state and federal agencies including: black crappie, white crappie, sauger, shovelnose sturgeon, bluegill, hybrid sunfish, channel catfish, and walleye. All tiger muskie were received as fry from Nebraska, reared at the Speas Hatchery isolation facility, and stocked as large fingerlings. Importing fish poses a risk of introducing invasive species. The most important species we import is walleye. This year the Department again successfully reared a small lot of walleye at the Speas Hatchery, and will continue experimentation with walleye and other imported species.

Although pounds are easily tracked or measured, the quality of the fish stocked continues to be emphasized. This is done by not overstocking facilities and incorporating modern fish health practices that stress optimum, not maximum, production levels. New rearing units at Ten Sleep and Speas, along with biosecurity measures, are continually being evaluated to determine optimal production levels. The emphasis of stocking is to release high quality fish for the greatest return when stocking to improve sport fisheries or to restore native trout fisheries. Although adjustments were needed to address budget reductions, the fish culture sub-program continues to meet the sub-program's internal goal of producing +/- 10 percent of the requests made from regional aquatic wildlife managers.

Program: Bird Farms

Division: Wildlife

Mission: Enhance pheasant hunting opportunity in Wyoming.

Program Facts: The Bird Farm Program is made up of one major sub-program, listed below with the number of staff and FY 21 budget.

| <u>Sub-program</u> | <u># FTEs*</u> | <u>2021 Annual Budget</u> |
|--------------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| Bird Farms | 5.4 | \$731,341 |

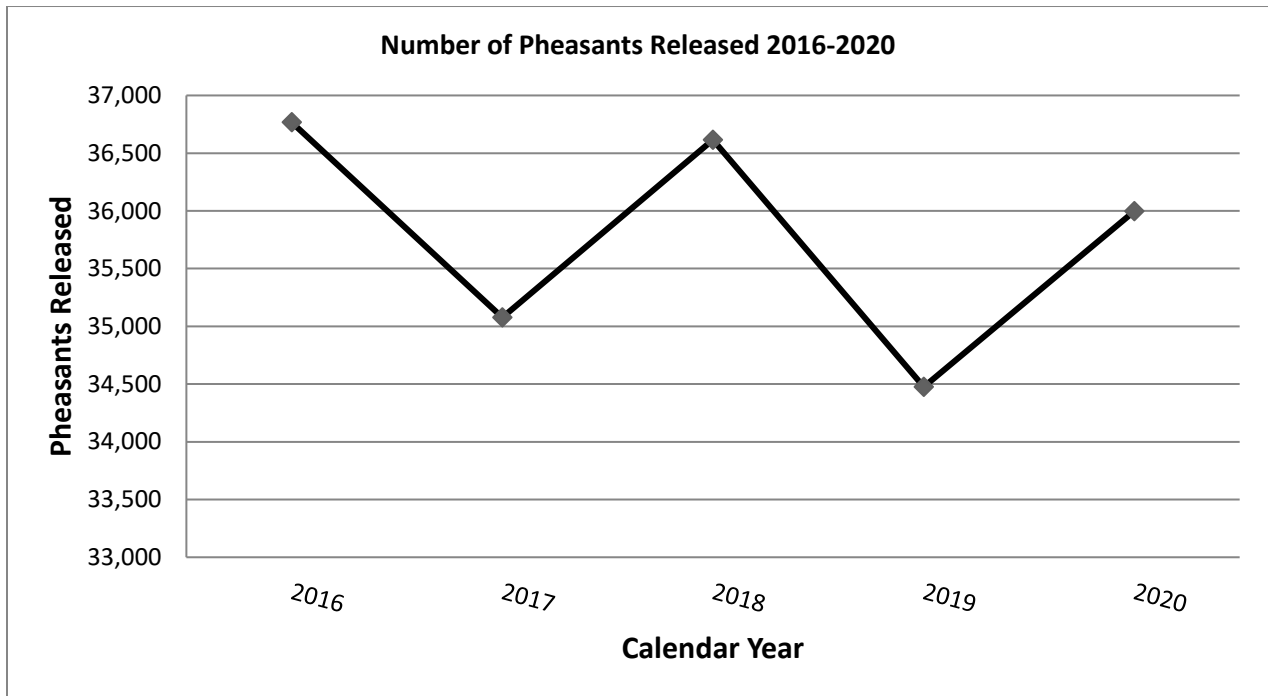
** Includes permanent, contract, and temporary positions authorized in the FY 21 budget. Any positions added during the budget cycle require Commission authorization or must be funded from supplemental grants.*

Bird farm facilities are located in Sheridan and Yoder.

Primary Function of the Bird Farm Program:

- **Enhance pheasant hunting opportunity in Wyoming** through the production and release of high quality pheasants.

Performance Measure #1: Number of pheasants released annually (personnel with this program will work to release 25,000 pheasants each year.)



Story behind the performance:

Due to continued loss of pheasant habitat in Wyoming and increased demand for pheasant hunting, pheasants being produced at the Department's bird farms have become an important part of the hunters' "bag" in recent years. Continuing drought, poor habitat conditions, and stable or increasing demand for pheasant hunting will result in continued demand into the future. Pheasants have been produced for recreational hunting at the Sheridan facility since 1937 and the Yoder facility since 1963. Annual bird production and survival is related to weather conditions including losses from illness, hail, snowstorms, and excessive heat that may slow the growth of young pheasants. Bird farm personnel coordinate release schedules with regional personnel to maximize the efficiency of bird distribution during the months of October, November, and December of each year. The vast majority of Wyoming's pheasant hunting occurs in Goshen County in the southeastern part of the state. Established pheasants throughout the state are supplemented by releases from the Department's Downar (Yoder) and Sheridan Bird Farms.

Between 2016 and 2020, the number of pheasants released ranged from 34,476 to 36,767 with an average of 35,787. The number released in 2020 was 35,997.

What has been accomplished:

The Sheridan Bird Farm (SBF) supervisor and the Downar Bird Farm (DBF) coordinator continue working to calibrate and troubleshoot small issues that arose after moving hatching machines. Hatching percentages remain a challenge at DBF but many hours have been spent researching solutions to issues at the new facility and new equipment.

SBF supervisor and DBF coordinator have successfully fully incorporated North Dakota bloodlines into their breeding programs. Birds are flighty and timid but still grow well in the farm setting.

The SBF supervisor and DBF coordinator spent significant time getting to know and informing the new Department veterinarian of the work units needs and concerns. Both farms utilized the labs to do parasite and disease research, as well as to conduct feed testing. Managers continue to develop baselines at both farms. The farms are learning more about disease and parasite issues and have built a strong relationship with the Department veterinarian which has made dealing with issues much more efficient.

The DBF coordinator and his staff oversaw a couple large-scale pen replacements and continue to prioritize deferred maintenance issues.

SBF staff spent time planting trees into shelter belts, repairing damaged landscaping, trimming trees and working on interior roadways. There is always plenty of fence to be repaired as well as painting and general upkeep of the buildings.

Program: Conservation Education

Division: Office of the Director

Mission: Provide learning and participation opportunities relating to both aquatic and terrestrial wildlife management, wildlife conservation, wildlife related skills, and lawful and ethical behavior.

Program Facts: The Conservation Education Program is made up of two major sub-programs, listed below with the number of staff and FY 21 budget:

| <u>Sub-program</u> | <u>#FTEs*</u> | <u>2021 Annual Budget</u> |
|------------------------|---------------|---------------------------|
| Hunter Education | 1.0 | \$ 169,808 |
| Conservation Education | 4.7 | 572,445 |
| TOTAL | 5.7 | \$ 742,253 |

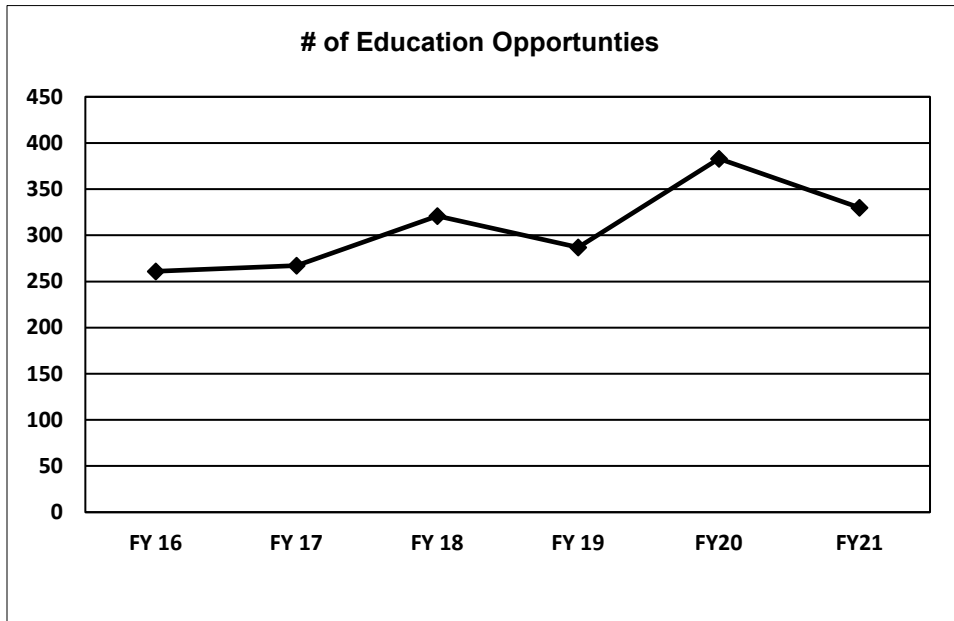
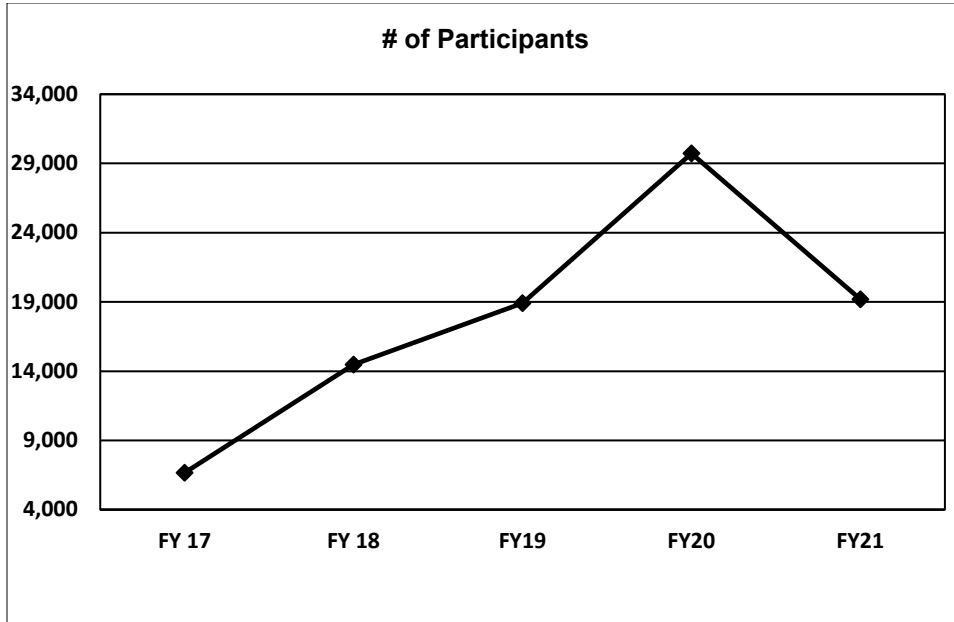
** Includes permanent and contract positions authorized in the FY 21 budget. Any positions added during the budget cycle require Commission authorization or must be funded from supplemental grants. These programs do require statewide responsibilities, travel, and assistance from regional personnel.*

These statewide programs are located in the Department's Headquarters Office in Cheyenne.

Primary Functions of the Conservation Education Program:

- **Provide learning and participation opportunities** to youth and adults in outdoor skills, and as required by state statute, continue to offer hunter education so that hunters engage in ethical, lawful, and safe actions.
- **Create awareness** among youth and adults of the importance of planned management practices for wildlife and their habitats within their specific ecosystems.

Performance Measure #1: Number of educational opportunities offered and number of people reached annually through conservation education efforts by select Cheyenne education personnel (personnel from this program will work to provide at least 200 conservation education opportunities to 50,000 people).



Story behind the performance:

These tables display the output of only a fraction of conservation offerings. Other opportunities from the public are run by regional Information and Education specialists and are documented elsewhere in the report. Combining this information would be beneficial, but one team is in the Director's Office and the other in the Wildlife Division.

FY 21 education opportunities dropped slightly due to the COVID-19 pandemic. While many activities continued in-person with proper health procedures in place, other activities were canceled as reflected in the dip in participant and opportunity numbers.

What has been accomplished:

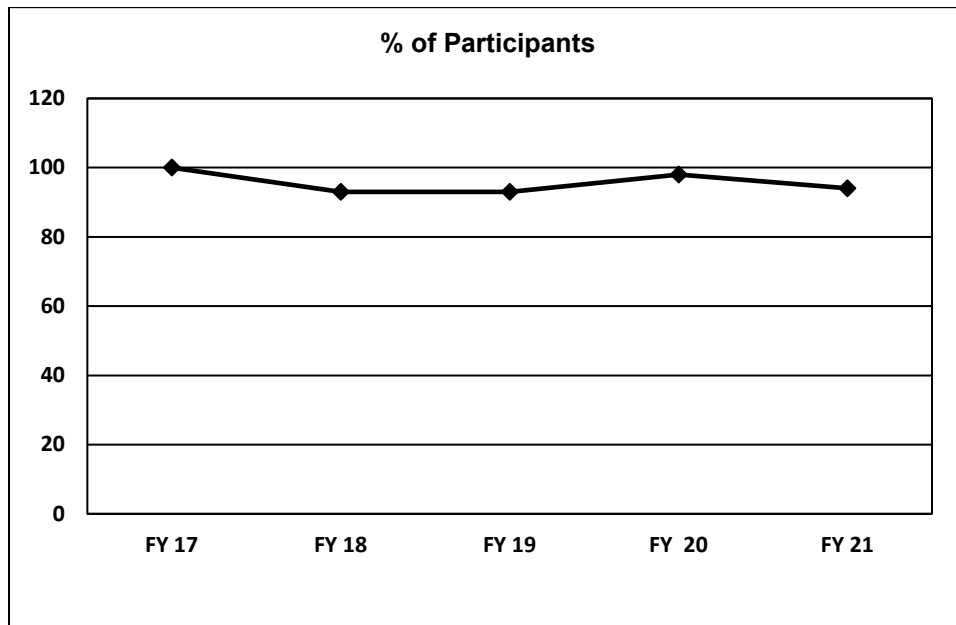
In 2019, the Commission reviewed and approved a plan that expanded offerings throughout the summer with a focus on overnight camps offered at the Department's Whiskey Mountain Conservation Camp. The Commission approved adding additional temporary staff and funding for additional camps. With this approval, high school overnight camps were added as well as family camps. Participants were surveyed to be able to judge effectiveness and obtain data to further evaluate the camps in the future.

Additionally, in FY 21, the Wyoming Outdoor Expo moved remotely for education outreach. Curriculum and boxes of materials were sent to teachers and students all over the state of Wyoming reaching over 3,000 students. This is more students engaged in Department educational activities than in-person Expo.

The Hunter and Angler Participation Coordinator continued with the Becoming an Outdoors Woman (BOW) camp. Other discontinued programs were brought back in FY18. The Hunting and Heritage Expo was replaced in FY 18 by the Wyoming Outdoor Expo which was focused on broader outdoor skills, including hunting and fishing. Through the 2019 Expo, the Department reached over 6,300 youth and adults over three days. Expo participants engaged in activities ranging from wildlife diseases to wildlife friendly fencing, spin casting to shooting firearms, canoeing to off-road ethics, and many more outdoor activities. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, no in-person Expo was held in FY 20. However a virtual expo that offered hundreds of educational resources to the public reaching nearly a million viewers. In FY21 the Outdoor Expo was held remotely again, but more focused on more scheduled participation and reached nearly 200,000 participants.

Hunter education continues to serve a large volume of students year-round throughout the state with education delivered through a network of volunteers. In FY20, the Hunter Education Coordinator reduced travel due to COVID-19 pandemic and pivoted to more online classes and field days. In FY 21 in-person classes are resurging but online classes still remain popular.

Performance Measure #2: Percentage of participants rating conservation programs as “meets expectations” (personnel with this program will work to ensure that programs meet or exceed the expectations of at least 80 percent of participants).



Story behind the performance:

Surveys tracked in evaluating this goal were related to the Forever Wild Families Program until FY 17 when the Department started surveying participants of other educational programs which includes camps, outreach events, and hunter education.

What has been accomplished:

The Department continues to deploy in-person and electronic surveys after outreach events, education events, and after completion of hunter education classes. These surveys inform where the Department has opportunity to continue to improve its programming. In some cases, parents as well as their youth campers are both surveyed.

Program: Conservation Engineering

Division: Services

Mission: Provide engineering technical support to aid in conserving wildlife and providing public access.

Program Facts: The Conservation Engineering Program is made up of one major sub-program, listed below with number of staff and FY 21 budget:

| <u>Sub-program</u> | <u># FTEs*</u> | <u>2021 Annual Budget</u> |
|--------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| Conservation Engineering | 4.0 | \$539,858 |

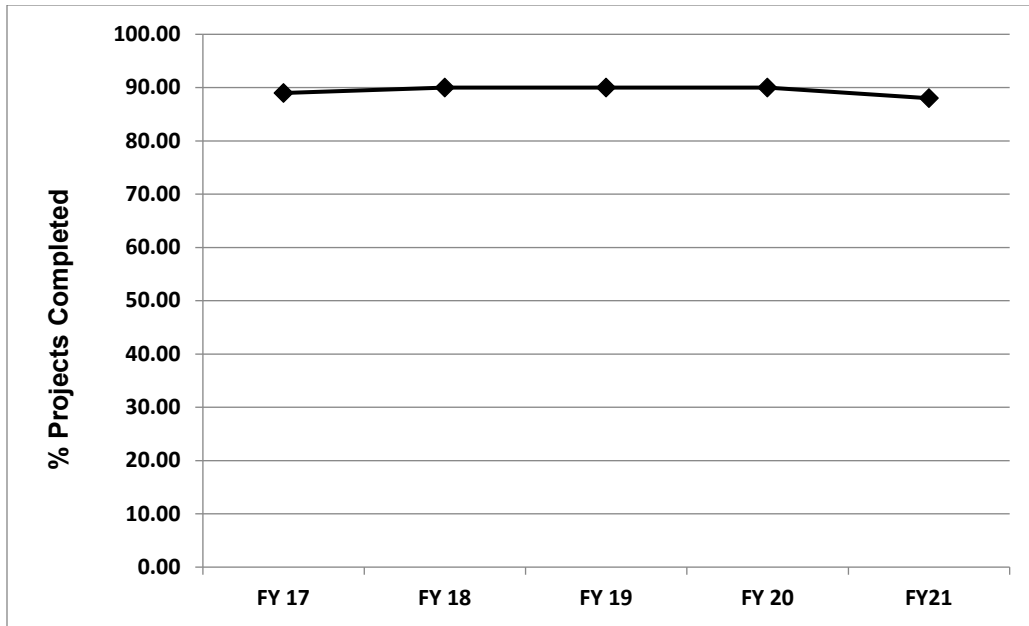
** Includes permanent positions authorized in the FY 21 budget. Any positions added during the budget cycle require Commission authorization or must be funded from supplemental grants.*

This program consists of the engineering and surveying sections and is located in the Department's Headquarters Office in Cheyenne.

Primary Functions of the Conservation Engineering Program:

- **Engineering technical support** is provided through engineering and surveying to maintain the Department's physical structure of offices, housing, hatcheries, research facilities, Wildlife Habitat Management Areas, boating access facilities, and Public Access Areas, often using private sector consultants.
- **Engineering technical support** is provided by acting as caretaker of the Department's water rights statewide and routinely making water rights filings for new permits, alterations, or research problems that arise.
- **Engineering technical support** is provided through the survey section for boundary surveys of all Commission-owned properties.
- **Engineering technical support** for all major new construction projects is provided through the Engineering Section for design, bid, and construction management using in-house professionals and private sector consulting firms.

Performance Measure #1: Work with divisions to ensure that project requests and capital facilities projects are completed. (Personnel with this program will work to ensure that at least 90 percent of all project requests and capital facilities projects are completed).



Story behind the performance:

The Conservation Engineering Program provides a service to Services, Fish, and Wildlife Division employees and ultimately wildlife and fisheries enthusiasts who enjoy the resource. The program continues to experience a heavy workload that includes providing the contract management and construction oversight on the new Cody Regional Office, new superintendent residence at the Daniel Fish Hatchery, a new flood control system at the Boulder Rearing Station, and a new fish passage culvert and headgate on the Horse Creek WHMA. In addition, engineering oversight and plan reviews were performed on projects including boating access, stream restoration, fish hatchery repairs, and elk feedground hay sheds. The survey section performed multiple boundary surveys throughout the year including the new Raymond Mountain PAA and Ogallala PAA. Consisting of a small core of specialists, performance is greatly affected by the number of personnel and workload. The Conservation Engineering Branch was able to address 88 percent of the projects that were requested of them in FY 21.

Program: Customer Services

Division: Fiscal & Services

Mission: To effectively respond to customer requests and provide guidance to hunters, anglers, and non-consumptive users.

Program Facts: The Customer Services Program is made up of two sub-programs listed below with number of staff and FY 21 budget. Customer Services is broken into three sections: telephone information center, telecommunications services, and alternative enterprises.

| <u>Sub-programs</u> | <u># FTEs*</u> | <u>2021 Annual Budget</u> |
|---------------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| Customer Services | 3.0 | \$145,807 |
| Mailroom | 1.0 | 291,381 |
| TOTAL | 4.0 | \$437,188 |

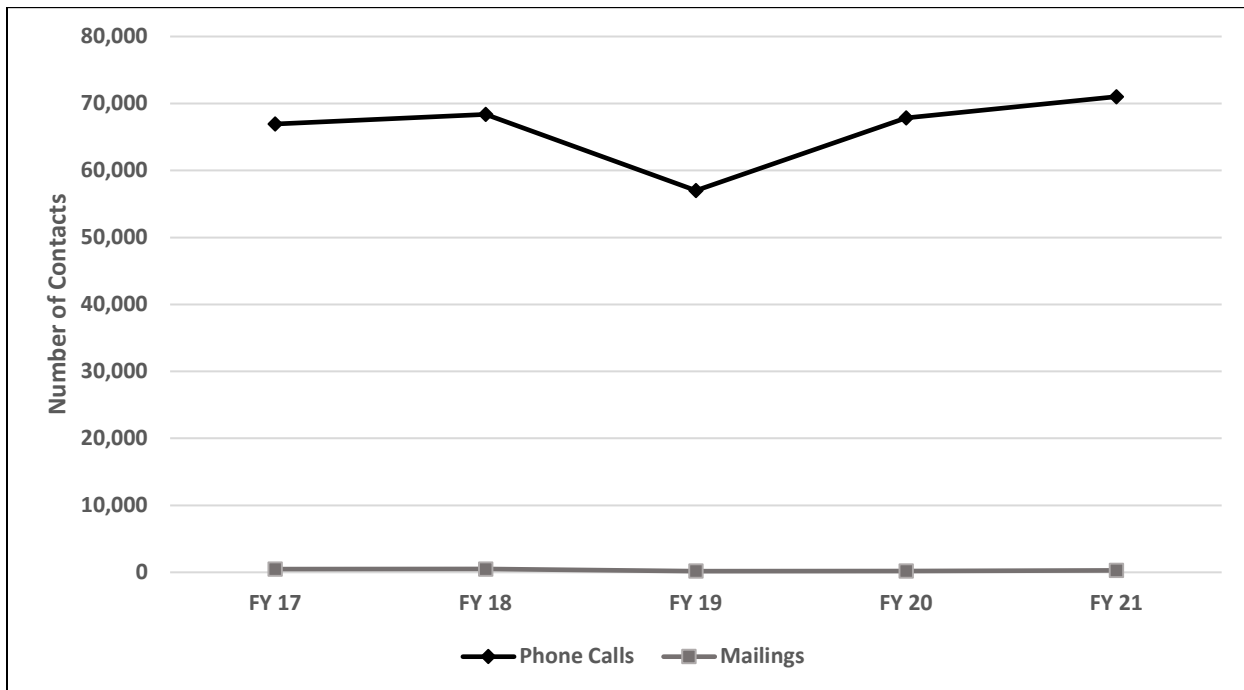
** Includes permanent and contract positions authorized in the FY 21 budget. Any positions added during the budget cycle require Commission authorization or must be funded from supplemental grants.*

The Customer Services Program is located in the Department Headquarters Office in Cheyenne.

Primary Functions of the Customer Service Program:

- **Serve external customers** by providing regulation and other agency information via telephone and mailings.
- **Serve internal customers** by providing telecommunications, mailroom, and staffing assistance.
- **Serve people and wildlife** by offering products and publications that generate revenue that contribute to the support of Department programs.

Performance Measure #1: Volume of customer contacts (personnel with this program will maintain the capacity and infrastructure needed to address at least 75,000 customer contacts: 10,000 mailings and 65,000 phone calls per year).



Story behind the performance:

The Department's license issuance process, associated statutes, regulations, and other responsibilities are complex. A main point of contact serves as an important resource for customers. The contacts included in this measurement are the phone calls received in the Department's Telephone Information Center for general information, assistance with applying for or obtaining a license, and requesting information to be mailed to a customer. The volume of incoming phone calls is tracked through reports generated from the Avaya IQ telephone system software. All requests for information and materials to be mailed directly to a customer are tracked through the customer mail request function within the return mail database. The quantity of mailings for this performance measure does not include the mailing of licenses to customers. The types of information mailed to customers are regulation booklets and other Department publications.

The highest volume of calls are received during the time frame in which customers are submitting their applications for limited quota hunting licenses, checking to determine if they drew a license, obtaining leftover licenses, and obtaining permits for the Hunter Management Program. Requests for materials to be sent in the mail are centered on the time period in which customers are obtaining information to submit their applications for limited quota drawings.

During FY 21, there were five customer service representatives trained to handle all incoming calls and requests for information. The Department has an additional eight staff members trained to handle all incoming calls. During this period, 71,020 calls were answered of the 82,451 total calls directed to the Telephone Information Center. The calls that were not answered were abandoned

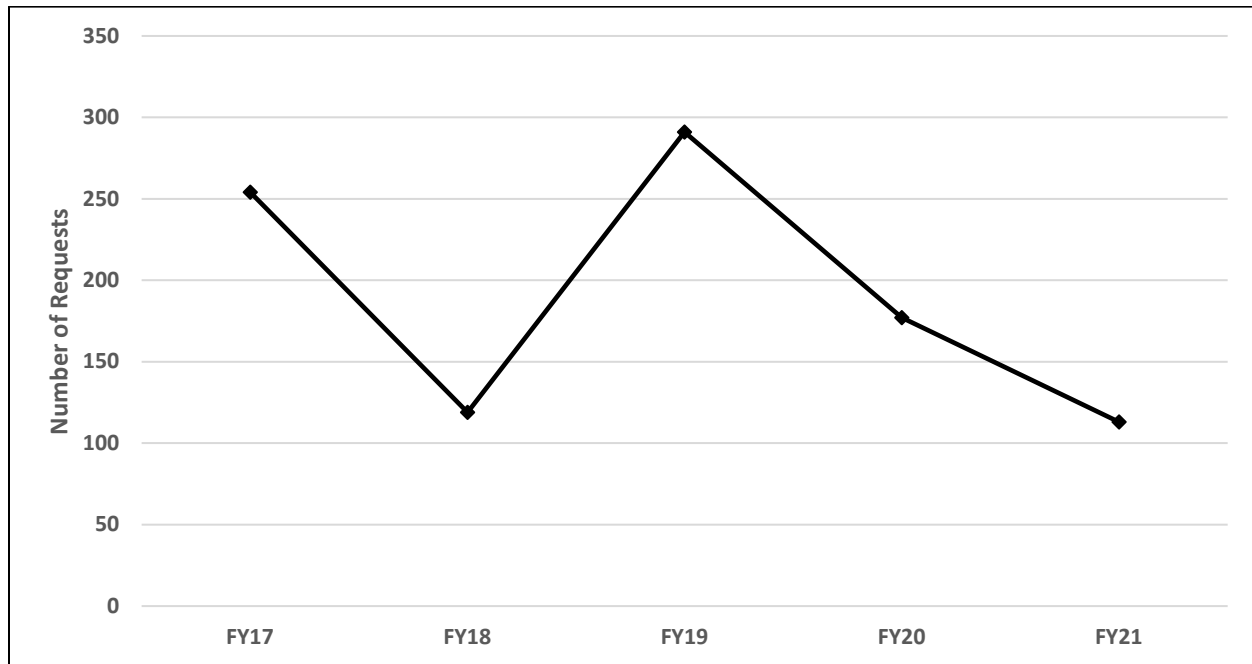
calls (13,070) where the caller hung up before the customer service representative concluded the preceding call. This represents a level of service of 86 percent. The Department has a minimum of three representatives with more answering calls on higher call volume days.

Most calls are currently related to:

1. Questions related to licensing and/or regulations
2. Assistance with navigating the Department's website
3. Assistance with the Department's electronic license system to apply for or purchase a license, watercraft registration, or AIS decal
4. Requests for assistance to correct sportsperson records
5. Obtaining drawing odds
6. Requests for regulations
7. Obtaining drawing results
8. Access Yes assistance
9. Fishing information
10. Watercraft related questions
11. Hunter safety information
12. General regulations

For the past five years, the average number of phone calls answered has been 66,242 and the average number of mailings has been 324. The FY 20 numbers were updated to reflect accurately the number of calls answered. In FY 21, the telephone information center staff answered 71,020 incoming calls and processed 273 mailing requests for information from customers. As reflected in the performance measure chart, there was a decrease from previous years in the number of incoming calls answered. The number of requests to mail materials to customers showed an increase in FY 21. The overall reduction in the number of mailings to customers is a result of customers using the Department's website to obtain information to apply for or purchase licenses.

Performance Measure #2: Number of departmental telecommunication requests handled (Personnel with this program will maintain the capacity and infrastructure to handle at least 400 telecommunication requests from Department employees per year).



Story behind the performance:

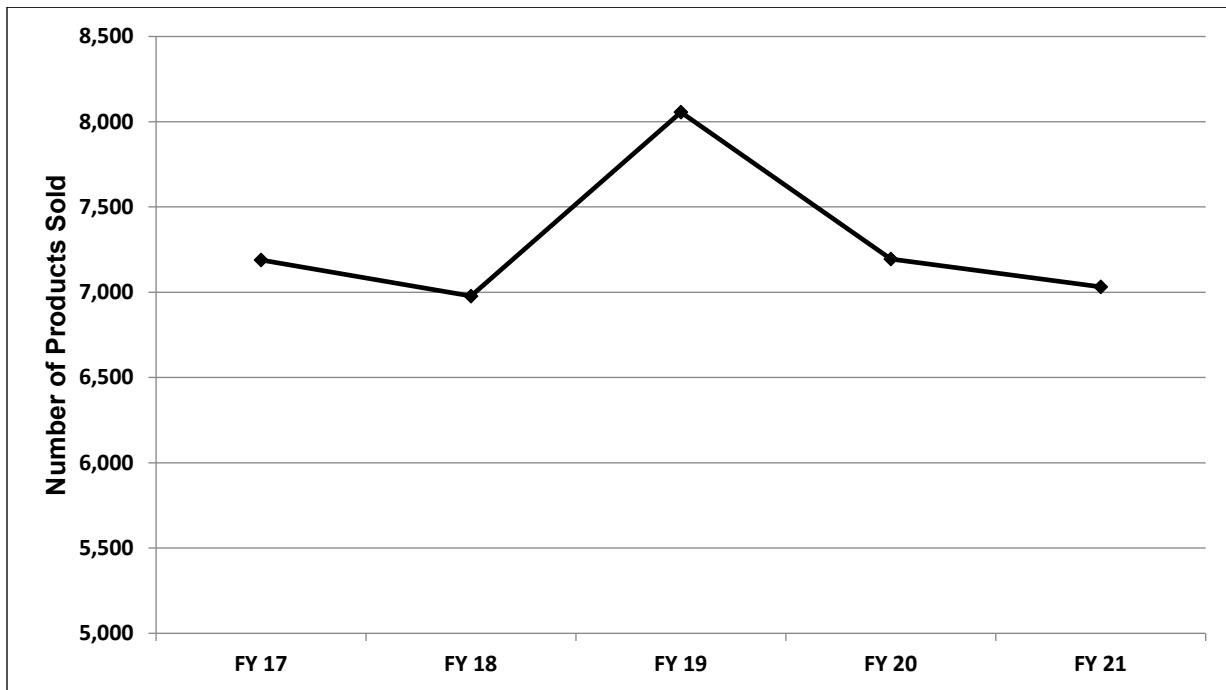
Previously, one customer service employee staffed this section as part-time duties. These part-time duties were transferred to a Help Desk/Procurement position in the Information Technology Program in June 2012 and became effective in the Strategic Plan as of the beginning of FY 13.

As the Telecommunications Liaison, this employee serves as the point of contact for Department employees with State Enterprise Technology Services (ETS) and private vendors for all telecommunication related issues. Telecommunications is growing due to the rapid pace of the cellular environment which is expected to continue as the cellular industry moves away from support of analog cellular service. The types of support calls noted in this report include cell phone upgrades, replacements, plan or billing changes, general inquiries, disconnections, and service and repair calls for analog and digital landlines.

Work orders are submitted through Software for cellular needs, construction, or telecommunication equipment requests. This employee works closely with ETS telecommunications personnel to fulfill these requests and for troubleshooting phone and data line issues throughout the state.

The FY 21 numbers noted here reflect items that required actual work orders and several were combined under one work order when appropriate. This also allowed for better and timelier service to Department employees. It can be expected that ongoing requests for troubleshooting, password resets, and new phone orders will continue.

Performance Measure #3: Number of products sold to customers (Personnel with this program will work to sell at least 8,000 products per year).

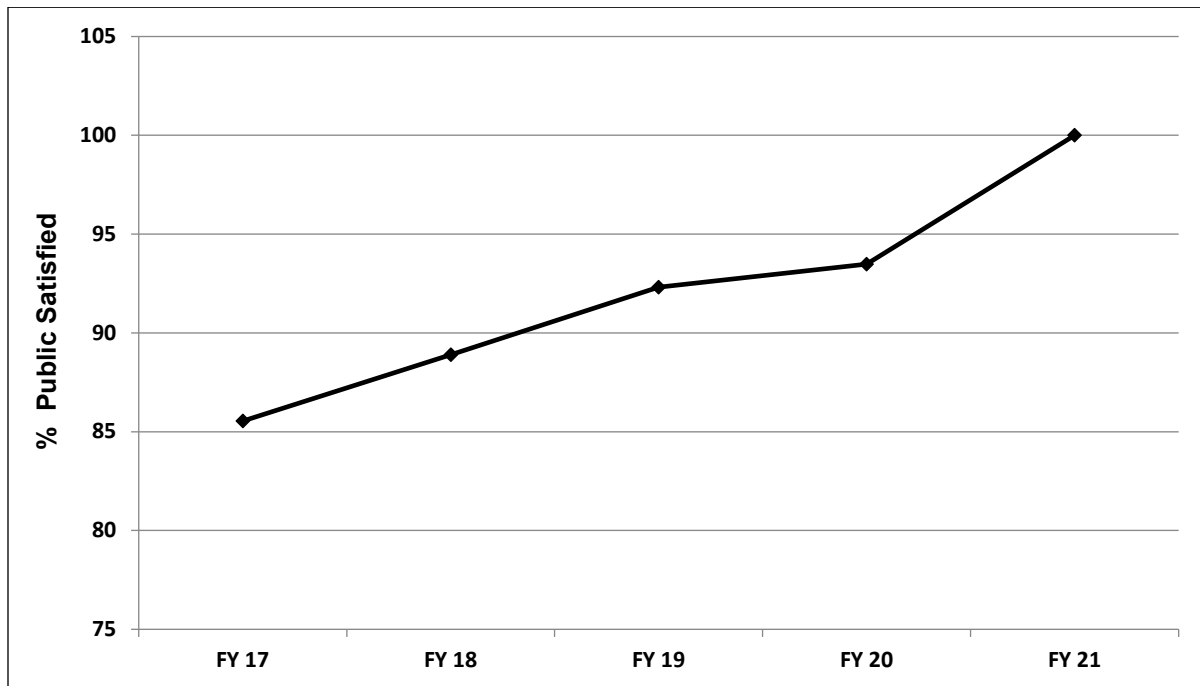


Story behind the performance:

The products offered by Alternative Enterprise feature the logo "Wyoming's Wildlife Worth the Watching" and the Department's "Official Gear" line. The distribution of products helps to promote the Department's brand as well as build awareness and approval for the Department's mission. It also provides an opportunity for all persons, including non-consumptive users, to financially contribute to the Department's conservation efforts.

In FY 21, the number of products sold was 7,032. This was a small decrease from FY 20, which had 7,195 products sold. The last year and a half have been challenging due to COVID-19. There are fewer customers who come in to shop at the gift shop, and fewer customers shopping in general. Overall, the gift shop was able to stay in line with previous years and remained successful in providing products to our constituents. The products sold relate to wildlife, the Department, and its programs, so the number of products sold is an indication of how successful this program is at getting public recognition and promoting the Department. The target markets include residents, nonresidents, consumptive and non-consumptive wildlife users. The profit generated by product sales is used exclusively for habitat restoration and conservation, hunting and fishing access, and other wildlife programs. The goal is to make sure customers and constituents continue to have a positive experience with the store, and with the Department.

Performance Measure #4: Percent of general public satisfied with how their information needs are handled (Personnel within this program will work to ensure that at least 80% of the public is satisfied with how their information needs are handled).



Story behind the performance:

The Telephone Information Center is often the only contact customers have with the Department until they meet a warden or biologist in the field. Their opinion of the Department and the Department’s credibility are formed as a result of these contacts. Customer needs often include questions related to the online application process, drawing odds, requests for forms, and other website navigation assistance. The information given to hunters and anglers by customer service representatives needs to be accurate, current, and communicated in a professional manner.

Annually, the external client satisfaction survey is distributed to randomly selected members of the public who had purchased hunting and fishing licenses the previous year. In FY 21, 70 individuals responded to the survey which included 5 residents and 65 nonresidents. The survey provides the opportunity for the public to evaluate the customer service provided by the Department. Since FY 17, an average of 85.54 percent of the public who had interacted with the Telephone Information Center staff were satisfied with how their information needs were handled. However, of the 68 survey participants that responded to the specific survey question on contacting the Telephone Information Center during FY 21, only 11 used the Telephone Information Center for assistance.

Program: Department Administration

Division: Department-wide

Mission: Provide leadership for wildlife conservation in Wyoming.

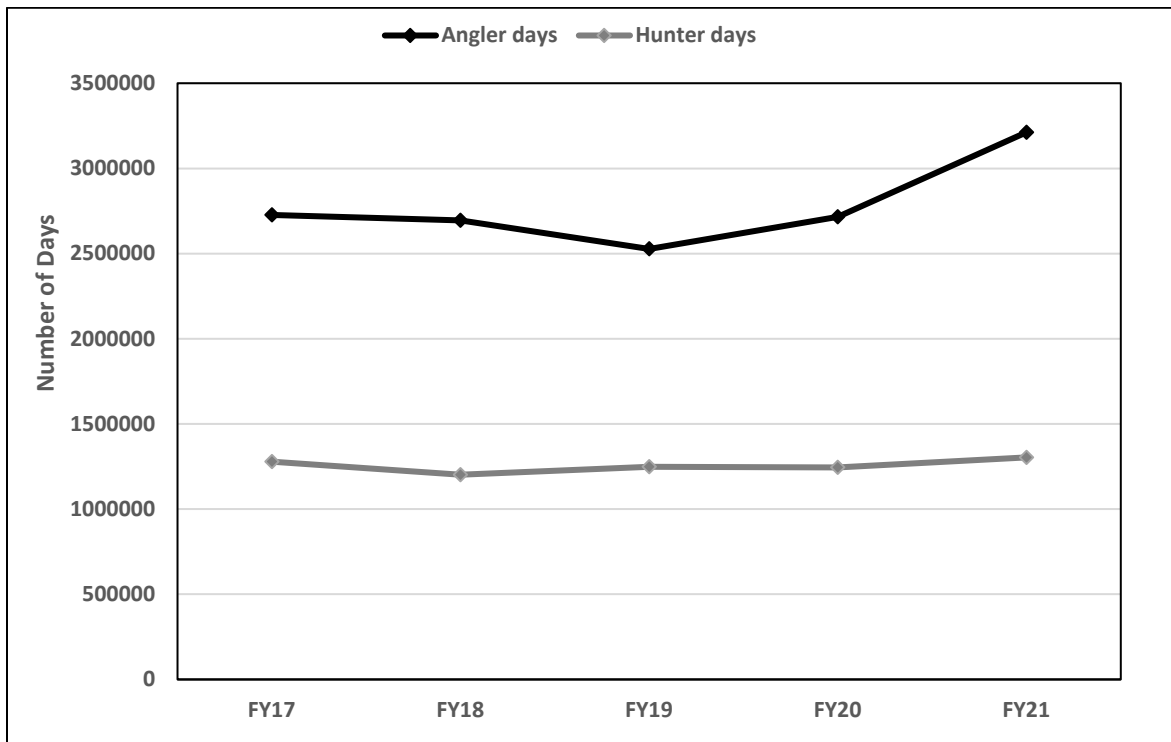
Program Facts: The Department Administration Program is made up of three major sub-programs, listed below with the number of staff and FY 21 budget:

| <u>Sub-program</u> | <u>#FTEs*</u> | <u>2021 Annual Budget</u> |
|--------------------|---------------|---------------------------|
| Administration | 23.0 | \$3,795,835 |
| WGFD Vehicle Fleet | 0.0 | 2,361,853 |
| Commission | 0.8 | 85,473 |
| TOTAL | 23.8 | \$6,243,161 |

** Includes permanent, contract, and temporary positions authorized in the FY 21 budget. Any positions added during the budget cycle require Commission authorization or must be funded from supplemental grants.*

This program is located in the Department’s Headquarters Office in Cheyenne.

Performance Measure #1: Number of days in the field by hunters and anglers (personnel with this program will work to provide at least 1.1 million hunter days and 2.3 million angler days per year).



Story behind the performance:

For the period FY 17 - FY 21, Wyoming residents and nonresidents expended an average of 1,241,250 hunter days and 2,757,254 angler days. In FY 21, 1,233,314 hunter recreation days* and 3,211,816 angler recreation days were provided. Values reflect lifetime license holders included in the estimate of hunter and angler recreation days. Hunter days in FY 21 were 12.1 percent above the target of 1.1 million hunter days. Angling days in FY 21 were 26.4 percent above the target of 2.3 million angler days.

Hunter days decreased approximately 3.6 percent between FY 19 and FY 20. Big game and trophy game species showed increases in recreation days (+83,844 and +11,260, respectively), while small game (-2,339), upland game (-72,735), migratory game bird (-65,355), and furbearer (-426) days decreased. Decreases in upland game and migratory game bird recreation days primarily resulted from omission of data associated with pheasants, geese, and ducks*. The increase in big game and trophy game hunter recreation days reflects the general trend in interest in hunting in Wyoming based on license sales recently.

The number of angler days has trended upwards over the last five years and increased substantially in 2020. Good fishing conditions and improved regional economic conditions likely account for the long-term trend. The increase in fishing in 2020 was due to people wanting to get outdoors during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Department is hopeful that this high level of interest in outdoor recreation will be sustained.

**Due to irregularities associated with 2020 harvest survey data, recreation days for pheasants, geese and ducks are not included in these calculations.*

Major Accomplishments:

The Access Yes Program, enhances and/or maintains public hunting and fishing access onto Wyoming's private and landlocked public lands. This is accomplished by enrolling private landowners into one of the three access programs: Hunter Management Area (HMA), Walk-in Hunting Area (WIHA), and/or Walk-in Fishing Area (WIFA). The landowner and Department personnel negotiate the terms of an agreement including: agreement length (one to five years), the species that can be harvested, the geographic location, dates access will be allowed, and any other specific rules or stipulations. In return for access, landowners benefit in several ways including:

- A modest monetary payment based on the number of acres or stream length enrolled;
- Increased law enforcement presence;
- Increased wildlife management (population control and damage prevention); and,
- Assistance in managing sportsmen such as alleviating phone calls and other disruptions to landowners (access maps, hunter instruction on ranch rules, etc.).

The Access Yes Program assists landowners through the management of hunters and anglers, providing sportsmen and sportswomen places to hunt and fish and reducing agricultural damage through hunter harvest. The Department benefits through increased wildlife management opportunities, increased license sales, reduced agricultural damage, and providing quality hunting and fishing access to the public. The Access Yes Program experienced many successes (from 2020 Access YES Annual Report):

- Providing access to 2,634,025 acres (1,703,651 acres of enrolled private and state lands, and 930,374 of public lands) for hunting within the boundaries of the WIHA and HMA programs. This included land in every county within Wyoming.
- Providing additional access to 166,635 acres of public lands located outside the boundaries of the WIHA and HMA, which would not have been accessible without the Access Yes program.
- Providing fishing access to 4,005 lake acres and 87 stream miles throughout the WIFA program.
- Assisted Department IT personnel to develop a new online permission slip database. The internal challenge of setting up permission slips online was becoming more complex. These changes allow the process to be user friendly for sportspersons while reducing difficulties associated with obtaining permission slips for HMAs and the National Elk Refuge (NER).
- Recognized landowners by issuing Access Enrollment Award plaques and signs to 210 landowners who enrolled in the original PLPW Program between 1998 – 2003. These landowners have been recognized as Founding Partners of the Access Yes program and continue to be enrolled.
- Conducted a survey of enrolled landowners to gauge satisfaction with the Access Yes Program and help coordinators determine future needs or program direction.

The Access Yes Program is funded by Department funds and Access Yes donations. Department funds, primarily from license sales, fund the daily operations of the program including personnel. Revenue for the Access Yes Program is generated from the sale of lifetime and annual conservation stamps, donations from organizations and individual hunters and anglers, state restitution fees from court-imposed fines from wildlife violations, and interest. Except for a few exemptions, every hunter and angler must purchase an annual conservation stamp, unless a lifetime conservation stamp has been purchased previously. A portion of the sale of these stamps is deposited into the Access Yes account (\$2.50 per annual stamp and half of each lifetime stamp). These two sources generate the majority of the funds each year, and in FY 21 they generated \$714,881.

Donations to Access Yes provide another valuable source of funds. During FY 21, direct donations from conservation groups and organizations totaled \$2,779, indicating the importance these groups place on access. Hunters and anglers can also make donations to Access Yes when applying for or purchasing licenses, either in person at a license selling agent, or when purchasing a license through the internet. These sportsmen contributed a total of \$141,067 in FY 21. Overall, during FY 21, the Access Yes Program received \$1,026,302.

Easement payments made to landowners are funded through the Access Yes Program. Authorized by state statute, funds collected through Access Yes donations may only be utilized for acquiring easements from landowners.

Program: External Research

Division: Office of the Director

Mission: Conduct timely, applied research on fish and wildlife management issues.

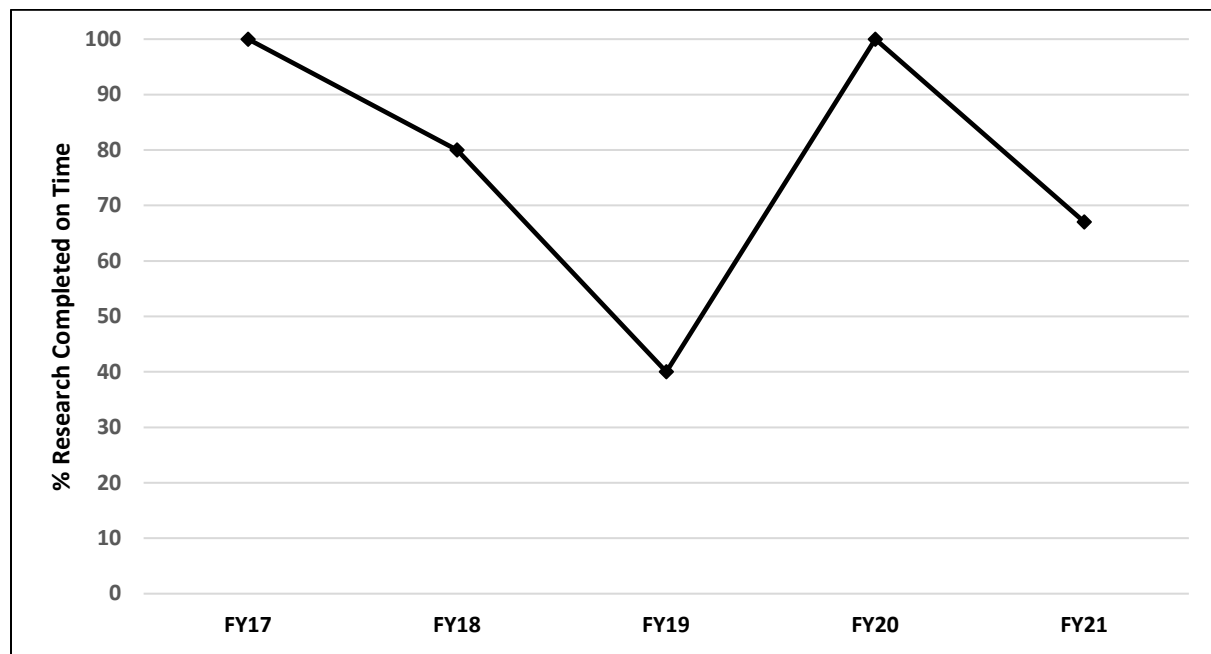
Program Facts: Scientific investigations are typically conducted by researchers associated with the Wyoming Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit (Coop Unit), universities, and independent researchers. The External Research Program funds no Department personnel, but by agreement, \$40,000 per year is used to help fund administration of the Coop Unit. Listed below is the FY 21 budget:

| <u>Sub program</u> | <u># FTEs</u> | <u>2021 Annual Budget</u> |
|--------------------|---------------|---------------------------|
| External Research | 0 | 745,720 |

Primary Functions of the External Research Program:

- **Conduct research to provide answers to wildlife management questions or issues that require rigorous, scientific study** by developing research proposals and budgets in cooperation with the Department and by hiring and overseeing researchers and/or graduate students to conduct research that is designed to have immediate applications by fish and wildlife managers.

Performance Measure #1: The percentage of funded projects that submit a final report within specified terms of the grant. (Personnel in this program will work to submit 90 percent of reports within terms of the grant.)



Story behind the performance:

The Department is responsible for developing proposals for applied research projects to improve wildlife management in Wyoming. Since the Department has no internal staff specifically dedicated to conducting research, research projects are developed in cooperation with the Coop Unit and other researchers. These proposals are ranked and prioritized by the Fish and Wildlife Divisions prior to receiving Department funding. For many projects, Department funding is not sufficient to complete the needed research. In these instances, senior Coop Unit scientists or other researchers use Department funds as seed money with which to leverage other sources for additional funds. This model has typically resulted in approximately a 3:1 funding stream for Department research priorities and has been used to fund many complex projects that would not have been possible without outside funding.

Annually, Fish and Wildlife Divisions evaluate the progress of ongoing research and whether projects will be completed and reports submitted as specified. Variables affecting the timely completion of research are most often controllable; however, because research is often led by students, there are times when factors such as employment or writing abilities limit timeliness. Overall, the Coop Unit continues to improve their research workflow. The Coop Unit has implemented a database to track research progress and alert students and advisors about looming deadlines resulting in a higher percentage of projects meeting deadlines. With respect to the Coop Unit, it is notable that their faculty and graduate students routinely share data, findings, techniques, and other project information on a real-time, as-needed basis through phone calls, project updates, presentations, written quarterly reports, data sharing, and other outreach to Department field and administrative personnel.

What has been accomplished:

Wildlife Division funded four research projects with maintenance and operation (M&O) for FY 20:

- Wyoming Range Mule Deer and Carryover Effects of a Severe Winter, (continuation from FY 18), is evaluating how habitat, climate, nutrition, predation, and disease may affect this highly prized deer herd. Wind Energy Effects on Pronghorn, (continuation from FY 18), will monitor and evaluate pronghorn movements' pre-development of a wind turbine project to evaluate potential influences on migration and habitat use.
- Whiskey Mountain Bighorn Sheep, (new in FY 21), tests the relative contributions of nutrition, predation, disease, and migration ecology on population dynamics in the Whiskey Mountain bighorn sheep herd.
- Deer, Lions and Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD), (new in FY 21), evaluates the degree to which lions selectively prey on CWD-positive animals in the Bates Hole / Hat Six mule deer herd. Results of this work will help managers understand the dynamics of mountain lion predation in mule deer populations with high CWD prevalence.

In most cases, project goals have been expanded beyond their initial objectives, thus requiring extensions. Others are on track, but needed to be extended to assure that grant funds could be spent on remaining project costs. Grant language allows 90 days after final project billing before final reports are due. Reports are expected within this period and will be reported upon next year.

The Department continues to work with the Coop Unit and other university researchers to meet aquatic research needs. A total of 16 Fish Division research projects were underway or initiated in FY 20. Of these projects, six were scheduled for completion in FY 21 and all but two were completed and final reports received on time. There were six new aquatic projects initiated in FY 20. New research was funded with the Coop Unit, Montana State University, and the University of Idaho.

At the end of FY 21, 10 aquatic research projects were ongoing (two new and eight continuing). New projects initiated in FY 21 include:

- 1) A project conducted by a University of Wyoming masters student investigating the fate of kokanee salmon stocked into New Fork Lake.
- 2) A project conducted by a University of Wyoming doctoral student who will explore the genetic diversity and relationships of Yellowstone cutthroat trout populations in Wyoming. Continuing projects at the end of FY 21 include:
- 3) A project conducted by a Montana State University Coop Unit masters student investigating the life history and movement of mountain whitefish in the upper Green River.
- 4) A project conducted by a Coop Unit masters student to determine if redd counts are a useful tool in determining trends in Snake River cutthroat trout abundance in Snake River spring creeks. This project was delayed by COVID-19 restrictions in 2020.
- 5) A project conducted by Wyoming Natural Diversity Database researchers will inventory aquatic snails to understand what species occur in the Bear and Powder Rivers. This project was delayed by COVID-19 restrictions in 2020.
- 6) A project conducted by a University of Idaho master student investigating the natal origins and return of stocked kokanee salmon in Flaming Gorge Reservoir.
- 7) A project conducted by a Coop Unit masters student investigating the movement and habitat use of wood frogs in the Medicine Bow National Forest.
- 8) A project conducted by a Coop Unit masters student investigating the range and impact of the invasive brook stickleback fish in the Bighorn and North Platte drainages.
- 9) A project conducted by a Montana State University doctorate student investigating the role of introduced predatory fish on the potential decline of native burbot and mountain whitefish in the Torrey Creek lakes.
- 10) A project conducted by a Coop Unit masters student investigating the movement, habitat use and barriers to movement of roundtail chub and flannelmouth suckers in the Black and Ham's Fork drainages.

Program: Feedgrounds

Division: Wildlife

Mission Statement: To maintain Commission population objectives and control elk distribution in an effort to minimize conflicts with human land uses.

Program Facts: The Feedground Program operates 22 feedgrounds and is made up of one program, listed below with the number of staff and FY 21 budget:

| <u>Program</u> | <u># FTEs*</u> | <u>2021 Annual Budget</u> |
|----------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| Feedgrounds | 2 | \$ 1,725,434 |

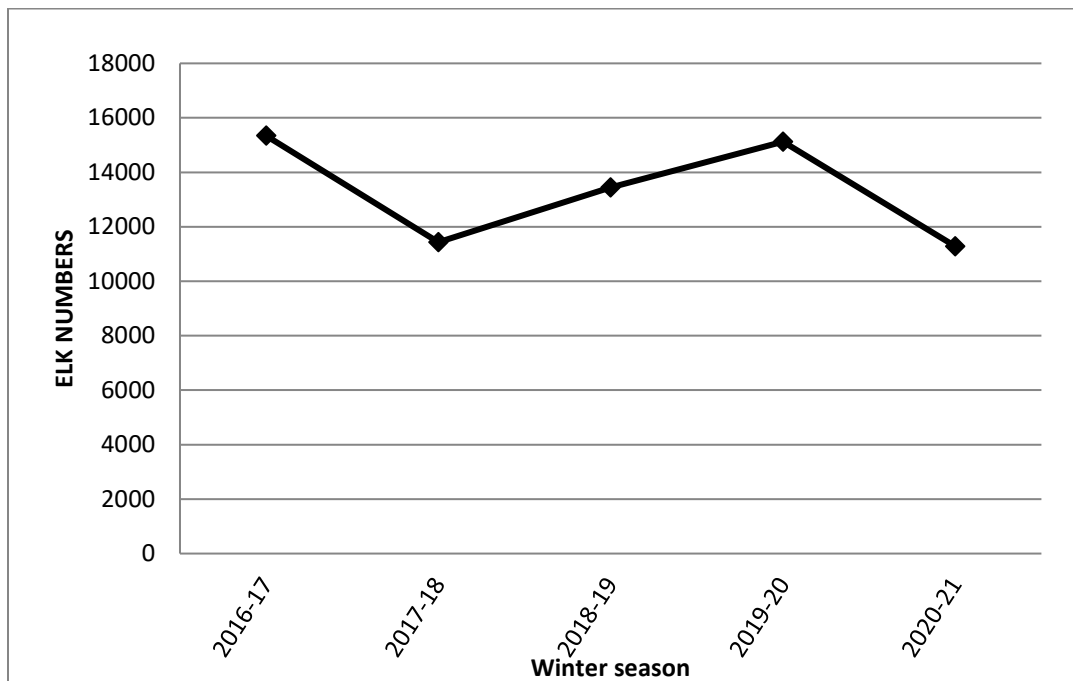
This program is located in the Jackson and Pinedale Regions. Personnel are assigned in Pinedale and Afton. The program is supervised by the Jackson and Pinedale Regional Wildlife Supervisors.

** Includes permanent positions authorized in the FY 21 budget. Any positions added during the budget cycle require Commission authorization or must be funded from supplemental grants.*

Primary Function of the Feedground Program:

- **Maintain elk population objectives and control elk distribution** by providing supplemental feed. Supplemental feeding will assist in the prevention of damage to private property and assist in the prevention of commingling with livestock to reduce opportunities for disease transmission.

Performance Measure #1: Number of elk attending feedgrounds



Story behind the performance:

Elk feedgrounds have been an important management tool since the early 1900s. Elk conflicts with agriculture, such as damage to stored hay and feedlines, risk of cattle exposure to brucellosis because of commingling, deep snow accumulations, and loss of native ranges to development significantly impact the ability of elk to utilize native ranges without conflict. During most winters, elk feedgrounds maintain a significant percentage of the total elk population, while native ranges support relatively few elk. While elk attend feedgrounds, adequate hay (quantity and quality) is fed to reduce starvation and prevent conflict with nearby livestock operations. Wyoming sportsmen have become accustomed to increased elk hunting opportunities afforded by high elk numbers made possible because of feeding.

During the 2020-2021 winter, 11,283 elk were fed. This is 3,645 elk below the past 20-year average. In 2020-2021, all feedgrounds were in operation by the end of January except Fall Creek feedground, which fed for only four days at the end of February and beginning of March and Soda Lake feedground, where feeding operations were not initiated due to mild winter conditions. All feeding operations were completed by April 15th and 3,577 tons of hay were fed. During the 2020-2021 season, 3,577 tons of hay were fed, nearly 2,807 tons below the past 20-year average of 6,384 tons. During the last five winters, the number of elk attending feedgrounds has ranged between 11,283 (winter 2020-2021) and 15,341 (winter 2016-2017) (figure #1).

Winter conditions during 2020-2021 were very mild to start and ended with below average snow depths resulting in a shorter than average feeding season. Overall, the feeding season was 88 days, 23 days shorter than the previous season of 111 days. The average feeding season is 122 days. Wolves continue to displace elk from and between feedgrounds. These factors can influence the number of elk counted on feedgrounds and/or fed. The Gros Ventre experienced less than normal elk numbers at 1,087 elk. Six of seven elk herd units (Jackson, Afton, Fall Creek, Pinedale, Green River, and Piney) had elk numbers below their individual objectives. On average, 79 percent of the elk in the Jackson and Pinedale regions are fed each year. Long-term average mortality from all causes has not exceeded 1.5 percent on all feedgrounds combined. Mortality resulting from old age, hunter wounding and predation cannot be prevented by feedground management techniques. Other causes of mortality (goring, some diseases, and malnutrition) may be related to feedground management. Feedground managers should continue to utilize available techniques to minimize these causes of mortality. Winter mortality for 2020-2021 was 0.48 percent, 0.3 percent lower than the previous year.

What has been accomplished:

Overall, the average feeding season was 88 days and 2,807 tons of hay were fed to 11,283 elk. The shortest feeding operations occurred for 0 days at Soda Lake and 4 days at Fall Creek, and the longest occurred at Dell Creek for 150 days. Elk mortality was less than 1 percent. Elk feeders documented wolves caused elk mortality at 8 of 22 feedgrounds and killed 31 elk. This number decreased by 26 from the previous year. Black Butte and Horse Creek documented the highest elk mortality by wolves at six each. With early snow in the Gros Venture drainage, baiting elk was started on November 16 at Patrol Cabin in an effort to hold elk in the drainage. With hay on the ground, about 700 elk left Patrol Cabin and moved down drainage after they had been on hay. These elk ended up on the National Elk Refuge (NER) and surrounding areas. With wolf presence

on the Gros Venture feedgrounds over the last several years, elk have learned how to migrate out of the drainage to avoid pressure.

Program: Financial Management

Division: Fiscal

Mission: Ensure accountability of all Department assets to the Department’s publics, including financial compliance with federal and state requirements and assisting in management planning and decision-making by providing financial information.

Program Facts: The Financial Management Program is listed below with number of staff and FY 21 budget:

| <u>Sub-programs</u> | <u># FTEs*</u> | <u>2021 Annual Budget</u> |
|----------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| Revenue Collection & Licensing | 16.0 | \$ 1,179,183 |
| Asset Management & Disbursements | 8.0 | \$ 1,704,011 |
| TOTAL | 24.0 | \$ 2,892,550 |

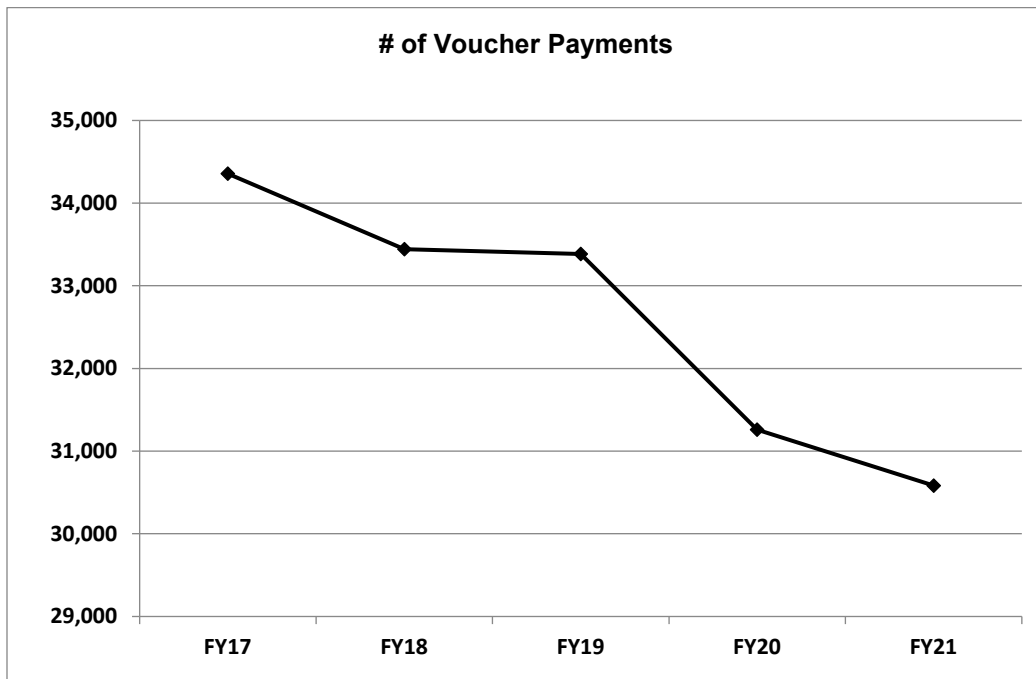
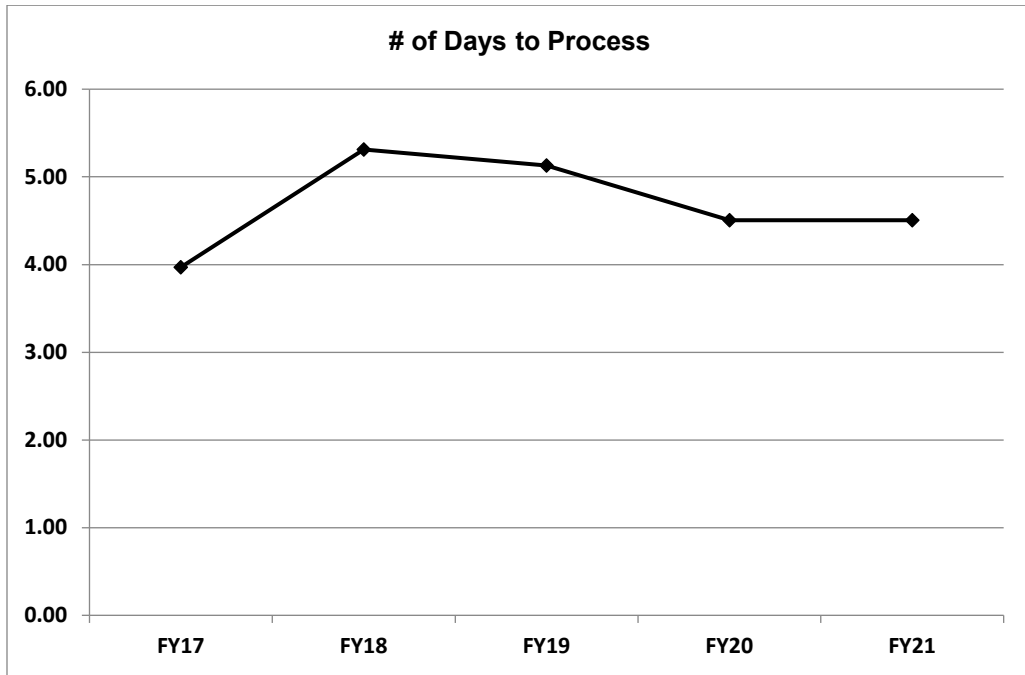
Includes permanent, contract, and temporary positions authorized in the FY 21 budget. Any positions added during the budget cycle require Commission authorization or must be funded from supplemental grants.

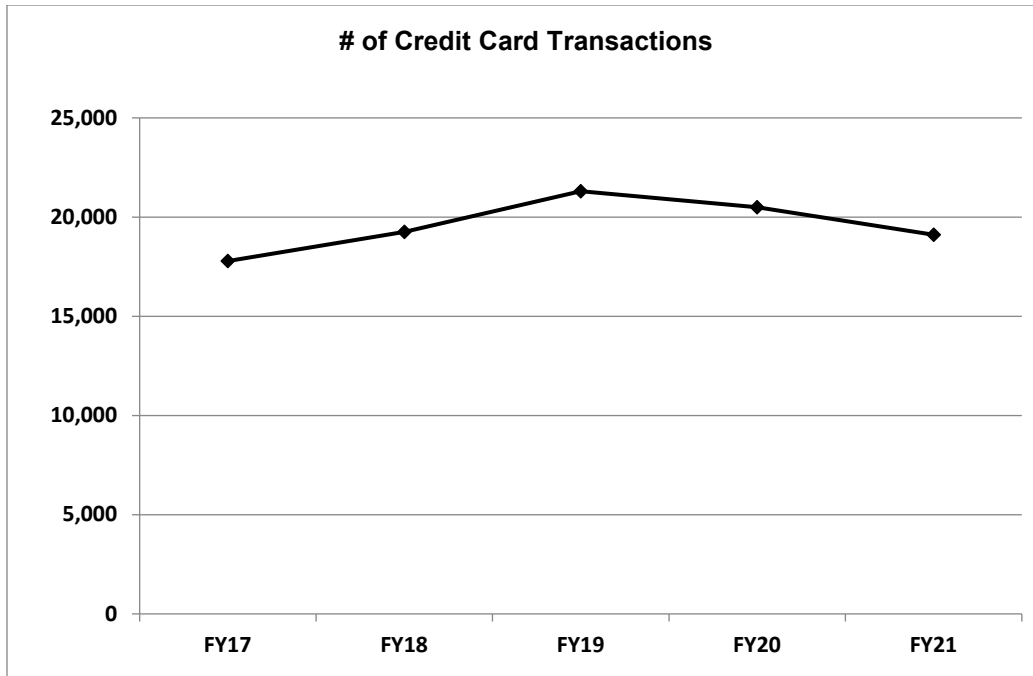
This program is located in the Department’s Headquarters Office in Cheyenne.

Primary Functions of the Financial Management Program:

- **Ensure accountability and compliance** by being responsible for billing, collecting, and accounting for all Department revenues and administering the systems to accommodate administration of all Department revenues including issuance of personal hunting and fishing licenses, permits, tags, and stamps; watercraft registration; commercial hatchery, taxidermist, and bird farm licenses; and federal, state, local, and private grants and donations, to include receipts in excess of \$81 million annually. In addition, slightly less than 32,000 payment transactions were initiated, reviewed, and processed in accordance with state requirements.
- **Ensure accountability and compliance** by maintaining and updating the financial records of all Department fixed assets to include personal property (vehicles, office and shop equipment, leasehold improvements) and real property (buildings, infrastructure, land improvements).
- **Assist in Department management planning and decision-making** by developing and monitoring the Department’s annual budget to ensure compliance with state requirements. In addition, provide monthly and annual financial reports to agency personnel and to external publics.

Performance Measure #1: Timeliness of processing payment transactions. (Personnel with the program will work to ensure voucher payments are processed within four working days and receipts are processed within 10 working days).

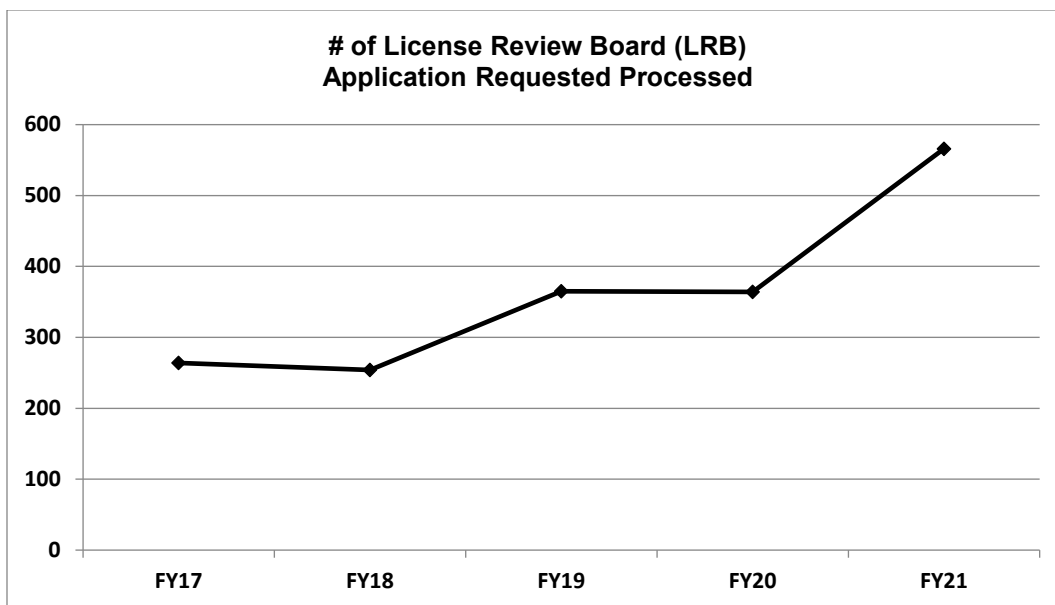


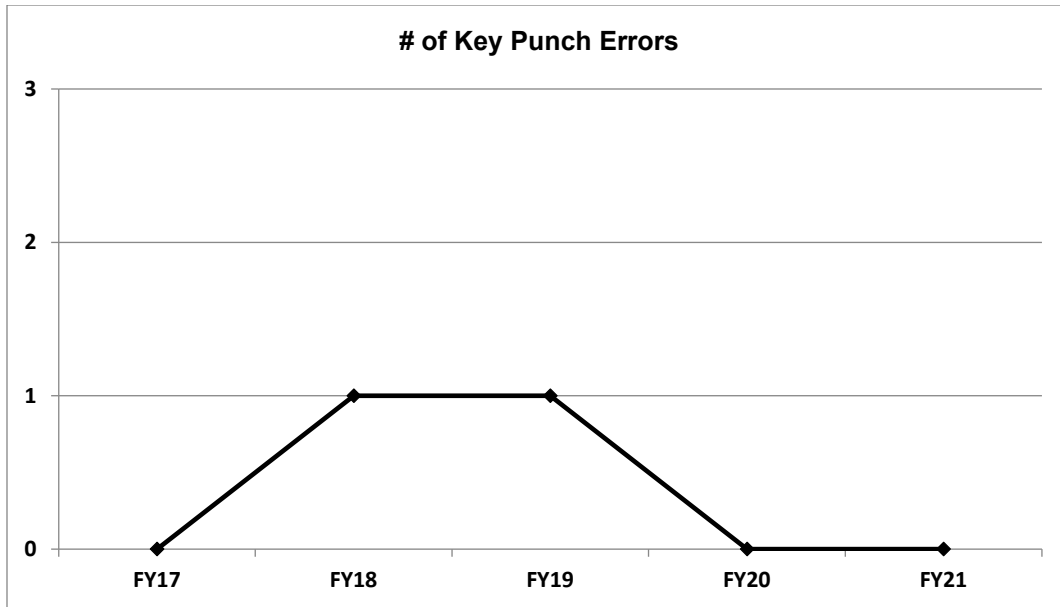


Story behind the performance:

With the increased use of the State Visa Card by Department personnel, the number of voucher payment transactions in FY 21 dropped by approximately 1,000 transactions from FY 20 for a total of 30,584 with an average processing turn-around time of 4.5 days.

Performance Measure #2: Number of external customer license inquiries resulting in Department correction of errors.





Story behind the performance:

During the 2020 calendar year license application period, 633,638 applications were submitted for limited quota drawings and preference point purchases. All applications are required to be submitted online except landowner applications, which have an option to submit a manual application. During this 2020 application period, 633,476 applications were submitted online with 162 manual applications being processed from landowners. With the requirement for online submission, the error rate should be minuscule. The only key punch errors would be from the small number of landowner applications processed or errors that occur with license selling agents issuing incorrect licenses. During this 2020 application period, the Department had no key punch error. The Department had to issue refunds for thirteen applicants due license selling agent errors.

The majority of License Review Board applications received relate to requests for refunds due to death of the license holder or medical issues, including COVID-19 in which the license holder is unable to use their license. Applications are also received for requests to carryover eligible licenses to the next hunting season.

Program: Habitat

Division: Fish and Wildlife

Mission: Manage, preserve, and restore habitat to enhance and sustain Wyoming’s fish and wildlife populations for current and future generations.

Program Facts: The Department’s Habitat Program is made up of five major sub-programs, listed below with the number of staff and FY 21 budget:

| <u>Sub-programs</u> | <u># FTEs*</u> | <u>2021 Annual Budget</u> |
|------------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| Terrestrial Habitat Management | 11.3 | \$1,761,423 |
| Aquatic Habitat Management | 9.8 | 1,616,391 |
| Fish Passage | 3.3 | 459,374 |
| Water Management | 1.5 | 199,437 |
| Wyoming Landscape Cons. Initiative | 1.0 | 120,167 |
| TOTAL | 26.9 | \$4,156,792 |

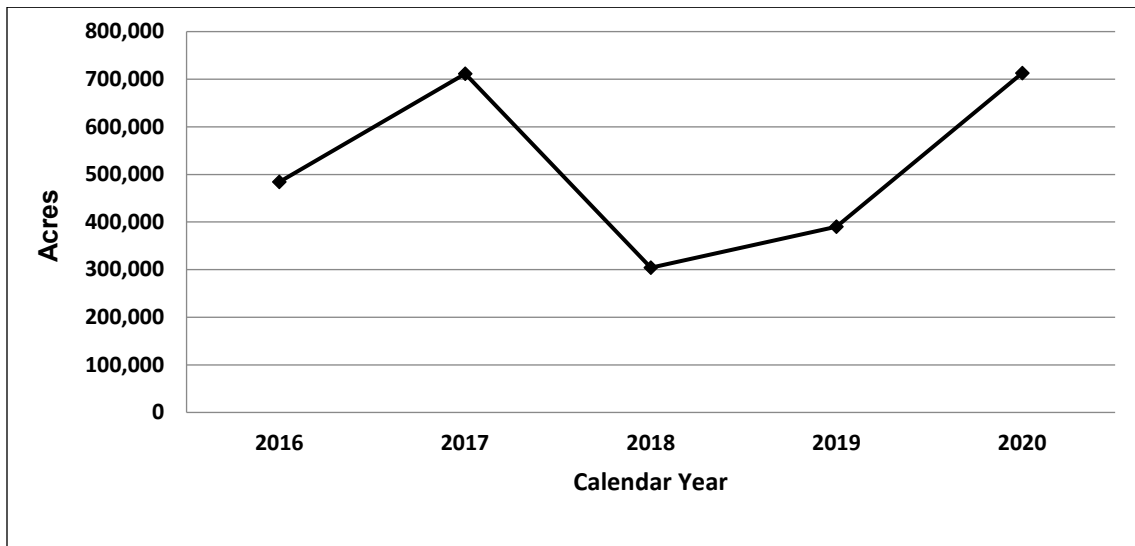
** Includes permanent, contract, and temporary positions authorized in the FY 21 budget. Any positions added during the budget cycle require Commission authorization or must be funded from supplemental grants.*

The Habitat Program has statewide responsibilities. Permanent personnel are located in Buffalo (1), Casper (4), Cheyenne (6), Cody (2), Green River (2), Jackson (1), Lander (2), Laramie (3), Pinedale (3), and Sheridan (2).

Primary Functions of the Habitat Program:

- **Manage, preserve, and restore habitat for the long-term sustainable management of fish and wildlife populations** by inventorying wildlife habitat conditions, determining where conditions are limiting, and planning and implementing projects at watershed and landscape scales to conserve and restore habitat quality. This is accomplished by integrating various land uses while involving the general public, private landowners, and land management agencies.
- **Increase fish and wildlife-based recreation through habitat enhancements that increase productivity of fish and wildlife populations** by designing and implementing habitat improvement projects in cooperation with private landowners and/or public land managers.

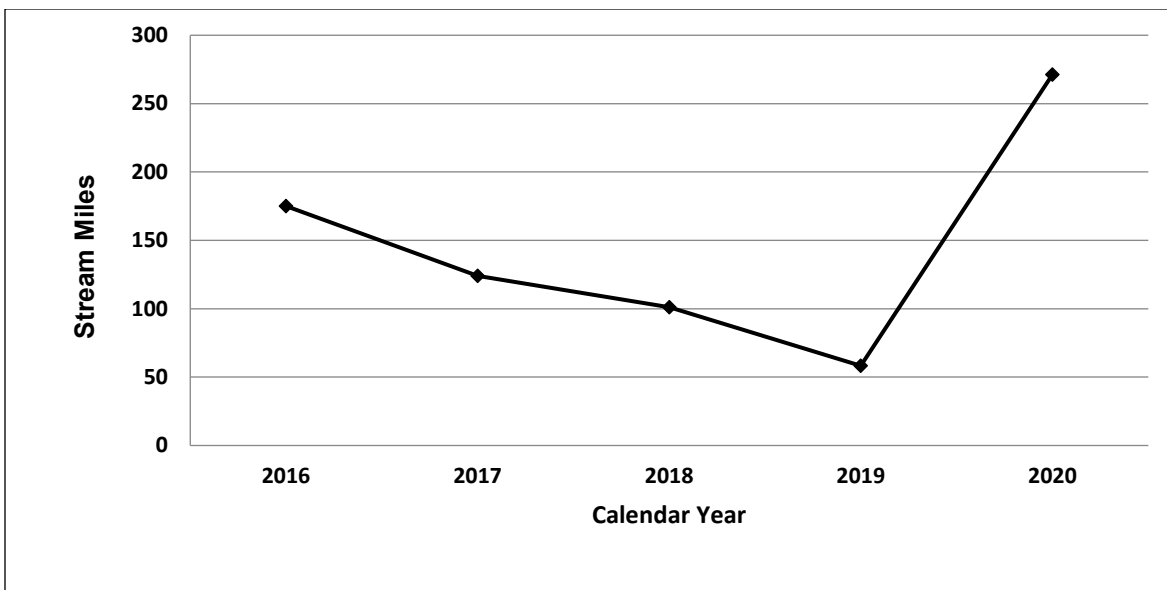
Performance Measure #1: Acres of habitat conserved, enhanced, and restored annually. Personnel in this program strive to conserve, enhance, and restore 500,000 acres of habitat annually.



Story behind the performance:

In calendar year 2020, habitat work directly impacted 712,898 acres. This total includes habitat treatments on public and private lands including Department managed properties. Detailed activity summaries can be found in the 2020 Statewide Habitat Plan (SHP) Annual Report.

Performance Measure #2: Stream miles restored, enhanced, or protected annually. Personnel strive to protect, enhance, or restore 100 stream miles annually.



Story behind the performance:

In calendar year 2020, aquatic habitat work benefitted 271 miles of streams and riparian areas. This total includes efforts occurring on public and private lands and waters, including Department managed properties. Detailed activity summaries are in the 2020 SHP Annual Report.

Major Accomplishments

- 36 stream restorations or bank enhancements on 6 stream miles
- 5,058 acres of mowing, chopping, or Lawson aeration
- 85,186 acres of herbicide weed treatments
- 70 stream miles made accessible via fish passage
- 27 miles of instream flow segments

The Department's 2020 SHP Annual Report provides details on many of these habitat projects.

¹ For measurement and tracking consistency, acres and miles are calculated annually during compilation of the annual SHP report. All biologists contribute project information related to accomplishments that can include assessments, implementation, and monitoring. Habitat program managers compile and report the summary data in the SHP report.

Program: Habitat and Access

Division: Services

Mission Statement: Conserve and Enhance Wildlife Habitat, Serve the Public

Program Facts: The Habitat and Access Program manages and administers Wildlife Habitat Management Areas and Public Access Areas for the Department. Habitat and Access manages Commission lands to be the benchmark for wildlife habitat while providing public access. In addition, the program will complete project requests for other divisions within any single fiscal year. Listed below is the number of staff and FY 21 budget:

| <u>Sub-program</u> | <u># FTEs*</u> | <u>2021 Annual Budget</u> |
|--------------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| Habitat and Access | 32.8 | \$ 4,547,586 |

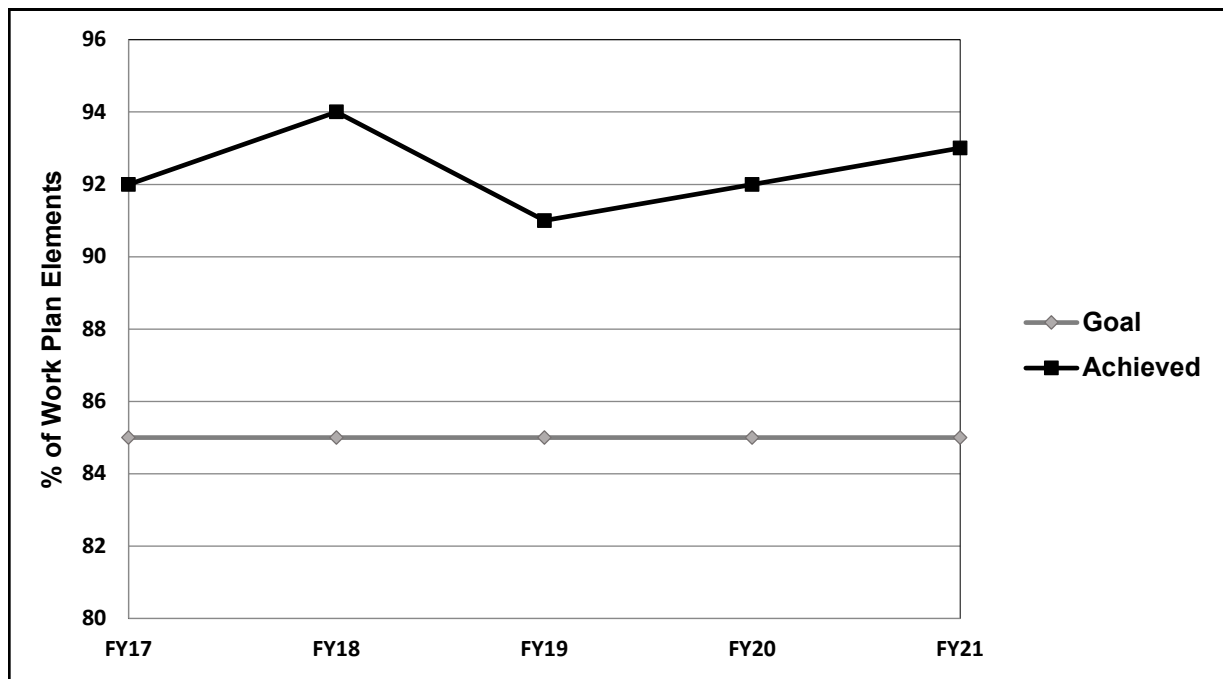
** Includes permanent, contract, and temporary positions authorized in the FY 21 budget. Any positions added during the budget cycle require Commission authorization or must be funded from supplemental grants.*

The program is located statewide with personnel in Jackson, Pinedale, Cody, Lovell, Sheridan, Laramie, Saratoga, Yoder, Lander, Dubois, Cheyenne, and Casper.

Primary Functions of the Habitat and Access Program:

- **On behalf of the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission, manage and protect Commission property rights for the benefit of the Commission, the Department, and the people of Wyoming** by facilitating wildlife conservation through conserving and improving wildlife habitat on Wildlife Habitat Management Areas (WHMA). Serve the public by providing for safe and reasonable public recreation of the wildlife resource on WHMAs while maintaining a balance between habitat conservation and public recreation on those lands.
- **On behalf of the Commission, manage and protect Commission property rights for the benefit of the Commission, the Department, and the people of Wyoming** through providing for safe and reasonable public access and recreation of the wildlife resource on Public Access Areas.
- **Provide technical knowledge and development services to the Department** by working on project requests, which conserve wildlife habitat through the Department's Strategic Plan, Strategic Habitat Plan and increase public recreational opportunities within the state.
- **Operate in a cost-effective and efficient manner** through the balance of private sector contracts and trained Department crews.

Performance Measure #1: Percent of work plan elements achieved (Personnel in this program will work to achieve at least 85 percent of their work plan elements).



Story behind the performance:

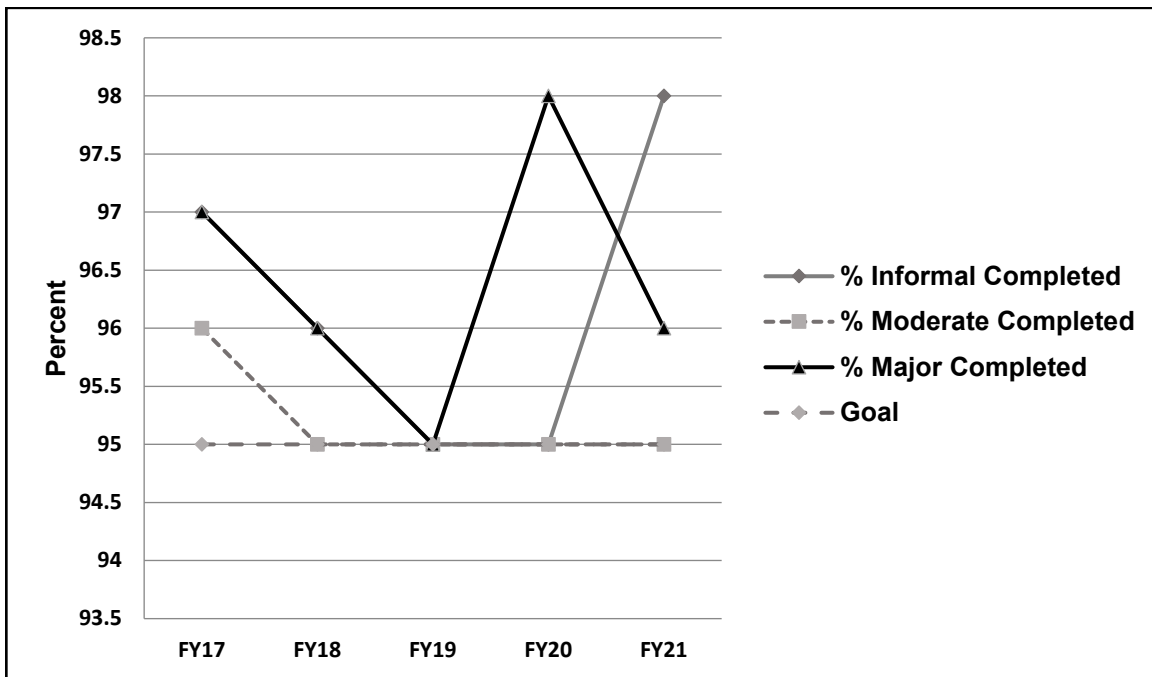
The program is responsible for administering and managing 44 unique WHMAs and 200 Public Access Areas (PAAs). WHMAs are managed according to a Managed Land and Access Summaries (MLAS) developed for each individual area. Work plans are developed prior to each fiscal year in an attempt to address major anticipated needs and requirements of the MLAS for administering and managing the WHMAs and PAAs. The percent of work plan elements achieved is considered to be excellent because the majority of priorities and necessary services (92 percent average) are being provided. As illustrated above, this has been fairly consistent for the last five years. In FY 21, 93 percent of work plan elements were achieved because the program addressed Department priorities foremost and not necessarily program priorities. Focusing on Department priorities keeps the work unit on task and always accomplishing the highest priority work plan elements. Second, after many years of high personnel turnover, the work unit has stabilized, allowing more work to be accomplished.

What has been accomplished:

In FY 21, work units were able to focus on high priorities. Habitat and Access crews spent time working on stream restoration, mule deer initiative work, fences, hay meadows, irrigation, and general maintenance on WHMAs and PAAs. The program has an increasing workload, so only high priorities have been accomplished. Notable program accomplishments in FY 21 included: stream restoration work on the New Fork River and Sunlight WHMA; mule deer initiative work on the Red Rim Grizzly WHMA; farming on Yellowtail, Ocean Lake, Horse Creek, Spence and Moriarty, Whiskey Basin, Springer, and South Park WHMAs; converting open ditches to gated pipe; conversion of open irrigation systems to center pivots; maintaining over 600 miles of fence;

irrigating 4,700 acres; monitoring grazing on 44,000 acres; developing springs and wells; rebuilding fences; haying over 1,000 acres to provide hay to feedgrounds; maintaining feedground facilities; working on wetland plans across the state; spraying approximately 1,500 acres of noxious weeds; and maintaining 200 PAAs, 22 elk feedgrounds, and 44 WHMAs totaling over 450,000 acres.

Performance Measure #2: Percent of project requests completed (Personnel in this program will work to complete at least 95 percent of requested projects).



Story behind the performance:

The Habitat and Access Program is requested to assist or provide services for other programs within the Department. On average, 125 (96 percent) of these requests will be completed yearly. In order to track, schedule, and complete these requests, they are separated into three categories: informal, moderate, and major project requests. Informal requests take less than two employee days to complete, moderate project requests will take up to ten employee days to complete, and major projects are projects that require more than ten employee days. The vast majority of requests are major and address the Department’s Strategic Plan or Strategic Habitat Plan. The project requests are for assistance or services that only this program can provide within the Department. Project requests vary from large-scale habitat projects, such as aspen and sagebrush treatments, to heavy equipment work on streams or hatcheries.

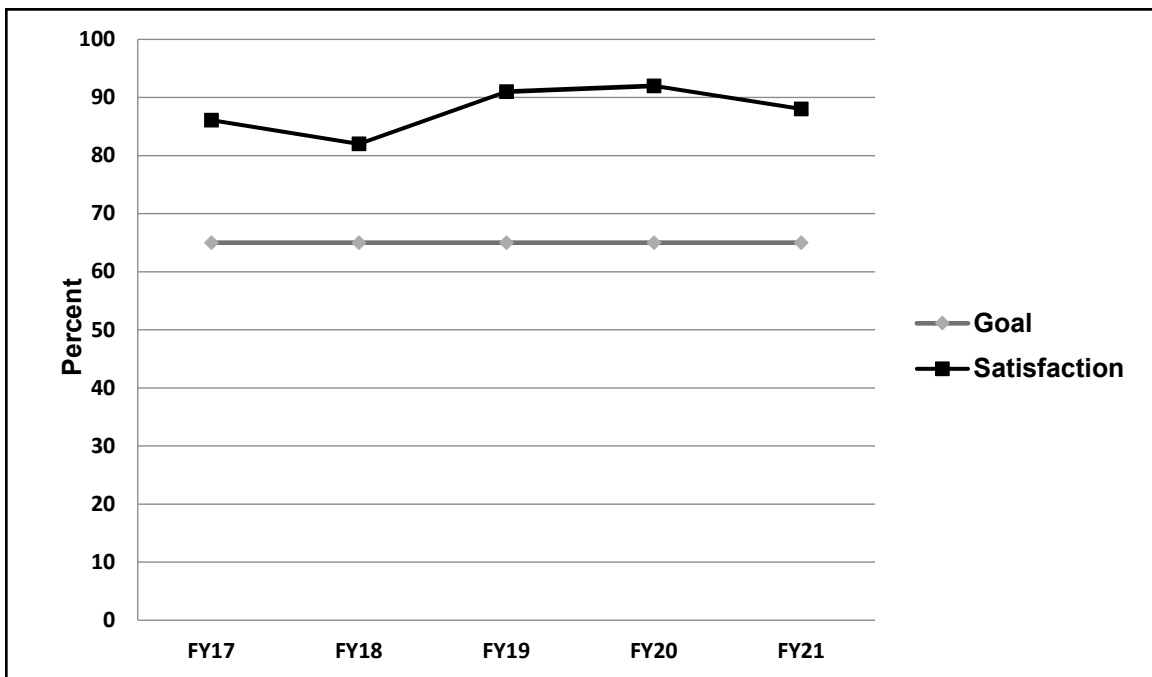
The percent of project requests completed has been excellent within the constraints of employee availability and budget capacity. The percent of project requests completed has been consistent between FY 17 and FY 21 with an average of 96 percent of informal, 95 percent of moderate, and 96 percent of major project requests being completed. Results for FY 21 varied minimally from this average with 98 percent of informal, 95 percent of moderate, and 96 percent of major project

requests being completed within the year. However, there are two reasons that a higher percentage of project requests are not completed. The first is that the program addresses Department priorities foremost and not individual program priorities. It is extremely important for the program to stay flexible in order to accommodate Department priority projects that may develop after the initial project requests are scheduled. Second, in order to accommodate as many project requests as possible, schedules are developed utilizing 100 percent of all possible personnel time. If a project request is delayed, canceled, has permitting issues or is changed by the requestor, it affects the percent of project requests completed.

What has been accomplished:

In FY 21, the Habitat and Access Program completed 96 percent of project requests. Some of the major projects were habitat treatments for the Sublette mule deer herd and Platte Valley mule deer herd. Over 6,000 acres were treated with mowing, seeding, and aspen exclosures. Other projects included Sunlight Creek stream restoration, New Fork River restoration, installing pipelines, cleaning major irrigation canals, repairing dams and dikes, performing riverbank stabilization, creating and removing fish barriers, working on feedground facilities, and rebuilding PAA roads.

Performance Measure #3: Percent of public satisfied with the management and maintenance of Wildlife Habitat Management Areas and Public Access Areas (Personnel in this program will work to achieve an external satisfaction rate of at least 65 percent).



Story behind the performance:

The majority of Wyoming residents and nonresidents appreciate the efforts of the Department in providing opportunities to access hunting and fishing within the state. The average percent of the public satisfied with management and maintenance of PAAs and WHMAs in FY 21 was 87 percent. The program has received slowly increasing marks among the public for its efforts in

managing and maintaining facilities such as roads, restrooms, parking areas, signs, habitat, and fences on WHMAs and PAAs – from a starting point of 65.5 percent in FY 05 to 87 percent in FY 20 with a five year average of 88 percent. There was a dip in FY 21 due to the increased use because of COVID in many access areas, which required an increase in contractor facility maintenance, which was hard to accomplish due to contractors not wanting to work. Another concern is that neither the general public nor some Department employees always understand management objectives on WHMAs or PAAs. Those objectives should be better communicated to the public. In addition, with numerous state and federal agencies providing recreational opportunities across the state, the majority of the public is confused as to whether an area is managed by Habitat and Access, Access Yes, or by another agency.

What has been accomplished:

In FY 21, work units spent considerable time maintaining and repairing existing facilities, improving habitat, working on roads, irrigating, and controlling weeds. The Habitat and Access crews have spent time educating the public about their responsibilities and the areas that the Department manages. Effort has been placed into educating the public that Commission property rights and lands managed by the Habitat and Access Program are different from Office of State Lands and Investments, Bureau of Land Management, Forest Service, and the Access Yes Program lands. This goal will continue to be pursued.

Program: Habitat Protection

Division: Office of the Director

Mission: The Habitat Protection Program coordinates project proposal and land management plan reviews and recommends appropriate wildlife stipulations and mitigation strategies to protect important game and non-game habitats and to facilitate the implementation of the Wyoming’s Greater Sage-grouse Executive Order 2019-3 and Wyoming’s Mule Deer and Antelope Migration Corridor Executive Order 2020-1.

Program Facts: The Habitat Protection Program is located in Cheyenne and Lander, and is currently hiring three vacant FTEs that will be located in Cheyenne or another Department regional office. The program consists of the following:

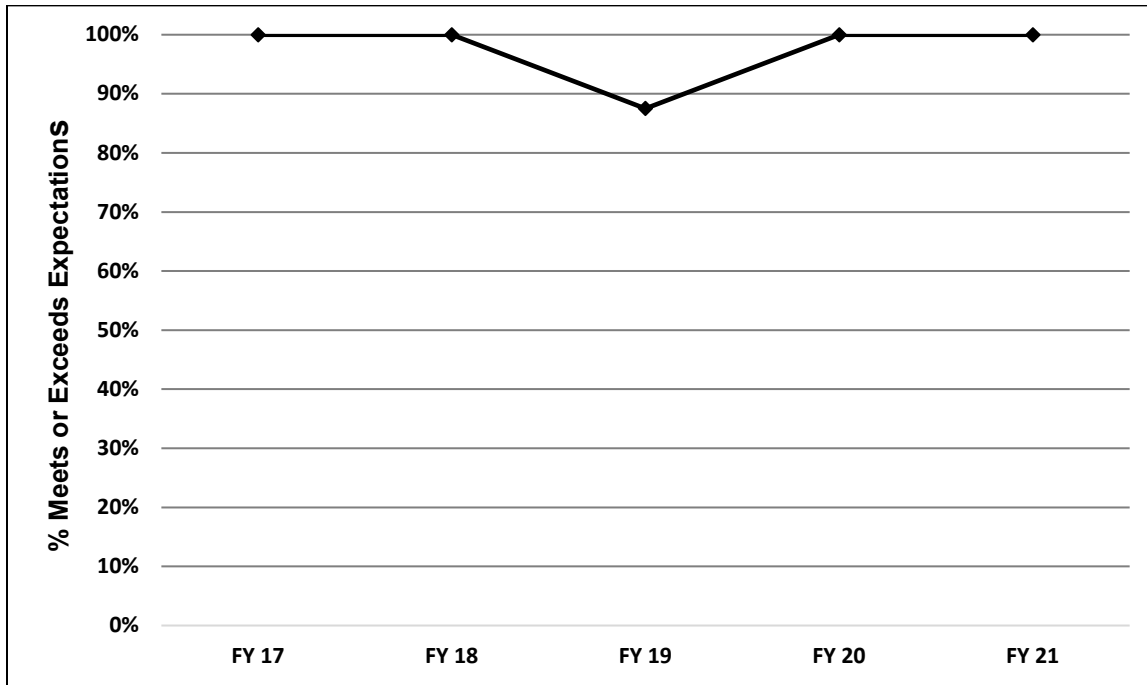
| | | |
|----------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| | <u># FTEs*</u> | <u>2021 Annual Budget</u> |
| Habitat Protection Program | 7.0 | \$ 773,167 |

** Includes permanent, contract, and temporary positions authorized in the FY 21 budget. Any positions added during the budget cycle require Commission authorization or must be funded from supplemental grants.*

Primary Functions of the Habitat Protection Program:

- **Coordinate Department review and evaluation** of land use plans, projects, policies, and activities that affect fish, wildlife, and their habitats, and make recommendations consistent with Department and Commission policies, position statements, and habitat protection strategies.
- **Develop and negotiate planning and mitigation strategies** regarding energy development.
- **Participate and monitor** federal and state agency land management plans.
- **Provide updated recommendations** for project proponents and the Department.
- **Implement the Wyoming Greater Sage-grouse Executive Order**, which includes review of all federal and state permitted projects within Greater Sage-grouse Core Areas.
- **Implement the Wyoming Mule Deer and Antelope Migration Corridor Protection Executive Order 2020-1**, which includes review of all federal and state permitted projects within designated migration corridors.

Performance Measure #1: Performance appraisals (Personnel in this program will work to ensure 100 percent of performance appraisals are rated as meets or exceeds expectations).



Story behind the performance:

The Department is responsible for conserving over 800 species of fish and wildlife for the benefit of the citizens of Wyoming and visitors. Most of the management focus for maintaining viable populations of these species depends upon availability of suitable habitat. The Department actively manages only a very small percentage of that habitat. Thus, a large part of the Department’s responsibility toward maintaining and supporting Wyoming citizens’ fish and wildlife resource entails advising the land use actions of other parties so that negative impacts on species and habitats can be avoided, minimized, or mitigated, and positive effects are supported and enhanced.

Key action items of the Department are: reviewing and evaluating land use actions, acting as liaisons with other parties that have authorities and roles in those actions, formulating strategies to minimize negative impacts, and participating in negotiations to assure implementation of those strategies. Support of these functions by the Office of the Director is necessary for their successful implementation, and performance appraisals of program personnel are the key Department measure of the success of this program. The performance appraisals include items that the Office of the Director uses to describe and to reflect program effectiveness with other agencies, based on their awareness of the Department’s relationship and positive communication with those agencies. An average rating of “meets expectations” or “exceeds expectations” for the six professional positions within the Habitat Protection Program will indicate satisfactory performance in addressing the primary functions of the program.

Program: Information

Division: Office of the Director

Mission: Disseminate information to promote public understanding and support for wildlife, wildlife habitat, wildlife conservation, and the Department’s management programs.

Program Facts: The Information Program is made up of two major sub-programs, listed below with the number of staff and the FY 21 budget:

| <u>Sub-programs</u> | <u>#FTEs*</u> | <u>2021 Annual Budget</u> |
|---------------------|---------------|---------------------------|
| Information | 9.0 | \$ 896,365 |
| Publications | 2.3 | 619,289 |
| TOTAL | 11.3 | \$ 1,515,654 |

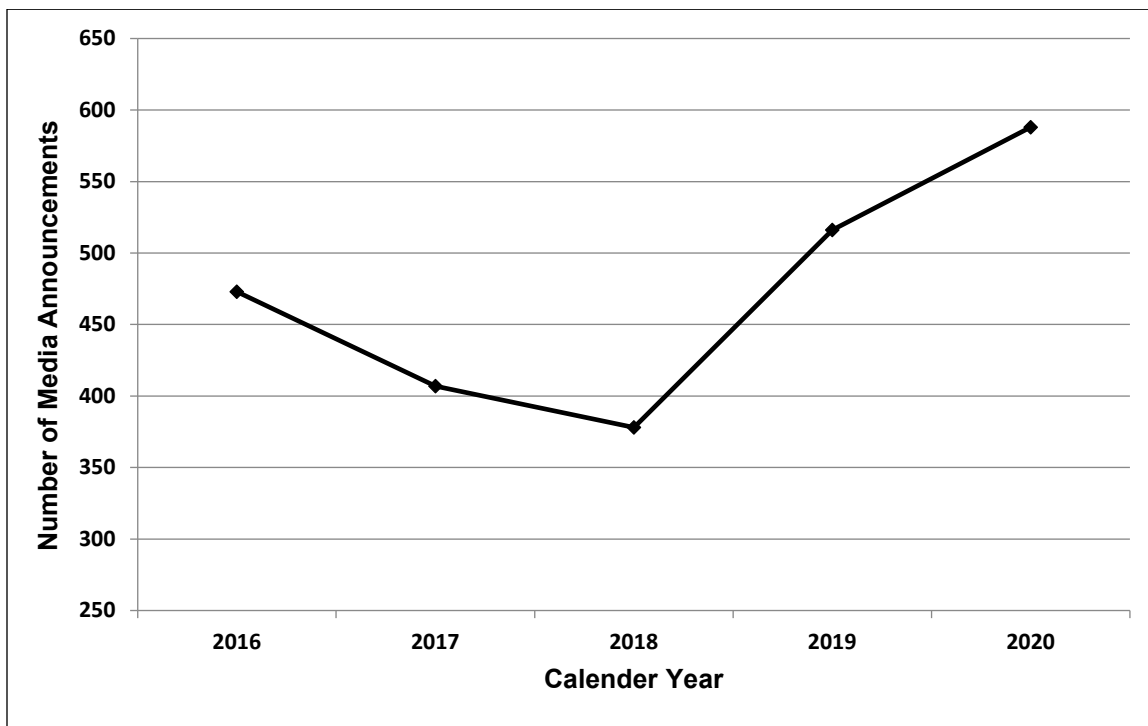
** Includes permanent positions authorized in the FY 21 budget. Any positions added during the budget cycle require Commission authorization or must be funded from supplemental grants.*

The Information Program includes the information and publications sub-programs. This program is located in the Department’s Headquarters Office in Cheyenne.

Primary Functions of the Information Program:

- **Disseminate information to promote public understanding and support for wildlife, wildlife habitat, and wildlife conservation** through audio, video, print, online, social, and other media, as well as personal contact with constituents. These efforts provide wildlife-related information to facilitate the development of informed support for Department programs.
- **Encourage involvement and cooperation with the Department’s management programs** through proactive outreach strategies, including external publications that encourage interest in wildlife and wildlife habitat, and provide information on current Department management practices. These publications facilitate the development of informed support for Department programs.
- **Serve people** by providing wildlife, hunting, and fishing related information through the news media and through direct outreach via email, social media, and the Department’s website.

Performance Measure #1: Number of radio news, television news, public service announcements, and print news releases produced (Personnel in this program will work to produce at least 300 news releases and public service announcements per year).



(Data for this graph comes from GovDelivery and the number of releases sent to the news release list and to the radio list, as well as the 52 weekly television reports sent.)

Story behind the performance:

The information sub-program produces and distributes print, radio, and television news. The news releases drive most of this content by sending breaking news, weekly updates, and monthly e-newsletters. The weekly radio program is used by approximately 17 radio stations around the state and is posted on the website, reaching an audience of more than 75,000 each week.

Weekly television news programs are posted on YouTube, social media, and the Department’s website. Where appropriate, the video news stories are cross-referenced with print news stories, providing exposure in this expanding area. The stories are also aired on at least two Wyoming television stations reaching 125,000 people each week.

The news packets are prepared and distributed weekly and at other times if necessary via an e-mail distribution list. This reaches radio and television stations, online news publications, individuals who sign up for news updates, and Wyoming’s 42 local newspapers, representing 101,435 circulation. In addition, many out-of-state media sources, outdoor writers, federal and state government, and non-government agency personnel receive the press releases. Packets can be viewed on the Department’s website.

The average information dissemination for the last five years is 472 individual print, radio, or television news releases, or public service announcements. In 2020, the number of news, radio interviews, and public service announcements distributed was 588. The number of news releases distributed fluctuates depending upon the issues and challenges the Department faces each year. The Department has moved to placing less emphasis on the sheer volume of releases and more effort is being directed toward strategic opportunities and consolidation. However, during the COVID-19 pandemic it was necessary to communicate more about the happenings of the Department which resulting in sending more news releases than any other time in the history of the Department.

The use of web-based tools, including social media (Facebook, YouTube, Instagram, and Twitter) and GovDelivery (now Granicus), is maximizing efficient delivery and distribution of information whether in digital, audio, print, or video form. As of September 2021, approximately 52,400 people “Like” and follow the Department’s Facebook page. The Department’s YouTube channel had 15,300 dedicated followers with thousands of views of Department videos. Approximately 5,347 people “Follow” the Department’s Twitter page. The Department also has an Instagram page with 17,600 followers. Granicus, the Department’s email outreach software, has more than one million subscriptions as of September, 2020. Total impressions delivered via GovDelivery in FY 20 was almost 9.9 million. The engagement rate is 34.5 percent, which is a high number for the industry.

Digital and social media impact and following expands on a daily basis and is expected to continue to grow with new opportunities and challenges.

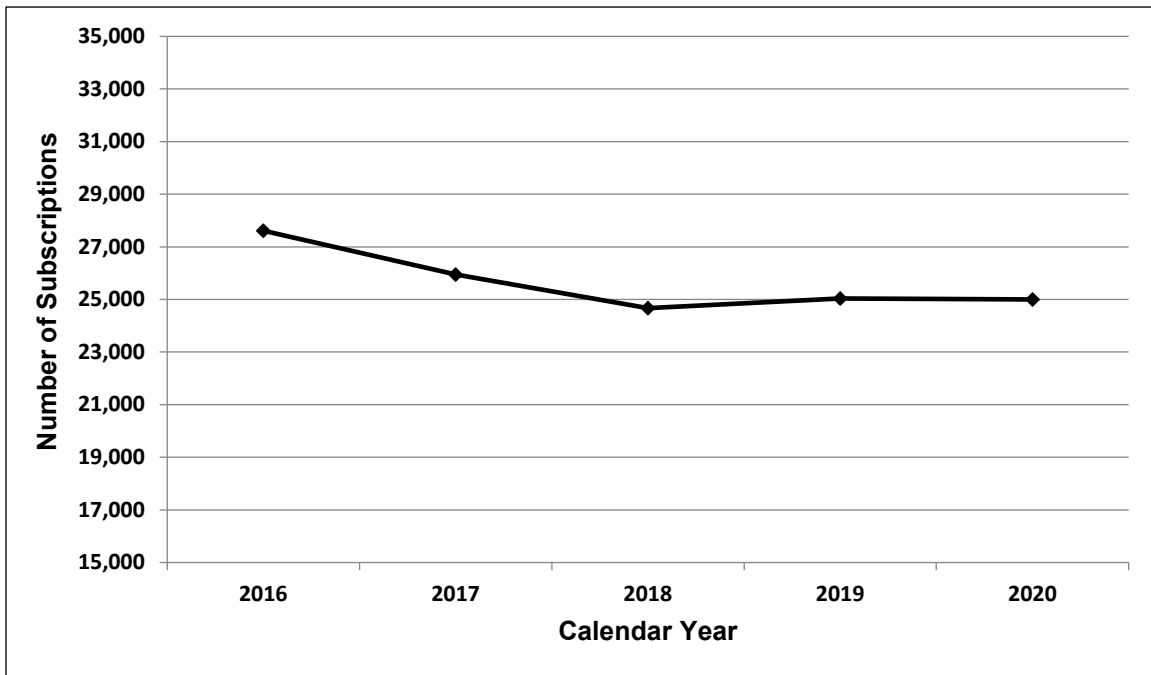
The Department website is the department’s largest mechanism for information delivery. In 2020, the website recorded over 16 million page views.

While the information sub-program distributes a great deal of the Department’s news and information, it is not the only work unit or division delivering information to the public. This is also done by regional information and education specialists. They send hundreds of updates to the public and the media each year as well. This group works closely with the Cheyenne information section.

What has been accomplished:

Weekly meetings are held with regional staff to ensure news releases from the Department are strategically disseminated and make sense for regional audiences. Social media interaction has grown significantly and the information section also added monthly e-newsletters to hunters and anglers. These reach over 440,000 email addresses and provide a valuable service to customers while also telling the Department’s story.

Performance Measure #2: Subscriptions of *Wyoming Wildlife* magazine (personnel in this program will work to maintain at least 30,000 active subscriptions to this publication).



Story behind the performance:

Average monthly magazines printed in 2020 was 25,000, which is almost the same as the previous year. *Wyoming Wildlife* is used by the Department to generate appreciation and support for wildlife and wild places in the state as well as to raise awareness of issues that affect wildlife and outdoor recreation. The magazine began selling subscriptions through the Department’s licensing system in 2018.

Wyoming Wildlife magazine targets a broad, general audience. Many of the magazine’s subscribers are hunters and anglers, but a large proportion of its readers have a broader interest in the state’s wildlife and open spaces. The magazine attempts to deepen their interest in (and support for) wildlife and wildlife conservation in Wyoming. More than two-thirds of the magazine’s subscribers mailing addresses are in states other than Wyoming.

The average for annual magazines printed of *Wyoming Wildlife* magazine over the last five years is 25,654. Using the magazine industry’s multiplier of four readers for every subscription, it is estimated *Wyoming Wildlife* reaches about 102,616 people per issue.

What has been accomplished:

The magazine launched an e-edition in 2020, and is still working to leverage a potential new pricing model for digital only subscribers, which has not yet been implemented. The magazine implemented a design update and is bringing in new content to align with human dimensions data collected from a subscriber survey. In 2020, the magazine increased the annual subscription

price to \$14.95. A new photo contest has been added to the magazine to select images for the annual calendar.

The Facebook page for *Wyoming Wildlife* has also grown in popularity with an average of two pieces of content posted to the page weekly. It now has 7,200 followers.

Program: Information Technology

Division: Services

Mission: Provide high quality, secure technology solutions, services, and support to the Department and to external constituents to allow for sound fiscal and management decisions.

Program Facts: The Information Technology (IT/GIS) Program is made up of one major sub-program, listed below with number of staff and FY 21 budget:

| <u>Sub-program</u> | <u># FTEs*</u> | <u>2021 Annual Budget</u> |
|------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| Information Technology | 23 | \$ 3,209,691 |

** Includes permanent and contract positions in addition to eight positions that are a direct bill to the Department of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS).*

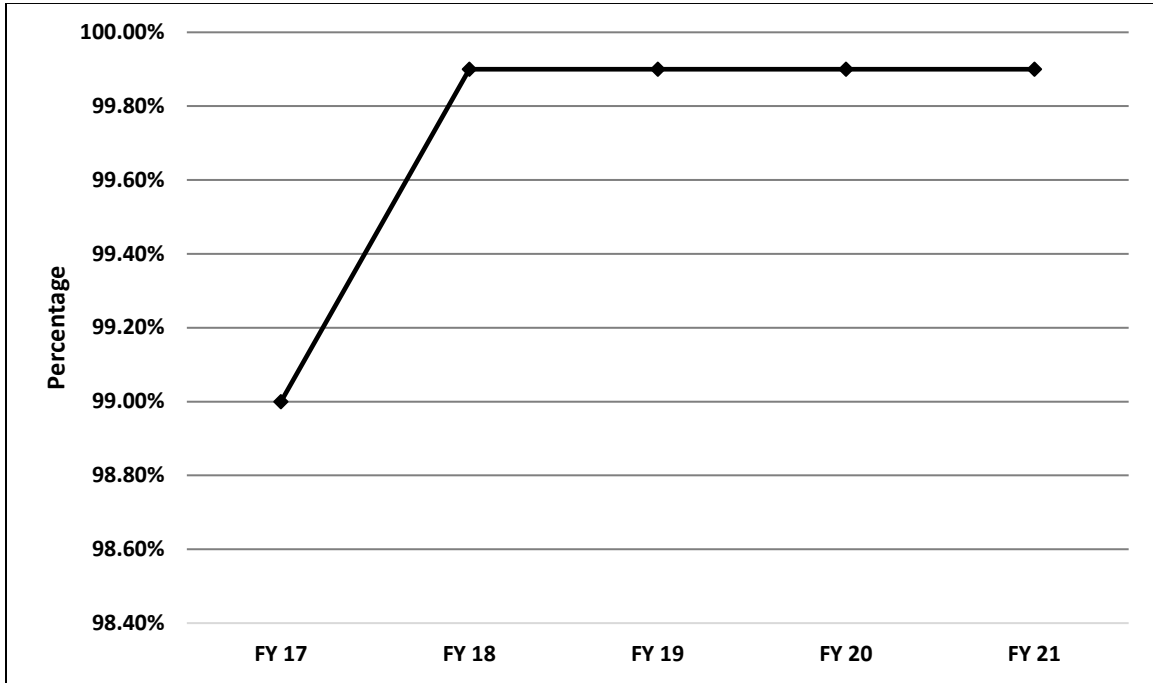
The current program is made up of administration and three sections: Application Development, IT Operations, and GIS (geographic information systems).

This program is located in the Department's Headquarters Office in Cheyenne.

Primary Functions of the Information Technology Program:

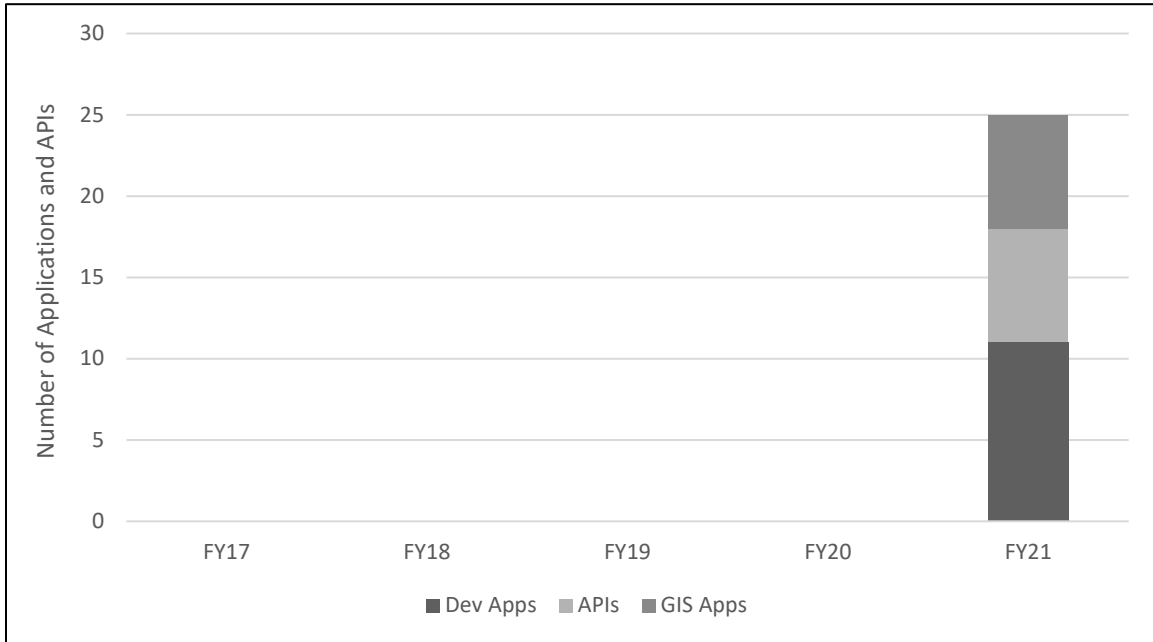
- **Provide high quality, secure technology solutions for the Department** to support its overall mission and to empower personnel to achieve completion of their workload through the use of technology in a successful, efficient, timely, and cost-effective manner.
- **Provide services and support to ensure data integrity and security.**
- **Provide support to external constituents** by providing and supporting an internet hardware and software framework to facilitate better Department communication with its constituents and to provide a means for dynamic interaction between the Department and the general public. Provide electronic interfaces for our constituents to purchase licenses, apply for permits, and facilitate other customer centric interactions.
- **Facilitate sound fiscal decisions** by evaluating technology to identify the best solution to a given problem, challenge, or situation and leverage information technology network architecture, hardware, and software to identify opportunities for cost savings.
- **Facilitate sound management decisions** by developing and maintaining Department data standards and applications to support department-wide centralization of data; identifying and developing technical options for resolving application or system problems; researching new technology and making recommendations on the adoption of new methods or the acquisition of new technical hardware and software tools to improve agency operations; and monitoring emerging technologies to effectively evaluate opportunities to improve current agency operations by incorporating or migrating to viable new hardware, software, and technology implementations.

Performance Measure #1: Percent system uptime (Personnel in this section will work to ensure the system is up at least 95 percent of the time).



System and service failures can rapidly impact large numbers of customers, suppliers, and internal staff. Network outages, server failures, email downtime, and broken desktop computers can significantly reduce the productivity of the entire Department and impact its customer service. Thus system uptime is critical to providing a level of service not only necessary for Department personnel to conduct their work, but also essential to maintaining consistent license sales. Average uptime for Department systems for FY 21 was 99.90 percent, equal to 99.90 percent in FY 20, well above the 95 percent goal.

Performance Measure #2 (new FY21): New Applications and APIs (application programming interfaces) implemented. (Personnel will continue adding new applications and APIs to enable timely capture and sharing of data. Due to scope, not all applications are the same, so we will target at minimum two new applications from each category.)



The application of technology is vital for the Department to give users the tools to both be efficient in their work and to allow for widespread dissemination of data to users. The application development and GIS sections are responsible for building tools for Department personnel to use in the field and then to make data collected, organized and accessible. To measure progress, the Department will track new application deployments and APIs.

Story behind the performance:

The IT/GIS Program is made up of three separate sub-sections (IT Operations, Application Development, and GIS, in addition to program administration). These sub-sections are responsible for managing approximately 21 physical servers; 117 virtual servers; 10 firewalls; 32 switches; 500 personal computers located in the headquarters office, 8 regional offices, 10 fish hatcheries/rearing stations, 2 bird farms, and remote locations throughout Wyoming, as well as 357 Internet Point-of-Sale (IPOS) system touch screen devices located at the Cheyenne Headquarters, regional offices, and license selling agent locations throughout Wyoming; developing and supporting over 95 mission critical applications; and maintaining approximately 105 layers of authoritative GIS data, 247 Species of Greatest Conservation Need distribution models and ranges, additional derived data layers, and a total of 25 GIS mapping applications.

The program is also responsible for procurement and support of a wide range of peripheral devices ranging from printers to digital cameras, GPS units, and all related software.

The year began with a continuance of the pandemic and widespread remote work. As the year wore on, the IT Branch continued to help the Department adapt to remote work, including procuring additional resources to support it. Due to a large influx of funds from the Cares Act for laptops to mobilize the workforce, the operations group commenced on the largest single year computer rollout in its history, all laptops.

Work continued on the implementation of the Hyper Converged Infrastructure (HCI) via the Nutanix devices. The old storage array has been retired for most of the agency are only using a portion of it for a special storage until our Nutanix storage node is online in FY 22. Disaster recovery build and testing within this architecture is ongoing and should be completed within FY 22 as well.

The network administration team began work on a web server consolidation project by building a new virtual server web farm in the Nutanix environment. This allows for easier management and a better ability to scale services as needed. During the major draw results release, the environment was scaled to 10 virtual servers. Transition of applications from three different server environments will be completed in FY 22.

The Department upgraded circuits, and new firewalls were installed for the Boulder rearing station and Daniel fish hatcheries, improving their connectivity. Final procurement of devices and wiring was begun to complete the wireless upgrade project at the headquarters building in Cheyenne and installation should be completed in the first half of FY 22.

The IT Branch began implementation of a significant change in the IPOS (internet point of sale) licensing system by switching hardware in all of the Department offices, transitioning from the touch screen units to small form factor PCs, including a new thermal printer model. These changes are proceeding a rollout of units to the LSA (license selling agents) in FY 22. The move to new hardware and transition away from touchscreens required a retooling of most of the pages within the IPOS application and will require a parallel code set through full implementation, which is expected to take three to four years based on budget capacity. The new units will incorporate remote access software allowing the Department to better manage all units in the field, improving security.

In the last quarter of FY 21, the operations group implemented the new ticketing system, Service Now, in conjunction with the ETS (Enterprise Technology Services). This new ticketing system replaces an old, out of support system and will allow the branch to better track work items. It is hoped that the system can be better integrated with the Department's network domain and that it can be leveraged for specific workflows for the development and GIS sections.

The application development section constructed several APIs for data access were built including customer, license and login data and some fish and wildlife data. All access to these APIs is user/password protected as well as encrypted. These interfaces allow applications common access to data from multiple applications whether running on our on premise servers or from the cloud. This technology also allows for future growth and future access from third party applications.

A new Login Portal was built to provide improved security of customer data and to allow customers a self-service mechanism for forgotten user names or to reset passwords. This replaces the use of Sportsperson IDs to login. This new process provides a single point of access to 15 current applications that require a customer to login. This login process also allows for customer specific information to be presented on the website. As an extension of the Login Portal, the development group launched the first phase of the Customer Dashboard that serves as a landing site after a generic login. This provides a single location that a customer, once logged in, can see information about current licenses, preference points and applications. Additional expansions of the Dashboard are planned in FY 22.

Development of a rewrite of the HMA (Hunter Management Area) Permitting System concluded and it was implemented. This new system provides much functionality that was missing from the previous system. A major benefit of the new system is that all draws are automated removing the HMA Coordinators from this process. Draws are simply scheduled to run in the middle of the night and results are emailed to the coordinators. Before the year was out, new functionality was added to this system to allow for antler collecting draws that do not require the customer to possess a hunting license.

A new Bear Bait Site Draw application was built, allowing sportspersons to apply online for available sites after the renewal period has closed. This system also allows customers to modify choices up until the time the draw is conducted. This system greatly reduces the effort required of both department personnel and customers by replacing a process where folks would need to queue up at regional offices to try to obtain sites. In addition, the development and GIS sections worked in conjunction to modify the architecture of the base Bear Bait Registration system to utilize an ArcGIS Online section layer and associated APIs.

A new Business/Outfitter License Sales and Application interface was built to allow a much more streamlined process by which outfitters and application services can submit applications and purchase products for their clients. This rewrite was originally required to protect the new username and passwords required by the Login Portal by not requiring an outfitter to have that information to submit applications. As it progressed, it evolved to a much more efficient application and sales process that may be used as a model for a rewrite of the system used by the general public.

In an attempt to continuously improve customer service, the IT branch in conjunction with Communications and Licensing, implemented a new process for draw results. This included sending targeted emails with direct links to results (bypassing the need to login) and getting away from prescribed times from results. This approach not only provides a direct benefit for the customer, but also allows the Department to better balance the load demands from a server and network perspective.

During FY 21, the GIS section began implementation of an enterprise solution that was cloud based. Using a combination of Esri's ArcGIS Online and a cloud based managed ArcGIS server, the GIS section has been expanding access to tools and layers throughout the Department.

The GIS section completed and deployed several applications during FY 21. These included field collection apps for AIS (aquatic invasive species) checks, tracking of weed treatments for invasive

grasses, and tracking for aquatic habitat areas. The section also completed web based applications for a customer focused Fishing Guide, and internal contracting tracker for the Habitat and Access section, and an AIS map.

The IT branch became involved in several projects to utilize outside resources to hasten the pace of technological solutions. Current projects underway include an implementation of a budget development module utilizing Workday as a SaaS (software as a service); the pending implementation of a Department wide document management system; implementation and integration of new event management, volunteer management, and certification management for our Hunter Education, camps, and volunteer programs. The branch is also exploring an expansion of functionality with GovDelivery and potential implementation of DocuSign software.

The IT branch continues to leverage technology and build new solutions for greater efficiencies and better customer service. Demand for IT related services is only expected to increase in the coming years. The Department's commitment to IT will help it create greater efficiencies for employees and enable better data accessibility to users who need it.

Program: Legislatively Mandated Expenses

Division: Fiscal

Mission: Ensure funding availability and statutory compliance for those programs for which the Department is required to earmark funds to meet Wyoming statutory provisions.

Program Facts: The Legislatively Mandated Expenses Program is listed below with the FY 21 budget:

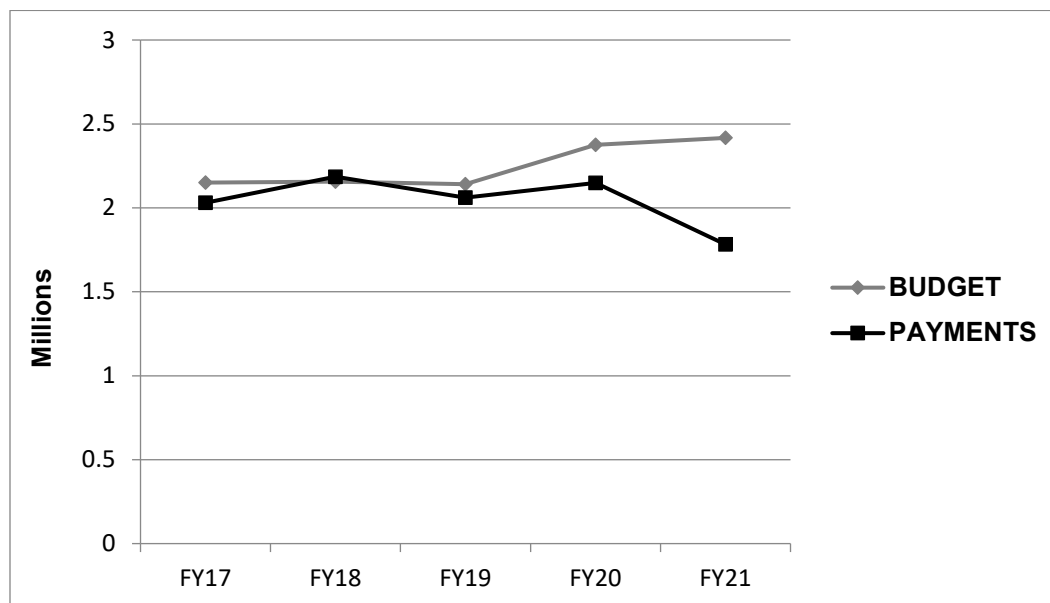
| <u>Sub-Program</u> | <u>#FTE's</u> | <u>2021 Annual Budget</u> |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|---------------------------|
| Damage Claims | 0 | \$1,155,000 |
| Landowner Coupons | 0 | 550,000 |
| Retiree Assessment | 0 | 16,756 |
| State Agency Law Enforcement System | 0 | 225,000 |
| Cost Allocation | 0 | <u>470,000</u> |
| TOTAL | | \$ 2,416,756 |

This program is administered from the Department's Headquarters Office in Cheyenne.

Primary Function of the Legislatively Mandated Expenses Program:

- **To ensure funding is available and statutory compliance is met by establishing budgets** and processing eligible payments as they are required for each respective program in accordance with Wyoming state statutory and/or regulatory requirements.

Performance Measurement #1: Commission approved budget is sufficient to meet annual payments.



Story behind the performance:

Between 2004 and 2007, general fund costs escalated 16 percent, from \$1.5 million in FY 04 to \$1.73 million in FY 07. However, in 2008, the State Budget Office, with the approval of the Governor's Office, discontinued the charge for cost allocation, which had increased to over \$600,000 annually. The Budget Office began assessing this charge to the Department in the mid 1990s. Normally, these costs are charged to allow agencies to capture additional federal dollars, whereas the majority of federal funds the Department receives are formula based, where additional costs do not result in additional funds being awarded to the Department. This moratorium was lifted in FY 14. Since then, the Enterprise Technology Service's (ETS) portion has been budgeted and paid for from the Commission's budget. In FY 21 the Agency, ETS and the State Budget Office began discussions in an effort to enhance the accuracy of the allocations. As a result, the FY 21 Cost Allocation payment was deferred and will be applied to the FY 22 amount due.

In FY 21, the damage claim budget was \$1,155,000, which is \$655,000 over the Wyoming statutorily required amount. Due to the increase volume of damage claims and commodity prices, this budget amount ensured that there would be sufficient funds to cover anticipated damage claims during the fiscal year.

All areas within this program remained relatively constant. The payments in this program (damage claims, landowner coupons, peace officer retiree assessment, cost allocation, and the State Agency Law Enforcement System) are non-discretionary as the payment amounts are either set by legislation, regulation, or are pass-through costs of other state agencies.

Program: Personnel Management

Division: Office of the Director

Mission: Institute and administer policies, procedures, and programs that facilitate recruitment and retention of effective and productive employees to meet the needs of the Commission, the Department, and the citizens of Wyoming.

Program Facts: The Personnel Management Program is made up of one sub-program, listed below with the number of staff and FY 21 budget:

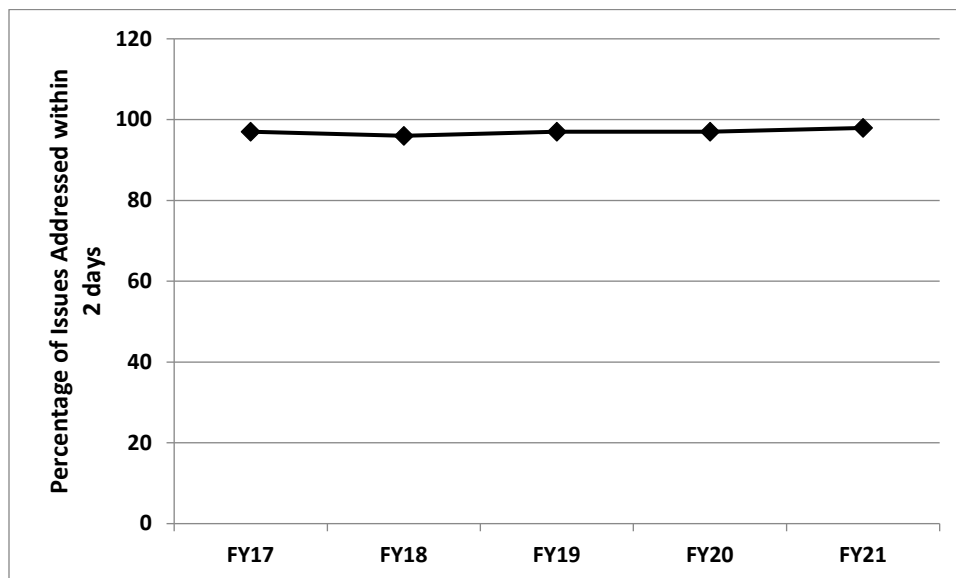
| <u>Sub-program</u> | <u># FTEs</u> | <u>2021 Annual Budget</u> |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------------------|
| Personnel Management | 3 | \$535,451 |

This program is located in the Department’s Headquarters Office in Cheyenne.

Primary Functions of the Personnel Management Program:

- **Facilitate recruitment and retention of effective and productive employees**, by conducting recruitment activities, training, compensation analysis, benefit administration, payroll services, discipline guidance, rule and law advice, and providing general counsel to employees and administrators of the Department.
- **Develop and maintain effective and productive employees** through the recommendation and implementation of policies, procedures, programs, trainings, and practices developed with employee and managerial input.

Performance Measure #1: Questions and requests are addressed and completed within a two day time frame. Exceptions to this are identified and communicated to employees. (Personnel in this program will work to ensure that at least 90 percent of questions are addressed in this time frame).



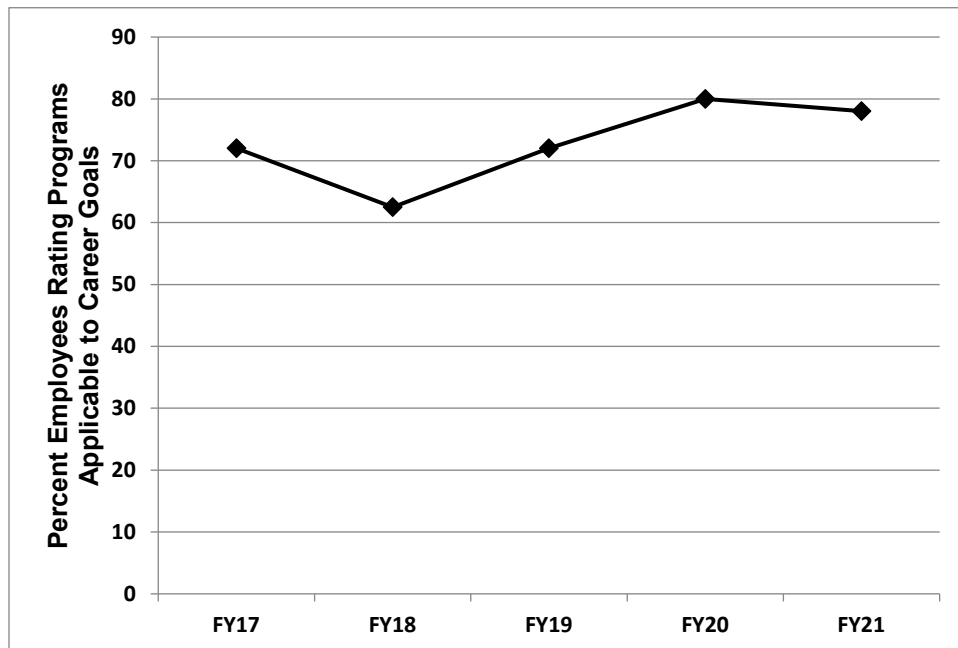
Story behind the performance:

Excellent customer service is critical to the success of the Personnel Management Program. In addition to maintaining a courteous and professional work environment, personnel management staff strive to provide accurate, timely, and valuable information and services to both internal and external customers. An effective and productive workforce relies on accurate and timely receipt of information and responses to questions in keeping with the self-prescribed expectations of work behaviors. Employees who, through experience, develop a confidence in the accuracy and timeliness of services provided by personnel management can realize significant positive impacts in their own productivity and effectiveness. The mission of the Personnel Management Program in recruiting and retaining effective and productive employees can only be met if employees and administrators feel confident in the information and services provided by Personnel Management. Over the last five years, on average, 96.6 percent of questions and requests were addressed within two days. In FY 21, 98 percent of questions and requests were handled within two days.

What has been accomplished:

Each individual in the Personnel Management Program has customer service as a specific goal and behavioral competency that is measured via the performance evaluation system. Each individual in the program has the clear understanding that customer service is a top priority. The outcome of this particular performance measure is evaluated by direct observations of the program manager, as well as feedback from internal and external customers. Each individual in the program consistently performs at above-average levels for customer service.

Performance Measure #2: Develop, enhance, and implement programs that focus on developing employees to enable them to achieve their career goals. (Personnel in this section will work to ensure that 80 percent of employees feel these programs are applicable to their career goals.)



Story behind the performance:

The employees of the Department have always been regarded as its most valuable asset. The workforce continues to face the challenges associated with the baby boomer generation leaving the workplace in large numbers. As they go, their experience, knowledge, and leadership go with them. It is imperative that the Department provides its employees with the opportunities to excel in their current positions, as well as to develop the knowledge and skills needed to move into key leadership positions. Department employees have been faced with rising health insurance costs for several years and have had minimal salary increases in the past five years, with the exception of a 2.5 percent increase in FY 19, but there are currently no anticipated increases in the near future. As such it is important to continue developing and implementing new programs that support employees through difficult financial times. Over the last five years, on average, 73 percent of employees felt that programs were applicable to their career goals. In FY 21, 78 percent of employees felt programs were applicable to their career goals which was a two percent decrease from FY 20. Recent increases in employee satisfaction rates compared to FY 17 and FY 18 are likely related to the continuation of the Leadership Development Program that began in FY 19 along with the introduction of Supervisor Training.

What has been accomplished:

In FY 21, the Department completed the second year of our newly revamped Leadership Development Program that began in FY 19 and began the application process for Leadership Development 2 Program participants for FY 22. In addition to Leadership Development classes 1 and 2 previously offered, Leadership Development classes 3 and 4 will continue to be considered and developed for supervisors to teach high-level leadership skills. A Supervisor Training module was also developed in FY 20, tailored specifically to Department personnel in supervisory positions. The Department continues to successfully execute Wyoming's state Performance Management Program to enhance employee performance and assist supervisors with developing employee work goals. The Department continues to fund and promote the use of the Employee Assistance Program. Now in its sixth year, the program provides resources for the employees to address issues such as mental health, personal development, parenting, relationships, stress, substance abuse, nutrition and much more. Promoting this service, as well as similar benefits provided through Cigna, will continue to be a priority moving into FY 22.

Program: Property Rights (Lands) Management

Divisions: Services and Wildlife

Mission: To administer and monitor currently owned Wyoming Game and Fish Commission property rights. To acquire property rights to restore and conserve habitat to enhance and sustain wildlife populations now and in the future. To acquire property rights, provide public access and public recreation, such as hunting and fishing access on private and landlocked public land.

Program Facts: The Property Rights Management Program is made up of two major sub-programs, listed below with number of staff and FY 21 budgets:

| <u>Sub-programs</u> | <u>#FTEs*</u> | <u>2021 Annual Budget</u> |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|---------------------------|
| Property Rights (Lands) Admin. ** | 3.0 | \$ 803,670 |
| Access Yes | 7.3 | 1,895,970 *** |
| TOTAL | 10.3 | \$ 2,699,640 |

* *Includes permanent, contract, and temporary positions authorized in the FY 21 budget. Any positions added during the budget cycle require Wyoming Game and Fish Commission authorization or must be funded from supplemental grants.*

** *Includes Property Rights Administration and Strategic Habitat Plan.*

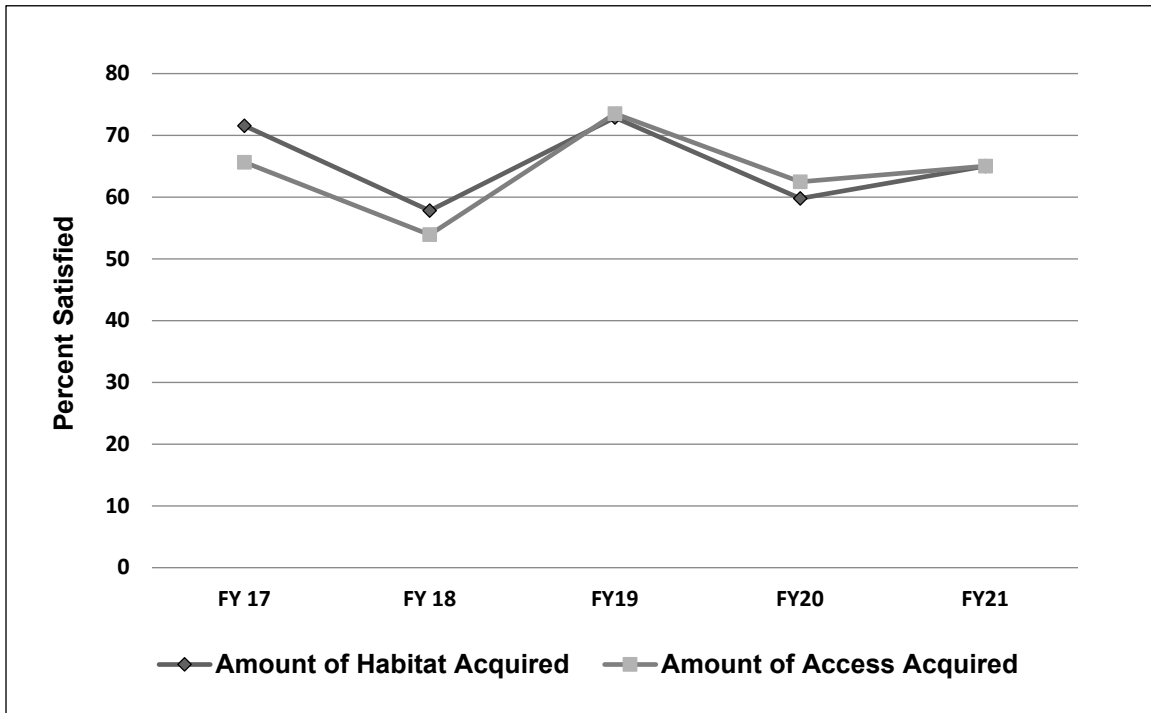
*** *Includes personnel, operations, and easement payments.*

The Property Rights Administration Program is located in Services Division and is based out of the Department's Headquarters in Cheyenne. The Access Yes Program is located in the Wildlife Division and is based out of five Regional Offices.

Primary Functions of the Property Rights Management Program:

- **Administer Commission property rights** by providing support and technical expertise to Staff and Commission members on all real property rights management issues as well as addressing requests for assistance and information. The program also provides assurance that all real property rights issues follow state and federal laws, rules, guidelines, and policies.
- **Monitor Commission property rights** by annual physical inspections to evaluate possible encroachments and to provide recommendations for Commission action.
- **Acquire property rights to restore and conserve habitat** by assisting in the implementation of the Strategic Habitat Plan to identify wildlife habitats where habitat quality should be preserved through fee title acquisitions, conservation easements, leases, and agreements; by acquiring public access and public recreations rights; and by seeking funding partners.
- **Acquire property rights which provide public access and public recreation** by maintaining and enhancing public hunting and fishing access on private and public lands through Hunter Management and Walk-in Areas.

Performance Measure #1: Percentage of the general public satisfied with the amount of critical habitat acquired in the state and the percentage of the general public satisfied with the amount of public and recreation access acquired in the state (Personnel in this program will work to ensure that at least 45 percent of the public are satisfied with the amount of both habitat and access acquired by the Department).



Story behind the performance:

The Commission owns 178,938 acres and administers another 307,372 acres of federal, state, and private lands, which conserve and sustain wildlife populations and provides public access and recreation. In addition, the Commission has acquired permanent public access to over 128 miles of streams and rivers around the state. The performance measure evaluates the public’s attitude about the amount of habitat available for wildlife and the amount of public access in the state. This information is collected in an annual survey that is distributed randomly to residents and nonresidents who purchased hunting and fishing licenses in the previous year.

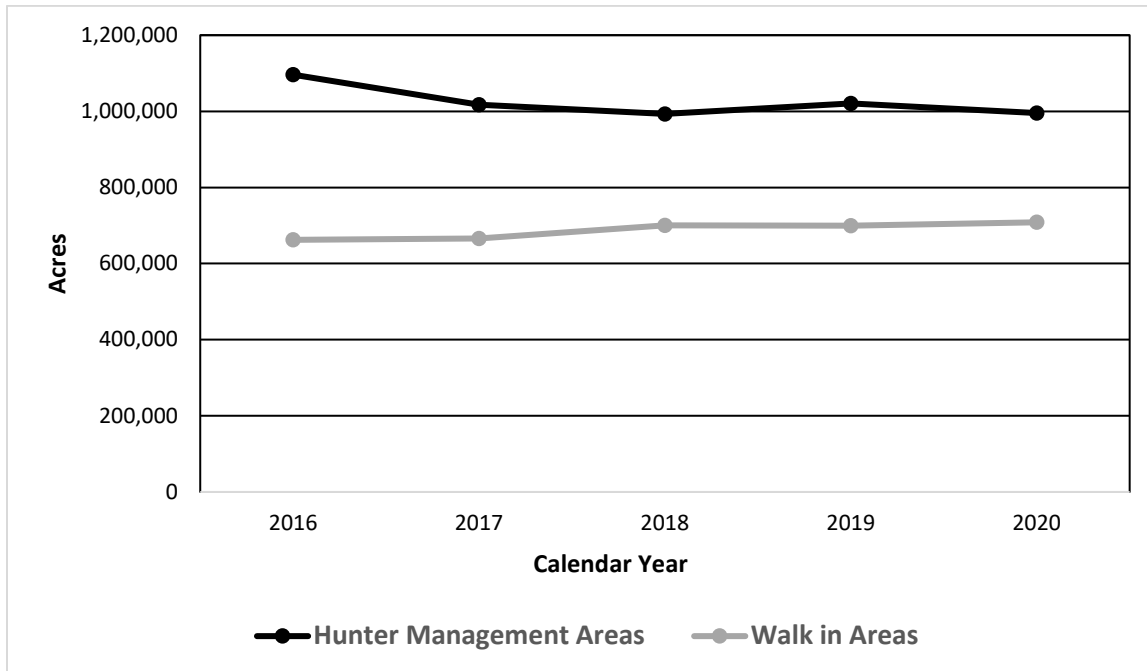
With respect to the kind and amount of habitat acquired, 65 percent of the sampled public was satisfied. With respect to the amount of access acquired, 65 percent of the public was satisfied. To determine the familiarity of the general public with the Property Rights (Lands) Management Program and the importance of acquiring habitat and access, additional questions were surveyed with the following results:

- Of those surveyed, 29.41 percent were familiar with the Property Rights (Lands) Management Program;
- Of those surveyed , 97.06 percent indicated that it is important to acquire and conserve wildlife habitat in Wyoming; and

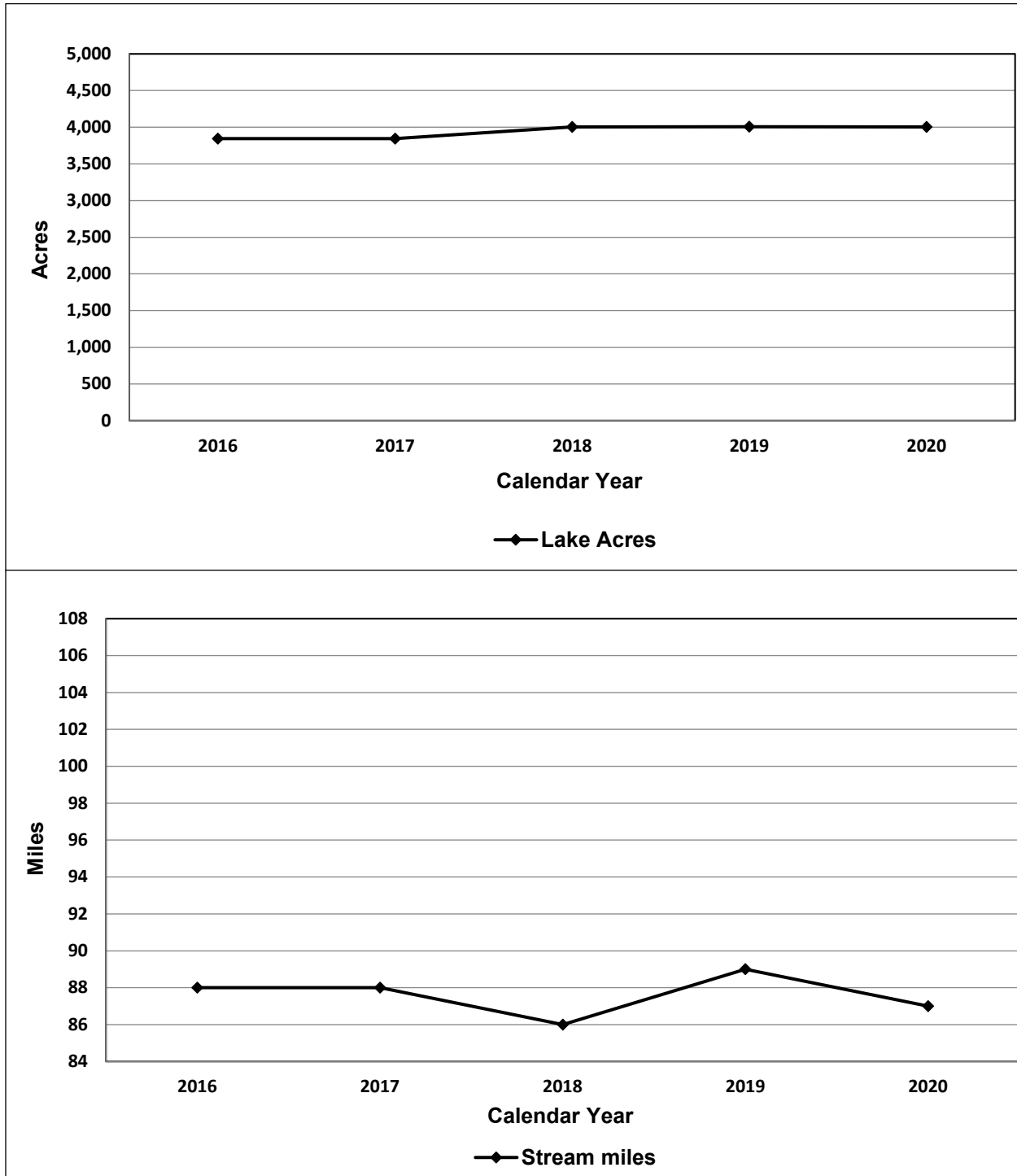
- Of those surveyed, 95.58 percent indicated that it is important to acquire public access for recreation in Wyoming.

Performance Measure #2: Hunting and fishing access to private and public land. (Personnel in this program will work to maintain public hunting access to at least 1.25 million acres of private land, public fishing access to at least 273 lake acres, and public fishing access to at least 100 stream miles.)

Number of Private Hunting Acres in Hunter Management and Walk-in Areas



Number of Fishing Lake Acres and Stream Miles in Walk-in Fishing Areas



Story behind the performance:

In 2001, the Commission adopted Access Yes (Private Lands Public Wildlife) as a permanent program in the Department. Access Yes staff work with private landowners to maintain and to

enhance hunter and angler access onto private and landlocked public lands. With the assistance of field biologists and wardens, Access Yes continues to provide extensive areas to hunt and fish.

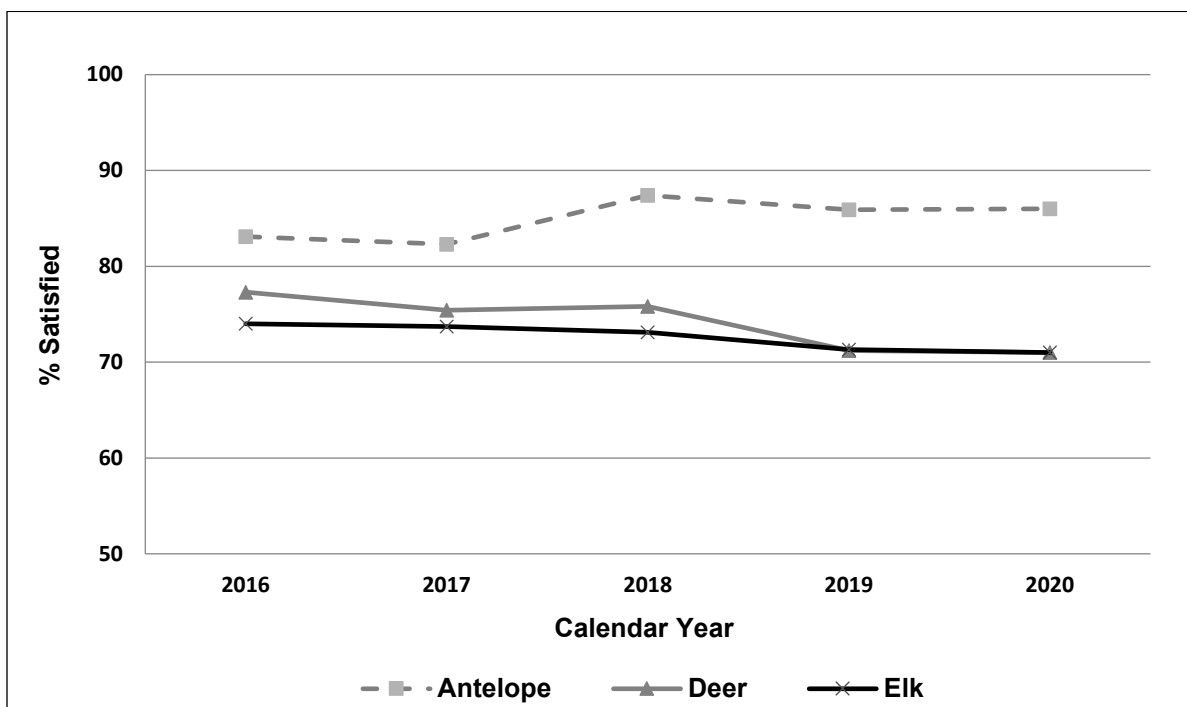
In addition to providing recreational access, Access Yes assists with increasing cooperation between the Department, landowners, and the public for population management of wildlife and decreasing agriculture damage through harvest.

What has been accomplished:

The enrollment in each program for 2020 was: Hunter Management Areas (HMA), 995,208 acres; Walk-in Areas (WIA) hunting, 708,443 acres; WIA fishing lake acres, 4,005 acres; and WIA fishing stream miles, 87 miles. The average enrollment in each program from 2016-2020 was: HMAs, 1,024,537 acres; WIAs hunting, 687,309 acres; WIA fishing lake acres, 3,942 acres; and WIA fishing stream miles, 88 miles. Enrollment in either WIAs or HMAs is dependent upon the amount of available Access Yes funds. During 2020, easement payments were lower than the Access Yes donations collected during fiscal year 2020 by the Department. The number of acres and stream miles should remain fairly constant as long as Access Yes funding levels are maintained.

Combined with public lands associated with the enrolled private lands, Access Yes provided approximately 2.63 million acres of hunting access for the fall 2020/spring 2021 hunting seasons. Opportunities are continually sought for increased fishing access.

Performance Measure # 3: Percent of big game hunters satisfied with the hunting opportunity provided by the Access Yes Walk-In Area and Hunter Management Area Programs. (Personnel in this program will work to ensure that at least 75 percent of big game hunters are satisfied with the hunting opportunities provided by the Access Yes Program.)



Story behind the performance:

This performance measure was first included in the 2006 hunter harvest surveys. Harvest surveys provide data on hunter satisfaction with Access Yes. After 15 years of data, the results show hunters have a positive view of the HMA and WIA Programs.

What has been accomplished:

The satisfaction with Access Yes remains high. The 2020 harvest survey data satisfaction rates were: antelope, 86 percent (84.9 percent average since 2016); deer, 71 percent (74.1 percent average since 2016); and elk, 71 percent (72.7 percent average since 2016). Satisfaction with a hunting experience can mean a variety of things from harvesting a record-book animal to having a place to hunt. Antelope, deer and elk satisfactions decreased from 2018.

The 2020 harvest surveys also indicated high levels of participation by hunters using Access Yes access areas. When asked if hunters used an Access Yes access area, 23 percent of antelope hunters, 18 percent of deer hunters, and 13 percent of elk hunters indicated they had used either a WIA or a HMA to hunt.

Program: Regional Information and Education Specialist

Division: Wildlife

Mission: Work cooperatively with Department personnel to increase understanding and appreciation of Wyoming's wildlife resources and the habitats upon which they depend. Provide media outreach and wildlife conservation education programs for students, teachers, and other citizens of Wyoming.

Program Facts: The Regional Information and Education Specialist Program consists of a single sub-program, listed below with staff numbers and FY 21 budget:

| <u>Sub-program</u> | <u># FTEs*</u> | <u>2021 Annual Budget</u> |
|------------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| Regional Information and Education | 7.0 | \$712,814 |

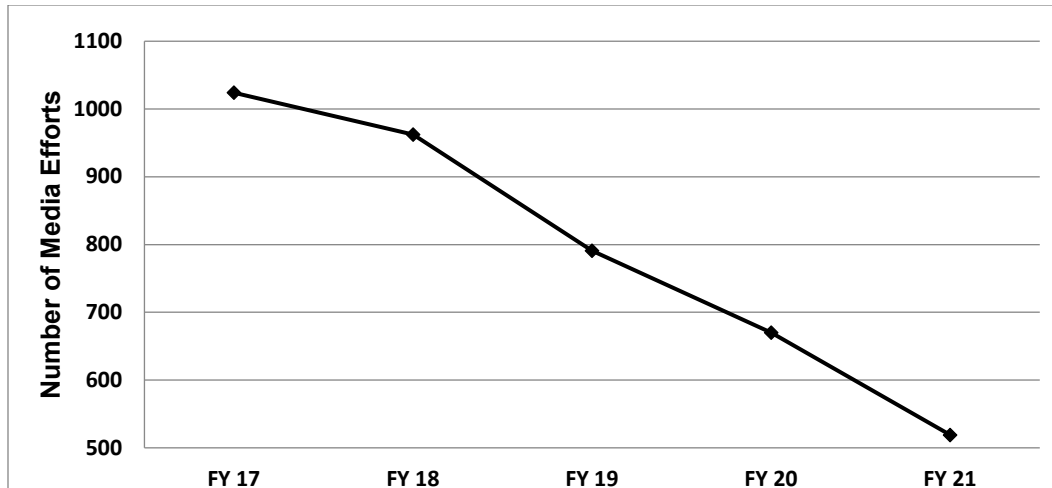
** Includes permanent positions authorized in the FY 21 budget. Any positions added during the budget cycle require Commission authorization or must be funded from supplemental grants.*

This program is located statewide. There is one Regional Information and Education Specialist (RIES) assigned to seven of the eight Department regional offices. The Jackson position is assigned to both the Jackson and Pinedale regional offices. The RIES work unit was reorganized in July 2013 and incorporated into the Wildlife Division.

Primary Functions of the RIES Program:

- **Work cooperatively with Department personnel to increase the public's understanding and appreciation of Wyoming's wildlife resources** by providing information and education support to other branches within the Wildlife Division and other divisions within the Department. The RIES Program supports the Department's Information Program by contributing to *Wyoming Wildlife Magazine* and the weekly Department news release packet. The RIES Program assists the Conservation Education Program through the instruction of traditional hunter education courses, internet field days, and the Hunter Education New Instructor Academy. It also assists with educator and youth conservation camps, youth fishing and hunting days, 4-H Shooting Sports state shoot, and Wyoming's Wildlife Worth the Watching interpretive projects.
- **Provide regional and statewide media outreach** by developing and distributing news releases, conducting media tours designed to provide the media and the public with detailed information on important issues facing wildlife, conducting radio programs, conducting radio and television interviews, as well as television and streaming video public service announcements.
- **Provide regional wildlife conservation education programs** through presentations and hands-on workshops to students, civic groups, conservation groups, and others.

Performance Measure #1: Number of media interviews, news releases, radio programs, radio interviews, and television public service announcements provided (Personnel in this program will work to produce at least 800 interviews, news releases, radio programs and interviews, and television public service announcements each year).



Story behind the performance:

Many issues affect Wyoming’s wildlife. In upholding the Department’s mission of serving people, it is important to keep the state’s citizens informed about these various issues. This is done through a variety of communication programs and activities.

Utilizing formal work plans and RIES assignments, additional effort is put into the development of media outreach using common tools such as news releases, meeting announcements, public service announcements, interviews, and on-site media field trips. This effort is primarily focused on identified Department, division, and regional Information and Conservation Education Program priorities.

What has been accomplished:

RIES personnel maintained working relationships with local radio and television stations in all regions of the state to provide weekly (or more) coverage of timely Department issues and to assist in familiarizing the public with the agency’s activities. Regional personnel were involved in these relationships, which helps make the Department more accessible to the public and creates general awareness of the Department’s role in wildlife and fisheries management. The following activities highlight just a few of their accomplishments:

The Casper Region media changed significantly during the FY 20-21 timeframe, losing both television stations and the main radio to syndicate form reporting. The Casper Region maintained relationships with the remaining reporters and has developed new outlets to provide information to the public. As the local reporters started returning to both the television and radio platforms, interviews have increased. In addition, regional fisheries, services and wildlife personnel have increased media presence over the last year.

In the Jackson Region, significant public outreach was required after a well-known grizzly bear (399) and her four cubs left Grand Teton National Park and ventured into developed areas near the towns of Jackson and Wilson. The grizzly bears have attracted hundreds of thousands of people from across the country as they have been quite visible in Teton Park. There has been significant media attention and public concern about any potential management actions that may be taken to maintain public safety. This has also required considerable coordination with managers and public affairs personnel with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

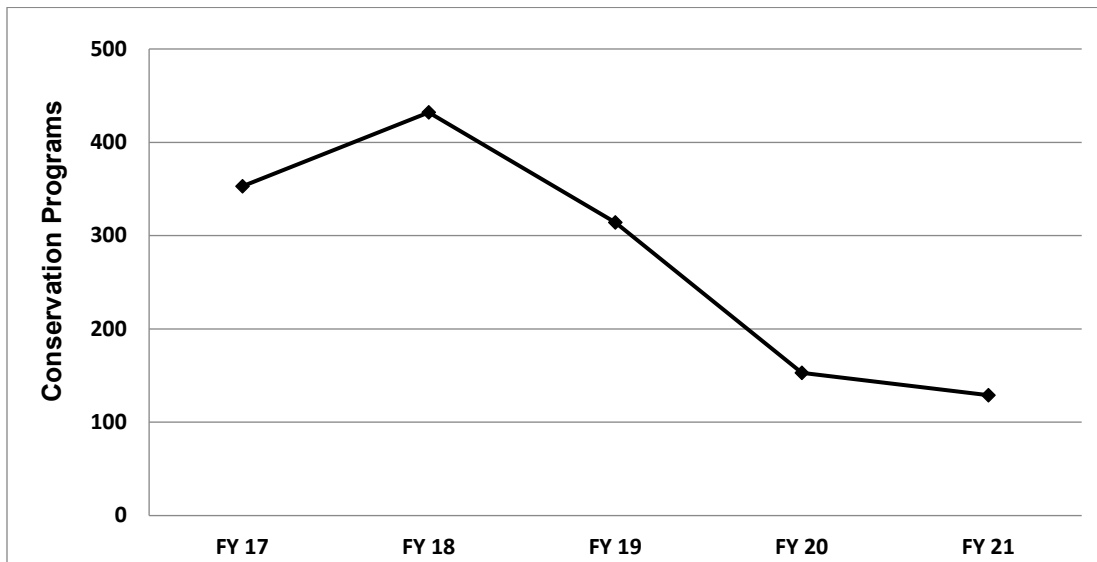
The Laramie RIES assisted the Green River Region with news releases and media outreach throughout FY 21 due to the vacant RIES position in that region. The Laramie RIES continued to work with local media to spread the message on chronic wasting disease and promoted several CWD meetings in the region for FY 21.

The Cody REIS worked with statewide communications section and the Cody Region to communicate about the new regional office building currently being constructed. The Department communicated both regionally and statewide through press releases, a Facebook Live event and through a webpage that is continually updated.

The Sheridan RIES continues to focus on ‘articles’ or news stories for inclusion in the monthly regional newsletter versus short press releases. This format allows for lengthier, more in-depth articles on a topic, allows the inclusion of multiple photographs and videos. This also allows for the inclusion of links to other related articles or information within our Department website for further reading.

The Lander RIES was part of the internal trapping committee charged with engaging the public about trapping. The RIES led the effort to create trapping webpages that inform trappers as well as other recreationists about regulations, best management practices, ethics and ways to reduce conflicts. The RIES also assisted with the planning and implementation of the in person and virtual statewide trapping meetings, as well as the implementation of educational signs on the Department’s Wildlife Habitat Management Areas.

Performance Measure #2: Number of wildlife conservation education programs (Personnel in this program will work to provide at least 100 education programs per year).



Story behind the performance:

The RIESs work collaboratively with other Information and Conservation Education Program personnel to provide conservation education programs to the public. Those programs include traditional Hunter Education courses and Internet field days; New Hunter Instructor Academy; Project WILD, Project WET and Project Learning Tree workshops; Staying Safe in Bear, Lion, and Wolf Country seminars; youth fishing days, and 4-H Outdoor Skills Competition

What has been accomplished:

With the COVID-19 pandemic, many activities typically done in the past were curtailed or cancelled. Even with these challenges, many activities were accomplished. The following highlight just a few of the achievements:

Virtual education programs were held throughout the year and concentrated around early May during the Wyoming Outdoor Weekend (WOW) and the EXPO. The Lander RIES helped to implement combined education efforts between the WOW and EXPO to deliver education to classrooms around the Region. Regional personnel were engaged with the virtual education process and many field staff were able to visit with students online.

The Casper RIES assisted the other regional positions to conduct a regional Camp WILD summer camp for 5th and 6th graders in Laramie and assisted the Conservation Education section at Educator’s camp in Dubois. The Laramie RIES again focused on Bear Wise efforts through much of FY 21. Efforts included developing Bear Wise signs for dispersed camping areas in the Medicine Bow National Forest, coordinating a Bear Wise workshop at Curt Gowdy State Park, and by providing Bear Wise brochures to people camping in the Medicine Bow National Forest.

The Cody REIS continues to work with the Wyoming Outdoorsmen, First Hunt Foundation, the Antler Ranch and multiple volunteers to provide mentored hunting opportunities to first-time hunters. First-time hunters attend two, one-day events to practice shooting and get to know their mentor prior to the hunt.

In Sheridan, communication with the public about CWD was a priority. The Sheridan RIES discussed various CWD topics, including proper carcass disposal, where to bring an animal to have it tested, where our targeted surveillance areas were and more, on monthly radio shows in Sheridan, Buffalo and Gillette throughout the hunting season.

Program: Regional Terrestrial Wildlife Management

Division: Wildlife

Mission Statement: Coordinate management of terrestrial wildlife and enforce laws and regulations to ensure the long-term health and viability of terrestrial wildlife for the people of Wyoming, while providing recreational opportunities and minimizing conflicts.

Program Facts: The Regional Terrestrial Wildlife Management Program is made up of three major sub-programs, listed below with the number of staff and FY 21 budget.

| <u>Sub-programs</u> | <u># FTEs*</u> | <u>2021 Annual Budget</u> |
|--|----------------|---------------------------|
| Regional Terrestrial Wildlife Administration | 21.4 | \$ 2,642,078** |
| Regional Terrestrial Wildlife Biologists | 32.2 | \$ 4,472,936 |
| Regional Game Wardens | 53.0 | \$ 6,688,354 |
| TOTAL | 106.6 | \$ 13,803,368 |

** Includes permanent positions authorized in the FY 21 budget. Any positions added during the budget cycle require Commission authorization or must be funded from supplemental grants.*

*** Does not include federal cost share dollars (50 percent) that support eight game warden positions.*

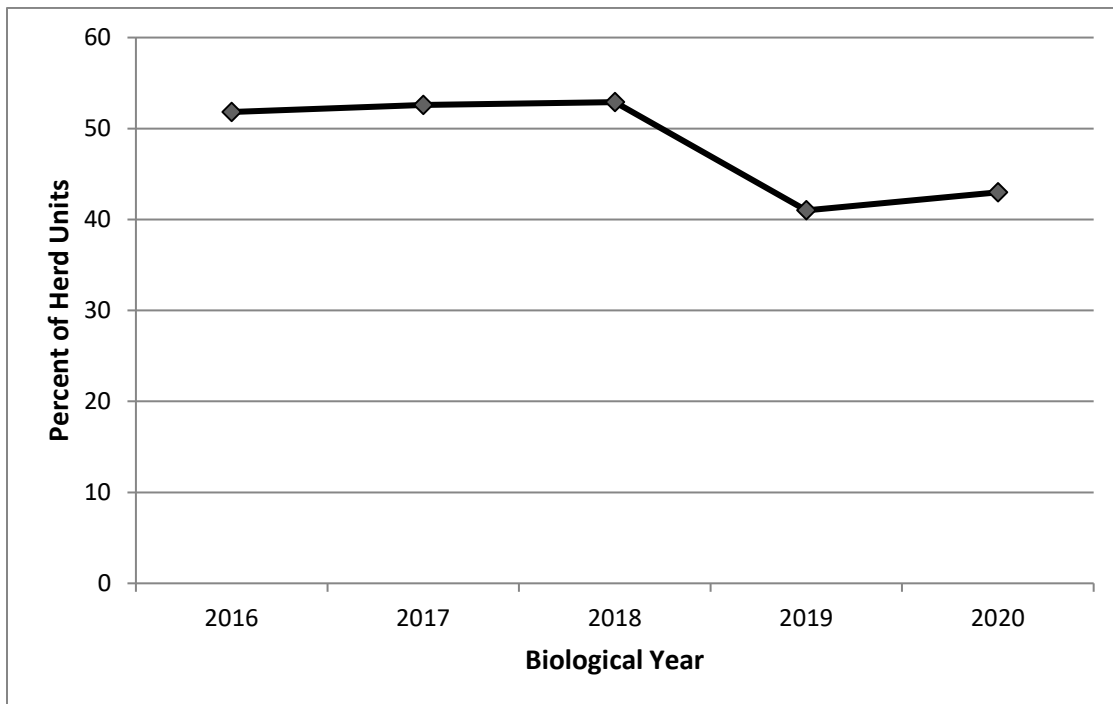
The Regional Terrestrial Wildlife Management Program is located statewide.

Primary Functions of the Regional Terrestrial Wildlife Management Program:

- **Coordinate management of terrestrial wildlife** to collect and analyze data; to ensure big game management strategies are designed to achieve population objectives; to review projects with the potential to impact wildlife and their habitats; to coordinate with other state and federal agencies; and to educate, inform, and seek public input on wildlife management issues. Support, training, and leadership are provided to ensure regional objectives and goals are met.
- **Enforce laws and regulations** to ensure viable wildlife populations and public safety; to inform and educate the public about wildlife laws, regulations, and their necessity; and to address wildlife damage and wildlife/human conflict complaints. Support, training, and leadership are provided to ensure the efficient enforcement of state laws and regulations, and to address wildlife damage and wildlife/human conflict complaints.

Performance Measure #1:

Percentage of big game herds at objective (personnel in this program will work to ensure that at least 30 percent of big game herds are at objective). For FY 21, there were four objective types: post-hunt population, trend count, landowner/hunter satisfaction, and limited opportunity objective. Two herds have no objective and are not included in this analysis. The standard for a herd being considered at the population or trend objective was changed in 2012 from ± 10 percent to ± 20 percent. The satisfaction objective is met when 60 percent of landowners and hunters indicate they are satisfied. The limited opportunity objective is for those moose and bighorn sheep herds where low densities of animals make a population or trend count objective unrealistic. In these herds, management is driven by percent hunter success and percent mature males in the harvest. Since 2011, all big game herds have had their objectives reviewed. Many had their objectives revised or changed to an objective other than post-hunt population. Biological years run from June 1 to May 31. Biological Year (BY) 20 covers the period June 1, 2020 to May 31, 2021.



Story behind the last year of performance:

While the Department is responsible for managing over 800 species of wildlife in Wyoming, many of our constituents are focused on the management of big game species (pronghorn antelope, mule deer, white-tailed deer, elk, moose, bighorn sheep, mountain goat, and wild bison). In addition, most of the Department’s annual revenue is derived from sales of hunting licenses and special management permits for these species. Management of big game species and wild bison is the responsibility of regional terrestrial wildlife biologists, regional game wardens, and the regional terrestrial wildlife administration. Percentages are based on objective evaluations for each species presented in the final big game Job Completion Reports (2016-2020).

Hunting seasons and harvest quotas developed by the Department are the primary tools for managing big game and wild bison. Seasons are designed to maintain herds at, or move herds towards, their publically established objectives through hunter harvest. Seasons are also designed to manipulate male to female ratios within each herd's desired range.

Other factors beyond the Department's control, such as hunter access, weather extremes, wildlife disease outbreaks, wildfire, and predation affect the Department's ability to manage herds toward objective. Declining hunter access to private lands limits the Department's ability to obtain the harvest needed to move some herds toward objective in predominantly private land areas. This is one of the reasons alternative objectives such as hunter/landowner satisfaction were established. Many elk populations remain above objective despite recent increased cow harvest on public and private lands. Weather conditions, such as drought and severe winters, can significantly impact reproductive success and decrease adult and juvenile survival. For example, two of the last three winters in parts of Wyoming have been severe enough to reduce big game numbers, especially in pronghorn and mule deer herds. The Department manages some herds below objective in drought years to increase available habitat for wildlife. In some localized areas, it will likely take several consecutive years of normal to above normal precipitation before the remaining habitat can support objective levels. The Department has continued efforts to implement landscape-scale habitat improvements that benefit big game and other wildlife. This effort is a long-term strategy designed to slow habitat loss by improving existing habitats in cooperation with partners such as the Wyoming Wildlife and Natural Resource Trust (WWNRT), the Wyoming Governor's Big Game License Coalition (WGBGLC), private landowners, federal land management agencies, private conservation organizations, and many others.

What has been accomplished:

A total of 35 herds had objectives reviewed in BY 20. Of those, two herds had an objective change proposed and accepted, and 33 were left unchanged. Population objective reviews were conducted by local wildlife biologists and wardens by analyzing pertinent data. Recommendations for herd units with objective changes were forwarded to regional and statewide Wildlife Division administrations for review. Administrators either suggested changes or gave approval for progressing to the next step. Objective recommendations were then presented to the public for review and comment. These comments were considered by regional personnel who modified objective recommendations as appropriate. Final field recommendations were again submitted to Wildlife Administration for final internal approval. Once this was completed, the final step was review and approval by the Commission.

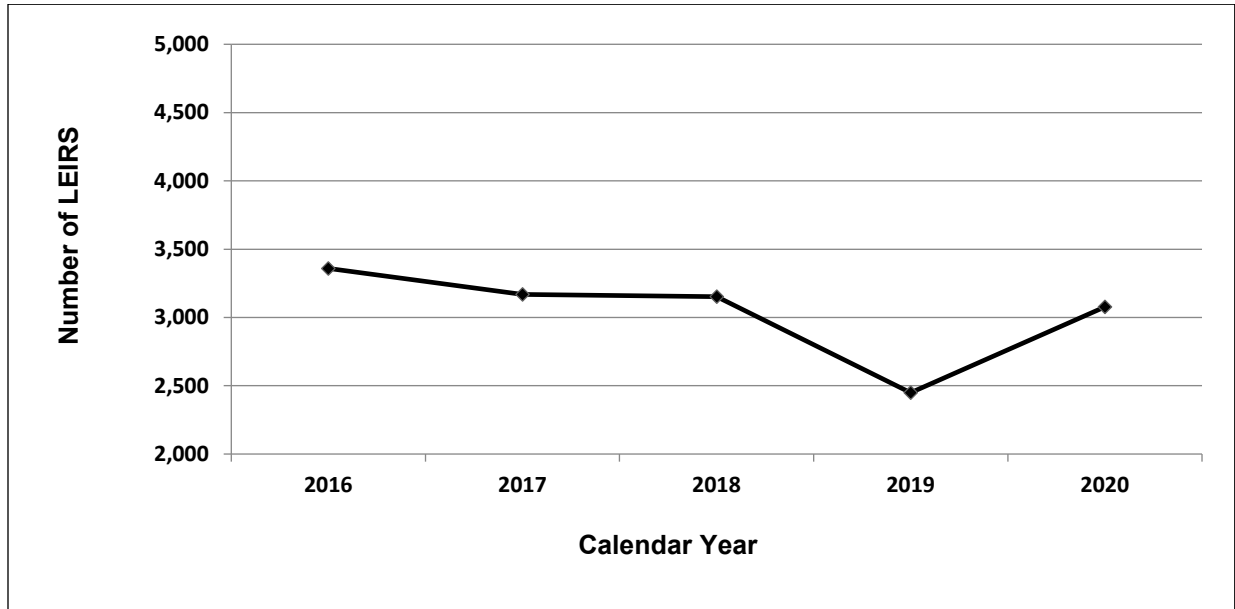
Of the total 140 herds tracked for this report (Table 1), seven herds had incomplete data including two herds with no established objective. Of the 133 herds with complete data, 57 herds were at objective (for herds with a population or trend count objective, at objective means the estimate is +/- 20 percent of the objective number), 20 were above objective, and 56 were below objective.

Table 1. Breakdown of herd units “At”, “Below”, or “Above” objective by species and objective category

| Population Objective | | | | |
|--|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | At Objective | Below Objective | Above Objective | Incomplete Data |
| Bighorn Sheep | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Elk | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| Moose | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| White-tailed Deer | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Mule Deer | 8 | 25 | 0 | 1 |
| Pronghorn | 14 | 13 | 6 | 0 |
| TOTAL | 24 | 39 | 9 | 2 |
| Trend Count Objective | | | | |
| Bighorn Sheep | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Bison | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Elk | 14 | 1 | 8 | 2 |
| Mountain Goat | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Moose | 1 | 3 | 1 | 0 |
| Pronghorn | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| TOTAL | 21 | 4 | 11 | 2 |
| Landowner/Hunter Satisfaction Objective | | | | |
| Pronghorn | 4 | 2 | NA | 0 |
| Elk | 2 | 4 | NA | 1 |
| Mule Deer | 0 | 3 | NA | 0 |
| White-tailed Deer | 1 | 1 | NA | 0 |
| TOTAL | 7 | 10 | NA | 1 |
| Limited Opportunity Objective | | | | |
| Moose | 2 | 2 | NA | 0 |
| Bighorn Sheep | 3 | 1 | NA | 0 |
| TOTAL | 5 | 3 | NA | 0 |
| Grand Totals | | | | |
| Bighorn Sheep | 7 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Elk | 16 | 5 | 11 | 3 |
| Bison | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Mountain Goat | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Moose | 3 | 6 | 1 | 0 |
| White-tailed Deer | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| Mule Deer | 8 | 28 | 0 | 1 |
| Pronghorn | 19 | 15 | 6 | 0 |
| TOTALS | 57 | 56 | 20 | 7 |
| PERCENT¹ | 43 | 42 | 15 | |

¹ There are 133 herds with complete data. Percentages presented for herds “At”, “Below”, and “Above” objective are based on herds with complete data.

Performance Measure #2: Number of law enforcement investigation reports (LEIRs). (Personnel in this program will work to enter at least 3,000 reports into the case management system annually.)



Story Behind the Performance:

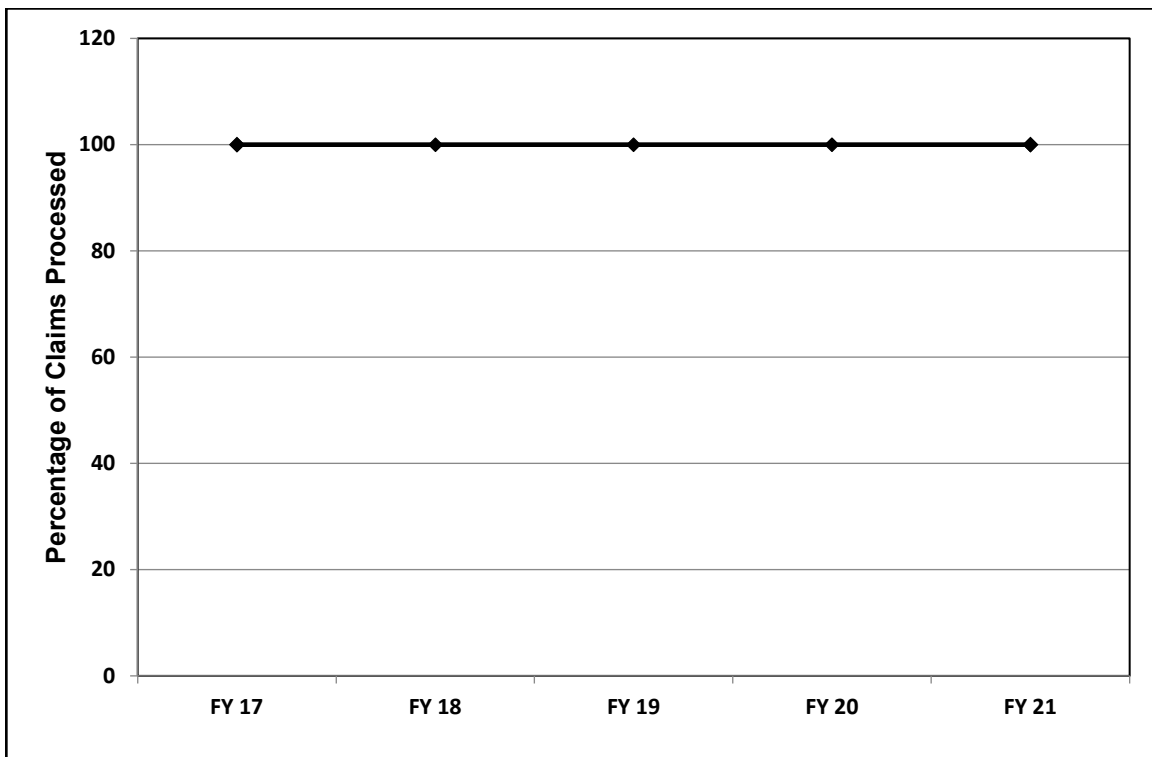
Enforcing wildlife and watercraft safety statutes and regulations is an integral component of terrestrial and aquatic wildlife management. Formal case management and law enforcement reporting systems have been used by the Department since the late 1970s. Beginning in 1996, case records were entered into a computerized case management system (CMS). As technology evolved between 1996 and 2008, several CMS programs were developed and used. The current system, CMS Web, was developed in 2008 and rolled out in 2010. CMS Web has been improved over the past several years as Department programmers and end users have identified efficiencies. Data from CMS Web can be easily queried for agency and public reporting.

In 2020, law enforcement personnel documented 4,106 violations as part of 3,077 LEIRs. This is 785 more violations than the number documented in 2019. The ten most common violations for 2020 in order of prevalence are hunting/fishing/trapping/commercial operations without a license/stamp (646); violations of aquatic invasive species regulations (416); failure to provide proper safety equipment aboard watercraft (305); trespass to hunt, fish, trap, or collect shed antlers (284); violation of regulations/rules for Department/state lands (229); hunting after hours or in wrong/closed area (218); wanton destruction/waste of a game animal (177); failure to tag/register a big/trophy game animal, wild turkey, or bobcat (151); ; take of wildlife from a public road or highway (108); take of wrong sex of game animal (95). There were seven arrests for operating a watercraft under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

What has been accomplished:

- Multiple task forces were utilized in 2020 to address winter-range poaching of big game animals, boating safety issues on major reservoirs, chronic wildlife violations during hunting seasons, fishing violations in back country locations, and other enforcement issues.
- Regional CMS coordinators continued their efforts to bring the CMS database as up-to-date as possible, with an emphasis on updating case information, closing out old cases, and following up on cases where the violator failed to take any action on a violation. The Department implemented an electronic review process for officer case reports to improve overall efficiency and reduce the lag time for making necessary corrections to LEIRs.

Performance Measure #3: The percentage of damage claims received/processed each year in accordance with Wyoming statutes and Commission regulations. (Personnel in this program will work to ensure that 100 percent of damage claims are processed accordingly.)



Story behind the performance:

Wyoming statute W.S. 23-1-901 requires that the Department address damages by big game, trophy game, and game birds. This work is conducted by regional terrestrial wildlife personnel. Addressing damage caused by big game, trophy game, and game birds is completed by several methods including providing damage prevention materials, moving or removing the offending animal(s), setting seasons to reduce the number of animals in an area, initiating habitat improvement projects, or investigating and paying monetary compensation for confirmed damages. Damage prevention and evaluation work by regional terrestrial wildlife personnel varies

statewide, and is greatly influenced by the big game, trophy game, and game bird species present and environmental conditions.

Since FY 17, 100 percent of all damage claims received have been processed annually in accordance with Wyoming statutes and Commission regulations. Damage claim numbers fluctuate annually based on many factors including weather severity, drought, wildlife population levels, mitigation measures by the Department, and tolerance levels of those individuals suffering damages. In FY 21, the Department received 161 damage claims.

What has been accomplished:

Considerable efforts were made by Department personnel to prevent damage including a wide variety of hazing techniques, providing fencing materials to build stackyards for stored crops, relocating trophy game animals, increasing harvest, depredation hunting seasons, and as a last resort, lethal removal. Department personnel continue to work with landowners on damage prevention and mitigation, including the damage investigation and claim submission process.

Program: Specialized Statewide Law Enforcement

Division: Wildlife

Mission Statement: To provide support for Boating Safety and Stop Poaching Programs throughout the state. To provide for specialized wildlife law enforcement investigations, issuance of permits, and record keeping to all wildlife regions.

Program Facts: The Specialized Statewide Law Enforcement Program is made up of two major sub-programs, listed below with the number of staff and FY 21 budget:

| <u>Sub-programs</u> | <u># FTEs*</u> | <u>2021 Annual Budget</u> |
|--|----------------|---------------------------|
| Law Enforcement Administration & Boating Safety | 3.0 | \$ 471,961** |
| Law Enforcement Investigations Unit | 7.0 | \$ 871,052 |
| TOTAL | 10.0 | \$ 1,343,013 |

** Includes permanent positions authorized in the FY 21 budget. Any positions added during the budget cycle require Commission authorization or must be funded from supplemental grants.*

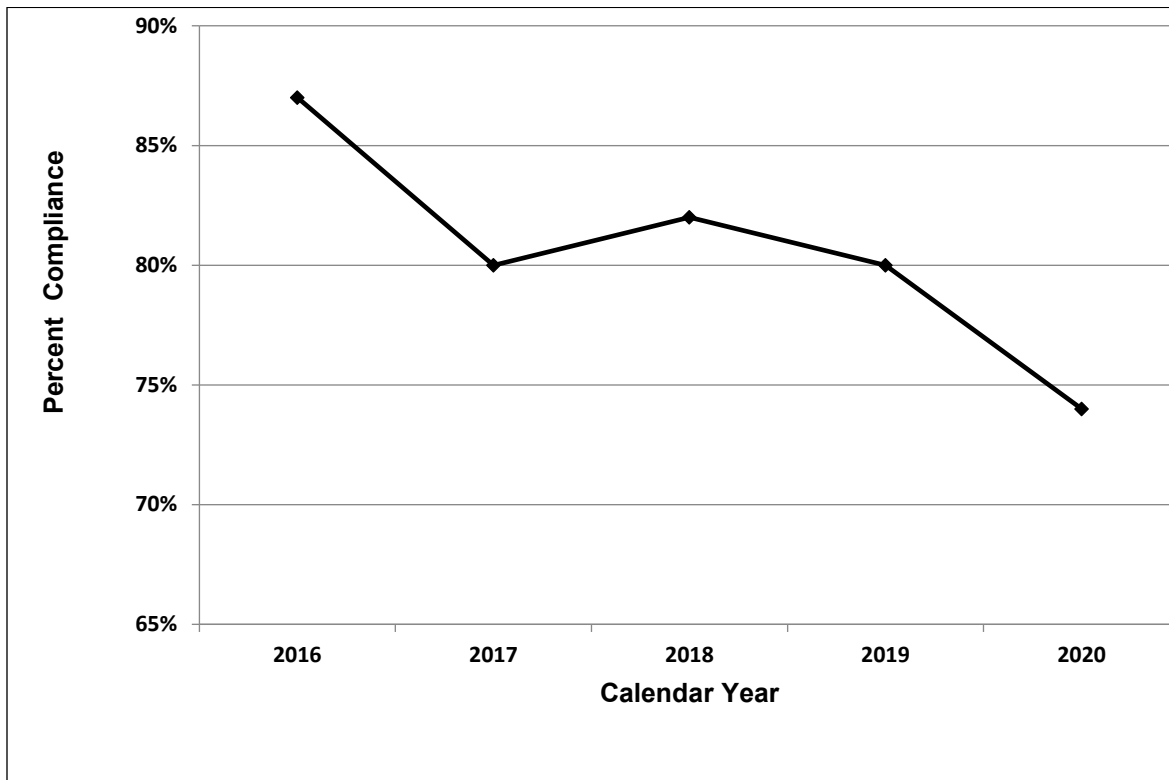
*** Does not include federal cost share dollars.*

The program is located statewide with personnel in Green River, Cody, Sheridan, Laramie, Lander, Casper, and Cheyenne. These positions coordinate all law enforcement programs and law enforcement reporting systems. This includes administration of the Boating Safety and Stop Poaching Programs for the Department.

Primary Functions of the Specialized Statewide Law Enforcement Program:

- **Provide support for boating safety, education, and enforcement** by providing boating safety courses for the public and by providing boating safety enforcement on the state's waterways.
- **Provide support for the Stop Poaching Program** by increasing public involvement in detecting and reporting wildlife violators and by providing rewards for information relating to crimes against wildlife.
- **Provide for specialized wildlife law enforcement investigations** through the detection, apprehension, and prosecution of wildlife law violators via complex, multi-suspect, multi-jurisdictional investigations.
- **Provide for overall law enforcement administration** by handling permits, law enforcement record keeping, and routine law enforcement administration.

Performance Measure #1: Watercraft safety compliance rate as documented by watercraft safety annual reports. (Personnel in this program will work to achieve an 80 percent compliance rate.)



Story behind the performance:

The Department is responsible for providing boating safety and education information to the public. Wyoming experiences boating fatalities nearly every year as a result of lack of life jacket use. Wyoming boaters are spread out among large reservoirs, rivers, small lakes, and ponds across the state, making it difficult to address all boating safety needs. Limitations on law enforcement personnel time, and sometimes location, create a unique situation in addressing boating safety and education on a statewide basis. Responsibility for educating the public about boating safety, and the enforcement of boating safety laws and regulations, lies with the game wardens, senior game wardens, and Wildlife Administration. Regional Information and Education Specialists assist with boating safety education through media outreach and public presentations.

During 2020, five game wardens each spent approximately five man-months of time on watercraft safety and enforcement duties. Numerous senior game warden positions made up the remainder of Department efforts on watercraft safety and enforcement duties. Funding is received annually from the Recreational Boating Safety Grant administered by the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) to assist with this effort.

The highest compliance rate during the last five years was achieved in 2016 with an 87 percent compliance rate. The six watercraft regulations with the highest numbers of violations in 2020 were: failure to provide life jackets (179), operating an unnumbered boat (80), failure to provide a

throwable flotation device (69), failure to provide a fire extinguisher (37), failure to operate watercraft in accordance with navigation rules (30), and failure to require youth age 12 and under to wear life jackets while underway (26).

What has been accomplished:

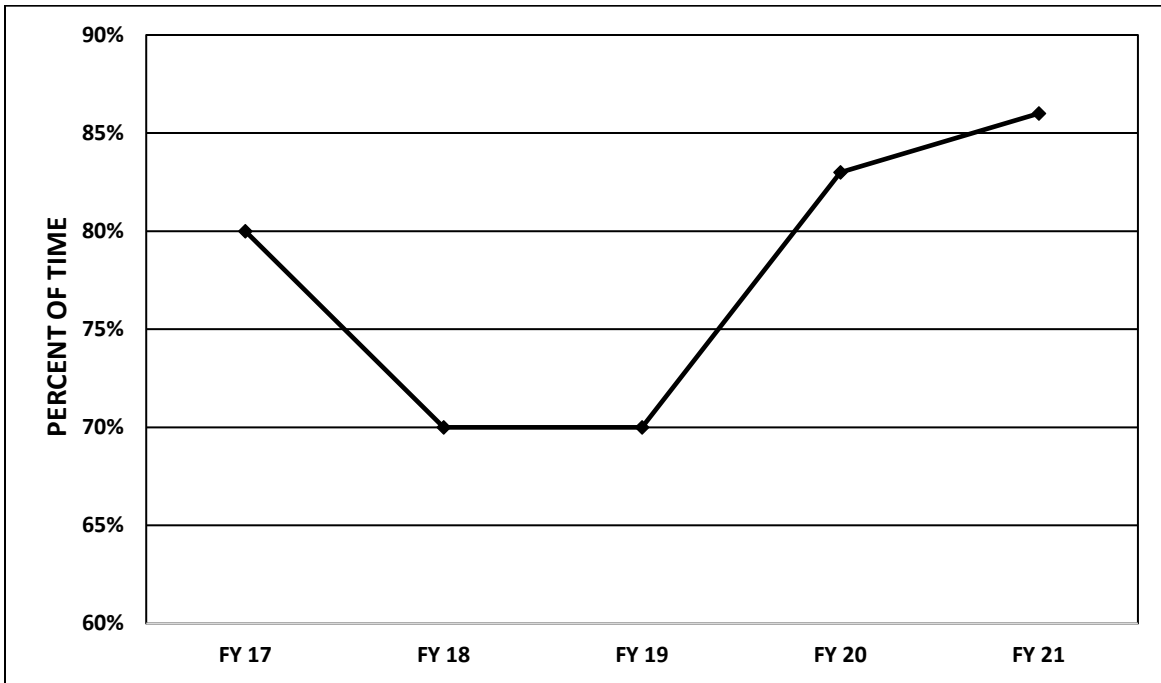
- There were five game wardens hired in 2020. They attended the Wyoming Law Enforcement Academy and the Department’s watercraft training session before being assigned to watercraft enforcement duties throughout the state.
- The Department continues to provide the Boating America correspondence course and the course has been updated to include regulation changes. The public also has the option to take boating safety courses online through two separate providers. These online courses include information specific to boating in Wyoming.
- Special permit authorization letters were issued for two watercraft events, a sailing regatta and a poker run. The boating safety of both the participants and the public was evaluated before granting these requests.
- Department personnel spent a total of 6,513 hours on boating safety. Total hours include time spent on law enforcement and court preparation, safety and education programs, search and rescue events, accident investigation, and buoy maintenance.
- Officers responded to and investigated four separate boat accidents that involved four vessels and 17 people, resulting in one injury and one fatality. Officers also arrested seven boat operators for boating under the influence of alcohol or drugs (BUI).

Story behind the performance:

Wildlife crimes often go undetected due to the remote locations where they take place. Wildlife law enforcement officers conduct routine patrols for violators, but cannot be in every location to prevent all crimes. The wildlife of this state belongs to the people of Wyoming, and it is paramount that the public assist Department officers in apprehending wildlife violators.

Reports made to the Stop Poaching Program are tracked on a calendar year. The majority of these reports and subsequent cases are a direct result of the Department’s Stop Poaching Hotline, which is answered by statewide radio dispatch personnel. Some reports are submitted by email from the Stop Poaching link on the Department’s webpage, by text message to “tip411”, or are submitted directly to law enforcement personnel. During 2020, there were a total of 314 Stop Poaching reports documented and all reports were investigated, although some reports remain under investigation. In many instances, it was determined that no violation had occurred or a violation had occurred, but a suspect could not be identified. These tips resulted in the issuance of 23 citations and 13 warnings to suspects. A total of \$4,750 in fines/restitution was paid (with several cases still pending) and \$1,700 was issued in rewards to informants during 2020.

Performance Measure #2: Percentage of time spent on law enforcement/case investigations by the Wildlife Investigations Unit (WIU). (Personnel in this program will work to spend 70 percent of their time working on investigations.)



Story behind the performance:

The WIU is comprised of six full-time Wildlife Investigators stationed at regional offices in Sheridan, Casper, Laramie, Lander, Jackson and Green River. The WIU is supervised by one supervisor/investigator stationed at the Cody Regional Office.

The Jackson/Pinedale investigator position was filled in August 2020 after a more than decade vacancy. The total number of hours reflected here may not be comparable to past years because of the amount of turnover in the last 12 months.

Personnel are equipped with modern evidence, surveillance, tracking, covert, and other equipment. WIU investigators are non-exempt law enforcement officers. Therefore their time is tracked per 40-hour week. The more time they spend on investigations, the more productive they are in solving wildlife crimes.

The WIU initiates many cases, but the bulk of cases are referred from senior game wardens and other sources. The WIU conducts investigations that are generally complex, long-term wildlife violation cases utilizing specialized methods and equipment and that require time commitments beyond what game wardens can devote. Cases may be overt or covert in nature and are selected based on established priorities.

In addition to Wyoming, WIU personnel also assist and are assisted by other jurisdictions including the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Most of these cases take a great deal of time and can be active for several years. Each case may contain many defendants and many charges/violations. The WIU also has a large number of cases that are not addressed due to time constraints and priorities.

Since FY 17, an average of 8,835 investigative hours has been completed annually. In FY 20, the WIU was involved in hundreds of cases of all sizes and spent 11,648 hours investigating cases. Several large cases are currently in the prosecution phase. The WIU has initiated several new, major, covert, and overt investigations.

What has been accomplished:

- Six wildlife investigators and one investigator supervisor were able to spend 11,648 hours working to solve wildlife crime (86 percent).
- Many cases have progressed or concluded, including several covert cases.
- Investigators have received more training to accomplish their work assignments including forensic computer examiner training and certification
- Investigators spent 327 hours investigating AIS in pet stores in conjunction with a nationwide USFWS investigation into aquatic invasive species.

Program: Statewide Terrestrial Wildlife Management

Division: Wildlife

Mission: Lead specialized, statewide conservation and management of native terrestrial wildlife species, and assist with regional management of resident game species.

Program Facts: The Statewide Terrestrial Wildlife Management Program is made up of six major sub-programs, listed below with the number of staff and FY 21 budget.

| <u>Sub-programs</u> | <u># FTEs*</u> | <u>2021 Annual Budget</u> |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| Statewide Wildlife and Habitat Mgmt | 4.0 | \$927,230 |
| Terrestrial Nongame (CWCS)** | 6.8 | 1,131,450 |
| Migratory Game Bird (Waterfowl) | 1.0 | 173,073 |
| Trophy Game Management*** | 14.7 | 1,714,073 |
| Sage-grouse Conservation | 2.0 | 810,982 |
| Predator Management | 0.0 | 200,000 |
| TOTAL | 28.5 | \$4,956,808 |

* Includes permanent and contract positions authorized in the FY 21 budget. Any positions added during the budget cycle require Commission authorization or must be funded from supplemental grants.

** Includes funding from State Wildlife Grants (SWG).

*** Combined with Trophy Game Management in FY20.

The sub-programs that comprise the Statewide Terrestrial Wildlife Management Program were previously a part of the Terrestrial Wildlife Management Program (Strategic Plan FY 04 - FY 07). This program has statewide responsibilities with personnel based in various locations.

The Trophy Game Management sub-program is responsible for the statewide monitoring and management of mountain lions, black bears, grizzly bears, and wolves including conflict resolution and investigation.

The Statewide Wildlife and Habitat Management (SWaHM) sub program was previously referred to as the Statewide Wildlife and Habitat Management sub-program. The name was changed due to internal reorganization resulting in the Statewide Terrestrial Habitat sub-program falling under this new umbrella and to better reflect the scope of duties for this diverse work unit. The three personnel remaining in the Statewide Terrestrial Habitat sub-program are accounted for in the Habitat Report. Other sub-programs under the SWaHM umbrella include terrestrial nongame (Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy, excluding the state herpetologist), migratory game bird (waterfowl), and sage-grouse conservation.

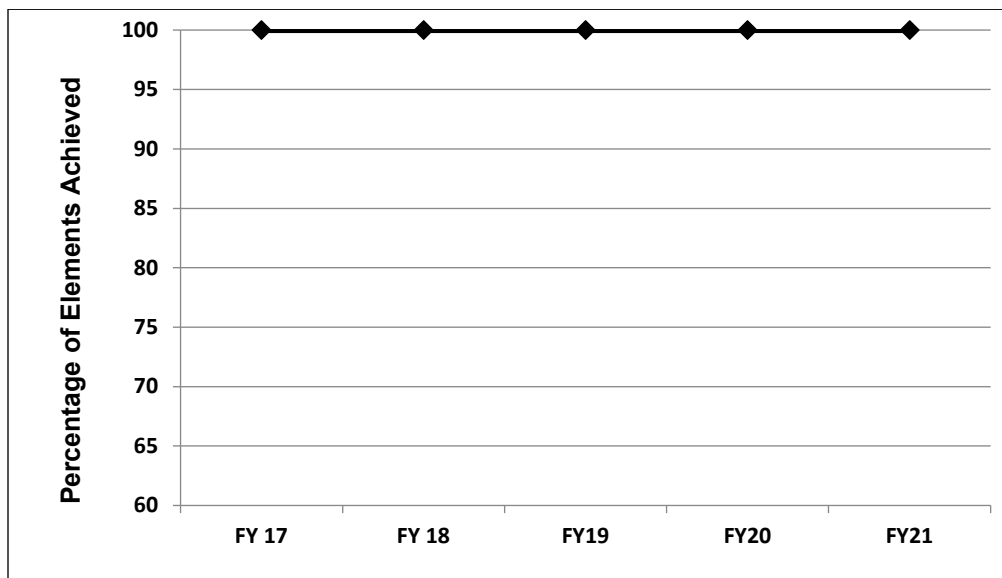
Primary Functions of the Statewide Terrestrial Wildlife Management Program:

- Assist with recovery and conservation of species that are listed as threatened, endangered, and candidate species under the Endangered Species Act or are identified

as Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) in Wyoming’s 2017 State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP) by developing and implementing plans and strategies, providing technical and financial assistance, collecting data, coordinating with other agencies and organizations, and conducting research.

- **Participate in statewide terrestrial wildlife management** by providing policy recommendations, field or published data and environmental analyses, data collection, and trophy game conflict resolution; by compiling and administering statewide management data; and by representing the division or agency in multi-disciplinary and multi-organization conservation and management efforts.
- **Contribute to harvest management of game species** by conducting annual harvest surveys and compiling and analyzing harvest information to make recommendations on harvest strategies and interstate coordination.
- **Serve internal and external customers** by providing and interpreting data, disseminating information about wildlife and its management, and providing additional related services.

Performance Measure #1: Statewide Terrestrial Wildlife Management Program- Major work plan elements achieved.



Story behind the performance:

The number of major work plan elements achieved continues to be the measure of the Statewide Terrestrial Wildlife Management Program’s annual performance. These work elements are selected annually based on the importance of the particular products and services the SWaHM sub-program provides to internal and external customers.

Over the past five years (FY 17-FY 21), the Statewide Terrestrial Wildlife Management Program has completed an average of 100 percent (187 of 187) of its major work plan elements. In FY 21, 100 percent (38 of 38) of major work plan elements were completed. Unplanned assignments are a critical function of the SWaHM Section.

What has been accomplished:

Major work plan elements identified annually constitute a large percentage, but not all of the duties and tasks for which the sub-programs are responsible.

For FY 21 elements, highlights include:

- Participate with the Habitat and Technical Advisory Group (HTAG) and fulfilling duties such as Habitat Trust, Wyoming Wildlife and Natural Resource Trust (WWNRT), State Wildlife Grant Program (SWG), Worth the Watching, and Wyoming Governor's Big Game License Coalition (WGBGLC) project review and approval.
- Review regional recommendations and provide Wildlife Administration with comments on proposed hunting regulations.
- Conduct surveys, monitor harvest, and publish harvest reports for all hunted or trapped species.
- Implement the Governor's Executive Order (Greater Sage-grouse Core Area Protection) and other in-state duties including interacting with the Governor's Sage-grouse Implementation Team (SGIT).
- Serve as Wyoming's Representative to the Central Flyway Waterfowl and Webless Migratory Game Bird Technical Committees.

What has been accomplished:

Major work plan elements identified annually constitute a large percentage, but not all of the duties and tasks for which the statewide wildlife and habitat management sub-program is responsible.

For FY 21 elements:

SWaHM Administrative Work Unit

- Participate with the HTAG and fulfilling duties such as Habitat Trust, WWNRT, State Wildlife Grant Program (SWG), Worth the Watching, and WGBGLC project review and approval.
- Review hunt area maps for big game, trophy game, small game, migratory game birds, upland game birds, and furbearers regulation development.
- Review regional recommendations and provide Wildlife Administration with comments on proposed hunting regulations.
- Write statewide species job completion reports (JCR) and Bobcat CITES report.
- Conduct internal surveys and publish harvest reports for all hunted or trapped species and coordinate with harvest survey contractor for deer elk and antelope surveys.
- Maintain and run black bear, gray wolf, and mountain lion hotlines.
- Provide technical support to the Habitat Protection section for impact assessment and mitigation policies/recommendations.
- Provide technical support to Wildlife Division working groups including technical review and editing of management recommendations.

Sage-grouse Work Unit

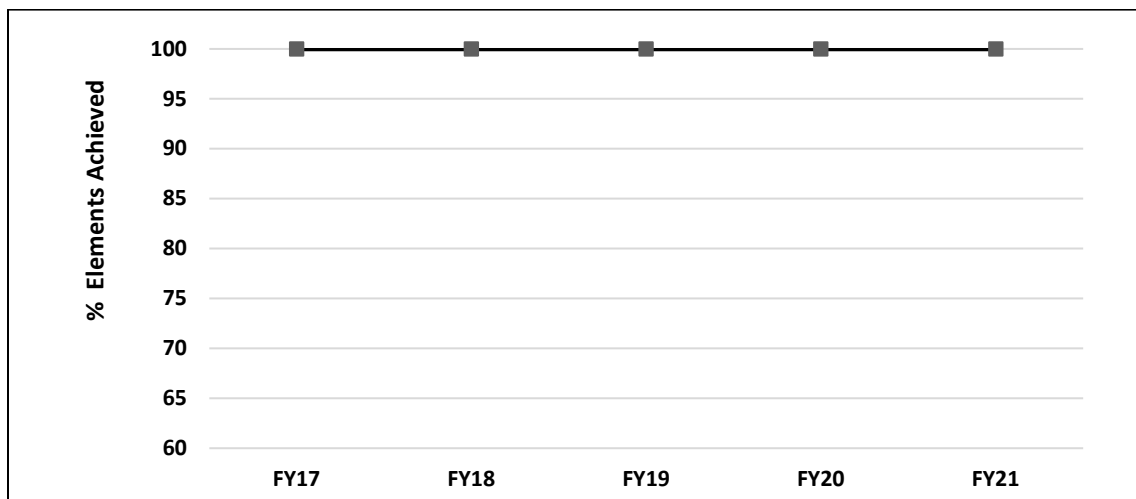
- Prepare and administer the annual budget.
- Participate in multi-state sage-grouse conservation efforts.
- Implement Governor Gordon's Executive Order (Greater Sage-grouse Core Area Protection) and other in-state duties including interacting with the Governor's SGIT.

- Assist the eight Local Sage-grouse Working Groups (LWG) in implementing their conservation plans by facilitating LWG meetings and administering the \$548,000 annual Commission allocation to local sage-grouse conservation projects.
- Coordinate statewide sage-grouse data collection with the regions, oversee data entry into the sage-grouse database, and provide access to internal users of the data for use in preparing annual JCRs and to external users such as industry, other agencies, and researchers.
- Provide sage-grouse related GIS services including assisting with the Density Disturbance Calculation Tool.

Migratory Game Bird Work Unit

- Administer and supervise the statewide waterfowl sub-program.
- Serve as Wyoming’s Representative to the Central Flyway Waterfowl and Webless Migratory Game Bird Technical Committees.
- Coordinate with the Pacific Flyway Study Committee representative regarding management plans and regulatory decisions that pertain to Wyoming.
- Work with regional personnel and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to develop early and late migratory game bird hunting seasons.
- Coordinate mourning dove banding stations across the state.
- Conduct mid-winter waterfowl survey, December goose classification survey, and fall Rocky Mountain Population crane survey.

Performance Measure #2: Migratory Game Bird - Major work plan elements achieved (Personnel in this sub-program will work to complete at least 75 percent of the major work elements which are planned for a single year).



Story behind the performance:

This sub-program was formerly called “Waterfowl Management.” Major annual work plan elements for the Migratory Game Bird sub-program include: conducting population surveys, making hunting season recommendations, fulfilling Central Flyway Technical Committee

functions and responsibilities, coordinating Pacific Flyway Study Committee functions and responsibilities, conducting mourning dove banding, and completing annual completion reports.

Annual work plan elements are identified by sub-program personnel prior to the fiscal year. The number of major work plan elements achieved has been the sole measure of the sub-program's performance. Work plan elements primarily reflect the duties within the scope and mission of the sub-program, and are vital to managing migratory game birds at the state and interstate scales. Since FY 16, the migratory game bird management sub-program completed 100 percent of its annual major work plan elements. In FY 21, 100 percent (five of five) of the major annual work plan elements were completed.

The migratory game bird sub-program participates in cooperative annual surveys to estimate waterfowl populations and provide information necessary for setting waterfowl seasons. Surveys include the March and September crane, mid-winter waterfowl, and winter Canada goose classification. This sub-program remains strongly committed to migratory game bird management through the national flyway system. The sub-program's involvement includes developing and revising management plans for various migratory game bird populations, providing input on policy decisions, setting annual hunting seasons, and producing annual JCRs for hunted populations in both the Central and Pacific Flyways. These processes require representatives from Wyoming to participate in Flyway Technical Committee meetings held annually in February/March and August/September.

What has been accomplished:

The migratory game bird biologist coordinated surveys to collect waterfowl and sandhill crane harvest and population data, analyzed the data, prepared hunting season recommendations, and represented the Department at Central Flyway meetings. The Department was also represented at the Pacific Flyway meetings.

The migratory game bird sub-program participated in several cooperative surveys coordinated annually by the USFWS to estimate migratory game bird populations and to provide information necessary for setting hunting seasons. These surveys included March and September crane surveys and mid-winter waterfowl surveys, as well as participating in the national mourning dove banding program. In FY 21, 543 doves were banded.

The annual Migratory Game Bird budget was prepared. It included funding to support the Central Flyway pre-season duck banding effort in the prairie pothole region.

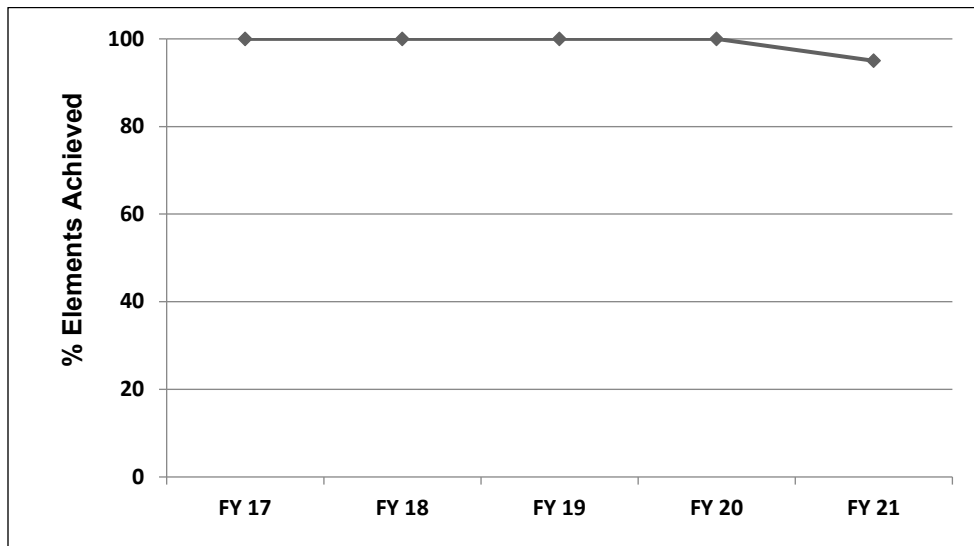
Another spring light goose hunting season was held in the Central Flyway portion of the state in accordance with the Arctic Tundra Habitat Emergency Conservation Act.

The sub-program pursued conservation of migratory game bird habitat directly through inclusion of habitat activities into the Migratory Game Bird and Wetland Biologist position beginning in November of 2019.

Data development agenda:

The number of work elements achieved annually may not be an ideal measure of success, but seems to provide the most practical approach given the diversity of duties within the sub-program. An alternative would be the annual number of (hunter) recreation days supported by the migratory game bird sub-program. However, many factors outside the influence of migratory game bird sub-program personnel can affect this metric, for example, bird production and survival in other parts of the continent, weather during the migration period, changes in the federal hunting season frameworks, and changing cultural values that affect hunter participation. As well, the number of recreation days is only one of the outputs that might be important to external customers of this sub-program. Personnel will continue to investigate alternative performance measures for the sub-program.

Performance Measure #3: Nongame Bird and Mammal – Major work plan elements achieved (Personnel in this sub-program will work to complete at least 95 percent of the major work elements which are planned for a single year.)



Story behind the performance:

This sub-program is responsible for the monitoring, management, and dissemination of information on over 400 species of birds and 100 species of mammals.

Major work plan elements include planning and strategy administration; monitoring abundance trends of SGCN including bald eagles, peregrine falcons, trumpeter swans, common loons, long-billed curlews, American bitterns, and colonial nesting waterbirds; coordinating with Partners in Flight and the Wyoming Bird Records Committees; monitoring black-footed ferrets; inventorying bats and associated habitats; surveying raptor nests; completing SWG projects; and reporting and disseminating information. During the FY 21 reporting cycle, the sub-program collected survey data on 28 of 51 mammal and 76 of 80 bird SGCN listed in Wyoming’s 2017 SWAP. An approved SWAP is mandatory in order to receive federal SWG funding, which is a major funding source for SGCN work in Wyoming. During the FY 21 reporting period two projects were delayed due to

COVID-19 restrictions. This includes monitoring black-footed ferrets with the use of scent dogs, and determining little brown bat hibernacula needs through radio-telemetry. These projects will be conducted in FY 22.

A limited number of elements can be reasonably completed with existing personnel. Funding will never be sufficient to address all species or management concerns and the sub-program consistently faces a discrepancy between work that needs to be accomplished and work that can be accomplished. The increase in the number of species proposed for listing under the ESA, and the need to work on many of these before listing, has greatly increased workloads. State funding along with federal appropriations, such as SWG, have been extremely helpful for initiating new projects through grants and contracts. However, the long-term effectiveness of the sub-program is limited by restrictions on permanent personnel and short-term or inconsistent nature of funding. During FY 21, there were no personnel changes within the nongame sub program.

What Has Been Accomplished:

During FY 21, the terrestrial nongame sub-program continued collecting information on population trends of SGCNs. The sub-program has worked with a number of collaborators such as nongovernment organizations (NGO); the University of Wyoming, particularly the Wyoming Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit (UW Coop Unit) and the Wyoming Natural Diversity Database; other state agencies; and federal partners to accomplish nongame goals and objectives within the state. The sub-program completed several projects in FY 21 that were initiated in prior reporting cycles that were designed to determine abundance, habitat associations, life history, distribution, and potential threats to SGCN. These projects include:

- Black rosy-finch (SGCN) distribution, abundance, and habitat investigations
- Support for the revision of strategic bat plans of Wyoming (many SGCN)
- Short-eared owl habitat use

The sub-program continued several projects in FY 20 that were initiated in prior reporting cycles that were designed to determine abundance, habitat associations, life history, distribution, and potential threats to SGCNs. These projects include:

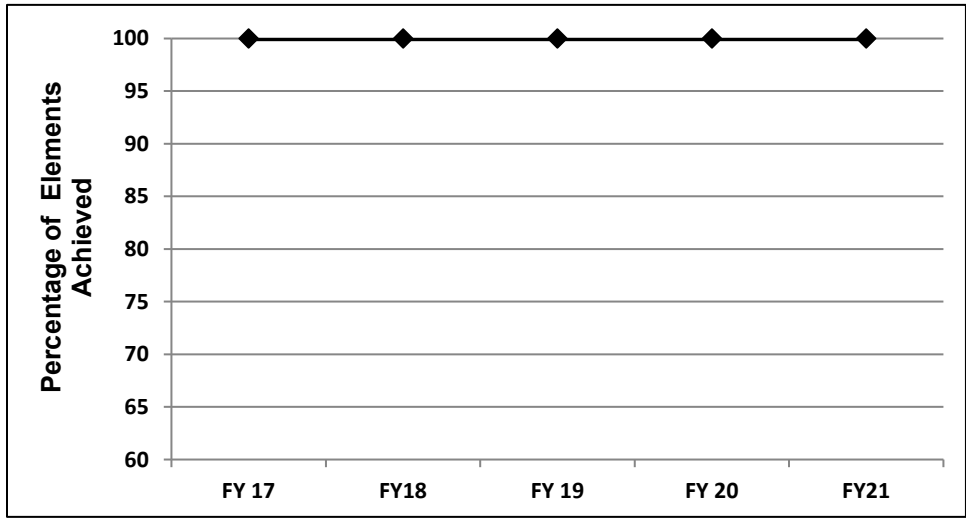
- Pygmy rabbit monitoring (SGCN)
- Analysis of plains spotted skunk genetics (SGCN: Petitioned Species)
- Revision of bat management plans (many SGCN)
- Engaging climbers in bat conservation (many SGCN)

The nongame sub-program initiated several projects in FY 20 that were designed to determine abundance, habitat associations, life history, distribution, and potential threats to SGCNs. These projects include:

- Assessment of effect on the Converse County Oil and Gas Project on nesting raptors (many SGCN)
- Wolverine occupancy monitoring (SGCN: Protected Species)
- Sagebrush-obligate monitoring (many SGCN)
- Little brown bat population monitoring (SGCN: Petitioned Species)

- Identification of shrews through genetic analysis (many SGCN)

Performance Measure #4: Trophy Game Management, Monitoring, and Research – Major work plan elements achieved (Personnel in this sub-program will work to complete at least 95 percent of the major work elements which are planned for a single year.)



Story behind the performance:

The primary measure of this sub-program’s performance has been the number of major work plan elements achieved annually. These work plan elements include: continuing annual grizzly bear observation surveys, aerial monitoring radio collared bears, capturing and marking bears for monitoring, continuing implementation of alternative methods of grizzly bear population monitoring, managing multiple databases for large carnivores, analyzing annual black bear and mountain lion harvest data, evaluating new methodologies to evaluate the population status of black bears and mountain lions, conducting public meetings addressing large carnivore management practices, participating in meetings with regional Department personnel to address harvest, analyzing findings and developing dialogue relative to the season setting processes, participating on the Interagency Grizzly Bear Study Team (IGBST), fulfilling information requests, preparing various annual reports, implementing new monitoring techniques, and providing educational presentations to the public. All (100 percent) of the annual work plan elements have been met each year. As is typical, unanticipated situations arise related to large carnivore management, resulting in several additional work elements being completed this fiscal year that were not initially identified. This sub-program responds to numerous unplanned, higher priority assignments from the administration. There is typically little latitude to adjust sub-program personnel assignments. While personnel do anticipate several unplanned events annually, the frequency and timing cannot be predicted.

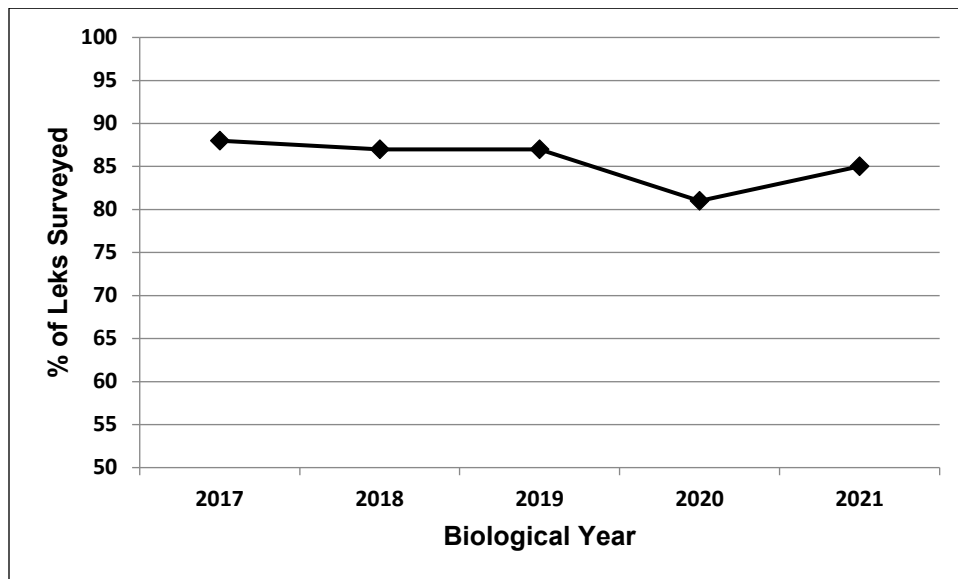
What has been accomplished:

- Conducted aerial capture efforts for grizzly bears in various backcountry settings in Wyoming on the Shoshone National Forest. Captured and collared 10 grizzly bears (even distribution

of males and females) in backcountry settings and demonstrated the efficacy of this technique; the first of its kind for grizzly bears in conterminous United States.

- Provided an annual report of grizzly bear management activities as well as providing chapters for the IGBST Annual Report (moth site use and observation flight report).
- Provided updates to the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission regarding grizzly bear monitoring and management.
- Assisted with the award winning Wyoming Wildlife magazine article devoted to Wyoming grizzly bears and their management.
- Collaborated as part of the Interagency Grizzly Bear Study Team to evaluate current population estimation techniques and update parameters to provide a more accurate estimate of the grizzly bear population in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (GYE).

Performance Measure #5: Percentage of occupied leks surveyed. (Personnel in this sub-program will work to survey at least 80 percent of the occupied sage-grouse leks.)



Story behind the performance:

As of the spring 2021 (end of biological year 2020), there were 1,746 known occupied sage-grouse leks in Wyoming. Department personnel, together with personnel from other agencies, volunteers, and consultants, surveyed 85 percent of these leks at least once. The proportion of leks checked in the previous 10 years (biological years 2010-2019) averaged 88 percent. In spring 2021, 993 leks were confirmed active, 315 confirmed inactive, and 172 unknown or unchecked.

The Wyoming Greater Sage-grouse Conservation Plan (2003) established an objective of a minimum of 1,650 known occupied leks. Monitoring sage-grouse population trends requires knowledge of the location of all or most leks along with the average number of males attending the leks each year. While it is presumed the location of most leks is known, new leks are discovered each year. The numbers of inactive and unoccupied leks has increased due to continued habitat disturbance and fragmentation primarily associated with increasing human infrastructure

(subdivisions, roads, power lines, gas wells, compressor stations, etc.) and the associated activity. These impacts continue to be documented and quantified by research in Wyoming.

The Wyoming Greater Sage-grouse Conservation Plan (2003) established an objective of an average of 28 males/lek observed on leks, not to fall below 10 males/lek during cyclical lows. The average number of male sage-grouse observed on leks also indicates population trend if the number of leks is stable. From biological years 1999-2003, the number of known occupied leks increased due to increased monitoring effort. At the same time, the average number of males observed decreased, believed to be in large part due to drought, but also due to increasing disturbance and fragmentation associated with natural gas development. In biological years 2004-2005 and 2015-2016, the average number of males/lek increased, at least in part, because of timely spring precipitation that resulted in a large hatch and high survival of chicks. Most of the increase occurred in habitats relatively undeveloped with human infrastructure. The return of drought conditions in most years after 2016 contributed to declining sage-grouse numbers for the next five years. In spring 2021, the average number of males observed on leks was 16.9/active lek, 13 percent fewer than the 19.5/active lek observed in the spring of 2020, suggesting a population decrease. While 16.9/active lek is well below the recent high of 35.6/active lek in the spring of 2016, it remains higher than the low of 13/active lek reported in 1996 and the bottom threshold of 10/active lek. Monitoring and research suggests that sage-grouse populations cycle, similar to rabbits. This research and past history also suggests the statewide population was at the low point in the most recent cycle in the 2012 bio-year. The specific relationship between climatic conditions and population cycles has not been determined, but drought conditions are generally unfavorable for sage-grouse.

In 2015, the USFWS issued a decision of “not warranted” for listing greater sage-grouse as threatened or endangered under the ESA. This means the State of Wyoming maintains management authority over sage-grouse in Wyoming and management emphasis focuses on implementation of the core area strategy (described below). In its decision document, the USFWS specifically cited Wyoming’s core area strategy as a mechanism that, if implemented as envisioned, should ensure conservation of sage-grouse in Wyoming and therefore help preclude the need for a future listing. The USFWS and the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA) are re-examining the issue after five years (2021) to ensure planned conservation efforts are implemented and the status of the species remains unwarranted for listing.

What has been accomplished:

- The Department, along with other state agencies continued to implement Governor Gordon’s Executive Order 2019-3, Sage-Grouse Core Area Protection. The specific actions are reported by the Habitat Protection Program.
- Wyoming’s eight local sage-grouse working groups continued to implement their conservation plan using over \$7 million from Wyoming general fund appropriations and Department funds, together with other public and private funding sources. Since 2005, about 293 individual projects have been implemented to benefit sage-grouse ranging from on-the-ground habitat improvements, applied research, monitoring, and public outreach. While recent sage-grouse population trends cannot be attributed to these projects, long-term monitoring will ultimately measure their effectiveness. Beginning in FY 18, legislative

funding of the Sage-grouse Program transferred from the state’s general fund back to the Department. A license fee increase was approved from legislature to facilitate this action.

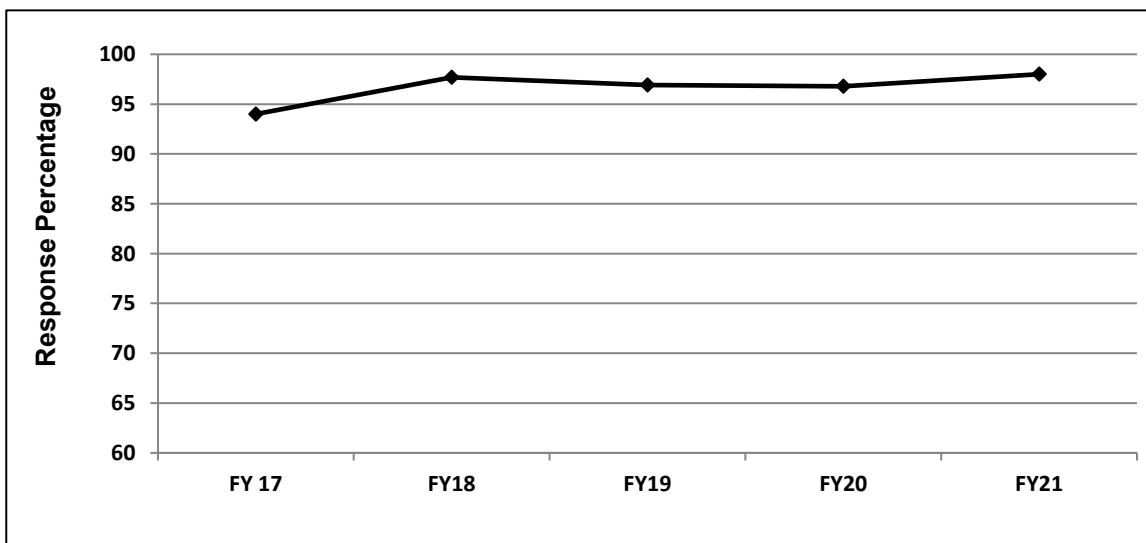
- Annual Job Completion Reports for sage-grouse were prepared. These reports provide sage-grouse population status and management updates from the eight conservation planning areas along with a statewide analysis. These documents aid in the analysis, interpretation, and distribution of sage-grouse population and management information in Wyoming.
- Department personnel worked with their North Dakota Game and Fish Department counterparts, Utah State University researchers, and others to capture and translocate 20 adult female sage-grouse and their chicks from Wyoming to North Dakota in an effort to prevent extirpation of the North Dakota population, bringing the four-year total to 212. Managers and researchers are determining not only the success of the translocation, but the effects of translocation on the source population near Rawlins, Wyoming. This study is part of a larger collaborative effort involving translocation projects in Utah and California/Nevada.

Data development agenda:

While the number of occupied leks and average males/lek provides sage-grouse population trend information, it does not provide a statistically defensible population estimate. A sage-grouse population model has been developed by the University of Montana for the WAFWA Sage-grouse Technical Committee and the Rangewide Interagency Sage-grouse Conservation Team. This model is now available for testing and will be applied as appropriate to the sage-grouse population(s) in Wyoming when complete.

Almost all of the performance of this sub-program is dependent on entities outside the supervision of this sub-program. These entities include a cadre of volunteers, Department employees outside the chain-of-command of this sub-program, other state and federal agencies and branches of government, corporations, and the weather.

Performance Measure #6: Large Carnivore Conflict Management – Conflict response rate (Personnel in this sub-program will respond to 95 percent of trophy game/human conflicts.)



Story behind the performance:

The measure of this sub-program's performance has been the response rate to the number of reported conflicts between trophy game animals and humans. While all reported conflicts were noted, not all required a response which accounts for the less than 100 percent response rate. All conflicts reported to the Large Carnivore Section are addressed by some form of action that may be limited to a discussion or notation within the conflict database. Actions involved in responding to trophy game conflicts vary by incident type and severity, but may include proactive measures, electric fencing, aversive conditioning, capture and relocation, removal, additional preventative measures, education, monitoring, investigation, or no action. During the five-year period FY 2017-2021, the large carnivore sub-program has responded to a minimum of 96.7 percent of the conflicts reported by the public to sub-program personnel. Some conflicts are reported well beyond the time when a response is appropriate and are only logged into the database, where a report is filed nonetheless. Because the sub-program spends a great deal of time responding to conflicts, the number and nature of which are difficult to predict, personnel allow for a certain amount of uncommitted time in their annual work schedules, especially during the black and grizzly bear non-denning periods. The number of conflicts managed annually constitutes a large percentage, but not all of the duties and tasks for which the sub-program is responsible. With increasing large carnivore populations (primarily grizzly bears and wolves), the Department has documented an increase in the distribution of conflicts as well as the propensity for conflicts between humans and large carnivores. This requires personnel from the section to be vigilant and on-call for the majority of the year in order to promptly respond to reports of conflicts and provide on-the-ground resolution in an efficacious manner.

What has been accomplished:

The sub-program responded to 98 percent of reported conflicts between humans and black bears, grizzly bears, gray wolves, and mountain lions during the reporting period through investigation or on-site resolution of the conflict – while other conflicts were filed as a report ($n = 7$), there was not an opportunity to respond other than reporting the incident. The sub-program investigated, managed, or mitigated all conflicts where a response was appropriate. Some conflicts are reported long after the incident, making a site response unnecessary. Accomplishments include:

- During 2020, the Department captured 26 individual grizzly bears in 27 capture events in an attempt to prevent or resolve conflicts. Of the 27 capture events, 13 captures were a result of bears killing livestock (primarily cattle), 13 were captures involving bears that obtained food rewards (pet, livestock food, garbage, fruit trees), or were frequenting developed sites or human populated areas unsuitable for grizzly bear occupancy. One event was a non-target capture and the bear was relocated a short distance as a preventative measure.
- Conducted bear spray giveaways in Cody, Jackson and Pinedale regions as a preventative safety measure to people with a valid hunting and/or fishing license.
- Assisted with an informative video for hunters produced by the Wyoming Outfitters and Guides Association to increase safety for hunters and anglers recreating in grizzly bear occupied areas.
- Collaborated with USDA-Wildlife Services to erect permanent and temporary electric fences around attractants (i.e., bee apiaries, chicken coops, gardens, fruit trees) throughout northwest Wyoming.

- Conducted training for Department employees for the safe and effective capture and immobilization of large carnivores at the Department's research facility in Sybille Canyon.

Data development agenda:

The trend in number and types of conflicts will be documented as an index to response rate. The conflict management sub-program will determine its effectiveness by calculating the percentage of reported conflict situations responded to by sub-program personnel.

Program: Support Facilities and Personnel

Division: Fiscal and Services

Mission: Provide adequate administrative support services and workspace for Cheyenne headquarters and regional office personnel in Department facilities.

Program Facts: The Support Facilities and Personnel Program is listed below with number of staff and FY 21 budget:

| <u>Sub-programs</u> | <u># FTEs*</u> | <u>2021 Annual Budget</u> |
|--|----------------|---------------------------|
| Regional Office Management | 20.3 | \$ 1,595,230 |
| Headquarters and Regional Office Buildings | <u>3.5</u> | <u>1,655,901</u> |
| TOTAL | 23.8 | \$ 3,251,131 |

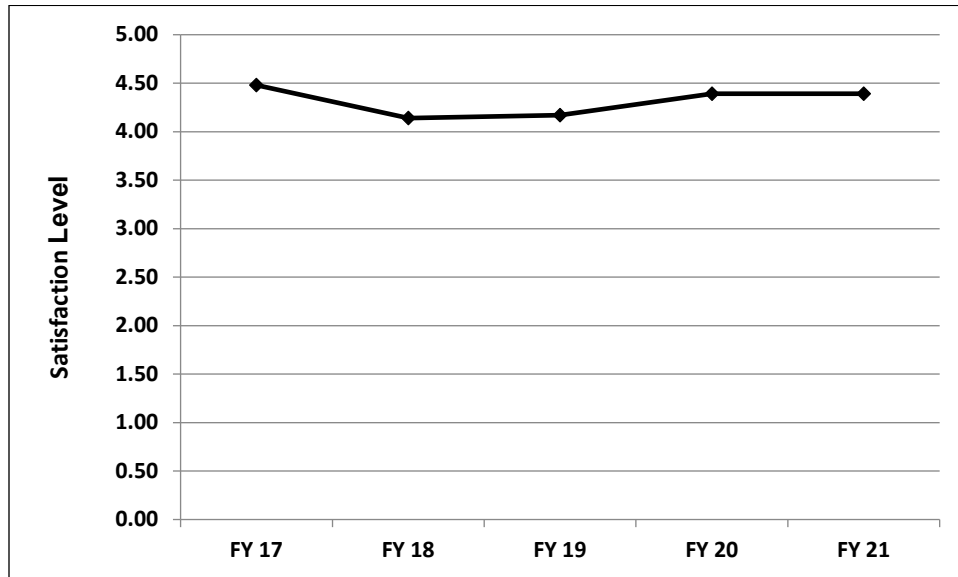
** Includes permanent, contract, and temporary positions authorized in the FY 21 budget. Any positions added during the budget cycle require Wyoming Game and Fish Commission authorization or must be funded from supplemental grants.*

This program is located in eight regional office locations statewide plus the Department's Headquarters Office in Cheyenne.

Primary Functions of the Support Facilities and Personnel Program:

- **Ensure administrative support levels at regional facilities** to provide adequate clerical, logistical, and financial services for field personnel so their primary functions can be satisfactorily completed.
- **Ensure that office environments are adequate** for Department employees by making certain routine maintenance is performed and adequate office space is provided so employees can accomplish their primary job functions.

Performance Measure #1: Employee satisfaction with level of regional office management support.

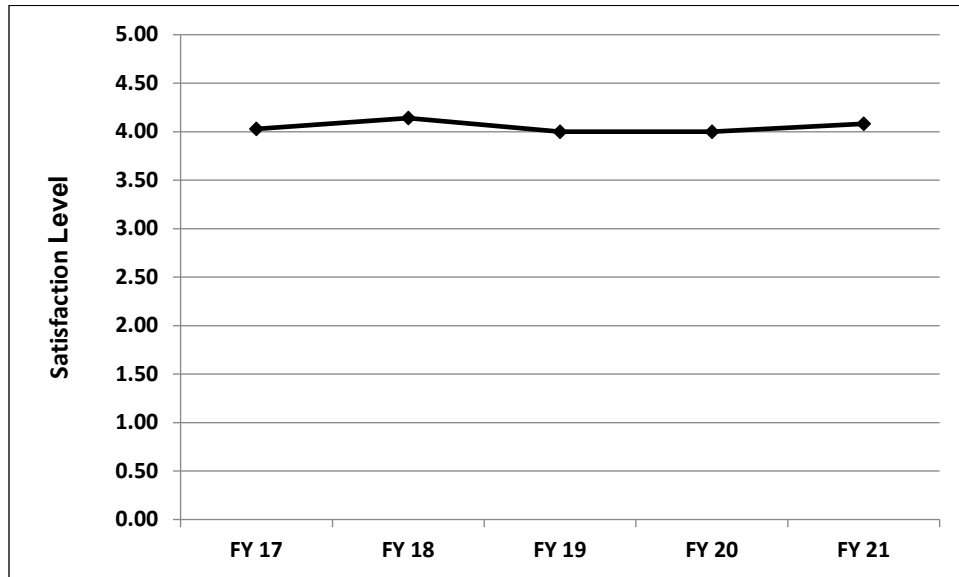


Story behind the performance:

Regional office managers continue to play an integral role in providing support to all Department employees located within each regional office. Regional team meetings are held on a regular basis to assist with the coordination of completing work products and for providing services requested from regional office managers to meet the needs within each regional office. Annually, the Internal Client Satisfaction Survey is distributed to all permanent Department personnel. The survey provides the opportunity for employees to measure the overall support they receive within each regional office from regional office managers.

Overall, in FY 21, the regional offices received a score of 4.26 on a scale of one (Very Dissatisfied) to five (Very Satisfied) based on employee satisfaction with the level of regional office management support. The survey shows an decrease of nine hundredths of one point from last year (4.35), indicating essentially the same level of satisfaction. Based on these survey results, the majority of regional office personnel are satisfied with the service levels provided by administrative personnel within their offices.

Performance Measure #2: Employee satisfaction with the workspace provided by the facility in which employees are housed.



Story behind the performance:

Regional Office facilities continue to be an integral part of employee job performance and satisfaction. In FY 21, overall satisfaction with the workspace provided received a score of 4.08 on a scale of one (Very Dissatisfied) to five (Very Satisfied). Based on these survey results, overall satisfaction for the workspace provided slightly increased between FY 20 and FY 21. The following measures were taken in FY 21 to help improve the Regional Office facilities.

In Pinedale the fifth of eight heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) units was replaced.

The Jackson Regional Office upgraded HVAC controls and evaluated future actuator replacement needs.

The Sheridan Regional Office completed dirt work, leveling to grade and graveled a new lower parking lot.

At the Green River Regional Office, the second of the three furnaces was replaced and new window blinds were installed.

The Laramie and Cody Regional Office had all capital outlay deferred until FY 22.

The Lander Regional Office installed new heating boilers and upgraded the control systems for each boiler and air handling unit.

At the Cheyenne Headquarters, outdoor lighting was converted to LED.

The Casper Regional Office replaced the linoleum in the main employee restrooms and replaced the American with Disabilities Act sidewalk on the south side of the office.

Program: Wildlife Health and Laboratory Services

Divisions: Services and Wildlife

Mission: Use advanced technology and laboratory procedures to enhance and protect the integrity of Wyoming’s fish and wildlife resources.

Program Facts: The Wildlife Health (Veterinary Services) and Laboratory Services Program is made up of two major sub-programs, listed below with the number of staff and FY 2021 budget:

| <u>Sub-programs</u> | <u># FTEs*</u> | <u>2021 Annual Budget</u> |
|---------------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| Laboratory Services | 8.9 | \$ 939,922 |
| Veterinary Services | <u>11.1</u> | <u>\$ 1,636,527</u> |
| TOTAL | 20.0 | \$ 2,576,449 |

** Includes permanent, contract, and temporary positions authorized in the FY 21 budget.*

The Laboratory Services sub-program was previously referred to as the Game and Fish Laboratory sub-program (Strategic Plan FY 04-FY 07, November 2003).

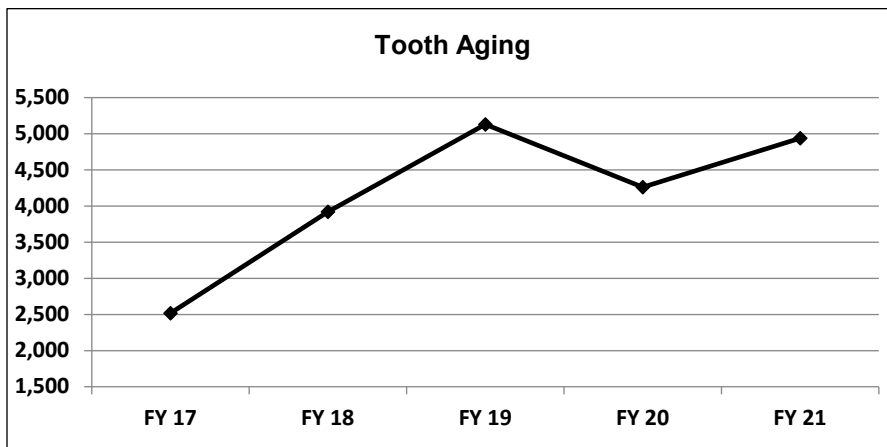
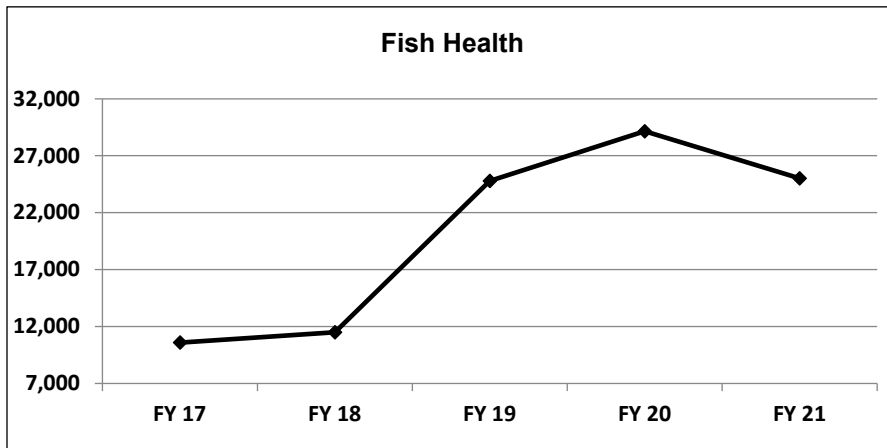
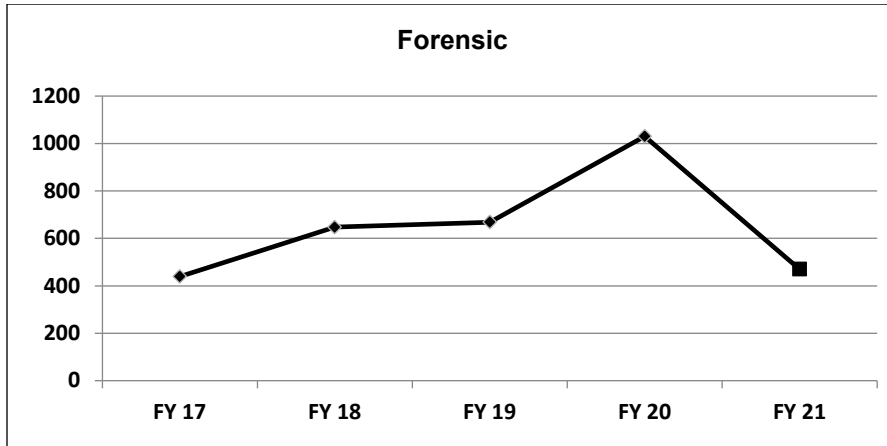
Laboratory Services is located at the Wildlife Forensic and Fish Health Laboratory. Veterinary Services spans two locations: The Wildlife Health Laboratory, located within the Wyoming State Veterinary Laboratory complex, and the Tom Thorne and Beth Williams Wildlife Research Center located in Sybille Canyon on State Highway 34 approximately 45 miles north of Laramie.

Primary Functions of the Wildlife Health and Laboratory Services Program:

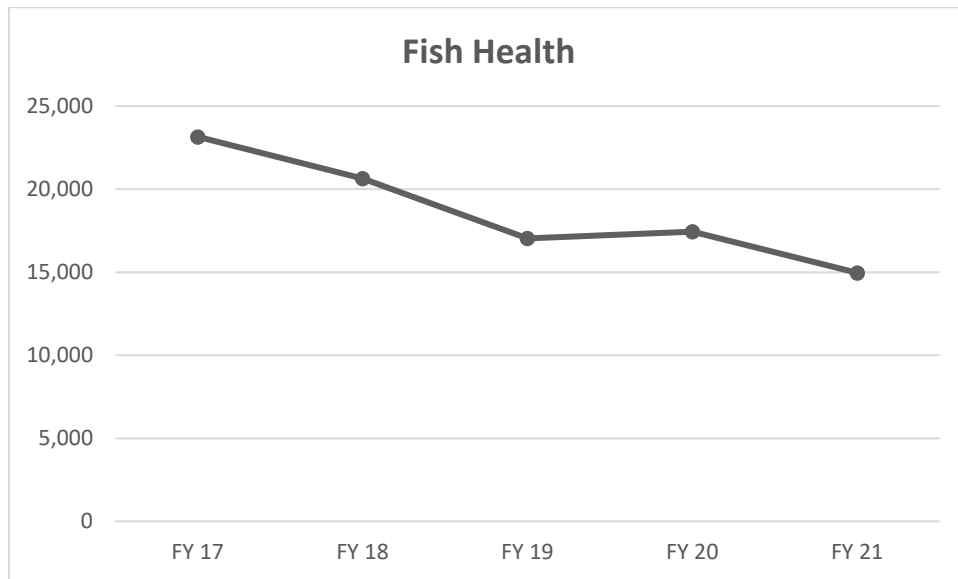
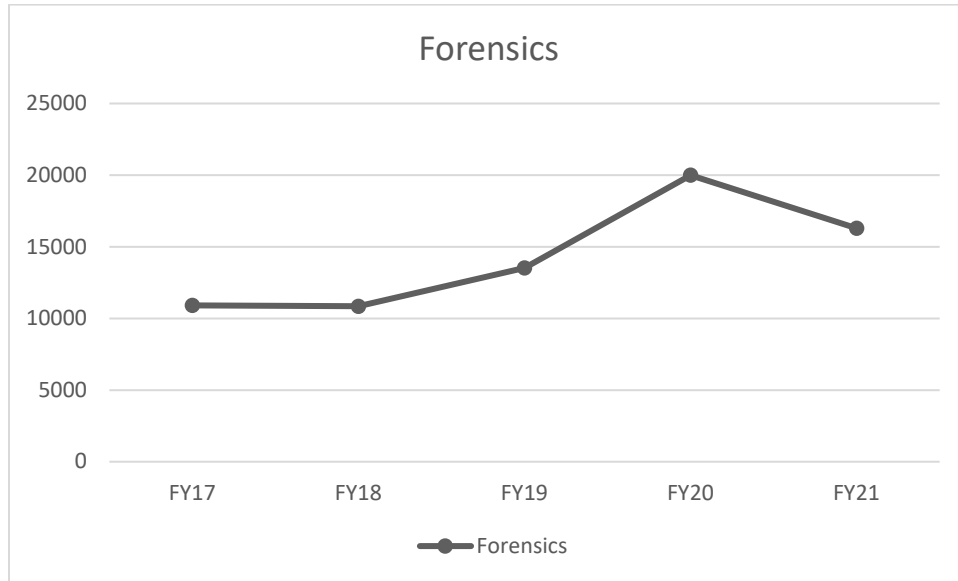
- **Enhance and protect the integrity of Wyoming’s fish and wildlife resources** by monitoring, diagnosing, and reporting diseases in wildlife and providing disease management strategies for wildlife and fish species for which the Department has statutory authority to regulate.
- **Enhance and protect the integrity of Wyoming’s fish and wildlife resources** through laboratory research, confinement, and confiscation facilities.
- **Enhance and protect the integrity of Wyoming's fish and wildlife resources** by providing timely and accurate information and essential laboratory and technological support in the areas of tooth aging, fish health, wildlife health, and wildlife forensics.

Performance Measure #1: Laboratory Productivity (Personnel in this program will maintain the capacity to receive and process at least 650 forensic samples, 9,718 fish health samples, and 5,000 tooth aging samples).

Number of Samples Received



Number of tests performed:



Story behind the performance:

The number of samples submitted to the Wyoming Game and Fish Wildlife Forensic and Fish Health Laboratory is correlated to the efficiency and effectiveness of the laboratory. As the number and types of procedures and protocols increases and as the Laboratory becomes more efficient, it is hoped that it can be of service to both a larger number and more varied personnel/sections within the Department; however, it should be noted the Laboratory has no control over the type or number of cases submitted. Aquaculture facility inspections are set by regulation and thus have remained relatively constant over the last 10 years due to the limited number of water sources in Wyoming.

Law enforcement personnel submit the majority of samples received in the Forensic Section. Samples come in the form of evidence, including, but not limited to: antlers, carcasses, hides, horns, clothing, arrows, bows, cans, or knives in suspected poaching cases. There was a 54 percent decrease in the number of items submitted in FY 21 when compared with FY 20 and an 18 percent decrease in the number of tests performed in FY 21 in comparison to FY 20. The Laboratory continues to train new game wardens and explain the laboratory's capabilities. It also continues to sign on new states and currently analyzes forensic evidence for 13 states in addition to Wyoming including Colorado, Montana, Arizona, South Dakota, New Mexico, Minnesota, Louisiana, Utah, Illinois, North Dakota, Nebraska, and Iowa. It should be noted that the Laboratory is unbiased and neutral and this is the reason that Wildlife Forensics resides in the Services Division.

The majority of fish health samples submitted to the Laboratory come from inspections conducted by fish health section personnel at state and private aquaculture facilities as well as fish from federal spawning operations. These samples most often consist of kidney, spleen, ovarian, or seminal samples, as well as fish heads. The frequency of regulatory fish health inspections is set by the Commission's Chapter 10 regulations, and the Fish Health Section of the American Fisheries Society (AFS) recommends sample sizes. The number of aquaculture facility inspections in Wyoming continues to remain relatively constant due to the limited availability of water sources for state aquaculture facilities and the restrictive commercial market for private aquaculture facilities. As part of the disease prevention program, Department regulations require all aquaculture facilities have a certificate of disease free status prior to receiving approval for public or private stocking. This disease prevention program is essential to maintaining healthy fish populations in the state.

A number of fish are also submitted for necropsies or diagnostic analysis following die-offs or when fish become sick in a culture situation. The number of diagnostic cases average around 40 cases a year.

It should be noted, that numerous tests are performed on each sample in both the Fish Health Section and the Forensic Section. The number of tests performed, is dependent upon the sample type and upon the requested analysis by the submitting officer or biologist. This flexibility in analysis contributes to the variability in the number of tests performed annually.

The number of samples submitted to the Tooth Aging Section of the Laboratory is equal to the number of test performed; therefore, the first figure comprises both statistics. The number of teeth submitted to the Laboratory slightly increased from FY 20 to FY 21. This is due to the variance in the number of teeth submitted with chronic wasting disease (CWD) samples to determine a possible age correlation with positive CWD samples. Hunters and Department biologists submit the majority of these samples. However, the Tooth Aging Section does age teeth submitted by hunters and/or outfitters with a contract and for a fee.

What has been accomplished:

The Wyoming Game and Fish Wildlife Forensic Laboratory received accreditation through the American National Standards Institute's (ANSI) National Accreditation Board (ANAB) in early 2021. Accreditation is the process in which an unaffiliated agency ensures a laboratory is meeting specific standards. The process includes an assessment of the lab's technical qualifications and

competence for conducting specific testing activities. Accreditation provides valuable oversight by ensuring that someone outside the laboratory has confirmed that the lab is following their required procedures.

Wyoming Game and Fish Wildlife Forensic Laboratory personnel continue to work with the Society for Wildlife Forensic Science (SWFS) to further the discipline of Wildlife Forensics. The Laboratory Director is serving as the Certification Director, and the Forensic Program Manager currently serves as the President.

In the fall of 2010, SWFS put together a Scientific Working Group for Wildlife Forensics (SWGWILD). During FY 13, SWGWILD completed, and SWFS approved, an international relevant consensus-approved standards and guidelines document for genetics and morphology as well as a certification scheme. The Wyoming Game and Fish Wildlife Forensic Laboratory has two of the first 11 certified scientists. Currently, 28 scientists in the world are certified with two in the Forensic Laboratory. The Forensic Program Manager is one of the assessors for the certification scheme as well as the record keeper, and the Laboratory Director is running the program as the Certification Chair of SWFS. SWGWILD has been disbanded and has been converted into two different programs; the Organization of Scientific Area Committees (OSAC) (as described in the next paragraph) which deals with consensus driven standards and guidelines for domestic wildlife forensic laboratories and scientists, and the Technical Working Group for Wildlife Forensics which is doing the same thing for the international community. The Laboratory Director continues to serve on the Technical Working Group and is the chair of Wildlife Forensics Subcommittee for OSAC.

In response to the recent study that found forensics in the United States severely lacking, the U.S. Commerce Department's National Institute of Standards and Technology and the Department of Justice created a new organization that is dedicated to identifying, developing, and adopting standards and guidelines for the nation's forensic science community, the OSAC. OSAC consists of five Scientific Area Committees (SAC) and within the Biology/DNA SAC is the Wildlife Forensic Biology Subcommittee. At this time, the Forensic Program Manager is a member of the Wildlife Forensic Subcommittee and the Quality Infrastructure Committee. The Laboratory Director is the chair of the Wildlife Forensic Subcommittee. To date, the OSAC Wildlife Forensic Subcommittee has eight standards published by the American Academy of Forensic Science (AAFS) Standards Board (ASB) (<http://www.asbstandardsboard.org/published-documents/wildlife-forensics-published-documents/>) with two of these standards on the OSAC Registry. The subcommittee continues to work on several more standards for publication.

The Fish Health Section continues to study the AFS Blue Book requirements and continuously update their standard operating protocols (SOP). The Aquatic Animal Health Inspector is working to pass her national boards to attain certification through AFS as an Aquatic Animal Health Inspector. When this is accomplished, the Department's Fish Health Laboratory will have three certified inspectors. The Fish Health Program Manager is currently serving on the Policy/Position Development Committee.

Performance Measure #2: The number of brucellosis kits mailed to hunters and the number of brucellosis samples processed to monitor brucellosis in wild elk and bison within the State of Wyoming. Personnel in this program will work to annually mail 8,000 brucellosis kits to hunters and process 800 brucellosis samples.

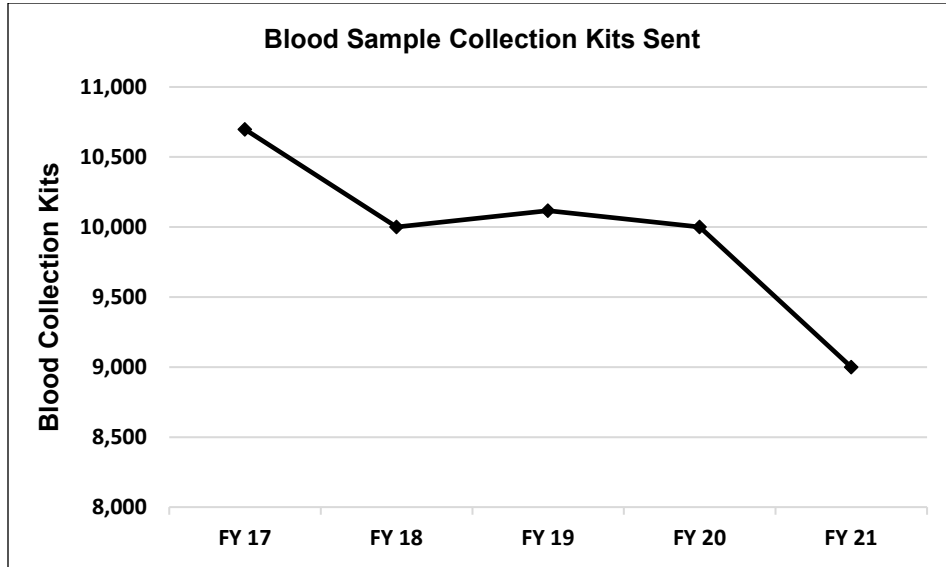


Figure 1: Number of blood sample collection kits sent to elk hunters holding licenses in target surveillance hunt areas.

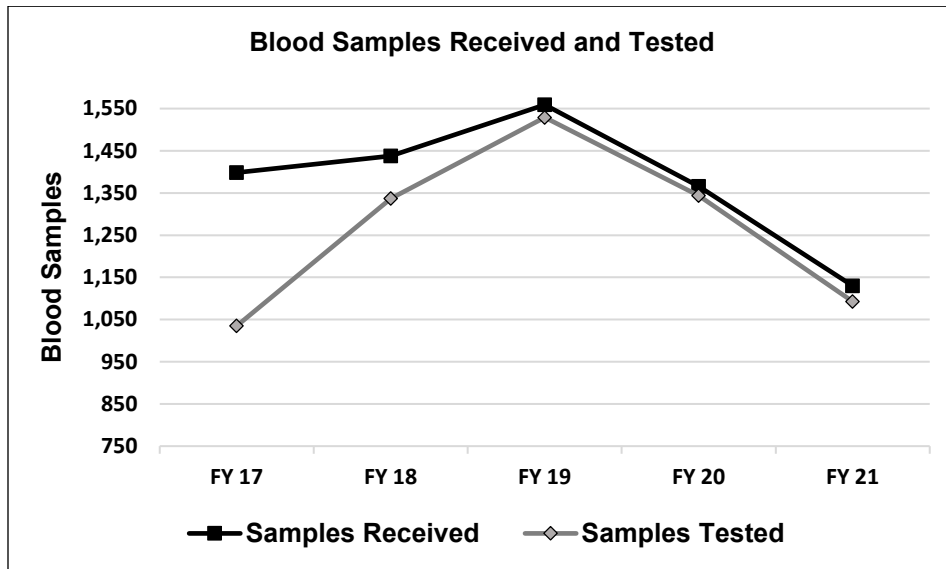


Figure 2: Number of blood samples received and processed versus the number of samples that were suitable for testing for brucellosis.

Story Behind the Performance:

Brucellosis is caused by the bacterium *Brucella abortus*. This disease occurs in the elk and bison of the Greater Yellowstone Area of Wyoming, Idaho, and Montana, as well as the northwestern

Bighorn Mountains. Brucellosis is typically transmitted by contact with an aborted fetus and causes reproductive failure in infected elk, bison, and cattle. When brucellosis spills over from wildlife to cattle, substantial economic losses for Wyoming's cattle producers can result.

Each year, the Department monitors the distribution and prevalence of brucellosis within the state's elk populations by requesting hunters to collect blood samples from their harvested animal. Surveillance is generally concentrated in elk herds of the Bighorn Mountains and herds that surround the Brucellosis Designated Surveillance Area (DSA) that do not use state or federal feedgrounds. In addition, nearly a quarter of the all hunt areas occurring outside of the DSA are surveyed each year; providing coverage of the entire brucellosis nonendemic area every four to five years. Between 7,000 and 10,000 blood collection kits are assembled and mailed to elk hunters successful in acquiring limited quota elk licenses within target surveillance areas.

The brucellosis surveillance program in non-feedground elk began in 1991, and over 19,500 blood samples have been analyzed for brucellosis since its inception. Brucellosis prevalence in the western portion of the state varies between 0-4 percent in the herd units (HUs) south of the Greater Yellowstone Area (GYA) (i.e. South Wind River, and West Green River), and between 1-24 percent in the HUs east of the GYA (i.e. Clarks Fork, Gooseberry, Cody, and Wiggins Fork). In 2012, this disease was documented outside the GYA when it was discovered in elk of the northwestern Bighorn Mountains. Seropositive elk have not been detected in any of the herd units of the Bighorn Mountains for the past four years. Nonetheless, due to the lack of effective control measures to stop the spread of this disease, the documentation of seropositive elk outside of the GYA is alarming to both livestock and wildlife managers.

What has been accomplished:

Surveillance in FY 21 continued to focus on increasing blood sample returns from hunters, as well as implementing several measures to preserve blood samples prior to shipment to the laboratory. These efforts included a chance at a raffle for valuable hunting equipment for submitting a testable blood sample, and setting up multiple sample drop off points to prevent freezing of blood samples while in the mail. Surveillance was concentrated on the Bighorn Mountains as well as those hunt areas that surround the eastern DSA border. Surveillance within the DSA shifted to the Cody HU. Statewide surveillance outside of the DSA included elk hunt areas 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 19, 21, 108, 110, 114, 125, and 130. From these areas, 192 useable samples were collected. All samples tested negative for exposure to *B. abortus* on serological tests. In the past 29 years, 6,727 samples from the non-endemic area have been analyzed. To date, this disease has not been documented outside of the western half of the state.

Over 9,000 blood collection kits were mailed or directly handed to elk hunters successful in limited quota elk license drawings in the target hunt areas (HA). The number of HAs surveyed and the number of blood collection kits to be mailed to hunters was based on the priorities of the Department and the Wyoming Livestock Board, while balancing the capacity of the Wildlife Health Laboratory (WHL). Samples were also obtained opportunistically in association with various research efforts where animals were captured and bled for disease testing.

All useable serum samples were analyzed at the WHL by federally certified laboratory scientists. Serologic assays for exposure to *B. abortus* were conducted and interpreted using current National

Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL) protocols for the fluorescence polarization assay (FPA) in microplates and tubes. Serological profiles were categorized using the United States Department of Agriculture's brucellosis eradication uniform methods and rules for Cervidae. Seroprevalence in elk within the known endemic area is based on yearling and adult females, but males and juveniles are included in surveillance data outside of the known endemic area.

Nearly all serum samples received in FY 21 were tested for exposure to *B. abortus*. This was a departure from previous years, where only the transparent serum samples were retained and tested. As serologic tests have improved and become less subjective, most hemolyzed serum samples are now suitable for testing and can contribute to surveillance data. Published research by the WHL found that titers remained detectable even at 100 percent hemolysis, but those individual titers varied depending on the degree of hemolysis. Serum samples were only discarded if FPA delta values varied more than 15 points between duplicate runs on the same assay and could not be confirmed upon retest. Samples that had less than 15-point variation, but could not be confirmed were submitted to NVSL for testing and classification.

A total of 1,130 elk blood samples were received by the WHL in FY 21, with 1,093 of those being suitable for testing. There were 444 useable samples collected from the Bighorn Mountains; 105 of those were from yearlings or adult cows harvested in hunt areas where seropositive elk had been previously documented. No seropositive elk have documented in the herd units that comprise the Bighorns over the past four years.

Brucellosis seroprevalence is monitored within individual elk hunt areas of the DSA. Over the past twenty-five years, seroprevalence has gradually increased in hunt areas 58-59 and 61-63. In the last five years, the combined seroprevalence in these areas has averaged 21.2 percent ($n=405$). Many of the subpopulations in these hunt areas have been examined to determine if the increase in seroprevalence can be attributed to increasing elk density. Research found that the rates of increase were positively related to both large and small groups at high density, as well as larger groups at low densities (Brennan et al., 2014). In addition, these authors note that disease management strategies aimed at reducing population density or group sizes are unlikely to reduce transmission of the disease. Continued monitoring of all HAs along the southeastern slope of the Absaroka Range is warranted, as well as exploration of management actions that affect the prevalence of brucellosis in these populations.

In 2018, enhanced surveillance efforts were initiated in Southern HUs bordering the DSA. These efforts continued in FY 21 in the South Wind River, Steamboat and Uinta HUs. A combined 29 samples were received from the southern HUs with no seropositive elk identified. Seroprevalence of the Southern HUs remains lower than the Northern HU

The return rate of blood samples from hunters successful in harvesting an elk has remained relatively constant over the past five years with around 1,300 hunters submitting blood samples for analysis every year. On a per hunter basis, approximately 32 percent of successful hunters that received a blood collection kit voluntarily collected and submitted a sample for surveillance.

Performance Measure #3: The number of chronic wasting disease (CWD) samples tested to actively monitor the prevalence and distribution of this disease in mule and white-tailed deer, elk,

and moose populations within the State of Wyoming. Personnel with this program will work to annually test 6,000 CWD samples.

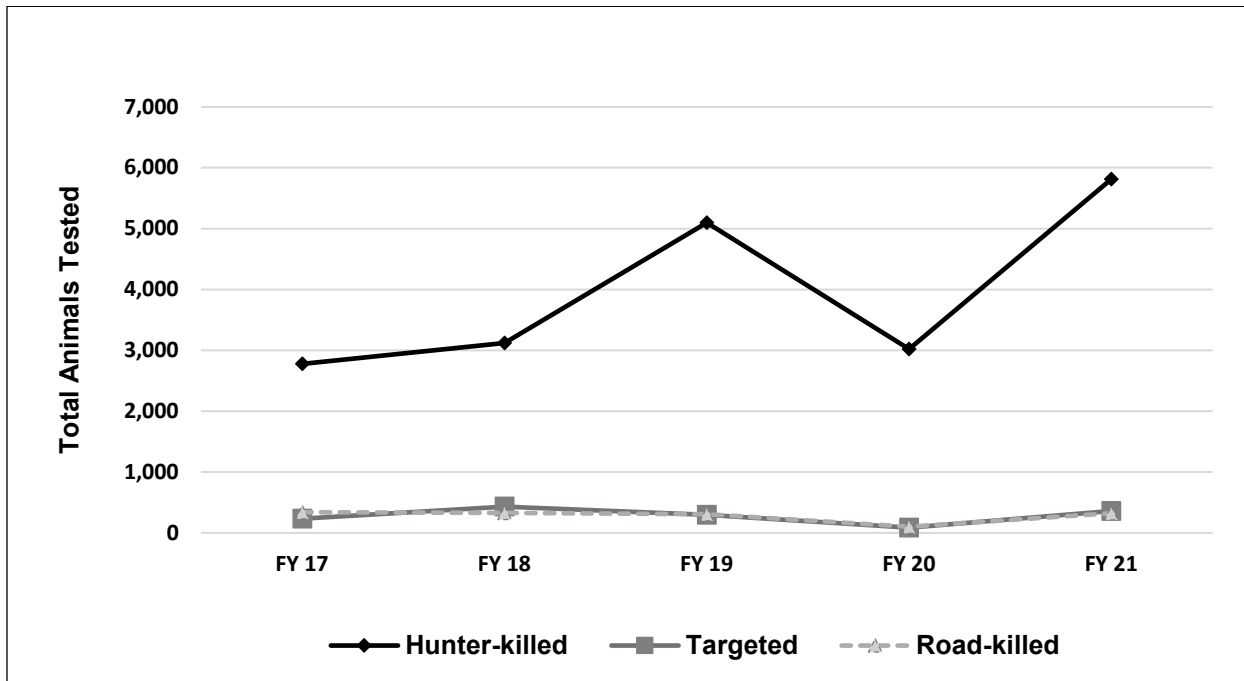


Figure 3: Total number hunter-killed, targeted, and road-killed animals (deer, elk and moose combined) tested for CWD in FY 16 through FY 21

Story Behind the Performance:

Chronic wasting disease (CWD) is a fatal disease of the central nervous system of cervids caused by abnormal proteins called prions. This disease was first identified in free-ranging populations in the southeastern corner of Wyoming in 1985 and has since slowly spread north and west; now covering the majority of the state. Recent research in Wyoming and Colorado suggests that CWD can lead to declines in some deer and elk populations. The threat of population impacts has prompted the Department to increase surveillance efforts in order to better understand statewide prevalence and distribution, Determining the factors that may influence CWD prevalence in a population may provide insight into future disease management strategies.

What Has Been Accomplished:

A total of 6,496 deer, elk, and moose samples were analyzed for CWD by the WHL, with 829 being CWD positive. This total includes samples from all surveillance categories (hunter-harvest, targeted, and road-killed) and from all age classes and CWD positive results (Table 1). Total samples received and testing outcomes are further broken down in Table 2, which outlines samples received from hunter-harvest adult (≥ 2 years old) male deer, and adult elk and moose (both sexes). Data in Table 2 are used to determine prevalence estimates used throughout this report.

The FY 21 surveillance effort identified four new CWD positive deer hunt areas (HA): HA 25 in the northern Bighorn Mountains, HA 96 southeast of Lander, HA 117 west of Meeteetse, and HA 142 west of Pinedale. Chronic wasting disease was also documented for the first time in five elk

HAs: HA 45 north of Worland, HA 67, near Dubois, HA 75 in Grand Teton National Park, HA 114 near Laramie, and HA 123 near Wright.

Table 1. FY 21 CWD surveillance totals by species and category

| Surveillance Category | Mule Deer | | White-tailed Deer | | Elk | | Moose | | Total | |
|-----------------------|--------------|------------|-------------------|------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|----------|--------------|------------|
| | Total | CWD Pos | Total | CWD Pos | Total | CWD Pos | Total | CWD Pos | Total | CWD Pos |
| Hunter-harvest | 2,426 | 350 | 1,405 | 277 | 1,942 | 43 | 40 | 0 | 5,813 | 670 |
| Targeted | 194 | 83 | 53 | 28 | 98 | 12 | 13 | 0 | 358 | 123 |
| Road-kill | 204 | 24 | 60 | 12 | 46 | 0 | 15 | 0 | 325 | 36 |
| Total | 2,824 | 457 | 1,518 | 317 | 2,086 | 55 | 68 | 0 | 6,496 | 829 |

Table 2. Distribution of hunter-harvest samples from adults and proportion of positives according to species

| Adult Male Mule Deer | | Adult Male White-Tailed Deer | | Adult Elk | | Adult Moose | | Total | |
|----------------------|---------|------------------------------|---------|-----------|---------|-------------|---------|-------|---------|
| Total | CWD Pos | Total | CWD Pos | Total | CWD Pos | Total | CWD Pos | Total | CWD Pos |
| 1,805 | 297 | 644 | 172 | 1563 | 38 | 35 | 0 | 4,047 | 507 |

Target Deer Herd Units in FY 21

The FY 21 CWD surveillance effort focused on 15 mule deer herd units and seven elk herd units within the State. Of the 21 focal herd units, nine herds completed their surveillance effort in 2020, but only three of those herd units were able to meet the surveillance goal of 200 samples, with three additional herds obtaining at least 75 percent of the goal (Table 3). Surveillance efforts will continue to be concentrated in eight herds for the next one or two years to meet the three-year goal. Three herds in the Jackson region are annually sampled at an adequate level and do not fall within the three-year limitation.

Table 3. Total CWD samples tested from hunter harvested adult mule deer bucks and adult elk. Percent of total surveillance goal in parenthesis. CWD prevalence in priority mule deer and elk herd units is shown in the far right column. Please see Figures 5 & 6 for herd unit locations.

| Herd Unit | Samples Collected 2018-2020 (percent of 200 goal) | CWD Prevalence (2018-2020) |
|--------------------|---|----------------------------|
| Mule Deer | | |
| Cheyenne River | 267 (134%) | 12% |
| North Natrona | 157 (79%) | 6% |
| Rattlesnake | 105(53%) | 14% |
| Clark's Fork | 76 (38%) | 8% |
| Greybull River* | 90 (45%) | 40% |
| Shoshone River | 216 (108%) | 31% |
| Southwest Bighorns | 187 (94%) | 18% |
| Uinta | 113 (57%) | 0% |
| Project | 126 (63%) | 63% |
| Sweetwater* | 76 (38%) | 2% |
| Goshen Rim* | 105 (53%) | 38% |

| | | |
|---------------------|------------|------|
| Sheep Mountain* | 90 (45%) | 9% |
| North Bighorn* | 94 (47%) | 8% |
| Pumpkin Buttes* | 125 (63%) | 15% |
| Upper Powder River* | 131 (66%) | 18% |
| Elk | | |
| Cody | 182 (91%) | 2% |
| West Green River* | 82 (41%) | 0% |
| Afton** | 118 (59%) | 0% |
| Fall Creek** | 87 (44%) | 0% |
| Jackson** | 466 (233%) | 0.1% |
| Pinedale* | 125 (63%) | 0% |
| North Bighorn | 206 (103%) | 3% |

The Department monitors CWD prevalence in all deer and elk herds where sufficient surveillance data exists for meaningful evaluations. Although statistically significant data is absent for many herds, several do have useful data from the 2014-2016 timeframe to allow for an equivalent comparison of prevalence to 2018-2020.

Trends in CWD prevalence varied greatly between several herd units when comparing prevalence between these two relatively short timeframes (Fig. 4). The Goshen Rim, Paintrock, Southwest Bighorns and the Upper Powder River mule deer herd units saw substantial increases in prevalence, whereas the Baggs, Bates Hole, and Upper Shoshone observed only moderate increases. Prevalence remained steady in the Laramie Mountains herd, but declined slightly in the North Bighorn, Sheep Mountain, and the South Wind River mule deer herds. Unfortunately, sample sizes were limited in 2014-17 for the Goshen Rim, Sheep Mountain, Southwest Bighorns, and the Upper Powder River herds, and trends should be interpreted with caution. It is also important to note that hunter harvest of mule deer is primarily male and therefore prevalence estimates do not account for prevalence in females. Chronic wasting disease prevalence in female mule deer is incomplete in many herd units, but has been shown to be lower than that of males in several herd units where females are harvested, as well as in road-killed surveillance data.

The prevalence of CWD in white-tailed deer and mule deer within the same hunt area varies considerably. Prevalence in white-tailed deer can meet or exceed the prevalence in mule deer in some areas, whereas prevalence may remain much lower in white-tailed deer in other areas. Although this report is centered on prevalence in mule deer bucks and adult elk, the Department continues to monitor prevalence in all white-tailed deer populations for this disease.

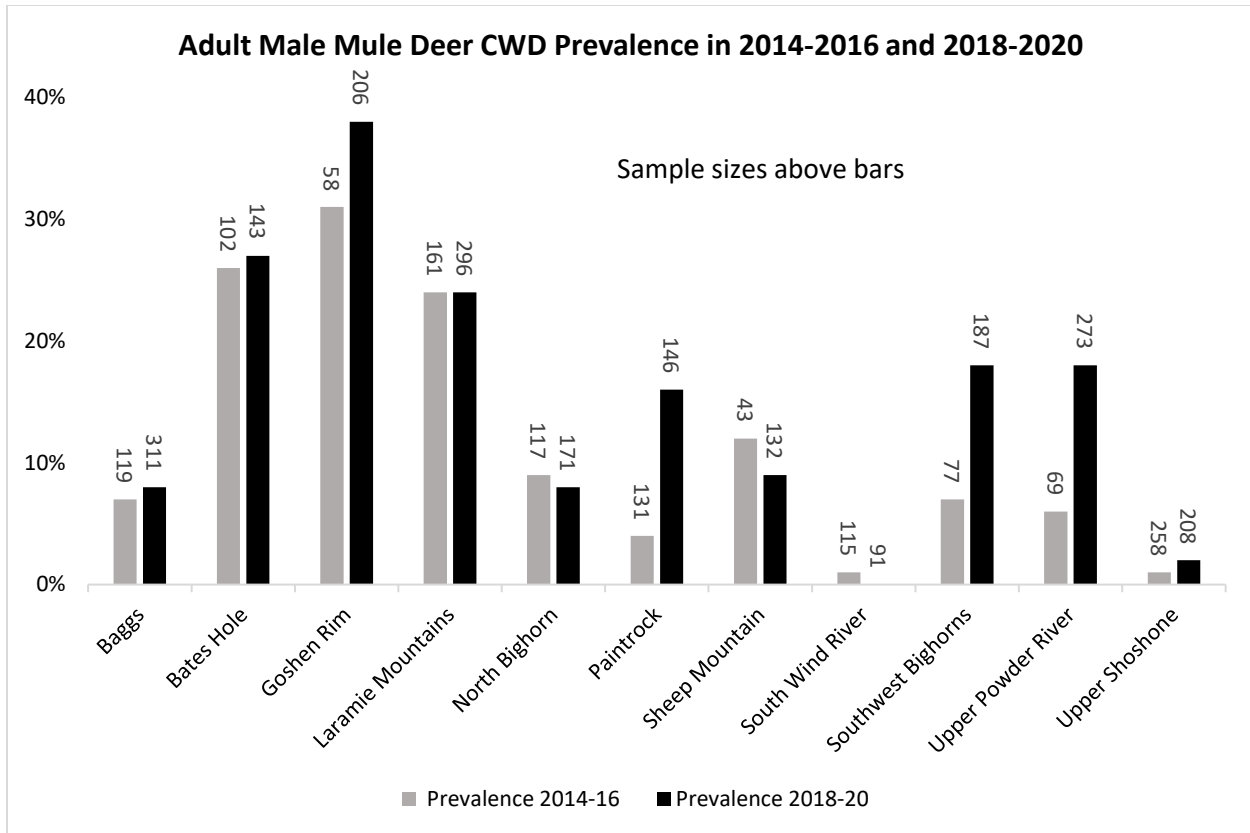


Fig 4. Herd unit CWD prevalence in 2014-2016 vs 2018-2020 in hunter harvested adult male mule deer

Historic Endemic Area Elk

Trends in CWD prevalence in elk herds within the historic endemic area were also examined. Prevalence remained steady in the Laramie Peak/Muddy Mountain elk herd at 6 percent (2014-2016 n=300, 2018-2020 (n=419). The Iron Mountain elk herd doubled from 7 percent in 2014-16 (n=105) to 14 percent in 2018-20 (n=249).

CWD in Northwestern Wyoming.

Chronic wasting disease was found in two new deer HAs as well as two elk hunt areas in northwestern Wyoming. Deer HA 117 near Meeteetse was one of the last deer hunt areas in the Bighorn Basin to become endemic for this disease, while deer HA 142 west of Pinedale, is one of just a few new HAs in the southern Bridger -Teton National Forest. Chronic wasting disease was also found for the first time in elk HA 67 near Dubois as well as elk HA 75 in Grand Teton National Park. Over the past five years, CWD has been detected in six deer and two elk that were collected in and around the elk feedground herd units. This raises considerable concern that this disease is becoming firmly established in northwestern Wyoming (Fig. 2 & 3), and how it may affect deer and elk populations in the future.

Continuation of Chronic Wasting Disease Surveillance and Monitoring

Surveillance efforts will continue for 2021 priority herds for the next one or two years until the three-year sampling goals are achieved. Four new mule deer herd units (Bates Hole, Black

Hills, Paintrock, and Sublette), one white-tailed deer herd unit (Black Hills), and three elk herd units (Medicine Lodge, Sierra Madre, and Wiggins Fork) will be prioritized.

APPENDIX A:

**INDIVIDUAL MANAGEMENT
PROGRAMS**

BIG GAME

Bighorn Sheep

Bison

Elk

Moose

Mule Deer

Pronghorn

Rocky Mountain Goat

White-tailed Deer

BIGHORN SHEEP

Calendar Year 2020

Fiscal Year 2021

| | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Population: | 6,405^a | License Revenue: | \$285,848 |
| Population Objective: | 6,790^b | All Other Agency Revenue*: | \$1,881,739 |
| Harvest: | 132 | Total Program Revenue: | \$2,167,587 |
| Hunters: | 177 | Program Costs: | \$2,956,734 |
| Success Rate | 75% | | |
| Recreation Days: | 1,489 | | |
| Days/Animal: | 11.3 | | |
| Licenses Sold: | 180 | | |

^a Statewide population estimate is calculated from 1 herd with a population model, 4 herds with trend count objectives, 4 herds with field personnel estimates for limited opportunity objectives, and 1 without a working model.

^b The statewide population objective is based only on the five herds with population and trend count objectives.

The estimated statewide population of bighorn sheep increased slightly from 2019. The largest herd accounted for most of the change. Bighorn sheep are highly susceptible to unpredictable weather events and disease outbreaks. Poor habitat conditions predispose bighorn sheep to these mortality factors and limit most populations' ability to increase.

The 2020 bighorn sheep harvest decreased from 2019, and remained below the five-year average (154). Sheep hunter totals can fluctuate each year due to several factors: licenses can be deferred for individuals from one year to the next due to medical necessity, or the hunters for an entire hunt area can be given the option to defer if fires or other natural events are deemed sufficiently severe that they affect hunter opportunity. Hunter success decreased from 2019 and dropped below the five-year average (78%). Hunter effort increased in 2020, and exceeded the five-year average (11.1 days/animal harvested).

The Department will continue to set conservative bighorn sheep hunting seasons. It will continue to monitor disease, evaluate habitat conditions, and implement habitat improvement projects; as well as conduct supplementary transplants as the need and opportunity arises.

| Five-year trends in Wyoming's bighorn sheep program. | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------|--------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|----------------|------------------|
| Harvest, recreation, and licenses issued are by calendar year. Revenue and costs are by fiscal year. | | | | | | | | |
| Calendar Year | Harvest | Rec. Days | Success | Days/Animal | Lic. Sold | Fiscal Year | Lic. Revenue | Mgmt. Costs (\$) |
| 2016 | 167 | 1,921 | 80% | 11.5 | 201 | 2017 | 183,057 | 2,198,128 |
| 2017 | 175 | 1,833 | 83% | 10.5 | 212 | 2018 | 169,841 | 2,354,524 |
| 2018 | 154 | 1,752 | 75% | 11.4 | 201 | 2019 | 411,399 | 2,348,900 |
| 2019 | 144 | 1,574 | 79% | 10.9 | 177 | 2020 | 425,157 | 2,626,916 |
| 2020 | 132 | 1,489 | 75% | 11.3 | 180 | 2021 | 285,848 | 2,956,734 |

*Includes allocated application fees, conservation stamp revenue, federal/other grants, and interest earned on Department cash balances.

BISON

Calendar Year 2020

Population: 443
Population Objective: 500
Harvest: 109
Hunters: 162
Success Rate: 67%
Recreation Days: 1,461
Days/Animal: 13.4
Licenses Sold: 173

Fiscal Year 2021

License Revenue: \$256,334
All Other Agency Revenue*: \$96,241
Total Program Revenue: \$352,575
Program Costs: \$174,497

The one wild bison population is now considered at the trend count objective. From 2000 to 2006, the population increased 89 percent. However, the population declined slightly but steadily in recent years due to the ability to increase harvests. The population varies based on harvest and other factors. The Department coordinates management of the Jackson Herd with the National Elk Refuge (NER), Grand Teton National Park, and the Bridger-Teton National Forest. These bison spend summers in and around Grand Teton National Park, and most spend winters on the NER, so it has been difficult to obtain an adequate harvest until recent improvements in hunting limitations. Hunting opportunity and the potential for a larger annual harvest increased considerably in 2007 with the inclusion of a significant portion of the NER where bison hunting is now allowed. The successful 2016 hunting season brought the population estimate from the trend count to within the range for being at objective, and the 2020 season was designed to maintain the herd at objective.

Bison harvest increased slightly from 2019, but was lower than the five year average (128). Hunter success in 2020 increased, and almost equaled the five-year average (68 percent). Hunter effort was 13.4 days/bison harvested, which was lower than in 2019, but lower than the five-year average (13.8 days/bison harvested).

| Five-year trends in Wyoming's bison program. | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------|--------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|----------------|------------------|
| Harvest, recreation, and licenses issued are by calendar year. Revenue and costs are by fiscal year. | | | | | | | | |
| Calendar Year | Harvest | Rec. Days | Success | Days/Animal | Lic. Sold | Fiscal Year | Lic. Revenue | Mgmt. Costs (\$) |
| 2016 | 274 | 823 | 98% | 3.0 | 282 | 2017 | 150,028 | 242,899 |
| 2017 | 70 | 1,183 | 63% | 16.9 | 112 | 2018 | 224,009 | 163,848 |
| 2018 | 94 | 1,902 | 51% | 20.2 | 190 | 2019 | 288,740 | 228,003 |
| 2019 | 92 | 1,427 | 63% | 15.5 | 174 | 2020 | 303,914 | 159,628 |
| 2020 | 109 | 1,461 | 67% | 13.4 | 173 | 2021 | 256,334 | 174,497 |

*Includes allocated application fees, conservation stamp revenue, federal/other grants, and interest earned on Department cash balances.

ELK

Calendar Year 2020

Fiscal Year 2021

| | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Population: | 110,200^a | License Revenue: | \$11,227,849 |
| Population objective: | 79,125^b | All Other Agency Revenue*: | \$14,548,210 |
| Harvest: | 26,491 | Total Program Revenue: | \$25,776,059 |
| Hunters: | 57,631 | Program Costs: | \$16,033,482 |
| Success Rate: | 46% | | |
| Recreation Days: | 476,924 | | |
| Days/Animal: | 18.0 | | |
| Licenses Sold: | 74,085 | | |

^a Statewide population estimate is calculated from 6 herds with population models, 22 herds based on trend counts, and field personnel estimates of 7 herds with landowner/hunter satisfaction objectives.

^b The statewide population objective is based only on the six herds with post hunt population objectives and the 22 herds with a trend count objectives.

Overall, the Department continues to apply management strategies to reduce Wyoming elk numbers. For example, since 2013, under certain circumstances, a hunter could obtain up to three elk licenses per year. However, conditions are such that elk numbers remain difficult to decrease. At present, six of 35 elk herds with complete data are below objective, the rest are at or above objective.

Harvest increased in 2020, and exceeded the five-year average harvest of 24,923. Hunter success increased to 46 percent, and was higher than the five-year average (44 percent). Hunter effort (days/animal) decreased in 2020 to 18.0 days, and was essentially the same as the five-year average (18.1 days/animal). Recreation days increased, and rose above the five-year average (450,354).

Management strategies will continue to focus on decreasing elk statewide, except in the herds at or below objective. Seasons have been extended for the antlerless and cow/calf licenses to try to increase harvest. Access continues to impede obtaining adequate harvest in many herds. The Department will continue to work to improve hunter access, and to find other ways to promote greater harvests.

Five-year trends in Wyoming's elk program.

Harvest, recreation, and licenses issued are by calendar year. Revenue and costs are by fiscal year.

| Calendar Year | Harvest | Rec. Days | Success | Days/Animal | Lic. Sold | Fiscal Year | Lic. Revenue | Mgmt. Costs (\$) |
|---------------|---------------|----------------|------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 2016 | 25,852 | 473,068 | 45% | 18.3 | 71,430 | 2017 | 9,712,784 | 16,173,348 |
| 2017 | 24,535 | 441,933 | 43% | 18.0 | 70,764 | 2018 | 10,765,394 | 18,272,292 |
| 2018 | 25,091 | 446,017 | 45% | 17.8 | 70,781 | 2019 | 11,689,099 | 15,326,643 |
| 2019 | 22,644 | 413,827 | 42% | 18.3 | 70,158 | 2020 | 13,066,657 | 15,149,069 |
| 2020 | 26,491 | 476,924 | 46% | 18.0 | 74,085 | 2021 | 11,227,849 | 16,033,482 |

*Includes allocated application fees, conservation stamp revenue, federal/other grants, and interest earned on Department cash balances.

MOOSE

Calendar Year 2020

Fiscal Year 2021

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Population: | 3,105^a | License Revenue: | \$266,061 |
| Population Objective | 3,635^b | All Other Agency Revenue*: | \$1,412,428 |
| Harvest: | 310 | Total Program Revenue | \$1,678,488 |
| Hunters: | 324 | Program Costs: | \$978,540 |
| Success Rate: | 96% | | |
| Recreation Days: | 2,820 | | |
| Days/Animal: | 9.1 | | |
| Licenses Sold: | 324 | | |

^a Statewide population estimate is calculated from 1 herd with a population model, 5 herds with trend count objectives, and 4 herds with field personnel estimates for limited opportunity objectives.

^b The statewide population objective is based only on the 1 herd with a post hunt population objective and 5 herds with trend count objectives.

Although Wyoming’s largest moose populations are in the west and northwest of the state, moose also occur in the Bighorn Mountains in north central and the Snowy Range in south central Wyoming.

Management strategies for moose in Wyoming are conservative, and as a result, success rates have traditionally been excellent for those hunters fortunate enough to draw a license. The restriction against harvesting a cow moose accompanied by a calf is still in effect. This restriction has improved calf survival, but there is little current opportunity for antlerless moose hunting. In recent years the number of licenses for moose have been reduced. However, the last two years have seen slight increases in licenses and harvest. The moose harvest in 2020 brought it above the five-year average (306). Hunter success was higher than the previous year and the average, while hunter effort decreased and was slightly higher than the average (9.0).

| Five-year trends in Wyoming's moose program. | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------|--------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|----------------|------------------|
| Harvest, recreation, and licenses issued are by calendar year. Revenue and costs are by fiscal year. | | | | | | | | |
| Calendar Year | Harvest | Rec. Days | Success | Days/Animal | Lic. Sold | Fiscal Year | Lic. Revenue | Mgmt. Costs (\$) |
| 2016 | 352 | 3,270 | 92% | 9.3 | 391 | 2017 | 157,455 | 1,236,004 |
| 2017 | 295 | 2,603 | 94% | 8.8 | 322 | 2018 | 181,935 | 1,260,490 |
| 2018 | 283 | 2,344 | 92% | 8.3 | 305 | 2019 | 349,083 | 999,121 |
| 2019 | 289 | 2,722 | 92% | 9.4 | 315 | 2020 | 386,864 | 968,140 |
| 2020 | 310 | 2,820 | 96% | 9.1 | 324 | 2021 | 266,061 | 978,540 |
| *Includes allocated application fees, conservation stamp revenue, federal/other grants, and interest earned on Department cash balances. | | | | | | | | |

MULE DEER

Calendar Year 2020

Population: 330,700^a
Population Objective: 476,600^b
Harvest: 21,370
Hunters: 47,637
Success Rate: 45%
Recreation Days: 245,992
Days/Animal: 11.5
Licenses Sold: 73,802

Fiscal Year 2021

License Revenue: \$8,994,487
All Other Agency Revenue*: \$12,334,528
Total Program Revenue: \$21,329,016
Program Costs: \$11,082,998

^a Statewide population estimate is calculated from 34 herds with population models and field personnel estimates of 3 herds with landowner/hunter satisfaction objectives.

^b The statewide population objective is based only on the 34 herds with post hunt population objectives.

Wyoming's estimated mule deer population declined again due to a combination of poor habitat conditions, severe winter weather, and persistent drought. These, and other factors, have contributed to lower deer numbers for a number of years. As a result, the Department worked with the public and developed a statewide Mule Deer Initiative (MDI). Each region now has at least one herd where the MDI is being implemented. Plans have been created with public input to try to reverse the downward population trend for mule deer through a variety of management actions and habitat projects.

Harvest decreased for the fourth year in a row and remained below the five-year average of 26,012 mule deer. Hunter success dropped to 45 percent, and remained below the five-year average of 52 percent. Hunter effort increased in 2020, and remained above the five-year average (9.5 days/animal). The Department has been working to address access and habitat issues through its Access Yes program and through habitat improvement projects. Deer migration and wildlife crossings are now better understood than in previous years, and it has become another important aspect of deer management for certain herds.

| Five-year trends in Wyoming's mule deer program. | | | | | | | | |
|--|---------------|----------------|------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Harvest, recreation, and licenses issued are by calendar year. Revenue and costs are by fiscal year. | | | | | | | | |
| Calendar Year | Harvest | Rec. Days | Success | Days/Animal | Lic. Sold | Fiscal Year | Lic. Revenue | Mgmt. Costs (\$) |
| 2016 | 31,237 | 260,785 | 59% | 8.3 | 72,631 | 2017 | 8,604,748 | 10,497,053 |
| 2017 | 27,134 | 235,366 | 54% | 8.7 | 69,805 | 2018 | 7,984,734 | 13,451,146 |
| 2018 | 26,141 | 239,033 | 54% | 9.1 | 71,485 | 2019 | 10,017,879 | 10,935,706 |
| 2019 | 24,178 | 236,441 | 50% | 9.8 | 70,582 | 2020 | 10,272,048 | 11,713,504 |
| 2020 | 21,370 | 245,992 | 45% | 11.5 | 73,802 | 2021 | 8,994,487 | 11,082,998 |

*Includes allocated application fees, conservation stamp revenue, federal/other grants, and interest earned on Department cash balances.

PRONGHORN

Calendar Year 2020

Population: 388,500^a
Population Objective: 429,600^b
Harvest: 40,410
Hunters: 45,904
Success Rate: 88%
Recreation Days: 159,689
Days/Animal: 4.0
Licenses Sold: 58,380

Fiscal Year 2021

License Revenue: \$6,379,847
All Other Agency Revenue*: \$8,933,724
Total Program Revenue: \$15,313,571
Program Costs: \$6,323,010

^aStatewide population estimate is calculated from 33 herds with population models, 1 herd with a trend count objective, and 6 herds with field personnel estimates of landowner/hunter satisfaction objectives.

^bThe statewide population objective is based only on the 33 herds with a post-hunt population objective and 1 herd with a trend count objective.

In 2020, Wyoming's total estimated statewide pronghorn population decreased to 388,500 animals compared to the objective of 429,600. Severe winter weather impacted some herds, while drought conditions affected many during crucial times of the year. Many of the herds above objective have hunter access limitations, and the Department is unable to sell sufficient licenses to obtain harvests that will control the species in these areas. Wide swings in winter and spring precipitation make it difficult to predict the condition of seasonal ranges, herd survival, and productivity. Poor range quality and extensive loss of habitat from escalating mineral development are of great concern to managers. The Department continues to monitor habitat conditions, recommend improvements where necessary, seek mitigation of habitat lost to development, advocate for unimpeded migration routes, and promote hunting seasons that move the population toward objective.

The Department made adjustments to license quotas in 2020; however, access continues to be the primary impediment to attaining adequate harvest for private land herds. The Department continues to work to improve hunter access through efforts such as the Access Yes Program. The 2020 harvest of 40,410 animals was a large decrease from 2019, and was lower than the five-year average (42,974). Hunter effort increased to 4.0 days per animal harvested and exceeded the five-year average, and the success rate was lower than the five-year average (90 percent). The number of recreation days spent pursuing pronghorn decreased but remained above the average (153,187).

Five-year trends in Wyoming's pronghorn program.

Harvest, recreation, and licenses issued are by calendar year. Revenue and costs are by fiscal year.

| Calendar Year | Harvest | Rec. Days | Success | Days/Animal | Lic. Sold | Fiscal Year | Lic. Revenue | Mgmt. Costs (\$) |
|---------------|---------------|----------------|------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|------------------|------------------|
| 2016 | 39,027 | 138,378 | 93% | 3.5 | 52,336 | 2017 | 5,004,627 | 3,860,632 |
| 2017 | 42,294 | 149,211 | 94% | 3.5 | 56,481 | 2018 | 5,460,577 | 4,030,867 |
| 2018 | 46,676 | 149,948 | 86% | 3.2 | 61,888 | 2019 | 7,471,763 | 4,382,953 |
| 2019 | 46,464 | 168,708 | 91% | 3.6 | 64,979 | 2020 | 7,814,777 | 5,912,113 |
| 2020 | 40,410 | 159,689 | 88% | 4.0 | 58,380 | 2021 | 6,379,847 | 6,323,010 |

*Includes allocated application fees, conservation stamp revenue, federal/other grants, and interest earned on Department cash balances.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN GOAT

Calendar Year 2020

Fiscal Year 2021

| | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Population: | 360^a | License Revenue: | \$102,138 |
| Population Objective: | 295^b | All Other Agency Revenue*: | \$59,014 |
| Harvest: | 56 | Total Program Revenue: | \$161,152 |
| Hunters: | 101 | Program Costs: | \$169,584 |
| Success Rate: | 55% | | |
| Recreation Days: | 690 | | |
| Days/Animal: | 12.3 | | |
| Licenses Sold: | 111 | | |

^a Statewide population estimate is calculated from two herds with trend count estimates.

^b The statewide population objective is based on the same two herds.

Mountain goats inhabit some of the most rugged and remote areas in northwest Wyoming. Successful transplant operations in Montana and Idaho years ago resulted in mountain goat populations that extend into Wyoming. The Department manages these populations as the Beartooth (northwest of Cody) and Palisades (southwest of Jackson) Herds. Both herds continue to find new areas that are favorable to inhabit.

Prior to 1999, only the Beartooth Herd was hunted. The Palisades population increased to a point where it has been able to sustain a limited annual harvest since that year. The Department will continue to closely monitor both populations, and will continue to set a hunting season these small populations can support. License quotas are conservative, and hunters continue to enjoy high success rates for these once-in-a-lifetime licenses.

The 2019 mountain goat season saw a change in management strategies for both herds. Two new hunt areas were created where goat populations will be reduced or eliminated to help struggling bighorn sheep populations. More licenses are issued in these areas, resulting in large increases in harvest, recreation days, and hunter effort, but a large decrease in the success rate. The 2020 season was similar but with lower success and higher effort.

| Five-year trends in Wyoming's rocky mountain goat program. | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------|------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|----------------------|------------------|
| Harvest, recreation, and licenses issued are by calendar year. Revenue and costs are by fiscal year. | | | | | | | | |
| Calendar Year | Harvest | Rec. Days | Success | Days/Animal | Lic. Sold | Fiscal Year | License Revenue (\$) | Mgmt. Costs (\$) |
| 2016 | 37 | 156 | 97% | 4.2 | 40 | 2017 | 40,069 | 100,905 |
| 2017 | 39 | 276 | 93% | 7.1 | 43 | 2018 | 29,120 | 216,732 |
| 2018 | 37 | 245 | 90% | 6.6 | 41 | 2019 | 158,290 | 228,526 |
| 2019 | 60 | 557 | 64% | 9.3 | 103 | 2020 | 172,362 | 95,352 |
| 2020 | 56 | 690 | 55% | 12.3 | 111 | 2021 | 102,138 | 169,584 |

*Includes allocated application fees, conservation stamp revenue, federal/other grants, and interest earned on Department cash balances.

WHITE-TAILED DEER

Calendar Year 2020

Population: 92,200^a
Population Objective: 55,000^b
Harvest: 19,904
Hunters: 30,512
Success Rate: 65%
Recreation Days: 147,946
Days/Animal: 7.4
Licenses Sold: 11,401

Fiscal Year 2021

License Revenue: \$486,954
All Other Agency Revenue*: \$13,210
Total Program Revenue: \$500,164
Program Costs: \$1,237,786

^a Statewide population estimate is calculated from 1 herd with a population model, 2 herds with field personnel estimates of landowner/hunter satisfaction objectives, and 2 herds with incomplete data.

^b The statewide population objective is based only on the one herd with a post hunt population objective.

It is difficult to collect data on Wyoming's white-tailed deer populations because of the habitats in which the species lives and its secretive behavior. As a result, determining population characteristics and trends is generally not possible with current budget and personnel levels. Most white-tailed deer inhabit private lands in eastern Wyoming and the riparian areas of major watercourses in other parts of the state. In both cases, access for hunting has become difficult to obtain and expensive. Management throughout the state is primarily dictated by local perceptions of deer numbers and by landowner tolerances. For some in Wyoming, tolerance for white-tailed deer is lower than for mule deer due to crop damage issues and the perception that they displace mule deer. However, in some localized areas, these attitudes are changing.

The 2020 white-tailed deer hunting season had increases in harvest, recreation days, success and effort from the previous year, and all parameters were above the five year averages.

| Five-year trends in Wyoming's white-tailed deer program. | | | | | | | | |
|--|---------------|----------------|------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|---------------------------|------------------|
| Harvest, recreation, and licenses issued are by calendar year. Revenue and costs are by fiscal year. | | | | | | | | |
| Calendar Year | Harvest | Rec. Days | Success | Days/Animal | Lic. Sold | Fiscal Year | Lic. Revenue ¹ | Mgmt. Costs (\$) |
| 2016 | 17,614 | 123,418 | 63% | 7.0 | 10,634 | 2017 | 410,863 | 945,080 |
| 2017 | 17,956 | 122,032 | 63% | 6.8 | 11,622 | 2018 | 414,328 | 1,408,008 |
| 2018 | 19,138 | 126,026 | 67% | 6.6 | 11,177 | 2019 | 531,193 | 1,134,244 |
| 2019 | 17,983 | 127,911 | 63% | 7.1 | 12,171 | 2020 | 589,694 | 1,107,778 |
| 2020 | 19,904 | 147,946 | 65% | 7.4 | 11,401 | 2021 | 486,954 | 1,237,786 |

¹ Includes white-tailed deer only.
 *Includes allocated application fees, conservation stamp revenue, federal/other grants, and interest earned on Department cash balances.

TROPHY GAME

Black Bear
Grizzly Bear
Mountain Lion
Gray Wolf

BLACK BEAR

Calendar Year 2020

Fiscal Year 2021

| | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Population: | Not available | License Revenue: | \$379,837 |
| Population Objective: | Not applicable | All Other Agency Revenue*: | \$454,836 |
| Harvest: | 537 | Total Program Revenue: | \$834,673 |
| Hunters: | 3,888 | Program Costs: | \$1,174,717 |
| Success Rate: | 13.8% | | |
| Recreation Days | 31,938 | | |
| Days/Animal: | 59.5 | | |
| Licenses Sold: | 5,375 | | |

Black bears occupy all major mountain ranges of the state with some expansion occurring in areas of the southwest and northeast. Most black bears occur in northwestern Wyoming, the Bighorn Mountains, and south-central/southeast Wyoming.

Black bears are hunted in Wyoming during the spring and fall. Successful bear hunters are required to report harvested bears to Department personnel within a specified time period.

The 2020 harvest was the highest black bear harvest on record and above the five-year average (472.6). Harvest statistics demonstrate that 2020 was an excellent year for hunting black bear, with an increasing interest in black bear hunting by resident and nonresident hunters. The 2020 hunter success rate was higher than the previous five-year period, and the days per animal effort index is in line with the five-year average. Over the past five years the number of licenses sold increased. Beginning in 2013, the Department initiated monitoring efforts to better understand local population demographics and black bear densities in a systematic fashion throughout the State. Efforts were initiated in the Greys River of western Wyoming, and have expanded to include work in the Sierra Madres of southern Wyoming, the northern Bighorn Mountains of north-central Wyoming, and work in this most recent year in the Laramie Range between both Casper and Laramie regions. These monitoring efforts will allow further evaluation of harvest trends, management strategies, and population demographics of black bears and provide further transparency to black bear densities and harvest management of the species in Wyoming.

| Five-year trends in Wyoming's black bear program. | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|----------------|------------------|
| Harvest, recreation, and licenses issued are by calendar year. Revenue and costs are by fiscal year. | | | | | | | | |
| Calendar Year | Harvest | Rec. Days | Success | Days/Animal | Lic. Sold | Fiscal Year | Lic. Revenue | Mgmt. Costs (\$) |
| 2016 | 451 | 22,691 | 13% | 50.3 | 4,605 | 2017 | 350,465 | 856,184 |
| 2017 | 467 | 25,960 | 11.4% | 55.6 | 4,646 | 2018 | 367,846 | 1,032,056 |
| 2018 | 457 | 22,948 | 12.6% | 50.2 | 4,730 | 2019 | 379,032 | 855,683 |
| 2019 | 451 | 24,548 | 14.1% | 54.4 | 4,539 | 2020 | 414,371 | 1,451,988 |
| 2020 | 537 | 31,938 | 13.8% | 59.5 | 5,375 | 2021 | 379,837 | 1,174,717 |

*Includes allocated application fees, conservation stamp revenue, federal/other grants, and interest earned on Department cash balances.

GRIZZLY BEAR

OBJECTIVES:

To meet parameters identified in the Wyoming Grizzly Bear Management Plan and 2016 Conservation Strategy for the Grizzly Bear in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (consisting of three separate Recovery Criteria).

To maintain a recovered grizzly bear population (in those portions of the Demographic Monitoring Area) and address conflicts with humans and grizzly bears in a professional and timely fashion.

Attempt to obtain the informed consent of all potentially affected interests in structuring the population objectives, management strategies, and regulations.

The distribution of grizzly bears encompasses much of northwest Wyoming including Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks and the Caribou-Targhee, Bridger-Teton, and Shoshone National Forests. The Department has documented a greater than 50 percent increase in distribution of grizzly bears since 2004. Grizzlies in Wyoming were removed from ‘threatened’ status under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) in 2007, and were managed according to state management plans developed by Wyoming, Montana, and Idaho and approved by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. A petition to relist this population was filed in 2007. This population was relisted as “threatened” in September 2009. As a result, grizzly bear management returned to the federal government under authority of the ESA. The Yellowstone Ecosystem Sub-committee of the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee continued to act as the management lead for this population until recently and the Department continued to participate in all aspects of management for grizzly bears, including monitoring, conflict resolution, and damage compensation. In 2016, the grizzly bear population was conservatively estimated at 695 individuals in the ecosystem. On June 22, 2017, the Department of Interior announced that grizzly bears in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (GYE) were recovered and therefore no longer listed as a threatened population.

The Department regained management authority of grizzly bears in 2017. During fall 2017, the Department facilitated public discussions across the state to gather insight and to solicit feedback as to the public’s views toward future grizzly bear management in Wyoming. These ideas and suggestions, including support for a hunting season, were taken to the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission in January 2018, where the Commission directed the Department to develop grizzly bear hunting regulations for fall 2018. Draft hunting regulations (Chapter 68) were developed and again taken throughout the state at public information meetings before final draft regulations were taken to the Commission in May 2018. Grizzly bear hunting regulations were approved by the Commission and the Department conducted draws for grizzly bear hunting licenses that were completed toward the end of FY 18. Prior to initiation of hunting on September 1, 2018, a federal judge placed a temporary restraining order on hunting prior to announcing his final decision on September 24, 2018 which rendered GYE grizzly bears back under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, negating the 2018 grizzly bear hunt. Despite being relisted, the GYE grizzly bear population met and/or exceeded all recovery criteria as set forth in aforementioned plans and strategies and remains a fully recovered population. The Department continues to conduct the majority of on the ground monitoring and conflict resolution for grizzly bears in the GYE. The grizzly bear program does not generate revenue from license sales. However, the program receives grant funding to assist in the management of the species, usually approximately 10 percent of annual monies spent to manage grizzly bears in Wyoming. The Large Carnivore Section provided an Annual Job Completion Report for grizzly bear management activities and annually contributes to the report provided by the Interagency Grizzly Bear Study Team.

Five-year trends in Wyoming's grizzly bear program.

| Fiscal Year | Management Costs (\$) |
|-------------|-----------------------|
| 2017 | 1,713,088 |
| 2018 | 3,007,192 |
| 2019 | 1,974,903 |
| 2020 | 1,609,094 |
| 2021 | 1,660,400 |

MOUNTAIN LION

Calendar Year 2020

Fiscal Year 2021

| | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Population: | Not available | License Revenue: | \$186,099 |
| Population Objective: | Not applicable | All Other Agency Revenue*: | \$239,280 |
| Harvest: | 388 | Total Program Revenue: | \$425,379 |
| Hunters: | 1,022 | Program Costs: | \$933,889 |
| Success Rate: | % 38.3% | | |
| Recreation Days: | 16,340 | | |
| Days/Animal: | 41.8 | | |
| Licenses Sold: | 2,857 | | |

Mountain lions are distributed throughout all of Wyoming, and have been managed as a trophy game species since 1974. Mountain lions are obligate carnivores that are very adaptable, and are found throughout the state of Wyoming. Preferable mountain lion habitat is associated with rugged terrain with stalking cover and available ungulate prey.

Mountain lions are managed through annual mortality limits on three-year management cycles. When a hunt area mortality limit is reached, the area is closed for the remainder of the season. The Department’s mountain lion management plan, approved by the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission in 2007, established a “sink/stable/source” strategy that provides guidance for setting annual mortality limits. Mountain lion hunters must report harvest to Department personnel within a specified time period.

The 2020-2021 mountain lion harvest (388 animals) was the highest harvest to date for the State of Wyoming. Mountain lion harvest has increased overall throughout Wyoming, due to increasing mortality limits, increased hunter interest, increased densities of mountain lions and public support to reduce mountain lion populations. In the fall of 2019, the Department initiated monitoring efforts for mountain lions in the Bates Holes area of Casper, to evaluate spatial dynamics of mountain lions and deer (primarily mule deer) in relation to Chronic Wasting Disease. These efforts will elucidate the relationships between predation and disease impacts on mule deer populations, as well as addressing key questions from the public regarding predatory prey interactions. Large Carnivore Section personnel recently published work conducted in Wyoming that provides methodologies to evaluate spatial data in order to quantify predation from mountain lions in different habitats and consistent approaches for researchers and managers to incorporate into future study designs.

| Five-year trends in Wyoming's mountain lion program. | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|----------------|------------------|
| Harvest, recreation, and licenses issued are by calendar year. Revenue and costs are by fiscal year. | | | | | | | | |
| Calendar Year | Harvest | Rec. Days | Success | Days/Animal | Lic. Sold | Fiscal Year | Lic. Revenue | Mgmt. Costs (\$) |
| 2016 | 255 | 6,893 | 25.2% | 26.9 | 2,477 | 2017 | 162,737 | 670,527 |
| 2017 | 282 | 12,177 | 21.9% | 43.2 | 2,499 | 2018 | 173,585 | 785,246 |
| 2018 | 330 | 14,179 | 24.2% | 43.0 | 2,736 | 2019 | 198,028 | 787,461 |
| 2019 | 345 | 16,218 | 19.5% | 47.0 | 2,764 | 2020 | 188,761 | 892,317 |
| 2020 | 388 | 16,340 | 38.3% | 41.8 | 2,857 | 2021 | 186,099 | 933,889 |

*Includes allocated application fees, conservation stamp revenue, federal/other grants, and interest earned on Department cash balances.

GRAY WOLF

Calendar Year 2020

Population: 147¹
Population Objective: 160 (in WTGMA)
Harvest: 31 (in WTGMA)
Hunters: 2,077
Success Rate: 2.6%
Recreation Days: 15,566
Days/Animal: 471.7
Licenses Sold: 2,223

Fiscal Year 2021

License Revenue: \$65,906
All Other Agency Revenue*: \$501,086
Total Program Revenue: \$566,992
Program Costs: \$1,286,620

At the end of 2020, the gray wolf (wolf) population in Wyoming remained above minimum delisting criteria, making 2020 the 19th consecutive year Wyoming has exceeded the numerical, distributional, and temporal delisting criteria established by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. At least 327 wolves in ≥44 packs (including ≥22 breeding pairs) inhabited Wyoming statewide on December 31, 2020. Of the total, there were ≥147 wolves and ≥24 packs (including ≥11 breeding pairs) in the Wolf Trophy Game Management Area (WTGMA), ≥123 wolves and ≥9 packs (including ≥7 breeding pairs) in Yellowstone National Park, ≥21 wolves and ≥3 packs (including ≥2 breeding pairs) in the Wind River Reservation, and ≥36 wolves and ≥8 packs (including ≥2 breeding pairs) resided in areas where wolves are designated primarily as predatory animals in Wyoming. A total of 119 wolf mortalities were documented statewide in Wyoming in 2020: 71 in the WTGMA, 43 in areas where wolves are primarily designated as predatory animals, 4 in Yellowstone National Park, and 1 in the Wind River Reservation. Causes of mortality included: human-caused = 104 (87% of mortalities); natural = 11 (9 percent); and unknown = 4 (4 percent). Forty-three wolves were captured and radio-collared for monitoring and research in 2020.

In 2020, the Wyoming Game and Fish Department implemented a wolf hunting season with the biological objective to stabilize the wolf population at approximately 160 wolves in the WTGMA. A mortality limit of 51 wolves was divided between 13 hunt areas in the WTGMA and 1 hunt area in the Seasonal WTGMA (hunt area 12). Wolf hunting seasons were open from September 15, 2020 through December 31, 2020 with the exception of hunt area 12 (opened on October 15, 2020) and hunt area 13 (closed March 31, 2021). The hunting season for each hunt area closed at the season end date or when the mortality limit in the hunt area was met, whichever occurred first. A total of 31 wolves were killed during the wolf hunting season in 2020.

¹175 wolves in Wyoming outside Yellowstone National Park and the Wind River Reservation within the WTGMA.

| Five-year trends in Wyoming's gray wolf program. | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|------------------|
| Harvest, recreation, and licenses issued are by calendar year. Revenue and costs are by fiscal year. | | | | | | | | |
| Calendar Year | Harvest | Rec. Days | Success | Days/Animal | Lic. Sold | Fiscal Year | Lic. Revenue | Mgmt. Costs (\$) |
| 2016 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | 2017 | N/A | 1,196,464 |
| 2017 | 44*** | 13,321 | 2.2% | 300.7 | 2,536 | 2018 | 97,254 | 1,747,459 |
| 2018 | 43*** | 18,438 | 2.6% | 428.8 | 2,657 | 2019 | 116,388 | 1,280,874 |
| 2019 | 26*** | 11,818 | 2.6% | 454.5 | 1,886 | 2020 | 83,141 | 1,230,040 |
| 2020 | 31*** | 15,566 | 2.6% | 471.7 | 2,223 | 2021 | 65,906 | 1,286,620 |

*Includes allocated application fees, conservation stamp revenue, federal/other grants, and interest earned on Department cash balances.
 **Licenses sold prior to wolves being relisted and the license holders that did not request a refund for their license.
 ***Harvest reported is specific to the Wolf Trophy Game Management Area.

SMALL GAME

Cottontail
Snowshoe Hare
Squirrel

COTTONTAIL RABBIT

Calendar Year 2020

Fiscal Year 2021

| | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------|----------------------------------|-------|
| Population: | Not available | License Revenue: | \$ ** |
| Population Objective: | Not available | All Other Agency Revenue: | \$ ** |
| Harvest: | 9,554 | Total Program Revenue: | \$ ** |
| Hunters: | 3,054 | Program Costs: | \$ ** |
| Animals/Hunter: | 3.1 | | |
| Recreation Days: | 15,591 | | |
| Days/Animal: | 1.6 | | |
| Licenses Sold: | ** | | |

The cottontail rabbit is the most popular small game animal in Wyoming. It is found in a variety of habitats throughout the state including shrub communities, farmlands, and urban and suburban areas in low to mid elevations. The cottontail population cannot be accurately estimated. Hunter success and harvest are directly associated with the cyclic nature of this species' abundance.

The decrease in small game harvest numbers in 2017 was at least partially due to changes in how Pioneer and Lifetime licensed hunter participation was calculated.¹ The 2020 season continued the downward trend and was well below the five-year average for harvest (23,841 animals). Hunter numbers decreased from 2019, and was below the five-year average. Recreation days also decreased and remained below the average of 17,582 days. The number of animals harvested per hunter decreased from 2019, and dropped further below the five-year average (4.8 animals/hunter). The number of days/animal increased in 2020, and remained higher than the five-year estimate.

The Department will continue to maintain the current hunting season structure and bag limits since hunting has little effect on cottontail populations.

| Five-year trends in Wyoming's cottontail rabbit program. | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------|----------------|-------------|--------------|------------------|
| Harvest, recreation, and licenses issued are by calendar year. Revenue and costs are by fiscal year. | | | | | | | | |
| Calendar Year | Harvest | Rec. Days | Animals /Hunter | Days/ Animal | Number Hunters | Fiscal Year | Lic. Revenue | Mgmt. Costs (\$) |
| 2016 | 55,688 | 24,530 | 8.4 | 0.4 | 6,594 | 2017 | ** | ** |
| 2017 | 22,492 | 14,736 | 5.0 | 0.7 | 4,461 | 2018 | ** | ** |
| 2018 | 18,328 | 16,053 | 4.3 | 0.9 | 4,270 | 2019 | ** | ** |
| 2019 | 13,145 | 17,000 | 3.4 | 1.3 | 3,894 | 2020 | ** | ** |
| 2020 | 9,554 | 15,591 | 3.1 | 1.6 | 3,054 | 2021 | ** | ** |
| **All small game, small game/game bird, and migratory bird license revenue and expenditure information is shown on the pheasant schedule as separate information is not available due to combination licenses. | | | | | | | | |

¹ For a detailed explanation of this calculation change see project statement of 2020 Annual Report of Small Game, Upland Game Bird, Waterfowl, Furbearer, Wild Turkey and Falconry Harvest.

SNOWSHOE HARE

Calendar Year 2020

Fiscal Year 2021

| | | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------|
| Population: | Not available | License Revenue: | \$ | ** |
| Population Objective: | Not available | All Other Agency Revenue: | \$ | ** |
| Harvest: | 286 | Total Program Revenue: | \$ | ** |
| Hunters: | 551 | Program Costs: | \$ | ** |
| Animals/Hunter: | 0.5 | Cost Dept. Per Animal: | \$ Not Available | |
| Recreation Days: | 3,556 | | | |
| Days/Animal: | 6.5 | | | |
| Licenses Sold: | ** | | | |

The snowshoe hare is distributed throughout most of the mountain conifer forests of the state. Snowshoe hare populations are cyclic, and hunter participation and harvest appear to follow population trends. During most years, fluctuations of hare populations are not consistent across the state and peak snowshoe hare harvest varies from region to region.

The decrease in small game harvest in 2017 was at least partially due to changes in how Pioneer and Lifetime licensed hunter participation was calculated¹. Harvest decreased in 2020 compared with 2019, and fell below the five-year average. Recreation days increased, along with the number of hunters. The number of hares harvested per hunter in 2020 decreased but was consistent with the five year average. Effort in 2020 also decreased, reversing a four-year trend.

The Department will continue to maintain the current hunting season structure and bag limits since hunting has little effect on snowshoe hare populations.

| Five-year trends in Wyoming's snowshoe hare program. | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|-------------|--------------|------------------|
| Harvest, recreation, and licenses issued are by calendar year. Revenue and costs are by fiscal year. | | | | | | | | |
| Calendar Year | Harvest | Rec. Days | Animal /Hunter | Days/ Animal | Number Hunters | Fiscal Year | Lic. Revenue | Mgmt. Costs (\$) |
| 2016 | 745 | 3,311 | 1.5 | 4.4 | 510 | 2017 | ** | ** |
| 2017 | 229 | 1,206 | 0.7 | 5.3 | 348 | 2018 | ** | ** |
| 2018 | 150 | 1,148 | 0.4 | 7.6 | 342 | 2019 | ** | ** |
| 2019 | 347 | 2,971 | 0.6 | 8.6 | 548 | 2020 | ** | ** |
| 2020 | 286 | 3,556 | 0.5 | 6.5 | 551 | 2021 | ** | ** |
| **All small game, small game/game bird, and migratory bird license revenue and expenditure information is shown on the pheasant schedule as separate information is not available due to combination licenses. | | | | | | | | |

¹ For a detailed explanation of this calculation change see project statement of 2020 Annual Report of Small Game, Upland Game Bird, Waterfowl, Furbearer, Wild Turkey and Falconry Harvest.

SQUIRREL

Calendar Year 2020

Fiscal Year 2020

| | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|
| Population: | Not available | License Revenue: | \$ ** |
| Population Objective: | Not available | All Other Agency Revenue: | \$ ** |
| Harvest: | 1,348 | Total Program Revenue: | \$ ** |
| Hunters: | 618 | Program Costs: | \$ ** |
| Animals/Hunter: | 2.1 | | |
| Recreation Days: | 2,039 | | |
| Days/Animal: | 1.5 | | |
| Licenses Sold: | ** | | |

Red squirrels occupy mountain conifer forests at mid to upper elevations throughout the state, and provide almost all the squirrel hunting opportunity in Wyoming. Eastern fox squirrels and eastern gray squirrels occupy low elevation deciduous forests, cottonwood-riparian areas, agricultural, and urban areas.

Squirrel harvest, hunter numbers, and recreation days all decreased in 2020. The 2020 harvest was below the five-year average (1,837 animals). Recreation days were also below the five-year average (2,288 days), while hunter numbers were slightly above average (585 hunters). Hunter success in 2020 dipped below success in 2019, and was the lowest of the five-year period. Effort increased and was the highest estimate of the past five years. In 2017 the Department changed how Pioneer and Lifetime licensed hunter participation was calculated, which may influence observed trends in harvest metrics relative to past years.¹

Squirrel hunting in Wyoming is not as popular as it is in other parts of the country. In Wyoming, most squirrel harvest is incidental to other hunting pursuits.

| Five-year trends in Wyoming's snowshoe hare program. | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|--------------|------------------|
| Harvest, recreation, and licenses issued are by calendar year. Revenue and costs are by fiscal year. | | | | | | | | |
| Calendar Year | Harvest | Rec. Days | Animal/Hunter | Days/Animal | Number Hunters | Fiscal Year | Lic. Revenue | Mgmt. Costs (\$) |
| 2016 | 1,664 | 2,137 | 3.5 | 1.3 | 475 | 2017 | ** | ** |
| 2017 | 1,361 | 1,477 | 3.2 | 1.1 | 430 | 2018 | ** | ** |
| 2018 | 1,854 | 2,234 | 2.9 | 1.2 | 643 | 2019 | ** | ** |
| 2019 | 2,959 | 3,554 | 3.9 | 1.2 | 761 | 2020 | ** | ** |
| 2020 | 1,348 | 2,039 | 2.1 | 1.5 | 618 | 2021 | ** | ** |
| **All small game, small game/game bird, and migratory bird license revenue and expenditure information is shown on the pheasant schedule as separate information is not available due to combination licenses. | | | | | | | | |

¹ For a detailed explanation of this calculation change see project statement of 2020 Annual Report of Small Game, Upland Game Bird, Waterfowl, Furbearer, Wild Turkey and Falconry Harvest.

UPLAND GAME

Pheasant
Gray Partridge
Chukar
Sage-Grouse
Sharp-Tailed Grouse
Blue Grouse
Ruffed Grouse
Mourning Dove
Turkey

PHEASANT

Calendar Year 2020

Fiscal Year 2021

| | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Population: | Not available | License Revenue: | \$768,426 |
| Population Objective: | Not available | All Other Agency Revenue*: | \$1,936,005 |
| Harvest: | Not available | Total Program Revenue: | \$2,704,431 |
| Hunters: | Not available | Program Costs: | \$3,402,840 |
| Birds/Hunter: | Not available | | |
| Recreation Days: | Not available | | |
| Days/Bird: | Not available | | |
| Licenses Sold: | 25,965 | | |

Pheasants are not as abundant in Wyoming as in neighboring states, but there are many opportunities to hunt this popular upland game bird in eastern and north central Wyoming. Weather and habitat conditions are the primary influences on most of the state's pheasant populations. Pheasant hunting has improved considerably with the implementation and expansion of Wyoming's Walk-In Access Program, which has opened thousands of acres of private lands to hunting since its inception. The majority of Wyoming's pheasant hunting occurs in Goshen County, but there are other opportunities near Riverton, in the Bighorn Basin, and the Sheridan area. Established pheasant populations are supplemented by releases from the Department's Downar and Sheridan Bird Farms, which tend to stabilize the number of pheasants available each year, along with hunter numbers and success rates.

Due to irregularities associated with 2020 harvest survey data on pheasants, annual harvest metrics are not available.

| Five-year trends in Wyoming's pheasant program. | | | | | | | | |
|---|---------|-----------|----------------|------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|------------------|
| Harvest, recreation, and licenses issued are by calendar year. Revenue and costs are by fiscal year. | | | | | | | | |
| Calendar Year | Harvest | Rec. Days | Birds / Hunter | Days/ Bird | Number Hunters | Fiscal Year | Lic. Revenue | Mgmt. Costs (\$) |
| 2016 | 36,684 | 34,478 | 3.0 | 0.9 | 12,344 | 2017 | 746,626 | 3,457,579 |
| 2017 | 41,478 | 36,813 | 3.4 | 0.9 | 12,308 | 2018 | 764,165 | 3,956,070 |
| 2018 | 54,015 | 47,362 | 4.6 | 0.9 | 11,849 | 2019 | 815,283 | 3,150,215 |
| 2019 | 42,511 | 39,783 | 4.6 | 0.9 | 9,181 | 2020 | 792,510 | 3,424,004 |
| 2020 | *** | *** | *** | *** | *** | 2021 | 768,426 | 3,402,840 |
| <p>**All small game, small game/game bird, and migratory bird license revenue and expenditure information is shown on the pheasant schedule as separate information is not available due to combination licenses.</p> <p>*Includes allocated application fees, conservation stamp revenue, federal/other grants, and interest earned on Department cash balances.</p> <p>***Due to irregularities in harvest survey data, annual harvest metrics are not available.</p> | | | | | | | | |

GRAY PARTRIDGE

Calendar Year 2020

Fiscal Year 2021

| | | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Population: | Not available | License Revenue: | \$ | ** |
| Population Objective: | Not available | All Other Agency Revenue: | \$ | ** |
| Harvest: | 6,256 | Total Program Revenue: | \$ | ** |
| Hunters: | 1,203 | Program Costs: | \$ | ** |
| Birds/Hunter: | 5.2 | | | |
| Recreation Days: | 7,919 | | | |
| Days/Bird: | 1.3 | | | |
| Licenses Sold: | ** | | | |

The gray partridge, a native of eastern Europe and central and southwest Asia, is most abundant in Sheridan County and the Bighorn Basin; but it can be found in many other parts of the state. The gray partridge was introduced to Wyoming in the early 1900s to provide additional hunting opportunity for Wyoming hunters.

Because the gray partridge is very sensitive to drought, severe winters, and wet nesting and brood rearing periods, weather conditions can dictate its abundance and, in turn, hunter activity. This is consistent with the harvest statistics for the past five years. Hunting is a minor influence on gray partridge populations. Like other upland game birds, nesting and brood rearing success from the summer preceding the hunting season play a major role in hunter success and participation.

In 2017 there were changes in how Pioneer and Lifetime licensed hunter participation was calculated.¹ The 2020 season saw a substantial increase in harvest, a decrease in recreation days, and a slight reduction in hunter numbers. Harvest exceeded the five-year average (3,725 birds), while hunter numbers were within the range of the previous four years. Recreation days remained above average (5,988 days). Success jumped notably, while effort was slightly lower than the average (1.7 days / bird).

| Five-year trends in Wyoming's gray partridge program. | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------|--------------|----------------|------------|----------------|-------------|--------------|------------------|
| Harvest, recreation, and licenses issued are by calendar year. Revenue and costs are by fiscal year. | | | | | | | | |
| Calendar Year | Harvest | Rec. Days | Birds / Hunter | Days/ Bird | Number Hunters | Fiscal Year | Lic. Revenue | Mgmt. Costs (\$) |
| 2016 | 3,564 | 5,247 | 3.2 | 1.5 | 1,114 | 2017 | ** | ** |
| 2017 | 1,420 | 2,899 | 1.8 | 2.0 | 771 | 2018 | ** | ** |
| 2018 | 2,835 | 4,923 | 2.4 | 1.7 | 1,200 | 2019 | ** | ** |
| 2019 | 4,552 | 8,951 | 2.9 | 2.0 | 1,592 | 2020 | ** | ** |
| 2020 | 6,256 | 7,919 | 5.2 | 1.3 | 1,203 | 2021 | ** | ** |
| **All small game, small game/game bird, and migratory bird license revenue and expenditure information is shown on the pheasant schedule as separate information is not available due to combination licenses. | | | | | | | | |

¹ For a detailed explanation of this calculation change see project statement of 2020 Annual Report of Small Game, Upland Game Bird, Waterfowl, Furbearer, Wild Turkey and Falconry Harvest.

CHUKAR

Calendar Year 2020

Fiscal Year 2021

| | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------|----------------------------------|-------|
| Population: | Not available | License Revenue: | \$ ** |
| Population Objective: | Not available | All Other Agency Revenue: | \$ ** |
| Harvest: | 8,138 | Total Program Revenue: | \$ ** |
| Hunters: | 1,628 | Program Costs: | \$ ** |
| Birds/Hunter: | 5.0 | | |
| Recreation Days: | 9,838 | | |
| Days/Bird: | 1.4 | | |
| Licenses Sold: | ** | | |

The chukar partridge, which is native to Europe and Asia, was first released in Wyoming in the 1930s. Small populations of chukars are scattered throughout Wyoming in rocky, steep habitats; but the largest concentrations are found in the Bighorn Basin.

The 2020 season was above the five-year average for harvest (6,617 birds) and recreation days (8,053 days). The number of hunters decreased from 2019, but remained close to the five-year average (1,628 hunters). The 2017 decrease in upland game harvest was at least partially due to changes in how Pioneer and Lifetime licensed hunter participation was calculated.¹

Because the chukar is very sensitive to drought and severe winters, weather conditions can dictate its abundance and the resulting hunter interest. Hunting seems to play a minor role in chukar abundance. Like other upland game birds, nesting and brood rearing success from the summer preceding the hunting season play a major role in hunter success and participation.

| Five-year trends in Wyoming's chukar program. Harvest, recreation, and licenses issued are by calendar year. Revenue and costs are by fiscal year. | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------|--------------|----------------|------------|----------------|-------------|--------------|------------------|
| Calendar Year | Harvest | Rec. Days | Birds / Hunter | Days/ Bird | Number Hunters | Fiscal Year | Lic. Revenue | Mgmt. Costs (\$) |
| 2016 | 5,916 | 5,995 | 3.5 | 1.0 | 1,681 | 2017 | ** | ** |
| 2017 | 4,160 | 4,650 | 2.9 | 1.1 | 1,415 | 2018 | ** | ** |
| 2018 | 7,286 | 8,981 | 3.5 | 1.2 | 2,059 | 2019 | ** | ** |
| 2019 | 7,586 | 10,805 | 3.6 | 1.4 | 2,119 | 2020 | ** | ** |
| 2020 | 8,138 | 9,838 | 5.0 | 1.2 | 1,628 | 2021 | ** | ** |
| ** All small game, small game/game bird, and migratory bird license revenue and expenditure information is shown on the pheasant schedule as separate information is not available due to combination licenses. | | | | | | | | |

¹ For a detailed explanation of this calculation change see project statement of 2020 Annual Report of Small Game, Upland Game Bird, Waterfowl, Furbearer, Wild Turkey and Falconry Harvest.

SAGE-GROUSE

Calendar Year 2020

Fiscal Year 2021

| | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Population: | Not available | License Revenue: | \$ ** |
| Population Objective: | Not available | All Other Agency Revenue*: | \$1,151,236 |
| Harvest: | 5,659 | Total Program Revenue: | \$1,151,236 |
| Hunters: | 2,673 | Program Costs: | \$2,346,430 |
| Birds/Hunter: | 2.1 | | |
| Recreation Days: | 8,744 | | |
| Days/Bird: | 3.3 | | |
| Licenses Sold: | ** | | |

Wyoming's sage-grouse populations are considered to be below historic levels, and recent numbers in harvest and lek attendance show no specific trends either up or down, just yearly fluctuations. Beginning in 1995, sage-grouse seasons were shortened and opened later in the year to protect hens with broods. Hunting seasons have been closed in parts of the state since 2000 to protect small populations in isolated habitats and in the Powder River Basin where West Nile Virus caused significant declines in sage-grouse numbers. With the timing of Wyoming's sage-grouse seasons and low total harvest, take by hunters has little effect on sage-grouse populations, particularly when compared to the influence of habitat condition. Sage-grouse seasons were again conservative in 2020.

In 2017, harvest numbers had large decreases. The decrease in upland game harvest was at least partially due to changes in how Pioneer and Lifetime licensed hunter participation was calculated.¹ In 2020, harvest, recreation days, and the hunter numbers decreased and were lower than the five-year averages (8,408 harvest, 10,286 recreation days, and 3,942 hunters). The 2020 harvest success increased slightly and was consistent with the five-year average. Hunter effort was modestly above the average (1.2 days/bird).

The Department is involved in extensive intrastate and interstate sage-grouse conservation efforts. It will continue to monitor sage-grouse populations, press for minimization and mitigation of environmental impacts in sagebrush habitats, and try to improve habitat conditions throughout the state.

| Five-year trends in Wyoming's sage-grouse program. | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------|--------------|----------------|------------|----------------|-------------|--------------|------------------|
| Harvest, recreation, and licenses issued are by calendar year. Revenue and costs are by fiscal year. | | | | | | | | |
| Calendar Year | Harvest | Rec. Days | Birds / Hunter | Days/ Bird | Number Hunters | Fiscal Year | Lic. Revenue | Mgmt. Costs (\$) |
| 2016 | 10,526 | 11,476 | 2.3 | 1.1 | 4,674 | 2017 | ** | 2,697,643 |
| 2017 | 7,817 | 8,646 | 2.2 | 1.1 | 3,576 | 2018 | ** | 3,344,918 |
| 2018 | 10,422 | 13,092 | 2.2 | 1.3 | 4,740 | 2019 | ** | 2,841,738 |
| 2019 | 7,615 | 9,473 | 1.9 | 1.2 | 4,049 | 2020 | ** | 2,937,947 |
| 2020 | 5,659 | 8,744 | 2.1 | 1.5 | 2,673 | 2021 | ** | 2,346,430 |
| <p>**All small game, small game/game bird, and migratory bird license revenue and expenditure information is shown on the pheasant schedule as separate information is not available due to combination licenses.</p> <p>*Includes allocated application fees, conservation stamp revenue, federal/other grants, and interest earned on Department cash balances.</p> | | | | | | | | |

¹ For a detailed explanation of this calculation change see project statement of 2020 Annual Report of Small Game, Upland Game Bird, Waterfowl, Furbearer, Wild Turkey and Falconry Harvest.

SHARP-TAILED GROUSE

Calendar Year 2020

Fiscal Year 2021

| | | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Population: | Not available | License Revenue: | \$ | ** |
| Population Objective: | Not available | All Other Agency Revenue: | \$ | ** |
| Harvest: | 2,575 | Total Program Revenue: | \$ | ** |
| Hunters: | 882 | Program Costs: | \$ | ** |
| Birds/Hunter: | 2.9 | | | |
| Recreation Days: | 4,085 | | | |
| Days/Bird: | 1.6 | | | |
| Licenses Sold: | ** | | | |

Sharp-tailed grouse occur primarily in eastern Wyoming, but there is also a small population in south-central Wyoming that is not hunted. Thousands of acres of marginal farmlands in the state were converted to wildlife habitat that benefited sharp-tailed grouse beginning in the mid-1980s as part of the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). The beneficial effects of this conversion were short-lived as most CRP land is now dominated by less desirable plant species. The Department's Walk-In Access Program, begun in 1998, has greatly improved sharp-tailed grouse hunting opportunities.

The decrease in harvest observed in 2017 was at least partially due to changes in how Pioneer and Lifetime licensed hunter participation was calculated.¹ The 2020 hunting season was similar to the five-year averages of nearly all metrics (2,335 birds harvested, 1,020 hunters, 4,266 recreation days).

| Five-year trends in Wyoming's sharp-tailed grouse program. | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------|--------------|----------------|------------|----------------|-------------|--------------|------------------|
| Harvest, recreation, and licenses issued are by calendar year. Revenue and costs are by fiscal year. | | | | | | | | |
| Calendar Year | Harvest | Rec. Days | Birds / Hunter | Days/ Bird | Number Hunters | Fiscal Year | Lic. Revenue | Mgmt. Costs (\$) |
| 2016 | 2,381 | 4,107 | 2.3 | 1.7 | 1,039 | 2017 | ** | ** |
| 2017 | 1,316 | 2,215 | 1.8 | 1.7 | 742 | 2018 | ** | ** |
| 2018 | 1,411 | 3,892 | 1.4 | 2.8 | 1,027 | 2019 | ** | ** |
| 2019 | 3,990 | 7,030 | 2.8 | 1.8 | 1,408 | 2020 | ** | ** |
| 2020 | 2,575 | 4,085 | 2.9 | 1.6 | 882 | 2021 | ** | ** |
| **All small game, small game/game bird, and migratory bird license revenue and expenditure information is shown on the pheasant schedule as separate information is not available due to combination licenses. | | | | | | | | |

¹ For a detailed explanation of this calculation change see project statement of 2020 Annual Report of Small Game, Upland Game Bird, Waterfowl, Furbearer, Wild Turkey and Falconry Harvest.

BLUE GROUSE

Calendar Year 2020

Fiscal Year 2021

| | | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Population: | Not available | License Revenue: | \$ | ** |
| Population Objective: | Not available | All Other Agency Revenue: | \$ | ** |
| Harvest: | 5,702 | Total Program Revenue: | \$ | ** |
| Hunters: | 2,516 | Program Costs: | \$ | ** |
| Birds/Hunter: | 2.3 | | | |
| Recreation Days: | 11,060 | | | |
| Days/Bird: | 1.9 | | | |
| Licenses Sold: | ** | | | |

Blue grouse occupy most of Wyoming's mountain conifer habitats, except for the Black Hills in the northeast corner of the state. They winter high among conifers and migrate to lower elevations with more open cover for the spring and summer. The Department maintains liberal hunting seasons and harvest limitations since hunting has little influence on blue grouse populations. Blue grouse numbers fluctuate primarily due to natural factors such as weather events and, to some degree, land management practices. The extensive conifer beetle outbreaks occurring throughout the state are expected to have a significant effect on blue grouse in the future.

The 2020 hunting season had lower harvest, recreation days, and hunter numbers compared with 2019. The season, however, was consistent with the range of values observed over the past five years (averages: harvest (7,344), recreation days (15,456), and hunters (3,339)). The 2020 harvest rate and effort improved, relative to 2019. The decrease in upland game harvest observed in 2017 was at least partially due to changes in how Pioneer and Lifetime licensed hunter participation was calculated.¹

| Five-year trends in Wyoming's blue grouse program. | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------|---------------|----------------|------------|----------------|-------------|--------------|------------------|
| Harvest, recreation, and licenses issued are by calendar year. Revenue and costs are by fiscal year. | | | | | | | | |
| Calendar Year | Harvest | Rec. Days | Birds / Hunter | Days/ Bird | Number Hunters | Fiscal Year | Lic. Revenue | Mgmt. Costs (\$) |
| 2016 | 8,932 | 17,574 | 2.4 | 2.0 | 3,787 | 2017 | ** | ** |
| 2017 | 5,306 | 11,520 | 2.0 | 2.2 | 2,654 | 2018 | ** | ** |
| 2018 | 8,363 | 16,716 | 2.2 | 2.0 | 3,807 | 2019 | ** | ** |
| 2019 | 8,418 | 20,408 | 2.1 | 2.4 | 3,932 | 2020 | ** | ** |
| 2020 | 5,702 | 11,060 | 2.3 | 1.9 | 2,516 | 2021 | ** | ** |
| **All small game, small game/game bird, and migratory bird license revenue and expenditure information is shown on the pheasant schedule as separate information is not available due to combination licenses. | | | | | | | | |

¹ For a detailed explanation of this calculation change see project statement of 2020 Annual Report of Small Game, Upland Game Bird, Waterfowl, Furbearer, Wild Turkey and Falconry Harvest.

RUFFED GROUSE

Calendar Year 2020

Fiscal Year 2021

| | | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Population: | Not available | License Revenue: | \$ | ** |
| Population Objective: | Not available | All Other Agency Revenue | \$ | ** |
| Harvest: | 3,074 | Total Program Revenue: | \$ | ** |
| Hunters: | 1,690 | Total Program Revenue: | \$ | ** |
| Birds/Hunter: | 1.8 | | | |
| Recreation Days: | 8,396 | | | |
| Days/Bird: | 2.7 | | | |
| Licenses Sold: | ** | | | |

The ruffed grouse occupies the western and northern forests of Wyoming, including the Black Hills and the Uinta Range. It inhabits dense, brushy habitats within mixed conifer and deciduous tree stands, usually in and along creek bottoms. The Wyoming Range and the mountainous areas around Jackson offer some of the best ruffed grouse habitat and provide the best hunting opportunities in Wyoming.

Ruffed grouse harvest in 2020 was substantially lower than 2019 and dropped below the five-year averages in all categories. Five-year trends in upland game harvest are at least partially due to changes in how Pioneer and Lifetime licensed hunter participation was calculated.¹ It is also possible that 2020 estimates are shaped by an uncharacteristically low number of harvest survey participants that reported hunting ruffed grouse. Success was the lowest observed in 5 years, and was consistent with an ongoing decrease in birds / hunter. Hunter effort remained consistent, relative to 2019.

Like blue grouse, ruffed grouse populations appear to be affected by weather and land management practices, with hunting playing a minor role in population changes.

| Five-year trends in Wyoming's ruffed grouse program. | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------|--------------|----------------|------------|----------------|-------------|--------------|------------------|
| Harvest, recreation, and licenses issued are by calendar year. Revenue and costs are by fiscal year. | | | | | | | | |
| Calendar Year | Harvest | Rec. Days | Birds / Hunter | Days/ Bird | Number Hunters | Fiscal Year | Lic. Revenue | Mgmt. Costs (\$) |
| 2016 | 8,324 | 11,673 | 3.5 | 1.4 | 2,386 | 2017 | ** | ** |
| 2017 | 3,968 | 8,414 | 2.3 | 2.1 | 1,714 | 2018 | ** | ** |
| 2018 | 6,153 | 10,908 | 2.9 | 1.8 | 2,145 | 2019 | ** | ** |
| 2019 | 5,446 | 14,628 | 2.1 | 2.7 | 2,620 | 2020 | ** | ** |
| 2020 | 3,074 | 8,396 | 1.8 | 2.7 | 1,690 | 2021 | ** | ** |

**All small game, small game/game bird, and migratory bird license revenue and expenditure information is shown on the pheasant schedule as separate information is not available due to combination licenses.

¹ For a detailed explanation of this calculation change see project statement of 2020 Annual Report of Small Game, Upland Game Bird, Waterfowl, Furbearer, Wild Turkey and Falconry Harvest.

MOURNING DOVE

Calendar Year 2020

Fiscal Year 2021

| | | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Population: | Not available | License Revenue: | \$ | ** |
| Population Objective: | Not available | All Other Agency Revenue: | \$ | ** |
| Harvest: | 9,526 | Total Program Revenue: | \$ | ** |
| Hunters: | 1,023 | Program Costs: | \$ | ** |
| Birds/Hunter: | 9.3 | | | |
| Recreation Days: | 3,656 | | | |
| Days/Bird: | 0.4 | | | |
| Licenses Sold: | ** | | | |

The mourning dove is the most abundant and widespread game bird in North America. More mourning doves are harvested throughout the country than all other game birds combined. The mourning dove occupies a wide variety of native habitats in Wyoming, as well as farmlands and urban areas.

Mourning dove harvest decreased substantially in 2020. Recreation days similarly declined, and were well below the five-year average (6,084 days). The number of hunters also decreased and fell below average (1,908 hunters). Success remained consistent with values observed over the past five years. Hunter effort (days/bird) increased slightly. Mourning dove harvest in Wyoming can be sharply curtailed during those years when early cold fronts in late August and early September push much of the local population out of the state. It is also possible that 2020 estimates are shaped by an uncharacteristically low number of harvest survey participants that reported hunting mourning doves.

Mourning dove hunting seasons are set at the national level by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) in accordance with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Concern over the decline in mourning dove populations based on annual surveys has prompted the USFWS to initiate efforts with the states throughout the Flyway system to develop a Mourning Dove Strategic Harvest Management Plan. The plan will establish hunting season frameworks based on different population levels as determined through annual population surveys. To date, seasons have generally been liberal since harvest is thought to have little impact on dove populations. Changes in habitat are thought to have the most impact on dove populations.

| Five-year trends in Wyoming's mourning dove program. | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------|--------------|----------------|------------|----------------|-------------|--------------|------------------|
| Harvest, recreation, and licenses issued are by calendar year. Revenue and costs are by fiscal year. | | | | | | | | |
| Calendar Year | Harvest | Rec. Days | Birds / Hunter | Days/ Bird | Number Hunters | Fiscal Year | Lic. Revenue | Mgmt. Costs (\$) |
| 2016 | 23,920 | 6,758 | 10.6 | 0.3 | 2,255 | 2017 | ** | ** |
| 2017 | 18,242 | 5,201 | 9.6 | 0.3 | 1,903 | 2018 | ** | ** |
| 2018 | 20,420 | 6,637 | 9.6 | 0.3 | 2,119 | 2019 | ** | ** |
| 2019 | 25,482 | 8,167 | 11.4 | 0.3 | 2,239 | 2020 | ** | ** |
| 2020 | 9,526 | 3,656 | 9.3 | 0.4 | 1,023 | 2021 | ** | ** |

**All small game, small game/game bird, and migratory bird license revenue and expenditure information is shown on the pheasant schedule as separate information is not available due to combination licenses.

¹ For a detailed explanation of this calculation change see project statement of 2020 Annual Report of Small Game, Upland Game Bird, Waterfowl, Furbearer, Wild Turkey and Falconry Harvest.

TURKEY

Calendar Year 2020

Population: Not available
Population Objective: Not available
Harvest: 3,802
Hunters: 6,601
Birds/Hunter: 0.6
Recreation Days: 24,013
Days/Bird: 6.3
Licenses Sold: 10,099

Fiscal Year 2021

License Revenue: \$201,440
All Other Agency Revenue*: \$609,328
Total Program Revenue: \$810,768
Program Costs: \$167,840

The wild turkey was originally introduced to Wyoming in 1935 when New Mexico traded nine hens and six gobblers of the Merriam's subspecies to Wyoming in exchange for sage-grouse. Those first birds were released near Laramie Peak. The Merriam's has been the predominant subspecies in the state. Turkeys are found primarily in the southeastern, northeastern, and north-central portions of Wyoming in riparian habitats, on private land, and in low elevation conifer habitats. Wild turkey translocations and favorable winter weather over the past decade have resulted in an abundance of turkeys spread over most habitats in the state that will support them. Recent introductions of the Rio Grande subspecies to riparian habitats have further expanded the species' presence.

Prior to 2010, turkey data were reported by calendar year (i.e., spring and fall harvest for the same year). In 2010; however, the Department brought turkey data reporting in-line with the rest of the species' data reported in this document, by biological year, which begins June 1 and ends the next year just before most young are born or hatched around May 31. In 2020, harvest numbers decreased in almost all categories, but remained within five-year averages. Success was equivalent to 2019. The number of days to harvest a turkey decreased in 2020, but was consistent with the five-year average.

As turkey management has progressed in Wyoming, hunters have seen an increase in the number of general license hunt areas and a reduction in limited quota hunts. Additionally, starting in 2010 in some hunt areas, a hunter was allowed to receive up to two wild turkey licenses in a season, provided certain restrictions were met. In 2013, the license limit for one hunter per season was raised again to three. In 2014, hunt areas were consolidated down to five, but the total area of the state open to turkey hunting expanded. As a result, hunter opportunity has increased.

| Five-year trends in Wyoming's turkey program. | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------|---------------|----------------|------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|------------------|
| Harvest, recreation, and licenses issued are by calendar year. Revenue and costs are by fiscal year. | | | | | | | | |
| Calendar Year | Harvest | Rec. Days | Birds / Hunter | Days/ Bird | Number Hunters | Fiscal Year | Lic. Revenue | Mgmt. Costs (\$) |
| 2016 | 3,879 | 21,518 | 0.6 | 5.5 | 6,817 | 2017 | 196,632 | 181,384 |
| 2017 | 3,521 | 21,900 | 0.6 | 6.2 | 5,957 | 2018 | 204,286 | 148,520 |
| 2018 | 3,584 | 23,117 | 0.6 | 6.5 | 6,159 | 2019 | 214,787 | 151,403 |
| 2019 | 4,439 | 31,201 | 0.6 | 7.0 | 7,439 | 2020 | 216,188 | 272,401 |
| 2020 | 3,802 | 24,013 | 0.6 | 6.3 | 6,601 | 2021 | 201,440 | 167,940 |

*Includes allocated application fees, conservation stamp revenue, federal/other grants, and interest earned on Department cash balances.

WATERFOWL

Duck
Goose
Sandhill Crane
Rail, Snipe, Coot

DUCK

Calendar Year 2020

Population: Not available
Population Objective: Not available
Harvest: Not available
Hunters: Not available
Bird/Hunter: Not available
Recreation Days: Not available
Days/Bird: Not available
Licenses Sold: **

Fiscal Year 2021

License Revenue: \$ **
All Other Agency Revenue: \$ **
Total Program Revenue: \$ **
Program Costs: \$ **
Cost Dept. Per Bird: \$ Not Available

A variety of duck species migrate through the Central and Pacific Flyway portions of Wyoming during spring and fall. Breeding and migrating waterfowl occupy most habitats where water is present in good quantity and quality. However, duck populations are low during winter months when frozen conditions prevail on most lakes and streams.

In Wyoming, 2020-2021 continued to see reasonable water conditions through the hunting season. Due to irregularities associated with the 2020 harvest survey data on ducks, annual harvest metrics are not available. The Department remains concerned about the degradation and loss of wetlands, other waterfowl habitats, and the associated status of some duck species. The Department will continue to work with private landowners, other government agencies, and organizations to conserve waterfowl habitat and to increase the amount and quality of habitat available.

| Five-year trends in Wyoming's duck program. Harvest, recreation, and licenses issued are by calendar year. Revenue and costs are by fiscal year. | | | | | | | |
|---|------------|------------|--------------|------------|----------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Calendar Year | Harvest | Rec. Days | Birds/Hunter | Days/Bird | Number Hunters | Lic. Revenue | Mgmt.Costs (\$) |
| 2016 | 54,426 | 28,636 | 9 | 0.5 | 6,047 | ** | ** |
| 2017 | 47,092 | 27,957 | 8.4 | 0.6 | 5,625 | ** | ** |
| 2018 | 47,526 | 30,047 | 8.5 | 0.6 | 5,592 | ** | ** |
| 2019 | 57,186 | 32,499 | 9.9 | 0.6 | 5,767 | ** | ** |
| 2020 | *** | *** | *** | *** | *** | ** | ** |

**All small game and small game/game bird and migratory bird license revenue and expenditure information is shown on the pheasant schedule as separate information is not available due to combination licenses.

***Due to irregularities in the 2020 harvest survey data, annual harvest metrics are not available.

GOOSE

Calendar Year 2020

Population: Not available
Population Objective: Not available
Harvest: Not available
Hunters: Not available
Bird/Hunter: Not available
Recreation Days: Not available
Days/Bird: Not available
Licenses Sold: **

Fiscal Year 2021

License Revenue: \$ **
All Other Agency Revenue: \$ **
Total Program Revenue: \$ **
Program Costs: \$ **
Cost Dept. Per Bird: \$ Not Available

Goose hunting in Wyoming has remained good since 2000 despite a series of drought years, and has been excellent the past few wet years. Opportunities to harvest migratory populations of Canada geese often depend upon winter weather patterns, which can affect the timing and extent of the migration, and the number of birds available to hunters. The vast majority of Wyoming's goose harvest is comprised of Canada geese, but the increasing lesser snow goose population and liberalization of hunting regulations have provided additional recreation opportunities, especially in late winter and early spring, during the Light Goose Conservation Order.

Goose harvest has fluctuated over the past ten years, from a low of 21,732 in 2011 to a high of 43,440 in 2019. Due to irregularities associated with the 2020 harvest survey data on geese, annual harvest metrics are not available. Liberal season lengths and bag limits designed to lower goose populations afford hunters with abundant harvest opportunities. Liberal seasons will continue, especially the late season conservation order for snow and Ross' geese, as the flyway councils attempt to reduce overabundant populations to protect sensitive arctic nesting habitat from overuse.

| Five-year trends in Wyoming's goose program. | | | | | | | |
|---|---------|-----------|----------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|------------------|
| Harvest, recreation, and licenses issued are by calendar year. Revenue and costs are by fiscal year. | | | | | | | |
| Calendar Year | Harvest | Rec. Days | Birds / Hunter | Days / Bird | Number Hunters | Lic. Revenue | Mgmt. Costs (\$) |
| 2016 | 36,366 | 25,475 | 6.8 | 0.7 | 5,350 | ** | ** |
| 2017 | 34,880 | 26,073 | 6.9 | 0.7 | 5,077 | ** | ** |
| 2018 | 29,222 | 25,866 | 6.0 | 0.9 | 4,895 | ** | ** |
| 2019 | 43,440 | 33,044 | 7.6 | 0.8 | 5,725 | ** | ** |
| 2020 | *** | *** | *** | *** | *** | ** | ** |
| **All small game and small game/game bird and migratory bird license revenue and expenditure information is shown on the pheasant schedule as separate information is not available due to combination licenses. ***Due to irregularities in the 2020 harvest survey data, annual harvest metrics are not available. | | | | | | | |

SANDHILL CRANE

Calendar Year 2020

Population: Not available
Population Objective: Not available
Harvest: ¹ 114
Hunters: ¹ 212
Bird/Hunter: ¹ 0.5
Recreation Days: ¹ 568
Days/Bird: ¹ 4.9
Licenses Sold: 306

Fiscal Year 2021

License Revenue: \$ **
All Other Agency Revenue: \$ **
Total Program Revenue: \$ **
Program Costs: \$ **
Cost Dept. Per Bird: \$ Not Available

There are two populations of sandhill crane found in Wyoming: the Rocky Mountain Population (RMP) of greater sandhill cranes and the Mid-Continent Population (MCP). The RMP is managed in cooperation with several other western states and the federal government. Most of Wyoming's crane harvest consists of RMP greater sandhill cranes hunted in central and western portions of the state. Above average recruitment has enabled the RMP to increase over the past few years. Allowable harvest is derived from a formula based on population counts on fall staging areas and an estimate of annual recruitment (proportion of chicks) from an independent survey in the San Luis Valley, Colorado. Permit quotas are set annually to achieve the allowable harvest. The MCP of sandhill cranes has been relatively stable since the early 1980s, but increased slightly over the past five years. Peripheral segments of this population migrate annually through central and eastern Wyoming. Harvest is largely opportunistic and only a handful of MCP cranes are taken each year in Wyoming.

In the 2020 season, harvest (114) was down from the previous few years. Recreation days saw a 38 percent decrease, and hunter numbers also decreased. The success rate stayed around the same as the five-year average, at 0.5 birds per hunter. Hunter effort in 2020 was up from last year (4.9 days/bird harvested).

| Five-year trends in Wyoming's Rocky Mountain Population of Sandhill Cranes program. ¹ | | | | | | | |
|--|------------|------------|-------------|------------|----------------|--------------|------------------|
| Harvest, recreation, and licenses issued are by calendar year. Revenue and costs are by fiscal year. | | | | | | | |
| Calendar Year | Harvest | Rec. Days | Bird/Hunter | Days/Bird | Number Hunters | Lic. Revenue | Mgmt. Costs (\$) |
| 2016 | 158 | 666 | 0.6 | 4.2 | 283 | ** | ** |
| 2017 | 193 | 814 | 0.6 | 2.5 | 318 | ** | ** |
| 2018 | 189 | 850 | 0.6 | 4.4 | 329 | ** | ** |
| 2019 | 141 | 530 | 0.6 | 3.8 | 234 | ** | ** |
| 2020 | 114 | 568 | 0.5 | 4.9 | 212 | ** | ** |

**All small game and small game/game bird and migratory bird license revenue and expenditure information is shown on the pheasant schedule as separate information is not available due to combination licenses.

¹ Data are from the Rocky Mountain Population of greater sandhill cranes. Wyoming harvest statistics for the Mid-Continent Population of sandhill cranes are published in the Central Flyway Harvest and Population Survey Data Book available at: <http://www.fws.gov/birds/surveys-and-data/reports-and-publications/flyway-data-books.php>.

RAIL, SNIPE, AND COOT

Calendar Year 2020

Fiscal Year 2021

| | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Population: | Not available | License Revenue: | \$ ** |
| Population Objective: | Not available | All Other Agency Revenue: | \$ ** |
| Harvest: | 400 | Total Program Revenue: | \$ ** |
| Hunters: | 250 | Program Costs: | \$ ** |
| Bird/Hunter: | 1.6 | Cost Dept. Per Bird: | \$ Not Available |
| Recreation Days: | 450 | | |
| Days/Bird: | 1.1 | | |
| Licenses Sold: | ** | | |

Snipe, rail, and coot are harvested in both the Central and Pacific Flyways in Wyoming. Since coots are not a highly valued game species or food source, demand is low. Although snipe and rail can be found in marshy habitats throughout the state, opportunities to harvest them are underutilized. Generally, these species are harvested incidentally by persons hunting other migratory and upland game birds.

| Five-year trends in Wyoming's rail, snipe and coot program. Harvest, recreation ,and licenses issued are by calendar year. Revenue and costs are by fiscal year. | | | | | | | |
|--|------------|------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Calendar Year | Harvest | Rec. Days | Birds / Hunter | Days / Bird | Number Hunters | Lic. Revenue | Mgmt.Costs (\$) |
| 2016 | 500 | 250 | 3.3 | 0.5 | 150 | ** | ** |
| 2017 | 600 | 1100 | 1.5 | 1.8 | 400 | ** | ** |
| 2018 | 600 | 950 | 1.1 | 1.6 | 550 | ** | ** |
| 2019 | 300 | 300 | 1.5 | 1.0 | 200 | ** | ** |
| 2020 | 400 | 450 | 1.6 | 1.1 | 250 | ** | ** |
| **All small game and small game/game bird and migratory bird license revenue and expenditure information is shown on the pheasant schedule as separate information is not available due to combination licenses. ** Because program costs were negligible, they are included with other waterfowl management costs. | | | | | | | |

FISHERIES

Sport Fisheries
Commercial Fisheries

SPORT FISHERIES

Calendar Year 2020

Fiscal Year 2021

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Recreation Day Objectives: | 2,778,000 | License Revenue: | \$6,701,085 |
| Recreation Days:¹ | 3,122,816 | All Other Agency Revenue: | \$12,830,618 |
| Fish/Day: | 2.5 | Total Program Revenue: | \$19,531,703 |
| Licenses Sold: | 340,374 | Program Costs: | \$24,061,840 |
| Economic Return Per Day: | \$75.00 | | |

In 2020, 3.1 million angler days of sport fishing recreation were estimated. Overall the numbers of licenses sold was up 9.4 percent over the previous year and license revenue was up 16.4 percent. The COVID-19 pandemic resulted in many more anglers getting outdoors. For angler participation expenditures, the Department consulted the recently published report, *2011 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation*. The estimate for angler participation rate was kept constant at 19 days/year even though the 2011 report said days fishing by anglers increased since 2001 (when the current estimate was derived). The Department anticipates being able to better estimate annual participation rates each year in the future. Historically, distribution of angling in the state has been 45 percent for flowing waters and 55 percent for standing waters. With improved reservoir conditions, the Department expects that trend to remain unchanged.

| Five-year trends in Wyoming's sport fisheries program. | | | | | | |
|--|------------------|------------|----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Calendar Year | Rec. Days | Fish/Day | Licenses Sold | Fiscal Year | License Revenue (\$) | Program Costs (\$) |
| 2016 | 2,726,259 | 2.5 | 355,599 | 2017 | \$6,587,563 | \$24,583,958 |
| 2017 | 2,680,111 | 2.5 | 346,720 | 2018 | \$6,982,896 | \$29,217,042 |
| 2018 | 2,661,835 | 2.5 | 317,080 | 2019 | \$7,183,358 | \$23,903,154 |
| 2019 | 2,715,032 | 2.5 | 310,252 | 2020 | \$6,678,417 | \$23,740,958 |
| 2020 | 3,122,816 | 2.5 | 340,374 | 2021 | \$6,701,085 | \$24,061,840 |

COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

Calendar Year 2020

Fiscal Year 2021

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Licenses Sold: | 825 | Licenses Sold: | \$27,378 |
| | | All Other Agency Revenue: | \$11,504 |
| | | Total Program Revenue**: | \$38,882 |
| | | Program Costs: | \$26,874 |

The statewide objective for the Commercial Fisheries Program is to provide licensing, monitoring, and extension services for minnow seiners, private bait dealers, commercial hatcheries, and private fishing preserves.

Live baitfish and seining permits have been stable over the last few years; other license types are trending upward also, with the exception of private hatchery permits, which have been stable. Overall, interest in fishing preserves, seining and dealing in live baitfish increased this year. This was probably also a response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

*** Includes allocated application fees, conservation stamp revenue, federal/other grants, and interest earned on Department cash balances.*

| Five-year trends in Wyoming's commercial fisheries program. | | | | |
|---|---------------|-------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| Calendar Year | Licenses Sold | Fiscal Year | License Revenue (\$) | Program Costs (\$) |
| 2016 | 990 | 2017 | \$26,024 | \$22,344 |
| 2017 | 849 | 2018 | \$25,920 | \$22,201 |
| 2018 | 819 | 2019 | \$27,330 | \$22,083 |
| 2019 | 807 | 2020 | \$26,935 | \$19,048 |
| 2020 | 825 | 2021 | \$27,378 | \$26,874 |

FURBEARERS

Bobcat
Other Furbearers

BOBCAT

Calendar Year 2020

Bobcat Harvest¹: 845
Bobcat Trappers³: 312
Bobcats per Trapper²: 2.7
Recreation Days: 9,597
Days/Animal: 11.4

Fiscal Year 2021

Licenses Sold: **
License Revenue: \$**
Other Agency Revenue*: \$**
Total Program Revenue: \$**
Program Costs: \$399,004

Bobcat harvest data comes from information collected as part of the Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species (CITES) requirements for bobcat pelt tagging. The Department relies on agency personnel who tag bobcats with CITES tags to collect information on age and sex of each bobcat and on harvest effort values. This information is available for the annual CITES report and for Department use. It most accurately reflects harvest.

The number of licenses sold has decreased and then rebounded over the last five years, while bobcat harvest success has varied. The 2020 harvest decreased and was below the five-year average (1,418). The harvest rate decreased and was lower than the five-year average (3.7). The number of successful trappers also decreased, and remained below the five-year average (377). Bobcat harvest tends to follow rabbit population levels, their main prey species.

| Five-year trends in Wyoming's Furbearer Program. | | | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Bobcat Statistics | | | | Entire Furbearer Program | | | |
| Calendar Year | Reported Harvest ¹ | Bobcats/Trapper ² | Number Trappers ³ | Licenses Sold | Fiscal Year | License Rev. (\$) | Program Costs (\$) |
| 2016 | 1,397 | 4.0 | 350 | ** | 2017 | ** | 280,334 |
| 2017 | 2,189 | 4.6 | 472 | ** | 2018 | ** | 501,953 |
| 2018 | 1,452 | 3.7 | 397 | ** | 2019 | ** | 433,896 |
| 2019 | 1,207 | 3.4 | 354 | ** | 2020 | ** | 336,912 |
| 2020 | 845 | 2.7 | 312 | ** | 2021 | ** | 399,004 |

¹ The number of bobcats tagged in Wyoming.
² The number of bobcats per successful trapper.
³ The number of trappers who had bobcats tagged.

*Includes allocated application fees, conservation stamp revenue, federal/other grants, and interest earned on Department cash balances.
**All furbearer licenses sold and license revenue information is shown on the other furbearer schedule as separate information is not available due to combination licenses.

OTHER FURBEARERS

Calendar Year 2020

Furbearer Harvest: 8,527
Furbearer Trappers¹: 901
Furbearers per Trapper: 9.5
Recreation Days: 22,947
Days/Animal: 2.7
Licenses Sold ²: 2,298

Fiscal Year 2021

License Revenue: \$103,785
Other Agency Revenue*: \$222,805
Total Program Revenue: \$326,590
Program Costs: \$648,275

Besides bobcat, there are a variety of other furbearing species in Wyoming. Badger, beaver, marten, mink, muskrat, and weasel are defined as furbearers by Wyoming statute. Harvest of these furbearers is determined by fur prices and by species abundance. These factors, combined with harvest quotas (where used), ensure trapping has little impact on furbearer populations.

In 2010, predatory animals (coyote, red fox, raccoon, and striped skunk) were removed from the survey because these animals can be harvested without a furbearer license and harvest is legal 365 days a year. Consequently, previous harvest surveys only reported a subset of the harvest on these species, the harvest taken by those with a furbearer license during the regulated trapping season. The harvest survey was revised for the 2015-16 trapping season to capture total recreation days (days afield checking traps/snares and firearm days) for all species combined. The 2019 survey was modified to better account for trappers/hunters that were unsuccessful, accounting for some of the changes in numbers from 2018.

| Five-year trends in Wyoming's Furbearer Program. | | | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Other Furbearer Statistics | | | | | Entire Furbearer Program | | |
| Calendar Year | Reported Harvest ³ | Furbearers/Trapper | Number Trappers ¹ | Licenses Sold | Fiscal Year | License Rev. (\$) | Program Costs (\$) |
| 2016 | 4,861 | 10.8 | 449 | 2,225 | 2017 | 94,021 | 400,796 |
| 2017 | 8,842 | 18.2 | 485 | 2,299 | 2018 | 122,070 | 268,301 |
| 2018 | 5,596 | 14.7 | 381 | 2,565 | 2019 | 108,585 | 186,458 |
| 2019 | 6,203 | 5.2 | 1,184 | 2,515 | 2020 | 95,668 | 299,449 |
| 2020 | 8,527 | 9.5 | 901 | 2,298 | 2021 | 103,785 | 648,275 |

¹ Does not include bobcat-only trappers. This number is derived from Question 1 of the Furbearer/Trapper Hunter Survey. The percent of trappers and hunters that responded "Yes" was applied toward the total licenses sold to get the estimated total number of trappers and hunters pursuing furbearers other than bobcats. The trapper number has been corrected from those given in past reports. These corrections also change the furbearers/trapper number for each year.

² The total number of furbearer licenses sold.

³ Predatory species (i.e., coyote, red fox, raccoon, and striped skunk) were removed from the survey in 2010.

*Includes allocated application fees, conservation stamp revenue, federal/other grants and interest earned on Department cash balances.

RAPTORS

RAPTORS

Calendar Year 2020

Captures: 12
Licenses Sold: 38

Fiscal Year 2021

License Revenue: \$4,492
All Other Agency Revenue: \$103,653
Total Program Revenue: \$108,145
Program Costs: \$512,531

The objectives of the Raptor Program are to provide for the capture of raptors annually for falconry use and to maintain a sustainable falconry program within the state.

There are approximately 31 species of raptors known or thought to occur within Wyoming. The Raptor Program includes the management of hawks, falcons, owls, eagles, and vultures, although capture permits are only issued for the take of hawks, falcons, and eagles. Some species are present only seasonally and densities vary with climatic conditions and prey abundance.

In calendar year 2020, 29 resident licenses were issued and six birds were captured, for a capture success rate of 21 percent. Nine nonresident licenses were issued and six birds were captured, for a capture success rate of 66 percent. In total, 12 raptors were captured in Wyoming for use in falconry for an overall success rate of 32 percent.

| Five-year trends in Wyoming's Raptor Program | | | | | | |
|---|----------|----------------------|----------------------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Harvest, recreation and licenses issued are by calendar year. Revenue and costs are by fiscal year. | | | | | | |
| Calendar Year | Captures | Success ¹ | Licenses Sold ² | Fiscal Year | License Revenue (\$) | Program Costs (\$) ³ |
| 2016 | 16 | 39% | 41 | 2017 | 5,885 | 403,828 |
| 2017 | 16 | 39% | 40 | 2018 | 3,599 | 615,802 |
| 2018 | 9 | 24% | 37 | 2019 | 4,505 | 416,612 |
| 2019 | 10 | 25% | 40 | 2020 | 3,918 | 541,733 |
| 2020 | 12 | 32% | 38 | 2021 | 4,492 | 512,531 |

¹Based on capture licenses sold.

²Includes only licenses to capture falcons; 84 licenses to hunt with falcons were issued in 2020.

³Includes program costs for raptors, including bald eagle and peregrine falcon.

**NONGAME PROGRAMS
AND
NON-LICENSED USES**

NONGAME PROGRAMS AND NON-LICENSED USES OF WILDLIFE

The Terrestrial Nongame Bird and Mammal Program includes activities such as inventorying and monitoring, statewide and regional planning, information and education, and environmental commenting. The program is staffed by five permanent personnel: a statewide supervisor, a statewide bird lead, a statewide mammal lead, a wildlife GIS analyst, and a sagebrush / sage grouse lead. Contract employees are hired using specific project funds. With a limited staff and responsibility for nearly 400 bird and 100 mammal species, project prioritization is essential. Terrestrial nongame personnel have been, and will continue to be, intensively involved in the implementation of [Wyoming's 2017 State Wildlife Action Plan](#) (SWAP). Priorities and Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) identified in Wyoming's SWAP direct the section's inventory, monitoring and survey activities.

The Wyoming Game and Fish Commission has funded the program at similar levels, \$347,396 for FY 21 (excluding FTE salaries). These funds along with money derived from the Governor's Endangered Species Account and State Wildlife Grant Program allow the Nongame Program to conduct needed surveys and research on terrestrial SGCN. Project reports can be found on the Department's web site at: <https://wgfd.wyo.gov/Hunting/Job-Completion-Reports>.

The Nongame Program participates in and coordinates the monitoring of many species as part of regional and national conservation efforts. Examples include: the Breeding Bird Survey, Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survival Survey, periodic harlequin duck surveys, peregrine falcon and bald eagle nesting and productivity surveys, black-footed ferret surveys, and many others. Nongame personnel also participate on nationwide and regional committees and working groups that coordinate interstate and intrastate planning and implementation efforts to maintain wildlife diversity.

APPENDIX B:

**BUDGETARY AND FINANCIAL
SUMMARIES**

| | A | B | C | D | E | F | H | I | K | O | R |
|----|---|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 | Summary of Wyoming Game and Fish Commission FY 2022 Budget | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2 | | Budget | Name | Revised FY22 Budget | Proposed FY22 Changes | FY22 Budget Prelim Approved | M&O | Personnel | FY21 Approved Budget | Budget \$\$ change | overall % change |
| 3 | | 0A10 | Director Office Admin | 1,384,585 | | 1,384,585 | 204,952 | 1,179,633 | 993,235 | 391,350 | 39.40% |
| 4 | | 0A10 | Director Office-Contingency | 150,000 | | 150,000 | 150,000 | | 150,000 | | |
| 5 | | 0J11 | Public Information Admin | 360,500 | | 360,500 | 57,426 | 303,075 | 348,351 | 12,150 | 3.49% |
| 6 | | 0A20 | WGFC Vehicle Fleet | 2,338,066 | | 2,338,066 | 2,338,066 | | 2,361,853 | (23,787) | -1.01% |
| 7 | | 0A30 | Commission | 84,867 | | 84,867 | 66,117 | 18,750 | 85,473 | (607) | -0.71% |
| 8 | | 0E10 | Conservation Educ-R3 | 284,615 | | 284,615 | 155,961 | 128,654 | 268,581 | 16,034 | 5.97% |
| 9 | | 0E11 | Conservation Educ-Volunteers | 224,829 | | 224,829 | 57,647 | 167,182 | 210,186 | 14,642 | 6.97% |
| 10 | | 0E20 | Hunter Education | 188,163 | | 188,163 | 91,928 | 96,235 | 169,808 | 18,355 | 10.81% |
| 11 | | 0J10 | Media/Customer Outreach | 584,681 | | 584,681 | 30,214 | 554,467 | 548,016 | 36,665 | 6.69% |
| 12 | | 0J20 | Publications | 603,717 | | 603,717 | 440,551 | 163,165 | 619,289 | (15,572) | -2.51% |
| 13 | | 0P10 | Personnel | 537,578 | | 537,578 | 237,949 | 299,629 | 535,451 | 2,127 | 0.40% |
| 15 | | 0U10 | Cooperative Research | 440,000 | | 440,000 | 440,000 | | 440,000 | | |
| 16 | | 0W10 | Statewide Habitat Protection | 674,186 | | 674,186 | 30,415 | 643,771 | 773,167 | (98,982) | -12.80% |
| 17 | | Director's Office Total | | 7,855,785 | | 7,855,785 | 4,301,224 | 3,554,561 | 7,503,410 | 352,376 | 4.70% |
| 18 | | 2A10 | Fiscal Administration | 496,480 | | 496,480 | 22,673 | 473,807 | 521,463 | (24,983) | -4.79% |
| 19 | | 2F12 | Licensing | 1,188,520 | | 1,188,520 | 205,534 | 982,986 | 1,179,183 | 9,337 | 0.79% |
| 20 | | 2F31 | General Accounting | 1,683,096 | | 1,683,096 | 599,018 | 1,084,078 | 1,704,011 | (20,915) | -1.23% |
| 21 | | 2V10 | Customer Service | 146,117 | | 146,117 | 4,300 | 141,817 | 145,807 | 310 | 0.21% |
| 22 | | 2J50 | Mailroom | 394,001 | | 394,001 | 329,464 | 64,537 | 291,381 | 102,620 | 35.22% |
| 23 | | 2Z1X | Regional Office Management | 1,613,977 | | 1,613,977 | 309,572 | 1,304,405 | 1,595,231 | 18,746 | 1.18% |
| 24 | | 2X10 | Legislated Expenses | 2,684,700 | 268,100 | 2,416,600 | 2,663,100 | 21,600 | 2,416,756 | 267,944 | 11.09% |
| 25 | | Fiscal Total | | 8,206,892 | 268,100 | 7,938,792 | 4,133,661 | 4,073,231 | 7,853,833 | 353,059 | 4.50% |
| 26 | | 4A11 | Services Administration | 244,979 | | 244,979 | 25,341 | 219,638 | 433,749 | (188,770) | -43.52% |
| 27 | | 4D10 | Feedground Maintenance | 160,627 | | 160,627 | 136,560 | 24,067 | 253,818 | (93,191) | -36.72% |
| 28 | | 4H10 | Habitat Access/Maintenance | 4,092,511 | | 4,092,511 | 1,623,231 | 2,469,280 | 4,328,185 | (235,674) | -5.45% |
| 29 | | 4H20 | Statewide Habitat Development | | | | | | 65,401 | (65,401) | -100.00% |
| 30 | | 4K10 | Conservation Engineering | 494,060 | | 494,060 | 130,553 | 363,507 | 539,858 | (45,798) | -8.48% |
| 31 | | 4L20 | Game and Fish Lab | 990,954 | | 990,954 | 147,929 | 843,025 | 939,922 | 51,032 | 5.43% |
| 32 | | 4R01 | Property Rights-Administration | 783,788 | | 783,788 | 454,658 | 329,130 | 783,670 | 119 | 0.02% |
| 33 | | 4R1X | Property Rights-Acquisition | 20,000 | | 20,000 | 20,000 | | 20,000 | | |
| 34 | | 4Y10 | Information Technology | 2,909,874 | | 2,909,874 | 931,273 | 1,978,602 | 2,617,804 | 292,070 | 11.16% |
| 35 | | 4Y11 | Geographic Information Systems (GIS) | 597,583 | | 597,583 | 177,375 | 420,208 | 591,886 | 5,696 | 0.96% |
| 36 | | 4ZXX | Support Facilities | 1,730,080 | 100,000 | 1,630,080 | 1,440,803 | 289,277 | 1,655,901 | 74,180 | 4.48% |
| 37 | | Services Total | | 12,024,456 | 100,000 | 11,924,456 | 5,087,723 | 6,936,734 | 12,230,194 | (205,738) | -1.68% |
| 38 | | 5A10 | Fish Administration | 449,976 | | 449,976 | 42,047 | 407,928 | 446,113 | 3,863 | 0.87% |
| 39 | | 5H40 | Habitat Coordinator (WLCI) | 121,173 | | 121,173 | 6,107 | 115,065 | 120,167 | 1,005 | 0.84% |
| 40 | | 5C10 | Hatchery & Rearing Stations | 5,597,485 | | 5,597,485 | 2,321,275 | 3,276,210 | 5,750,937 | (153,453) | -2.67% |
| 41 | | 5C20 | Fish Spawning | 267,921 | | 267,921 | 33,696 | 234,226 | 278,822 | (10,901) | -3.91% |
| 42 | | 5C30 | Fish Distribution | 150,743 | | 150,743 | 150,743 | | 148,318 | 2,425 | 1.64% |
| 43 | | 5H10 | Regional Aquatic Habitat | 1,036,953 | | 1,036,953 | 102,070 | 934,883 | 1,171,391 | (134,438) | -11.48% |
| 44 | | 5H20 | Water Management | 198,458 | | 198,458 | 78,491 | 119,968 | 199,437 | (978) | -0.49% |
| 45 | | 5H30 | Fish Passage | 456,233 | | 456,233 | 232,305 | 223,928 | 459,374 | (3,141) | -0.68% |
| 46 | | 5Q10 | Regional Aquatic Mgmt | 3,626,620 | | 3,626,620 | 376,710 | 3,249,911 | 3,525,934 | 100,686 | 2.86% |
| 47 | | 5Q1B | Aquatic Invasive Species | 1,513,335 | | 1,513,335 | 335,934 | 1,177,401 | 1,487,687 | 25,648 | 1.72% |
| 48 | | 5Q30 | Statewide Aquatic Mgmt | 834,356 | | 834,356 | 353,971 | 480,385 | 861,724 | (27,367) | -3.18% |
| 49 | | 5Q40 | Boating Access | 883,905 | | 883,905 | 883,905 | | 883,905 | | |
| 50 | | Fish Total | | 15,137,158 | | 15,137,158 | 4,917,253 | 10,219,905 | 15,333,808 | (196,650) | -1.28% |
| 51 | | 6A10 | Wildlife Administration | 1,257,706 | | 1,257,706 | 329,138 | 928,568 | 1,251,273 | 6,433 | 0.51% |
| 52 | | 6B1X | Bird Farms | 666,793 | | 666,793 | 233,702 | 433,091 | 731,341 | (64,548) | -8.83% |
| 53 | | 6D10 | Feedgrounds | 1,993,303 | | 1,993,303 | 1,760,344 | 232,958 | 1,471,616 | 521,687 | 35.45% |
| 54 | | 6H10 | Terrestrial Habitat Mgmt | 351,486 | | 351,486 | 36,993 | 314,493 | 348,987 | 2,499 | 0.72% |
| 55 | | 6H30 | Terrestrial Regional Habitat | 922,103 | | 922,103 | 88,791 | 833,312 | 911,195 | 10,907 | 1.20% |
| 56 | | 6L1B | Veterinary Services Program | 1,805,430 | | 1,805,430 | 868,528 | 936,902 | 1,636,527 | 168,903 | 10.32% |
| 57 | | 6N10 | Special Enforcement-Investigators | 904,923 | | 904,923 | 71,031 | 833,892 | 871,052 | 33,872 | 3.89% |
| 58 | | 6NX0 | Special Enforcement-Boat Safety, Stop Poaching, Administration | 567,535 | | 567,535 | 230,167 | 337,368 | 471,961 | 95,574 | 20.25% |
| 59 | | 6O1B | Terrestrial Sensitive Species | 672,598 | | 672,598 | 284,955 | 387,643 | 670,733 | 1,865 | 0.28% |
| 60 | | 6R10 | Property Rights-Statewide PLPW | 110,067 | | 110,067 | 21,250 | 88,817 | 109,176 | 890 | 0.82% |
| 61 | | 6R30 | Property Rights-Regional PLPW | 696,217 | | 696,217 | 72,548 | 623,669 | 686,793 | 9,423 | 1.37% |
| 62 | | 6R2X | Property Rights-PLPW Access | 1,100,000 | | 1,100,000 | 1,100,000 | | 1,100,000 | | |
| 63 | | 6T1X | Wildlife Biologists | 4,512,627 | | 4,512,627 | 1,052,133 | 3,460,494 | 4,472,935 | 39,693 | 0.89% |
| 64 | | 6T2X | Reg Wildlife Supvrs/Wardens | 9,831,471 | | 9,831,471 | 2,207,179 | 7,624,292 | 9,330,431 | 501,040 | 5.37% |
| 65 | | 6T4B | Sage Grouse Planning & Protection | 812,815 | | 812,815 | 622,500 | 190,315 | 810,982 | 1,833 | 0.23% |
| 66 | | 6T50 | Biological Services | 865,551 | | 865,551 | 429,437 | 436,114 | 927,230 | (61,679) | -6.65% |
| 67 | | 6T71 | Resolution | 1,763,393 | | 1,763,393 | 415,142 | 1,348,251 | 1,714,073 | 49,320 | 2.88% |
| 68 | | 6T80 | Waterfowl | 168,324 | | 168,324 | 76,077 | 92,247 | 173,073 | (4,749) | -2.74% |

| | A | B | C | D | E | F | H | I | K | O | R | |
|----|--|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 | Summary of Wyoming Game and Fish Commission FY 2022 Budget | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2 | Budget | Name | Revised FY22 Budget | Proposed FY22 Changes | FY22 Budget Prelim Approved | | | M&O | Personnel | FY21 Approved Budget | Budget \$\$ change | overall % change |
| 69 | 6T90 | Predator Management | 200,000 | | 200,000 | 200,000 | | | 200,000 | | | |
| 70 | 6G10 | Regional Information & Education | 640,196 | | 640,196 | 42,845 | 597,351 | | 712,814 | (72,619) | -10.19% | |
| 71 | Wildlife Total | | 29,842,536 | | 29,842,536 | 10,142,759 | 19,699,777 | | 28,602,192 | 1,240,344 | 4.34% | |
| 72 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 73 | WGFC Standard Budget Subtotal | | 73,066,828 | 368,100 | 72,698,728 | 28,582,620 | 44,484,208 | | 71,523,436 | 1,543,391 | 2.16% | |
| 74 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 75 | Wildlife Trust Fund Interest Total | | 1,173,331 | | 1,173,331 | 1,173,331 | | | 1,193,920 | (20,589) | -1.72% | |
| 76 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 77 | State Wildlife Grants (SWG) Total | | 1,150,403 | | 1,150,403 | 864,327 | 286,076 | | 861,504 | 288,899 | 33.53% | |
| 78 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 79 | Reimbursable Grants: | | 6,000,000 | | 6,000,000 | 5,935,307 | 64,693 | | 6,000,000 | | | |
| 80 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 81 | Total WGFC Standard Budget | | 81,390,562 | 368,100 | 81,022,462 | 36,555,585 | 44,834,977 | | 79,578,860 | 1,811,702 | 2.28% | |
| 84 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 85 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 86 | Commission Approved Spending Authority | | Revised FY22 Budget | Proposed FY22 Changes | FY22 Budget Prelim Approved | | | | | | | |
| 87 | Total WGFC Standard Budget | | \$81,390,562 | \$368,100 | 81,022,462 | | | | | | | |
| 88 | Total WGFC One-time Projects Budget | | 3,776,446 | 396,047 | 3,380,399 | | | | | | | |
| 89 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 90 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 91 | Items highlighted in yellow are restricted and cannot be distributed to other areas within the budget to cover other items. | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 92 | Property Rights Access Easements (F06) - Earmarked for Access easements only | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 93 | Legislative Expenses - Damage Claims, Game Warden Retirement, Cost Allocation, Landowner Coupons, Salecs | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 94 | Reimbursable Grants - All anticipated grant funds including federal, state, nongovernmental entities, etc. | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 95 | State Wildlife Grants (SWG) - USFWS grant funds for sensitive species with a state match requirement which is included in the totals | | | | | | | | | | | |

| STATEMENT OF ASSETS, LIABILITIES, AND FUND BALANCES | | | | | % CHNG FY 18 to FY 21 |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------|
| ARISING FROM CASH TRANSACTIONS | | | | | |
| AS OF JUNE 30, 2021 | | | | | |
| | FY 2021 | FY 2020 | FY 2019 | FY 2018 | |
| ASSETS: | | | | | |
| PETTY CASH | \$ 18,250 | \$ 18,250 | \$ 18,050 | \$ 18,250 | 0% |
| CASH - OPERATIONS | 80,285,360 | 64,752,744 | 56,508,574 | 45,141,765 | 78% |
| CASH- WLDLFE TRUST INTEREST | 4,009,568 | 3,415,950 | 3,142,688 | 3,249,156 | 23% |
| CASH- ACCESS FUND | 3,341,725 | 3,043,298 | 2,609,265 | 2,358,253 | 42% |
| | <u>87,654,904</u> | <u>71,230,242</u> | <u>62,278,577</u> | <u>50,767,424</u> | 73% |
| CASH - WLDLFE TRUST CORPUS | 33,205,342 | 32,197,574 | 31,211,600 | 29,886,915 | 11% |
| CASH- LIFETIME LICENSE FUND | 6,299,493 | 6,119,862 | 6,059,340 | 5,834,297 | 8% |
| CASH-ALTERNATIVE ENTERPRISES | 57,208 | 46,849 | 50,135 | 45,416 | 26% |
| CASH - APPS/UNDISTRIBD IN PROCESS | 18,036,195 | 18,385,591 | 18,077,041 | 17,992,638 | 0% |
| CASH-AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES | 170,304 | 875,050 | 106,609 | 114,810 | 48% |
| RETURNED CHECKS | 12,603 | 13,590 | 4,851 | 12,698 | -1% |
| UNREALIZED GAINS/LOSSES | 0 | 0 | | | |
| TOTAL ASSETS | 145,436,048 | 128,868,758 | 117,788,153 | 104,654,198 | 39% |
| LIABILITIES: | | | | | |
| VOUCHERS PAYABLE | 11,546 | 11,546 | 11,551 | 381,473 | -97% |
| LICENSE AGENT BONDS | 100,000 | 100,000 | 100,000 | 100,000 | 0% |
| COURT ORDERED RESTITUTION | 0 | 0 | 25 | 925 | -100% |
| APP/UNDIST PENDING DRAW | 18,036,195 | 18,385,591 | 18,077,041 | 17,992,638 | 0% |
| RESTRICTED FEDERAL FUNDS | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| UNREALIZED INVESTMENT GAIN/LOSS | 0 | 0 | 0 | (668,605) | -100% |
| OTHER DEFERRED REVENUE | 100 | 1,259 | 10,088 | 371 | -73% |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES | 18,147,840 | 18,498,396 | 18,198,705 | 17,806,802 | 2% |
| FUND BALANCE: | | | | | |
| RESTRICTED | | | | | |
| OUTSTANDING ENCUMBRANCES | 28,188,915 | 17,386,854 | 16,005,649 | 15,089,227 | 87% |
| WLDLFE TRUST FUND CORPUS (F08) | 33,205,342 | 32,197,574 | 31,211,600 | 29,960,427 | 11% |
| WLD TRUST FUND INTEREST (F07) | 3,128,183 | 2,290,476 | 2,393,624 | 2,535,524 | 23% |
| ACCESS FUND CORPUS (F06) | 3,341,725 | 3,043,298 | 2,609,265 | 2,358,253 | 42% |
| AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES | 170,304 | 875,050 | 106,609 | 114,810 | 48% |
| LIFETIME LICENSE FUND (F02) | 6,299,493 | 6,119,862 | 6,059,340 | 5,905,693 | 7% |
| ALTERNATIVE ENTERPRISES | 57,208 | 46,849 | 50,135 | 45,620 | 25% |
| UNRESTRICTED | | | | | |
| G&F OPERATING FUND(F01) | 52,897,038 | 48,410,400 | 41,153,225 | 30,837,842 | 72% |
| TOTAL FUND BALANCE | 127,288,208 | 110,370,362 | 99,589,447 | 86,847,395 | 47% |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE | 145,436,048 | 128,868,758 | 117,788,153 | 104,654,198 | 39% |

**STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES
FOR THE PERIODS ENDED JUNE 30, 2020**

| EXPENDABLE FUNDS only: | FY 21 | FY 20 | % Change from FY 20 |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| REVENUE RECEIVED | | | |
| Hunting & Fish Lic | 42,054,723 | 39,797,826 | 6% |
| Conservation Stamps | 872,841 | 887,828 | -2% |
| Boating Registration | 776,590 | 809,740 | -4% |
| Other license revenue (pp points) | 15,247,236 | 14,223,269 | 7% |
| Pooled Interest Opr | 2,549,277 | 1,667,019 | 53% |
| Pooled Interest Trt (1)(2) | 1,921,248 | 943,316 | 104% |
| Income from Inv&Land | 1,149,893 | 1,957,878 | -41% |
| 100% Reimbursable | 6,018,666 | 6,661,846 | -10% |
| Application Fees | 3,010,740 | 2,766,372 | 9% |
| Publication Sales | 279,988 | 235,773 | 19% |
| Access Yes donations/cstamp(3) | 1,026,272 | 1,170,652 | -12% |
| Federal Aid & Grants | 21,920,774 | 17,641,853 | 24% |
| License Recoupment | 0 | 757,844 | -100% |
| General Funds | 0 | 47,762 | -100% |
| Other Items | 628,356 | 180,952 | 247% |
| TTL REVENUE EARNED | 97,456,604 | 89,749,929 | 8.59% |

EXPENDITURES MADE

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Maintenance & Ops | | | |
| Office of Director | 4,733,232 | 5,139,478 | -8% |
| Fiscal Division | 5,009,594 | 4,834,929 | 4% |
| Services Division | 10,464,732 | 10,950,134 | -4.43% |
| Fish Division | 13,648,442 | 13,541,350 | 1% |
| Wildlife Division | 25,281,547 | 25,707,333 | -1.66% |
| TOTAL M&O EXPENSES | 59,137,548 | 60,173,224 | -1.72% |

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------|
| Access Fund | 727,844 | 736,620 | -1.19% |
| Wyoming wildlife trust (1)(2) | 643,537 | 363,337 | 77% |
| Legislated Expenses | 1,781,997 | 2,147,865 | -17% |
| Pr yr encmbrd m/o exp | 6,627,560 | 6,503,945 | 2% |
| TTL OPERATING EXP | 68,918,486 | 69,924,992 | -1% |

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------|
| Reimbursable Contracts | 5,020,426 | 4,435,942 | 13% |
| Statewildlife Grants | 298,044 | 416,719 | -28% |
| Property Rights | | | |
| Nonrecurring Projects | 1,597,301 | 1,560,007 | 2% |
| Pr yr encmbrd other xp | 5,902,259 | 3,674,564 | 61% |
| TTL NONOP EXPENSES | 12,818,029 | 10,087,232 | 27% |

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------|
| TOTAL EXPENDITURES | 81,736,516 | 80,012,224 | 2% |
| DEFICIT OF REVENUE OVER EXP | 15,720,088 | 9,737,705 | |

| NONEXPENDABLE FUNDS only: | FY 20 | FY 20 | % Change from FY 19 |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| Wildlife Conservation Trust & Lifetime License Fund(s) | | | |
| Corpus, July 1 | 38,317,435 | 37,270,940 | 3% |
| Prior year adj for increase in value of investments | | | |
| Current year adj for increase in value of investments | | | |
| Change in unrealized investments | | | |
| Interest earned | | | |
| Transfer from operations | (395,424) | (386,037) | |
| Donations | 1,918 | 5,311 | -64% |
| Lifetime hunting/fishing licenses | 575,055 | 446,558 | 29% |
| Lifetime conservation stamps | 133,004 | 93,678 | 42% |
| Annual conserv stamp 37 1/2% | 872,846 | 886,986 | -2% |
| Corpus, June 30 | 39,504,834 | 38,317,435 | 3% |

All Department revenue/expenditures is recognized above excepting:

- 1) \$575,055 in lifetime license sales & interest earned on those licenses (W.S. provides that the corpus of the lifetime license fund cannot be spent, but up to 6% of the corpus balance may be transferred annually to the Game and Fish Operating fund)
- 2) \$ 1/2 or \$133,004 of lifetime conservation stamps and 37 1/2% of the c-stamp \$872,846 revenue deposited in the wildlife trust fund; W.S. provides the corpus cannot be spent, but interest earned may be used for operations
- 3) access donations of \$143,086 which are deposited into an access fund & are budgeted and spent in the year following receipt; they can only be used for purchasing nonfee title access easements;

All Department expenditures are shown, excepting capital construction costs, included in a Legislative appropriation and paid directly by the Department of Administration and Information Construction Management Division.

**Schedule of Expenditures by Strategic Plan Program
For the Year Ended June 30, 2021**

| | Total WGFC Expenditures | General Fund (non capital construction) Expenditures | Total FY 2020 Expenditures | % of Total Expenditures |
|---|----------------------------|--|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Aquatic Wildlife Management | \$ 6,879,918 | | 6,879,918 | 8.4% |
| Bird Farms | 670,103 | | 670,103 | 0.8% |
| Cooperative Research | 1,462,000 | | 1,462,000 | 1.8% |
| Conservation Engineering | 462,490 | | 462,490 | 0.6% |
| CWCS (Sensitive Species) | 1,532,300 | | 1,532,300 | 1.9% |
| Department Administration | 5,658,039 | | 5,658,039 | 6.9% |
| Education | 556,299 | | 556,299 | 0.7% |
| Feedgrounds | 1,909,562 | | 1,909,562 | 2.3% |
| Financial Management | 2,746,384 | | 2,746,384 | 3.4% |
| Fish Culture | 7,523,834 | | 7,523,834 | 9.2% |
| Habitat | 12,402,441 | | 12,402,441 | 15.2% |
| Information | 1,876,061 | | 1,876,061 | 2.3% |
| Legislated Expenses | 1,781,997 | | 1,781,997 | 2.2% |
| Customer Services | 142,357 | | 142,357 | 0.2% |
| Management Information Systems | 3,128,416 | | 3,128,416 | 3.8% |
| Personnel Management | 479,081 | | 479,081 | 0.6% |
| Property Rights | 3,015,803 | | 3,015,803 | 3.7% |
| Regional Information/Education | 607,714 | | 607,714 | 0.7% |
| Specialized Law Enforcement | 1,651,925 | | 1,651,925 | 2.0% |
| Support Facilities/Personnel | 4,483,425 | | 4,483,425 | 5.5% |
| Terrestrial Wildlife Management | 19,614,140 | | 19,614,140 | 24.0% |
| Wildlife Habitat Protection | 687,058 | | 687,058 | 0.8% |
| Wildlife Health and Laboratory Services | 2,465,168 | | 2,465,168 | 3.0% |
| Total Amount Expended | 81,736,515 | 0 | 81,736,515 | 100% |

STATEWIDE FIVE-YEAR COMPARISON OF LICENSE SALES

| Licenses | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Antelope ¹³ | PRICE | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
| Pioneer Antelope | \$2.00 | 206 | 230 | 230 | 247 | 295 | 312 |
| Pioneer Doe/Fawn Antelope | \$2.00 | 76 | 96 | 91 | 90 | 100 | 78 |
| Pioneer Heritage Antelope | \$20.00 | 149 | 178 | 202 | 242 | | |
| Pioneer Heritage Antelope | \$22.00 | | | | | 274 | 282 |
| Pioneer Heritage Doe/Fawn Antelope | \$18.00 | 38 | 44 | 66 | 71 | 76 | 78 |
| Resident Antelope | \$33.00 | 14,712 | 15,560 | 16,184 | | | |
| Resident Antelope | \$37.00 | | | | 17,353 | 17,929 | 17,835 |
| Resident Antelope Carryover | \$10.00 | | | 3 | 1 | | |
| Resident Antelope One Shot Hunt | \$33.00 | 6 | 7 | 8 | | | |
| Resident Antelope One Shot Hunt | \$37.00 | | | | 8 | 11 | 7 |
| Resident Antelope Super Tag | \$33.00 | 1 | | | | | |
| Resident Antelope WS 23-1-705(H)* | \$33.00 | 2 | 1 | 4 | | | |
| Resident Antelope WS 23-1-705(H)* | \$37.00 | | | | 4 | 4 | 8 |
| Resident Antelope WS 23-1-705(J)** | \$33.00 | | | | | | |
| Resident Doe/Fawn Antelope | \$22.00 | 5,570 | 6,673 | 6,999 | 7,735 | 8,443 | 7,845 |
| Resident Youth Antelope | \$15.00 | 2,368 | 2,437 | 2,604 | 2,834 | 3,016 | 3,028 |
| Resident Youth Doe/Fawn Antelope | \$14.00 | 598 | 688 | 784 | 820 | 945 | 918 |
| Resident Yth Antelope WS 23-1-705(H)* | \$15.00 | 1 | 1 | 2 | | | |
| Total Resident Antelope | | 23,727 | 25,915 | 27,177 | 29,405 | 31,093 | 30,391 |
| Nonres Antelope | \$272.00 | 8,187 | 7,823 | 7,991 | | | |
| Nonres Antelope | \$326.00 | | | | 8,169 | 13,015 | 11,622 |
| Nonres Antelope Commissioner | \$272.00 | | | | | | |
| Nonres Antelope Commissioner | \$326.00 | | | | | 1 | |
| Nonres Antelope One Shot Hunt | \$272.00 | 73 | 71 | 72 | | | |
| Nonres Antelope One Shot Hunt | \$326.00 | | | | 78 | 78 | 9 |
| Nonres Antelope Super Tag | \$272.00 | | 1 | 1 | | | |
| Nonres Antelope Super Tag | \$326.00 | | | | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Nonres Antelope w/Preference Point | \$272.00 | 2,205 | 2,918 | 3,737 | | | |
| Nonres Antelope w/Preference Point | \$326.00 | | | | 4,720 | | |
| Nonres Antelope WS 23-1-705(H)* | \$272.00 | 36 | | | | | |
| Nonres Antelope WS 23-1-705(H)* ¹⁶ | \$33.00 | | 28 | 34 | | | |
| Nonres Antelope WS 23-1-705(H)* ¹⁶ | \$37.00 | | | | 45 | 40 | 24 |
| Nonres Antelope WS 23-1-705(J)** | \$272.00 | | 4 | 5 | | | |
| Nonres Antelope WS 23-1-705(J)** | \$326.00 | | | | | 2 | 3 |
| Nonres Antelope Yth One Shot Hunt | \$110.00 | 1 | 2 | | | | |
| Nonres Antelope Yth w/Preference Point | \$110.00 | 201 | 289 | 308 | 367 | | |
| Nonres Doe/Fawn Antelope | \$34.00 | 11,322 | 12,106 | 13,655 | 15,240 | 16,167 | 11,898 |
| Nonres Special Antelope | \$512.00 | 565 | 686 | 705 | | | |
| Nonres Special Antelope | \$614.00 | | | | 805 | 2,815 | 2,908 |
| NonRes Special Antelope w/Preference Point | \$512.00 | 1,007 | 1,246 | 1,525 | | | |
| NonRes Special Antelope w/Preference Point | \$614.00 | | | | 1,671 | | |
| Nonres Youth Antelope | \$110.00 | 489 | 505 | 503 | 452 | 823 | 778 |
| Nonres Youth Antelope WS 23-1-705(H)* | \$110.00 | 6 | | | | | |
| Nonres Youth Antelope WS 23-1-705(H)* ¹⁶ | \$15.00 | | 2 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 6 |
| Nonres Youth Antelope WS 23-1-705(J)** | \$110.00 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 14 | 15 | 5 |
| Nonres Youth Doe/Fawn Antelope | \$19.00 | 628 | 738 | 760 | 920 | 924 | 735 |
| Total Nonresident Antelope | | 24,725 | 26,421 | 29,304 | 32,483 | 33,885 | 27,989 |
| Total Antelope Licenses | | 48,452 | 52,336 | 56,481 | 61,888 | 64,978 | 58,380 |
| Archery | PRICE | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
| Nonresident Archery | \$30.00 | 4,886 | 4,998 | 5,102 | 61 | | |
| Nonresident Archery | \$72.00 | | | | 5,063 | 5,225 | 6,016 |
| Nonresident Youth Archery | \$12.00 | 130 | 157 | 139 | 137 | 125 | 214 |
| Resident Archery | \$16.00 | 15,273 | 15,082 | 14,765 | 14,600 | 14,114 | 16,489 |
| Resident Youth Archery | \$6.00 | 1,277 | 1,293 | 1,211 | 1,307 | 1,174 | 1,509 |
| Total Archery Licenses | | 21,566 | 21,530 | 21,217 | 21,168 | 20,638 | 24,228 |
| Bighorn Sheep | PRICE | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
| Nonresident Bighorn Sheep | \$2,252.00 | 48 | 50 | 51 | | | |
| Nonresident Bighorn Sheep | \$2,320.00 | | | | 50 | 42 | 40 |
| Nonresident Bighorn Sheep Governor | \$0.00 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 4 |
| Nonresident Bighorn Sheep Super Tag | \$2,252.00 | 1 | 1 | | | | |
| Nonresident Bighorn Sheep Super Tag | \$2,320.00 | | | | 1 | | |
| Nonresident Bighorn Sheep Trifecta | \$2,252.00 | | 1 | | | | |
| Nonresident Bighorn Sheep Trifecta | \$2,320.00 | | | | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Nonresident Ewe/Lamb Bighorn Sheep ¹¹ | \$240.00 | | | | | | |
| Nonresident Yth Ewe/Lamb Bighorn Sheep ¹¹ | \$100.00 | | | | | | |
| Resident Bighorn Sheep | \$117.00 | 140 | 144 | 151 | | | |
| Resident Bighorn Sheep | \$152.00 | | | | 144 | 128 | 133 |
| Resident Bighorn Sheep Carryover | \$10.00 | | | 4 | | | |
| Resident Bighorn Sheep Governor | \$0.00 | | | 1 | 1 | | 1 |
| Resident Bighorn Sheep Super Tag | \$117.00 | 1 | | | | | |
| Resident Bighorn Sheep Super Tag | \$152.00 | | | | | 1 | 1 |

STATEWIDE FIVE-YEAR COMPARISON OF LICENSE SALES

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---|
| Resident Bighorn Sheep Trifecta | \$117.00 | | | | 1 | | | |
| Resident Ewe/Lamb Bighorn Sheep ¹¹ | \$36.00 | | | | | | | |
| Resident Youth Ewe/Lamb Bighorn Sheep ¹¹ | \$20.00 | | | | | | | |
| Total Bighorn Sheep Licenses | | 195 | 201 | 212 | 201 | 177 | 180 | |
| Black Bear | PRICE | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | |
| Nonres Black Bear | \$362.00 | 405 | 417 | 455 | | | | |
| Nonres Black Bear | \$373.00 | | | | 526 | 473 | 543 | |
| Nonres Black Bear Super Tag | \$362.00 | | | | | | | |
| Resident Black Bear | \$45.00 | 4,103 | 4,188 | 4,190 | 78 | | | |
| Resident Black Bear | \$47.00 | | | | 4,126 | 4,066 | 4,831 | |
| Resident Black Bear Super Tag | \$45.00 | | | | | | | |
| Resident Black Bear Super Tag | \$47.00 | | | 1 | | | | 1 |
| Total Black Bear Licenses | | 4,508 | 4,605 | 4,646 | 4,730 | 4,539 | 5,375 | |
| Deer ¹³ | PRICE | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | |
| Pioneer Deer | \$2.00 | 449 | 464 | 500 | 488 | 563 | 606 | |
| Pioneer Doe/Fawn Deer | \$2.00 | 89 | 122 | 115 | 126 | 140 | 141 | |
| Pioneer Heritage Deer | \$23.00 | 367 | 396 | 425 | 448 | | | |
| Pioneer Heritage Deer | \$26.00 | | | | | 469 | 544 | |
| Pioneer Heritage Doe/Fawn Deer | \$18.00 | 39 | 40 | 72 | 67 | 74 | 102 | |
| Resident Deer | \$38.00 | 41,435 | 42,715 | 40,655 | | | | |
| Resident Deer | \$42.00 | | | | 40,302 | 39,100 | 41,405 | |
| Resident Deer Carryover | \$10.00 | | | 66 | | | | |
| Resident Deer Commissioner | \$38.00 | 3 | 2 | 1 | | | | |
| Resident Deer Commissioner | \$42.00 | | | | 2 | 3 | 3 | |
| Resident Deer Governor | \$0.00 | 2 | 2 | | 1 | 1 | | |
| Resident Deer Military Combat | \$0.00 | | | | | | | |
| Resident Deer Super Tag | \$38.00 | 1 | | | | | | |
| Resident Deer WS 23-1-705(J)** | \$38.00 | 1 | 1 | | | | | |
| Resident Deer WS 23-1-705(J)** | \$42.00 | | | | | | | 1 |
| Resident Doe/Fawn Deer | \$22.00 | 6,993 | 7,232 | 7,558 | 8,114 | 8,379 | 8,889 | |
| Resident Youth Deer | \$15.00 | 6,409 | 6,703 | 6,511 | 6,435 | 6,417 | 6,659 | |
| Resident Youth Deer WS 23-1-705(J)** | \$15.00 | 1 | | | | | | 2 |
| Resident Youth Doe/Fawn Deer | \$14.00 | 680 | 765 | 801 | 826 | 837 | 973 | |
| Total Resident Deer | | 56,469 | 58,442 | 56,704 | 56,809 | 55,983 | 59,325 | |
| NonRes Deer Special w/Preference Point | \$552.00 | 1,205 | 1,328 | 1,434 | | | | |
| NonRes Deer Special w/Preference Point | \$662.00 | | | | 1,580 | | | |
| NonRes Deer w/Preference Point | \$312.00 | 3,446 | 3,979 | 4,171 | | | | |
| NonRes Deer w/Preference Point | \$374.00 | | | | 4,301 | | | |
| NonRes Deer Yth w/Preference Point | \$110.00 | 241 | 273 | 283 | 314 | | | |
| Nonresident Deer | \$312.00 | 10,769 | 10,914 | 10,122 | | | | |
| Nonresident Deer | \$374.00 | | | | 10,002 | 14,550 | 13,384 | |
| Nonresident Deer Carryover | \$10.00 | | | 24 | | | | |
| Nonresident Deer Commissioner | \$312.00 | 10 | 7 | 7 | | | | |
| Nonresident Deer Commissioner | \$374.00 | | | | 6 | 5 | 2 | |
| Nonresident Deer Governor | \$0.00 | 2 | 3 | | 2 | 2 | 3 | |
| Nonresident Deer Gunpowder Hunt | \$312.00 | 25 | 24 | 23 | | | | |
| Nonresident Deer Gunpowder Hunt | \$374.00 | | | | 21 | 13 | 3 | |
| Nonresident Deer Super Tag | \$312.00 | | 1 | 1 | | | | |
| Nonresident Deer Super Tag | \$374.00 | | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| NonRes Deer Trifecta | \$374.00 | | | | 1 | | | |
| Nonresident Deer WS 23-1-705(J)** | \$312.00 | | 2 | 4 | | | | |
| Nonresident Deer WS 23-1-705(J)** | \$374.00 | | | | 1 | 6 | 2 | |
| Nonresident Doe/Fawn Deer | \$34.00 | 5,458 | 5,976 | 6,442 | 7,188 | 7,618 | 7,764 | |
| Nonres Special Deer | \$552.00 | 1,164 | 1,403 | 1,437 | | | | |
| Nonres Special Deer | \$662.00 | | | | 1,569 | 3,417 | 3,476 | |
| Nonresident Youth Deer | \$110.00 | 540 | 549 | 450 | 496 | 739 | 792 | |
| Nonresident Youth Deer WS 23-1-705(J)** | \$110.00 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 8 | 14 | 6 | |
| Nonresident Youth Doe/Fawn Deer | \$19.00 | 340 | 363 | 321 | 363 | 405 | 445 | |
| Total Nonresident Deer | | 23,204 | 24,823 | 24,723 | 25,853 | 26,770 | 25,878 | |
| Total Deer Licenses | | 79,673 | 83,265 | 81,427 | 82,662 | 82,753 | 85,203 | |
| Elk ¹³ | PRICE | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | |
| Pioneer Cow/Calf Elk | \$5.00 | 219 | 213 | 202 | 238 | 276 | 285 | |
| Pioneer Elk | \$5.00 | 527 | 524 | 583 | 600 | 661 | 699 | |
| Pioneer Elk Commissioner | \$5.00 | | | | | | | |
| Pioneer Heritage Cow/Calf Elk | \$27.00 | 175 | 185 | 198 | 238 | 223 | 250 | |
| Pioneer Heritage Elk | \$32.00 | 434 | 475 | 518 | 537 | | | |
| Pioneer Heritage Elk | \$35.00 | | | | | 579 | 675 | |
| Pioneer Heritage Elk Commissioner | \$32.00 | | | | | | | |
| Res Elk Commissioner WS 23-1-705(J)** | \$52.00 | 1 | 1 | | | | | |
| Res Elk Commissioner WS 23-1-705(J)** | \$57.00 | | | | | 1 | | |
| Resident Cow/Calf Elk | \$43.00 | 13,115 | 12,480 | 12,598 | 13,122 | 12,948 | 13,150 | |
| Resident Elk | \$52.00 | 39,080 | 39,584 | 38,566 | | | | |
| Resident Elk ¹⁹ | \$57.00 | | | 1 | 37,541 | 36,881 | 39,578 | |
| Resident Elk Carryover | \$10.00 | | | 6 | | | | |
| Resident Elk Commissioner | \$52.00 | 12 | 6 | 10 | | | | |

STATEWIDE FIVE-YEAR COMPARISON OF LICENSE SALES

| | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Resident Elk Commissioner | \$57.00 | | | | 9 | 15 | 3 |
| Resident Elk Governor | \$0.00 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| Resident Elk Military Combat | \$0.00 | | 1 | | | | |
| Resident Elk Super Tag | \$52.00 | | 1 | | | | |
| Resident Elk Super Tag | \$57.00 | | | | 1 | | |
| Resident Elk Youth Commissioner | \$25.00 | | | | 1 | | |
| Resident Youth Elk | \$25.00 | 4,148 | 4,150 | 4,194 | 4,230 | 4,072 | 4,531 |
| Resident Youth Elk WS 23-1-705(J)** | \$25.00 | | 1 | | 1 | | 4 |
| Resident Yth Cow/Calf Elk | \$20.00 | 1,170 | 1,062 | 1,234 | 1,283 | 1,287 | 1,349 |
| Total Resident Elk | | 58,883 | 58,685 | 58,112 | 57,802 | 56,945 | 60,525 |
| Nonres Cow/Calf Elk | \$288.00 | 5,065 | 4,696 | 4,605 | 5,122 | 5,299 | 5,672 |
| Nonres Cow/Calf Elk WS 23-1-705(J)** | \$288.00 | | | | 1 | 1 | |
| Nonres Elk & Fishing | \$577.00 | 2,617 | 2,734 | 2,680 | | | |
| Nonres Elk & Fishing | \$692.00 | | | | 2,302 | 4,743 | 4,715 |
| Nonres Elk & Fishing Carryover | \$10.00 | | | 3 | | | |
| Nonres Elk & Fishing Commissioner | \$577.00 | 47 | 40 | 60 | | | |
| Nonres Elk & Fishing Commissioner | \$692.00 | | | | 37 | 46 | 45 |
| Nonres Elk & Fishing Governor | \$0.00 | 4 | 3 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 6 |
| Nonres Elk & Fishing WS 23-1-705(J)** | \$577.00 | 1 | 3 | 1 | | | |
| Nonres Elk & Fishing WS 23-1-705(J)** | \$692.00 | | | | 3 | 5 | 4 |
| NonRes Elk Special w/Preference Point | \$1,057.00 | 1,679 | 1,641 | 1,750 | | | |
| NonRes Elk Special w/Preference Point | \$1,268.00 | | | | 1,769 | | |
| NonRes Elk w/Preference Point | \$577.00 | 2,195 | 2,170 | 2,151 | | | |
| NonRes Elk w/Preference Point | \$692.00 | | | | 2,307 | | |
| NonRes Elk Super Tag | \$577.00 | 1 | | 1 | | | |
| NonRes Elk Trifecta | \$577.00 | | 1 | | | | |
| NonRes Elk Trifecta | \$692.00 | | | | 1 | | 1 |
| NonRes Elk Yth w/Preference Point | \$275.00 | 79 | 69 | 96 | 107 | | |
| NonRes Youth Elk Super Tag | \$275.00 | | | | | 1 | 1 |
| Nonres Special Elk/Fishing | \$1,057.00 | 1,120 | 1,076 | 960 | | | |
| Nonres Special Elk/Fishing | \$1,268.00 | | | | 982 | 2,662 | 2,659 |
| Nonres Youth Cow/Calf Elk | \$100.00 | 271 | 239 | 268 | 260 | 274 | 278 |
| Nonres Youth Cow/Calf Elk WS 23-1-705(J)** | \$100.00 | | 1 | | | | |
| Nonres Youth Elk WS 23-1-705(J)** | \$275.00 | 5 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 14 | 8 |
| Nonres Youth Elk/Fishing | \$275.00 | 71 | 70 | 64 | 79 | 162 | 171 |
| Nonres Youth Elk/Fishing Commissioner | \$275.00 | | 1 | 1 | | 1 | |
| Total Nonresident Elk | | 13,155 | 12,745 | 12,652 | 12,979 | 13,213 | 13,560 |
| Total Elk Licenses | | 72,038 | 71,430 | 70,764 | 70,781 | 70,158 | 74,085 |
| Fishing | PRICE | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
| Resident Daily Fish | \$6.00 | 35,685 | 33,071 | 30,254 | 30,477 | 26,162 | 24,682 |
| Resident Daily Fish Military Combat | \$0.00 | 2 | | | | | |
| Resident Fishing Annual ²¹ | \$24.00 | 80,634 | 80,386 | 76,594 | 3,103 | | |
| Resident Fishing Annual ²¹ | \$27.00 | | | | 71,501 | 74,180 | 86,077 |
| Resident Youth Fishing Annual ²¹ | \$3.00 | 7,613 | 7,677 | 7,598 | 7,192 | 7,277 | 9,205 |
| Total Resident Fishing | | 123,934 | 121,134 | 114,446 | 112,273 | 107,619 | 119,964 |
| Nonres Daily Fishing | \$14.00 | 206,949 | 212,643 | 209,835 | 166,456 | 161,051 | 167,524 |
| Nonres Five (5) Day Fishing | \$56.00 | | | | 17,513 | 18,409 | 25,014 |
| Nonres Fishing Annual | \$92.00 | 17,049 | 17,520 | 18,270 | 320 | | |
| Nonres Fishing Annual ²¹ | \$102.00 | | | | 16,390 | 19,363 | 23,744 |
| Nonres Youth Fishing Annual | \$14.00 | | | | 1 | | |
| Nonres Youth Fishing Annual ²¹ | \$15.00 | 4,057 | 4,302 | 4,169 | 4,127 | 3,810 | 4,128 |
| Total Nonresident Fishing | | 228,055 | 234,465 | 232,274 | 204,807 | 202,633 | 220,410 |
| Total Fishing Licenses | | 351,989 | 355,599 | 346,720 | 317,080 | 310,252 | 340,374 |
| Furbearing/Trapping | PRICE | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
| Nonres Furbearing Trapping | \$242.00 | 46 | 40 | 38 | 10 | | |
| Nonres Furbearing Trapping ²¹ | \$249.00 | | | | 33 | 47 | 31 |
| Res Furbearing Trapping | \$44.00 | 2,051 | 2,016 | 2,110 | 529 | | |
| Res Furbearing Trapping ^{21 22} | \$45.00 | | | | 1,833 | 2,328 | 2,148 |
| Res Youth Furbearing Trapping ^{21 22} | \$6.00 | 177 | 169 | 151 | 160 | 140 | 119 |
| Total Furbearing/Trapping Licenses | | 2,274 | 2,225 | 2,299 | 2,565 | 2,515 | 2,298 |
| Game Bird/Small Game | PRICE | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
| Res Bird/Small Game Annual | \$24.00 | 10,573 | 10,687 | 9,797 | 1,119 | | |
| Res Bird/Small Game Annual ²¹ | \$27.00 | | | | 7,960 | 9,205 | 9,710 |
| Res Bird/Small Game Military Combat | \$0.00 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | 1 |
| Res Daily Bird/Small Game | \$9.00 | 979 | 907 | 837 | 768 | 507 | 385 |
| Resident Game Bird ²¹ | \$16.00 | 7,001 | 6,145 | 5,804 | 6,081 | 5,436 | 5,396 |
| Resident Small Game ²¹ | \$16.00 | 2,459 | 2,353 | 1,733 | 1,679 | 1,389 | 1,311 |
| Total Resident Game Bird/Small Game | | 21,013 | 20,093 | 18,172 | 17,607 | 16,537 | 16,803 |
| Nonres Bird/Small Game Annual | \$72.00 | 2,313 | 2,371 | 2,473 | 83 | | |
| Nonres Bird/Small Game Annual ²¹ | \$74.00 | | | | 2,593 | 2,971 | 3,345 |
| Nonres Daily Bird/Small Game | \$20.00 | 5,515 | 5,183 | 5,523 | 81 | | |
| Nonres Daily Bird/Small Game | \$22.00 | | | | 5,673 | 5,210 | 5,600 |
| Nonres Youth Bird/Small Game Annual ²¹ | \$40.00 | 164 | 160 | 170 | 169 | 196 | 217 |
| Total Nonresident Game Bird/Small Game | | 7,992 | 7,714 | 8,166 | 8,599 | 8,377 | 9,162 |

STATEWIDE FIVE-YEAR COMPARISON OF LICENSE SALES

| Total Game Bird/Small Game Licenses | | 29,005 | 27,807 | 26,338 | 26,206 | 24,914 | 25,965 |
|--|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Gray Wolf ⁶ | PRICE | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
| Nonresident Gray Wolf | \$180.00 | | | | | | |
| Nonresident Gray Wolf | \$182.00 | | | 195 | | | |
| Nonresident Gray Wolf | \$187.00 | | | | 261 | 153 | 235 |
| Nonresident Gray Wolf Super Tag | \$187.00 | | | | | 1 | 1 |
| Resident Gray Wolf | \$18.00 | | | | | | |
| Resident Gray Wolf Super Tag | \$21.00 | | | | 1 | | |
| Resident Gray Wolf | \$20.00 | | | 2,341 | 21 | | |
| Resident Gray Wolf | \$21.00 | | | | 2,374 | 1,732 | 1,987 |
| Total Gray Wolf Licenses | | | | 2,536 | 2,657 | 1,886 | 2,223 |
| Lifetime | PRICE | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
| Archery ¹⁵ | \$202.00 | | 419 | 195 | | | |
| Archery ¹⁵ | \$208.00 | | | | 127 | 146 | 143 |
| Bird/Fish/Small Game | \$482.00 | 77 | 57 | 101 | | | |
| Bird/Fish/Small Game | \$496.00 | | | | 46 | 43 | 56 |
| Bird/Fish/Small Game & Conservation Stamp | \$662.50 | 447 | 412 | 536 | | | |
| Bird/Fish/Small Game & Conservation Stamp | \$681.50 | | | | 401 | 527 | 497 |
| Bird/Small Game | \$302.00 | 12 | 22 | 27 | | | |
| Bird/Small Game | \$311.00 | | | | 15 | 20 | 19 |
| Bird/Small Game & Conservation Stamp | \$482.50 | 12 | 6 | 11 | | | |
| Bird/Small Game & Conservation Stamp | \$496.50 | | | | 8 | 10 | 11 |
| Conservation Stamp | \$180.50 | 77 | 132 | 189 | | | |
| Conservation Stamp | \$185.50 | | | | 116 | 133 | 134 |
| Fishing | \$302.00 | 78 | 61 | 83 | | | |
| Fishing | \$311.00 | | | | 61 | 71 | 74 |
| Fishing/Conservation Stamp | \$482.50 | 284 | 305 | 359 | | | |
| Fishing/Conservation Stamp | \$496.50 | | | | 318 | 328 | 403 |
| Total Lifetime Licenses | | 987 | 1,414 | 1,501 | 1,092 | 1,278 | 1,337 |
| Moose | PRICE | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
| Nonresident Moose | \$1,402.00 | 79 | 73 | 63 | | | |
| Nonresident Moose | \$1,982.00 | | | | 60 | 62 | 64 |
| Nonresident Moose Carryover | \$10.00 | | | 2 | 1 | | |
| Nonresident Moose Governor | \$0.00 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 3 |
| Nonresident Moose Tripecta | \$1,402.00 | | 1 | | | | |
| Nonresident Moose Tripecta | \$1,982.00 | | | | | 1 | 1 |
| Nonresident Moose Super Tag | \$1,402.00 | | 1 | | | | |
| Nonresident Moose Super Tag | \$1,982.00 | | | | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Resident Moose | \$112.00 | 344 | 311 | 248 | | | |
| Resident Moose | \$152.00 | | | | 238 | 246 | 255 |
| Resident Moose Carryover | \$10.00 | | | 3 | | | |
| Resident Moose Governor | \$0.00 | 1 | | | 1 | 1 | |
| Resident Moose Tripecta | \$112.00 | | | 1 | | | |
| Resident Moose Super Tag | \$112.00 | 2 | | 1 | | | |
| Total Moose Licenses | | 430 | 391 | 322 | 305 | 315 | 324 |
| Mountain Goat | PRICE | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
| Nonres Mountain Goat | \$2,152.00 | 8 | 9 | 10 | | | |
| Nonres Mountain Goat | \$2,162.00 | | | | 10 | 20 | 27 |
| Nonres Mountain Goat Carryover | \$10.00 | | | 1 | | | |
| Nonres Mountain Goat Tripecta | \$2,152.00 | | 0 | | | | |
| Nonres Mountain Goat Tripecta | \$2,162.00 | | | | | 1 | |
| Nonres Mountain Goat Super Tag | \$2,152.00 | | 1 | 1 | | | |
| Nonres Mountain Goat Super Tag | \$2,162.00 | | | | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Resident Mountain Goat | \$122.00 | 24 | 30 | 30 | | | |
| Resident Mountain Goat | \$152.00 | | | | 30 | 81 | 83 |
| Resident Mountain Goat Super Tag | \$122.00 | 2 | | | | | |
| Resident Mountain Goat Tripecta | \$122.00 | | | 1 | | | |
| Total Mountain Goat Licenses | | 34 | 40 | 43 | 41 | 103 | 111 |
| Mountain Lion | PRICE | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
| Nonres Mountain Lion | \$362.00 | 234 | 256 | 226 | 18 | | |
| Nonres Mountain Lion | \$373.00 | | | | 262 | 283 | 281 |
| Nonres Mountain Lion Super Tag | \$362.00 | | | 1 | | | |
| Nonres Reduced Price Mountain Lion | \$92.00 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 5 |
| Resident Mountain Lion | \$30.00 | 2,126 | 2,186 | 2,191 | 264 | | |
| Resident Mountain Lion | \$32.00 | | | | 2,147 | 2,432 | 2,515 |
| Resident Mountain Lion Super Tag | \$32.00 | | | | 1 | | |
| Resident Reduced Price Mountain Lion | \$20.00 | 29 | 31 | 78 | 41 | 46 | 56 |
| Total Mountain Lion Licenses | | 2,391 | 2,477 | 2,499 | 2,736 | 2,764 | 2,857 |
| Wild Bison ⁸ | PRICE | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
| Nonres Wild Bison - Any | \$2,502.00 | 8 | 10 | 14 | | | |
| Nonres Wild Bison - Any | \$4,402.00 | | | | 24 | 25 | 23 |
| Nonres Wild Bison - Female or Calf | \$1,002.00 | 52 | 44 | 6 | | | |
| Nonres Wild Bison - Female or Calf | \$2,752.00 | | | | 12 | 9 | 9 |

STATEWIDE FIVE-YEAR COMPARISON OF LICENSE SALES

| | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| Nonres Wild Bison Governor ¹⁰ | \$0.00 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 2 |
| Nonres Wild Bison Super Tag | \$2,502.00 | | 1 | | | | |
| Resident Wild Bison - Any | \$402.00 | 32 | 38 | 54 | | | |
| Resident Wild Bison - Any | \$414.00 | | | | 95 | 95 | 97 |
| Resident Wild Bison - Female or Calf | \$252.00 | 211 | 184 | 32 | | | |
| Resident Wild Bison - Female or Calf | \$260.00 | | | | 54 | 39 | 40 |
| Resident Wild Bison Governor ¹⁰ | \$0.00 | 2 | | 1 | | 2 | 2 |
| Resident Wild Bison Super Tag | \$402.00 | 1 | | 1 | | | |
| Resident Wild Bison Super Tag | \$414.00 | | | | | 1 | |
| Total Wild Bison Licenses | | 309 | 282 | 112 | 190 | 174 | 173 |
| Wild Turkey¹³ | PRICE | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
| Resident Fall Turkey | \$16.00 | 2,251 | 2,191 | 2,077 | 2,034 | 2,068 | 2,949 |
| Resident Pio Heritage Fall Turkey | \$10.00 | 21 | 26 | 24 | 23 | 23 | 21 |
| Resident Pio Heritage Spring Turkey | \$10.00 | 52 | 43 | 31 | 37 | 29 | 36 |
| Resident Pioneer Fall Turkey | \$2.00 | 19 | 26 | 25 | 24 | 37 | 35 |
| Resident Pioneer Spring Turkey | \$2.00 | 13 | 29 | 35 | 35 | 30 | 29 |
| Resident Spring Turkey | \$16.00 | 4,343 | 4,409 | 4,390 | 3,973 | 3,739 | 5,413 |
| TOTALS | | 6,699 | 6,724 | 6,582 | 6,126 | 5,926 | 8,483 |
| Nonres Fall Turkey | \$72.00 | 246 | 228 | 246 | | | |
| Nonres Fall Turkey | \$74.00 | | | | 244 | 289 | 434 |
| Nonres Spring Turkey | \$72.00 | 1,116 | 1,122 | 1,280 | | | |
| Nonres Spring Turkey | \$74.00 | | | | 1,420 | 1,577 | 1,182 |
| TOTALS | | 1,362 | 1,350 | 1,526 | 1,664 | 1,866 | 1,616 |
| Total Wild Turkey Licenses | | 8,061 | 8,074 | 8,108 | 7,790 | 7,792 | 10,099 |
| Other Licenses | PRICE | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
| Commercial Fish Hatchery | \$182.00 | 9 | 9 | 8 | 2 | | |
| Commercial Fish Hatchery | \$187.00 | | | | 5 | 7 | 7 |
| Deal in Live Bait | \$67.00 | 76 | 83 | 75 | 31 | | |
| Deal in Live Bait | \$69.00 | | | | 43 | 72 | 79 |
| Duplicate Commercial | \$5.00 | 9 | 6 | 7 | 8 | | |
| Duplicate Commercial | \$7.00 | | | | 1 | 9 | 2 |
| Duplicate Disabled Hunter Companion | \$5.00 | | | 2 | | | |
| Duplicate Disabled Hunter Companion | \$7.00 | | | | 6 | | |
| Duplicate Lifetime | \$5.00 | 323 | 326 | 285 | 129 | | |
| Duplicate Lifetime | \$7.00 | | | | 163 | 236 | 249 |
| Duplicate Multi-Purpose | \$5.00 | 3,744 | 3,687 | 3,566 | 1,736 | | |
| Duplicate Multi-Purpose | \$7.00 | | | | 1,935 | 3,097 | 5,367 |
| Duplicate with Coupon | \$5.00 | 3,196 | 3,793 | 3,979 | 42 | | |
| Duplicate with Coupon | \$7.00 | | | | 4,323 | 3,939 | 4,035 |
| Duplicate without Coupon | \$5.00 | 260 | 272 | 261 | 137 | | |
| Duplicate without Coupon | \$7.00 | | | | 146 | 290 | 400 |
| Fishing Preserve | \$132.00 | 41 | 41 | 34 | 11 | | |
| Fishing Preserve | \$136.00 | | | | 37 | 44 | 50 |
| Game Bird Farm | \$132.00 | 95 | 88 | 83 | 21 | | |
| Game Bird Farm | \$136.00 | | | | 59 | 69 | 70 |
| License to Capture Furbearing Animal | \$20.00 | | | 1 | | | |
| License to Hunt with Falcon | \$16.00 | 85 | 89 | 93 | 94 | 66 | 84 |
| Nonres License to Capture Falcon | \$242.00 | 18 | 11 | 9 | | | |
| Nonres License to Capture Falcon | \$249.00 | | | | 3 | 9 | 9 |
| Nonresident Fur Dealer | \$277.00 | 10 | 10 | 11 | 7 | | |
| Nonresident Fur Dealer | \$285.00 | | | | 4 | 13 | 13 |
| Nonresident Taxidermist | \$702.00 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 1 | | |
| Nonresident Taxidermist | \$723.00 | | | | 2 | 2 | 3 |
| Res License to Capture Falcon | \$38.00 | 23 | 30 | 31 | 4 | | |
| Res License to Capture Falcon | \$39.00 | | | | 30 | 31 | 29 |
| Resident Fur Dealer | \$52.00 | 15 | 13 | 13 | 8 | | |
| Resident Fur Dealer | \$54.00 | | | | 6 | 16 | 16 |
| Res Perm & Totally Disabled Lifetime Fish and C stamp ²⁰ | \$0.00 | | | | | 34 | 200 |
| Resident Taxidermist | \$67.00 | 192 | 199 | 213 | 60 | | |
| Resident Taxidermist | \$69.00 | | | | 153 | 216 | 216 |
| Seine or Trap Fish License | \$20.00 | 807 | 857 | 732 | 107 | | |
| Seine or Trap Fish License | \$21.00 | | | | 583 | 684 | 689 |
| Total Other Licenses | | 8,906 | 9,518 | 9,406 | 9,897 | 8,834 | 11,518 |
| STAMPS, PERMITS, & TAGS | | | | | | | |
| | PRICE | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
| Central Visual Acuity Permit ¹ | \$0.00 | 6 | 4 | 9 | 5 | 1 | |
| Conservation Stamps ²¹ | \$12.50 | 177,229 | 182,680 | 179,339 | 186,280 | 191,820 | 201,591 |
| Disabled Veteran 100% Bird/Sm Game & Fish | \$0.00 | 66 | 82 | 92 | 81 | 114 | 116 |
| Disabled Hunter Companion Permit | \$5.00 | 311 | 342 | 292 | 287 | 313 | 296 |
| Disabled Hunter Permit | \$0.00 | 369 | 338 | 303 | 237 | 217 | 166 |
| Disabled Veteran 50% Fishing | \$0.00 | 247 | 250 | 225 | 257 | 241 | 223 |
| Perm and Total Disabled Veteran Fish/Cstamp | \$0.00 | | | | | | |
| Elk Special Management Stamp | \$12.50 | 12,697 | 11,996 | 12,045 | 71 | | |
| Elk Special Management Stamp | \$15.50 | | | | 11,778 | 11,156 | 11,553 |

STATEWIDE FIVE-YEAR COMPARISON OF LICENSE SALES

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Harvest Information Permits (HIP) | \$0.00 | 8,039 | 8,031 | 7,301 | 8,522 | 7,856 | 7,969 |
| Hunter Safety Exemption ³ | \$0.00 | 221 | 245 | 194 | 184 | 247 | 308 |
| Hunters with Qualifying Disabilities (SFV) | \$0.00 | 199 | 169 | 170 | 209 | 206 | 147 |
| Hunting Season Extension Permit ¹⁷ | \$0.00 | | | 359 | 112 | 191 | 120 |
| Interstate Game Tags | \$8.00 | 4,090 | 3,446 | 3,083 | 5,312 | 2,917 | 2,361 |
| Nonres Glendo Special Pheasant | \$0.00 | 68 | 50 | 71 | 56 | 73 | 100 |
| Nonres Sandhill Crane Limited Quota | \$0.00 | 28 | 38 | 57 | 59 | 62 | 61 |
| Nonres Springer Special Pheasant | \$0.00 | 125 | 158 | 194 | 180 | 198 | 229 |
| Nonres Springer Special Pheasant-Youth | \$0.00 | 15 | 12 | 17 | 23 | 15 | 17 |
| Nonresident Beaver Permit | \$0.00 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| NR Conservation Order Special Mgmt Permit | \$12.50 | 46 | 45 | 52 | 4 | | |
| NR Conservation Order Special Mgmt Permit | \$15.50 | | | | 64 | 39 | 67 |
| Pheasant Special Management Permit | \$12.50 | 5,442 | 5,563 | 5,848 | 157 | | |
| Pheasant Special Management Permit | \$15.50 | | | | 5,829 | 5,930 | 6,631 |
| Purple Heart Medal Bird/Small Game & Fish ¹⁸ | \$0.00 | | | 39 | 19 | 16 | 12 |
| Reciprocity Stamps | \$10.00 | 8,087 | 9,001 | 8,774 | 8,670 | 1,049 | |
| Reciprocity Stamps | \$30.00 | | | | | 5,470 | 6,800 |
| Res Conservation Order Special Mgmt Permit | \$12.50 | 111 | 125 | 143 | 13 | | |
| Res Conservation Order Special Mgmt Permit | \$15.50 | | | | 149 | 84 | 171 |
| Res Springer Special Pheasant-Youth | \$0.00 | 121 | 119 | 119 | 123 | 129 | 171 |
| Resident Beaver Permit | \$0.00 | 10 | 11 | 11 | 12 | 8 | 8 |
| Resident Glendo Special Pheasant | \$0.00 | 618 | 629 | 613 | 678 | 707 | 583 |
| Resident Guide ⁴ | \$0.00 | 507 | 479 | 543 | 464 | 464 | 406 |
| Resident Pioneer Bird/Fish/Small Game | \$0.00 | 1,709 | 1,807 | 1,877 | 1,796 | 1,916 | 1,899 |
| Resident Pioneer Veteran Bird/Fish/Sm Game | \$0.00 | 288 | 283 | 217 | 183 | 163 | 104 |
| Resident Sandhill Crane Limited Quota | \$0.00 | 188 | 343 | 403 | 352 | 245 | 245 |
| Resident Springer Special Pheasant | \$0.00 | 1,068 | 1,052 | 1,060 | 1,113 | 1,056 | 1,252 |
| Sandhill Crane General Permit ¹⁴ | \$0.00 | 519 | 600 | 585 | 484 | 550 | 619 |
| Temporary Hunter With Disability (SFV) ⁵ | \$0.00 | 56 | 59 | 50 | 41 | 46 | 46 |
| Wildlife Damage Management Stamp | \$10.00 | 94 | 75 | 73 | 92 | 75 | 169 |
| Total Stamps, Permits, & Tags | | 222,575 | 228,032 | 224,160 | 233,897 | 233,575 | 244,441 |

DONATIONS

| | PRICE | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
|----------------------------|-------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Access Yes | | \$139,810 | \$ 143,864.23 | \$ 154,621.00 | \$ 150,897.50 | \$ 170,941.18 | \$ 177,698.75 |
| Wildlife Crossings | | | | | | | \$ 30,647.00 |
| Wildlife Damage Management | | | | | | | \$ 65.00 |
| Search and Rescue | | \$ 228,074.00 | \$ 230,434.02 | \$ 243,136.50 | \$ 234,901.50 | \$ 254,458.50 | \$ 280,008.75 |
| Total Donations | | \$ 367,884.00 | \$ 374,298.25 | \$ 397,757.50 | \$ 385,799.00 | \$ 425,399.68 | \$ 488,419.50 |

WATERCRAFT & AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES DECALS⁹

| | PRICE | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
|--|----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Combo One-Year New Watercraft & AIS | \$25.00 | 756 | 719 | 490 | 7 | | |
| Combo One-Year New Watercraft & AIS | \$40.00 | | | | 774 | 750 | 830 |
| Combo One-Year Renewal Watercraft & AIS | \$25.00 | 5,801 | 5,595 | 4,761 | 117 | | |
| Combo One-Year Renewal Watercraft & AIS | \$40.00 | | | | 4,710 | 4,942 | 5,631 |
| Combo One-Year Transfer Watercraft & AIS | \$25.00 | 589 | 676 | 456 | 6 | | |
| Combo One-Year Transfer Watercraft & AIS | \$40.00 | | | | 691 | 623 | 675 |
| Combo One-Year Dealer & AIS | \$25.00 | | | 30 | | | |
| Combo One-Year Dealer & AIS | \$40.00 | | | | 36 | 45 | 51 |
| Combo Three-Year New Watercraft & AIS | \$70.00 | 1,234 | 1,134 | 1,390 | 78 | | |
| Combo Three-Year New Watercraft & AIS | \$110.00 | | | | 973 | 1,020 | 1,202 |
| Combo Three-Year Renewal Watercraft & AIS | \$70.00 | 4,372 | 4,078 | 5,073 | 801 | | |
| Combo Three-Year Renewal Watercraft & AIS | \$110.00 | | | | 3,298 | 3,695 | 4,779 |
| Combo Three-Year Transfer Watercraft & AIS | \$70.00 | 779 | 769 | 967 | 57 | | |
| Combo Three-Year Transfer Watercraft & AIS | \$110.00 | | | | 635 | 634 | 702 |
| Nonresident AIS Motorized Decal -Commercial | \$30.00 | | | | | | |
| Nonresident AIS Motorized Decal | \$30.00 | 7,354 | 7,274 | 7,178 | 7,113 | 7,086 | 8,339 |
| Nonresident AIS Nonmotorized Decal -Commercial | \$15.00 | | | | | 60 | |
| Nonresident AIS Nonmotorized Decal | \$15.00 | 5,967 | 6,994 | 7,772 | 8,458 | 8,821 | 10,915 |
| Resident AIS Motorized Decal | \$10.00 | 3,879 | 2,663 | 2,147 | 1,770 | 1,750 | 2,293 |
| Resident AIS Motorized Decal Three-Year | \$30.00 | | | | | | |
| Resident AIS Nonmotorized Decal | \$5.00 | 11,424 | 13,379 | 14,811 | 17,120 | 18,363 | 23,105 |
| Resident AIS Nonmotorized Decal - Commercial | \$5.00 | | | | | 711 | 407 |
| Watercraft AIS Combined Duplicate | \$5.00 | 208 | 241 | 232 | 207 | | |
| Watercraft AIS Combined Duplicate | \$10.00 | | | | 15 | 253 | 181 |
| Watercraft Dealer | \$15.00 | 50 | 34 | 3 | 1 | | |
| Watercraft Dealer | \$30.00 | | | | 15 | 10 | 1 |
| Watercraft Duplicate | \$5.00 | 75 | 26 | 21 | 13 | | |
| Watercraft Duplicate | \$10.00 | | | | 3 | 13 | 9 |
| Watercraft Government Renewal Three-Year | \$0.00 | 81 | 34 | 31 | 56 | 32 | 44 |
| Watercraft New One-Year | \$15.00 | 269 | 199 | 108 | 2 | | |
| Watercraft New One-Year | \$30.00 | | | | 186 | 162 | 261 |
| Watercraft New Three-Year | \$40.00 | 142 | 75 | 69 | 4 | | |
| Watercraft New Three-Year | \$80.00 | | | | 42 | 40 | 52 |

STATEWIDE FIVE-YEAR COMPARISON OF LICENSE SALES

| | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Watercraft Renewal One-Year | \$15.00 | 862 | 606 | 444 | 8 | | |
| Watercraft Renewal One-Year | \$30.00 | | | | 394 | 328 | 474 |
| Watercraft Renewal Three-Year | \$40.00 | 543 | 314 | 274 | 41 | | |
| Watercraft Renewal Three-Year | \$80.00 | | | | 173 | 147 | 224 |
| Watercraft Transfer One-Year | \$15.00 | 158 | 97 | 60 | 1 | | |
| Watercraft Transfer One-Year | \$30.00 | | | | 71 | 80 | 140 |
| Watercraft Transfer Three-Year | \$40.00 | 66 | 40 | 38 | 1 | | |
| Watercraft Transfer Three-Year | \$80.00 | | | | 16 | 20 | 15 |
| Total Watercraft & AIS | | 44,609 | 44,947 | 46,355 | 47,893 | 49,585 | 60,330 |

SUPER TAG & SUPER TAG TRIFECTA RAFFLE ⁷

| | PRICE | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
|---|---------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| Antelope Super Tag | \$10.00 | 2,067 | 2,360 | 2,842 | 3,392 | 4,527 | 5,903 |
| Bighorn Sheep Super Tag | \$10.00 | 11,741 | 11,161 | 13,106 | 14,027 | 17,207 | 19,198 |
| Black Bear Super Tag | \$10.00 | 238 | 318 | 381 | 447 | 765 | 725 |
| Deer Super Tag | \$10.00 | 4,356 | 4,750 | 5,612 | 6,575 | 8,087 | 10,432 |
| Elk Super Tag | \$10.00 | 7,615 | 7,896 | 10,626 | 12,129 | 15,950 | 20,514 |
| Gray Wolf Super Tag | \$10.00 | - | - | - | 1,166 | 1,387 | 1,449 |
| Moose Super Tag | \$10.00 | 8,514 | 7,980 | 9,163 | 9,849 | 11,804 | 13,349 |
| Mountain Goat Super Tag | \$10.00 | 4,526 | 4,590 | 5,239 | 5,124 | 5,794 | 5,992 |
| Mountain Lion Super Tag | \$10.00 | 392 | 427 | 548 | 584 | 956 | 910 |
| Super Tag Trifecta | \$30.00 | 6,855 | 7,486 | 9,731 | 10,605 | 13,539 | 16,038 |
| Wild Bison Super Tag | \$10.00 | 4,181 | 4,477 | 5,303 | 6,247 | 7,096 | 7,985 |
| Total Super Tag and Super Tag Trifecta | | 50,485 | 51,445 | 62,551 | 70,145 | 87,112 | 102,495 |

PREFERENCE POINTS

| | PRICE | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
|---|----------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Nonresident Antelope | \$30.00 | 38,255 | 45,301 | 51,527 | | | |
| Nonresident Antelope | \$31.00 | | | | 58,638 | 70,049 | 86,920 |
| Nonresident Bighorn Sheep | \$100.00 | 7,547 | 8,212 | 8,902 | | | |
| Nonresident Bighorn Sheep | \$150.00 | | | | 8,538 | 8,978 | 9,264 |
| Nonresident Deer | \$40.00 | 37,829 | 44,407 | 50,692 | | | |
| Nonresident Deer | \$41.00 | | | | 57,098 | 68,879 | 85,302 |
| Nonresident Elk | \$50.00 | 47,191 | 54,062 | 61,976 | | | |
| Nonresident Elk | \$52.00 | | | | 69,369 | 82,555 | 101,334 |
| Nonresident Moose | \$75.00 | 8,676 | 9,393 | 9,926 | | | |
| Nonresident Moose | \$150.00 | | | | 8,407 | 8,636 | 8,769 |
| Nonresident Youth Antelope | \$10.00 | 3,439 | 3,868 | 4,101 | 4,646 | 5,640 | 6,785 |
| Nonresident Youth Deer | \$10.00 | 2,855 | 3,362 | 3,697 | 4,048 | 5,177 | 6,229 |
| Nonresident Youth Elk | \$10.00 | 2,837 | 3,255 | 3,666 | 4,090 | 5,293 | 6,435 |
| Resident Bighorn Sheep - Draw/No Fee | \$0.00 | 4,978 | 4,857 | 5,071 | 5,224 | 5,204 | 5,379 |
| Resident Bighorn Sheep - Point Purchase | \$7.00 | 4,540 | 5,179 | 5,559 | 5,449 | 6,303 | 6,608 |
| Resident Moose - Draw/No Fee | \$0.00 | 10,158 | 9,634 | 10,265 | 9,844 | 9,817 | 9,660 |
| Resident Moose - Point Purchase | \$7.00 | 5,831 | 6,843 | 7,071 | 6,992 | 8,266 | 8,747 |
| Total Preference Points | | 174,136 | 198,373 | 222,453 | 242,343 | 284,797 | 341,432 |

DRAW APPLICATION FEES

| | PRICE | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
|-----------------------------|---------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Bison Application Fee | \$6.00 | 3,971 | 3,746 | 4,095 | | | |
| Nonresident Application Fee | \$14.00 | 98,924 | 102,468 | 108,361 | | | |
| Nonresident Application Fee | \$15.00 | | | | 113,111 | 125,875 | 129,022 |
| Resident Application Fee | \$5.00 | 134,892 | 135,594 | 142,375 | 151,683 | 155,783 | 169,445 |
| Withdrawal Fee | \$5.00 | 867 | 843 | 1,107 | | | |
| Total Fees | | 238,654 | 242,651 | 255,938 | 264,794 | 281,658 | 298,467 |

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|--|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Total sales and revenue | | 1,729,161.00 | 1,780,940.25 | 1,843,845.50 | 1,856,860.00 | 1,966,196.68 | 2,180,314.50 |
|--------------------------------|--|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|

*WS 23-1-705(H) - Complimentary Antelope for Disabled Individuals.

**WS 23-1-705(J) - Complimentary Licenses Designated for Youth with Life Threatening Illnesses

¹ During the 2013 Legislative Session, Central Visual Acuity provisions were added to W.S. 23-3-306. The Department adopted Chapter 64, Regulation for Central Visual Acuity Disability Permits on July 10, 2013 and permits were issued beginning in January 2014.

² Beginning in 2014, the Conservation Order Special Management Permit was issued based on residency.

³ During the 2014 Legislative Session, the Hunter Safety Exemption was added to W.S. 23-2-106 and permits were issued beginning in July 2014.

⁴ Prior to 2013, Resident Guide permits were manually issued in the field.

⁵ Beginning in 2014, Temporary Hunter with Qualifying Disability were issued through the Electronic Licensing System.

⁶ Gray Wolves were placed under federal protection in September of 2014. Federal Protection lifted March 2017 and Wolf licenses were sold in 2017. 2013-2014 Wolf Pricing did not include the \$2.00 commission.

⁷ During the 2013 Legislative Session, W.S. 23-1-302 (p) was added to allow the Department to issue licenses through a competitive raffle. Super Tag and Super Tag Trifecta raffle chances were first offered beginning in 2014.

⁸ Beginning in 2014, Wild Bison was conducted as a limited quota draw. Prior to 2014, applicants were placed on a priority list.

⁹ Began issuing Combined Watercraft and AIS in 2014.

STATEWIDE FIVE-YEAR COMPARISON OF LICENSE SALES

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| <p>¹⁰ During the 2013 Legislative Session, W.S. 23-1-705 was changed to allow the Governor to issue up to five (5) Wild Bison Licenses and licenses were issued beginning in 2013.</p> | | |
| <p>¹¹ During the 2009 Legislative Session, W.S. 23-1-703 was modified to provide for the issuance of ewe/lamb bighorn sheep licenses. Licenses were issued beginning in 2012.</p> | | |
| <p>¹² During the 2011 Legislative Session, W.S. 23-1-705 (e) was changed to allow the Department to begin issuing pioneer heritage and pioneer turkey licenses and licenses were issued beginning in 2012.</p> | | |
| <p>¹³ Landowner licenses are not listed separately, but are included in the regular license counts.</p> | | |
| <p>¹⁴ Prior to 2014, General Sandhill Crane licenses were issued manually on forms provided by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.</p> | | |
| <p>¹⁵ Began issuing Lifetime Archery Licenses in 2016</p> | | |
| <p>¹⁶ During the 2015 Legislative Session, W.S. 23-1-705(h) was changed to set Complimentary Antelope Licenses to resident pricing beginning January 1, 2016</p> | | |
| <p>¹⁷ On July 8, 2016, WGF Commission amended Chapter 35 Hunting Permit Regulations for Persons with Disabilities to include a new Season Extension Permit. Beginning January 2017, Hunting Season Extension Permits were issued</p> | | |
| <p>¹⁸ During the 2016 Legislative Session, W.S. 23-1-705 (d) was changed to include recipients of the U.S. Military Purple Heart Medal. The change was effective January 2017</p> | | |
| <p>¹⁹ During the 2016 Legislative Session W.S. 23-2-101(J) was changed, increasing license fees for licenses sold in 2018</p> | | |
| <p>²⁰ During the 2019 Legislative Session W.S. 23-1-102 (C) was added to provide for a lifetime fishing license and conservation stamp to any resident who is permanently and totally disabled and is unable to engage in any substantial gainful activity as determined by the U.S. Social Security Administration for the purpose of determining eligibility for SSI or SSDI benefits.</p> | | |
| <p>²¹ In 2019 the following annual licenses were changed to 12 month licenses, fishing, small game, game bird, furbear trap, and conservation</p> | | |
| <p>²² The calculated amount for 38 resident furbear trapping permits is overstated by \$1,520.00 due to a system error. The calculated amount for 2 resident furbear youth trapping permits is overstated by \$12.00 due to a system error.</p> | | |

EXPENDITURE ALLOCATIONS BY PROGRAM -- FY 21

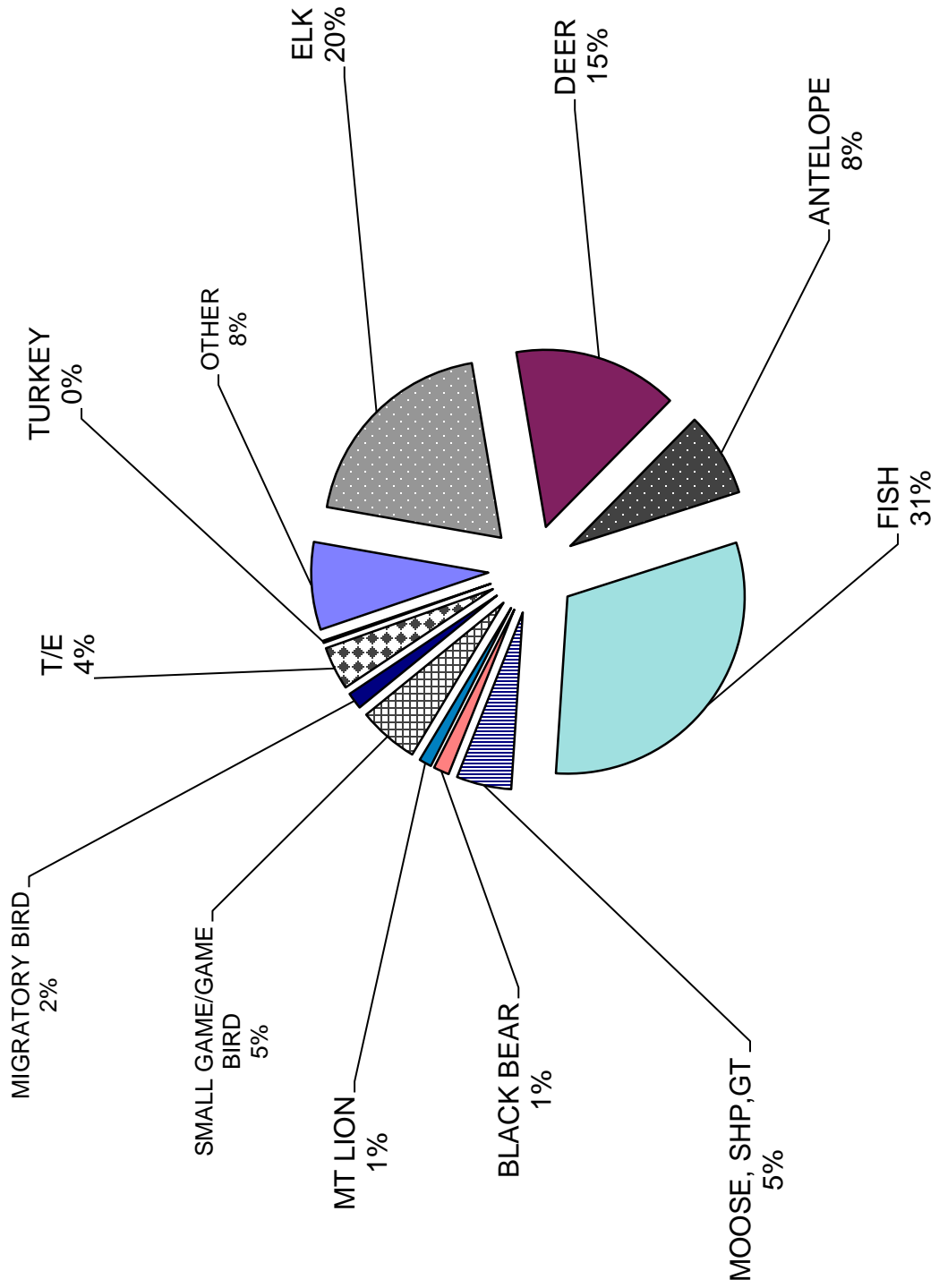
| CODE | PROGRAM | COSTS BEFORE ALLOCATION | GEN'L WILDLIFE ALLOCATION* | COSTS AFTER ALLOCATION |
|------|----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| AA | GENERAL WILDLIFE | \$16,283,374 | | |
| BC | ANTELOPE (PRONGHORN) | \$5,050,003 | \$1,273,007 | \$6,323,010 |
| BD | ELK | \$12,805,474 | \$3,228,008 | \$16,033,482 |
| BE | ROCKY MOUNTAIN SHEEP | \$2,361,457 | \$595,277 | \$2,956,734 |
| BF | MOOSE | \$781,532 | \$197,009 | \$978,540 |
| BG | ROCKY MOUNTAIN GOAT | \$135,442 | \$34,142 | \$169,584 |
| BJ | MOUNTAIN LION | \$745,870 | \$188,019 | \$933,889 |
| BK | BLACK BEAR | \$938,212 | \$236,505 | \$1,174,717 |
| BL | GRIZZLY BEAR | \$1,326,113 | \$334,287 | \$1,660,400 |
| BM | MULE DEER | \$8,851,667 | \$2,231,331 | \$11,082,998 |
| BN | WHITE-TAILED DEER | \$988,583 | \$249,202 | \$1,237,786 |
| BP | BISON | \$139,366 | \$35,131 | \$174,497 |
| BW | WOLF | \$1,027,586 | \$259,034 | \$1,286,620 |
| CA | SMALL GAME | \$97,547 | \$24,590 | \$122,137 |
| CC | PHEASANTS | \$1,578,647 | \$397,946 | \$1,976,593 |
| CF | TURKEY | \$134,049 | \$33,791 | \$167,840 |
| CG | PARTRIDGE | \$654 | \$165 | \$819 |
| CR | BLUE/RUFFED GROUSE | \$5,132 | \$1,294 | \$6,426 |
| CT | SAGE GROUSE | \$1,874,025 | \$472,405 | \$2,346,430 |
| CV | SHARP-TAILED GROUSE | \$42,015 | \$10,591 | \$52,607 |
| DB | GEESE | \$166,734 | \$42,030 | \$208,764 |
| DC | DUCKS | \$437,961 | \$110,401 | \$548,362 |
| DD | SWANS | \$47,942 | \$12,085 | \$60,027 |
| DE | DOVES | \$53,700 | \$13,537 | \$67,237 |
| DF | CRANES | \$287,416 | \$72,452 | \$359,868 |
| FX | SPORT FISH | \$19,217,489 | \$4,844,351 | \$24,061,840 |
| HB | BOBCAT | \$318,673 | \$80,331 | \$399,004 |

EXPENDITURE ALLOCATIONS BY PROGRAM -- FY 21

| CODE | PROGRAM | COSTS BEFORE ALLOCATION | GEN'L WILDLIFE ALLOCATION* | COSTS AFTER ALLOCATION |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| HC | BEAVER | \$517,758 | \$130,517 | \$648,275 |
| MB | COMMERCIAL FISHERIES | \$21,463 | \$5,410 | \$26,874 |
| NA | NONGAME MAMMALS | \$1,059,737 | \$267,139 | \$1,326,876 |
| NB | NONGAME BIRDS | \$506,090 | \$127,575 | \$633,665 |
| NC | RAPTORS | \$368,327 | \$92,848 | \$461,175 |
| ND | NONGAME FISH | \$1,055,328 | \$266,027 | \$1,321,356 |
| NE | AMPHIBIANS/REPTILES | \$1,245,888 | \$314,064 | \$1,559,951 |
| NF | PREDATORY BIRDS | \$7,323 | \$1,846 | \$9,168 |
| NH | PEREGRINE FALCON | \$18,686 | \$4,710 | \$23,397 |
| NJ | BALD EAGLE | \$15,008 | \$3,783 | \$18,791 |
| NK | BLACK FOOTED FERRET | \$118,735 | \$29,931 | \$148,665 |
| NL | CANADIAN LYNX | \$1,593 | \$402 | \$1,995 |
| NM | PREBLES MEADOW MOUSE | \$57,579 | \$14,515 | \$72,093 |
| NP | PREDATORY MAMMALS | \$31,195 | \$7,864 | \$39,059 |
| NR | BLACK-TAILED PRARIE DOG | \$1,237 | \$312 | \$1,549 |
| NS | WHITE-TAILED PRARIE DOG | \$116,938 | \$29,478 | \$146,416 |
| NW | WYOMING TOAD | \$38,336 | \$9,664 | \$48,000 |
| NX | EXOTIC GAME | \$1,456 | \$367 | \$1,824 |
| ZZ** | NONWILDLIFE | \$1,101,313 | | \$1,101,313 |
| TOTAL PROGRAM COSTS | | \$81,980,655 | \$16,283,374 | \$81,980,655 |

*Most costs for the Office of the Director, Fiscal Services, Services (including remodeling and maintenance of regional office buildings, and Information/Education programs such as Wyoming Wildlife magazine, information services, visitor centers, educational programs, etc. are included in General Wildlife and associated on a percentage basis to specific department programs.

WGF Expenditures by Species - FY 21 (includes general fund non capital construction)



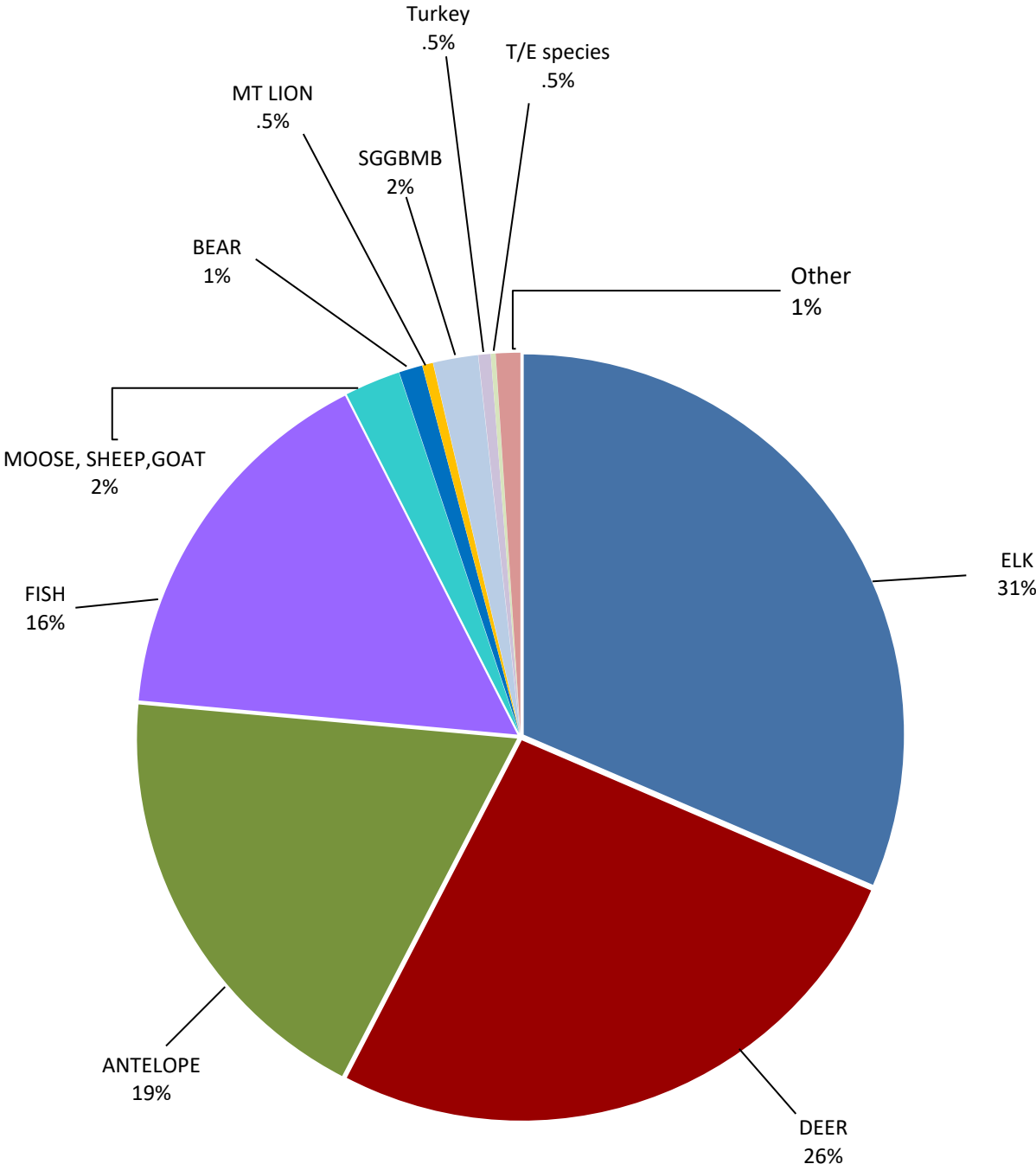
REVENUE ALLOCATIONS BY PROGRAM -- FY 21

| CODE | PROGRAM | REVENUE ALLOCATION | GEN'L WILDLIFE ALLOCATION | REVENUE AFTER ALLOCATION |
|------|----------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| AA | GENERAL WILDLIFE | \$3,841,248 | | |
| BC | ANTELOPE | \$14,702,807 | \$610,764 | \$15,313,571 |
| BD | ELK | \$24,748,011 | \$1,028,048 | \$25,776,059 |
| BE | ROCKY MOUNTAIN SHEEP | \$2,081,135 | \$86,452 | \$2,167,587 |
| BF | MOOSE | \$1,611,544 | \$66,945 | \$1,678,488 |
| BG | ROCKY MOUNTAIN GOAT | \$154,724 | \$6,427 | \$161,152 |
| BJ | MOUNTAIN LION | \$408,413 | \$16,966 | \$425,379 |
| BK | BLACK BEAR | \$801,384 | \$33,290 | \$834,674 |
| BL | GRIZZLY BEAR | \$257,879 | \$10,712 | \$268,591 |
| BM | MULE DEER | \$20,478,333 | \$850,683 | \$21,329,016 |
| BN | WHITE-TAILED DEER | \$480,216 | \$19,948 | \$500,164 |
| BP | BISON | \$338,513 | \$14,062 | \$352,575 |
| BW | WOLF | \$544,378 | \$22,614 | \$566,992 |
| CA | SMALL GAME | \$2,466,887 | \$102,476 | \$2,569,363 |
| CC | PHEASANTS | \$129,681 | \$5,387 | \$135,068 |
| CF | TURKEY | \$778,432 | \$32,337 | \$810,768 |
| CG | PARTRIDGE | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| CR | BLUE/RUFFED GROUSE | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| CT | SAGE GROUSE | \$1,105,320 | \$45,916 | \$1,151,236 |
| CV | SHARP-TAILED GROUSE | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| DB | GEESE | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| DC | DUCKS | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| DD | SWANS | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| DE | DOVES | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| DF | CRANES | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| FX | SPORT FISH | \$18,752,703 | \$778,999 | \$19,531,702 |

REVENUE ALLOCATIONS BY PROGRAM -- FY 21

| CODE | PROGRAM | REVENUE ALLOCATION | GEN'L WILDLIFE ALLOCATION | REVENUE AFTER ALLOCATION |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| HB | BOBCAT/LYNX | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| HC | BEAVER | \$313,564 | \$13,026 | \$326,590 |
| MB | COMMERCIAL FISHERIES | \$37,332 | \$1,551 | \$38,883 |
| NA | NONGAME MAMMALS | \$717,760 | \$29,816 | \$747,577 |
| NB | NONGAME BIRDS | \$555,999 | \$23,097 | \$579,096 |
| NC | RAPTORS | \$103,831 | \$4,313 | \$108,145 |
| ND | NONGAME FISH | \$214,772 | \$8,922 | \$223,694 |
| NE | AMPHIBIANS/REPTILES | \$413,011 | \$17,157 | \$430,168 |
| NF | PREDATORY BIRDS | \$34,782 | \$1,445 | \$36,227 |
| NH | PEREGRINE FALCON | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| NJ | BALD EAGLE | \$8,816 | \$366 | \$9,182 |
| NK | BLACK FOOTED FERRET | \$136,855 | \$5,685 | \$142,540 |
| NL | CANADIAN LYNX | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| NM | PREBLES MEADOW MOUSE | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| NP | PREDATORY MAMMALS | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| NR | BLACK-TAILED PRARIE DOG | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| NS | WHITE-TAILED PRARIE DOG | \$92,555 | \$3,845 | \$96,400 |
| NW | WYOMING TOAD | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| NX | EXOTIC GAME | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| ZZ** | NONWILDLIFE | \$1,145,716 | | \$1,145,716 |
| TOTAL PROGRAM COSTS | | \$97,456,604 | \$3,841,248 | \$97,456,604 |

WGF Revenue Collected by Species FY 21



EXPENDITURE ALLOCATIONS BY PROGRAM - Five-Year History (Includes General Wildlife Allocation)

| PROGRAM | 2017 | % | 2018 | % | 2019 | % | 2020 | % | 2021 | % |
|----------------------|-------------|----------|-------------|----------|-------------|----------|-------------|----------|-------------|----------|
| Antelope | 3,860,632 | 5.01% | 4,030,867 | 4.32% | 4,382,953 | 5.62% | 5,912,113 | 7.38% | 6,323,010 | 7.71% |
| Elk | 16,173,348 | 20.97% | 18,272,292 | 19.57% | 15,326,643 | 19.65% | 15,149,069 | 18.91% | 16,033,482 | 19.56% |
| Rocky Mountain Sheep | 2,198,128 | 2.85% | 2,354,524 | 2.52% | 2,348,900 | 3.01% | 2,626,916 | 3.28% | 2,956,734 | 3.61% |
| Moose | 1,236,004 | 1.60% | 1,260,490 | 1.35% | 999,121 | 1.28% | 968,140 | 1.21% | 978,540 | 1.19% |
| Rocky Mountain Goat | 100,905 | 0.13% | 216,732 | 0.23% | 228,526 | 0.29% | 95,352 | 0.12% | 169,584 | 0.21% |
| Mountain Lion | 670,527 | 0.87% | 785,246 | 0.84% | 787,461 | 1.01% | 892,317 | 1.11% | 933,889 | 1.14% |
| Black Bear | 856,184 | 1.11% | 1,032,056 | 1.11% | 855,683 | 1.10% | 1,451,988 | 1.81% | 1,174,717 | 1.43% |
| Grizzly Bear | 1,713,088 | 2.22% | 3,007,192 | 3.22% | 1,974,903 | 2.53% | 1,609,094 | 2.01% | 1,660,400 | 2.03% |
| Mule Deer | 10,497,053 | 13.61% | 13,451,146 | 14.41% | 10,935,706 | 14.02% | 11,713,504 | 14.62% | 11,082,998 | 13.52% |
| White-tailed Deer | 945,080 | 1.23% | 1,408,008 | 1.51% | 1,134,244 | 1.45% | 1,107,778 | 1.38% | 1,237,786 | 1.51% |
| Bison | 242,899 | 0.31% | 163,848 | 0.18% | 228,003 | 0.29% | 159,628 | 0.20% | 174,497 | 0.21% |
| Wolf | 1,196,464 | 1.55% | 1,747,459 | 1.87% | 1,280,874 | 1.64% | 1,230,040 | 1.54% | 1,286,620 | 1.57% |
| Small Game | 94,430 | 0.12% | 61,433 | 0.07% | 36,017 | 0.05% | 33,353 | 0.04% | 122,137 | 0.15% |
| Game Birds | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% |
| Pheasants | 1,585,614 | 2.06% | 2,062,531 | 2.21% | 1,912,180 | 2.45% | 2,223,085 | 2.78% | 1,976,593 | 2.41% |
| Turkey | 181,384 | 0.24% | 148,520 | 0.16% | 151,403 | 0.19% | 272,401 | 0.34% | 167,840 | 0.20% |
| Partridge | 2,832 | 0.00% | 1,075 | 0.00% | 3,461 | 0.00% | 2,234 | 0.00% | 819 | 0.00% |
| Blue/Ruffed Grouse | 9,454 | 0.01% | 14,720 | 0.02% | 1,985 | 0.00% | 10,029 | 0.01% | 6,426 | 0.01% |
| Sage Grouse | 2,697,643 | 3.50% | 3,344,918 | 3.58% | 2,841,738 | 3.64% | 2,937,947 | 3.67% | 2,346,430 | 2.86% |
| Sharp-Tailed Grouse | 54,054 | 0.07% | 117,912 | 0.13% | 45,565 | 0.06% | 51,106 | 0.06% | 52,607 | 0.06% |
| Geese | 217,865 | 0.28% | 404,696 | 0.43% | 358,495 | 0.46% | 188,780 | 0.24% | 208,764 | 0.25% |
| Ducks | 943,660 | 1.22% | 767,037 | 0.82% | 613,969 | 0.79% | 565,336 | 0.71% | 548,362 | 0.67% |
| Swans | 166,094 | 0.22% | 297,235 | 0.32% | 51,587 | 0.07% | 18,444 | 0.02% | 60,027 | 0.07% |
| Doves | 100,271 | 0.13% | 71,673 | 0.08% | 114,725 | 0.15% | 97,303 | 0.12% | 67,237 | 0.08% |

EXPENDITURE ALLOCATIONS BY PROGRAM - Five-Year History (Includes General Wildlife Allocation)

| PROGRAM | 2017 | % | 2018 | % | 2019 | % | 2020 | % | 2021 | % |
|----------------------------|-------------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Cranes | 283,305 | 0.37% | 157,758 | 0.17% | 112,231 | 0.14% | 234,334 | 0.29% | 359,868 | 0.44% |
| Sport Fish | 24,583,958 | 31.88% | 29,217,042 | 31.29% | 23,903,154 | 30.65% | 23,740,958 | 29.64% | 24,061,840 | 29.35% |
| Bobcat/Lynx | 280,334 | 0.36% | 501,953 | 0.54% | 433,896 | 0.56% | 336,912 | 0.42% | 399,004 | 0.49% |
| Beaver | 400,796 | 0.52% | 268,301 | 0.29% | 145,868 | 0.19% | 299,449 | 0.37% | 648,275 | 0.79% |
| Commercial Fisheries | 22,344 | 0.03% | 22,201 | 0.02% | 22,083 | 0.03% | 19,048 | 0.02% | 26,874 | 0.03% |
| Nongame Mammals | 1,888,153 | 2.45% | 1,900,104 | 2.03% | 1,322,787 | 1.70% | 1,346,681 | 1.68% | 1,326,876 | 1.62% |
| Nongame Birds | 1,089,991 | 1.41% | 1,693,048 | 1.81% | 1,382,533 | 1.77% | 809,195 | 1.01% | 633,665 | 0.77% |
| Raptors | 329,300 | 0.43% | 547,421 | 0.59% | 378,618 | 0.49% | 486,968 | 0.61% | 461,175 | 0.56% |
| Nongame Fish | 620,856 | 0.81% | 1,331,393 | 1.43% | 1,123,215 | 1.44% | 810,430 | 1.01% | 1,321,356 | 1.61% |
| Amphibians/Reptiles | 592,136 | 0.77% | 1,244,198 | 1.33% | 1,167,354 | 1.50% | 930,745 | 1.16% | 1,559,951 | 1.90% |
| Predatory Birds | 25,743 | 0.03% | 10,645 | 0.01% | 8,492 | 0.01% | 23,684 | 0.03% | 9,168 | 0.01% |
| Peregrine Falcon | 9,512 | 0.01% | 13,604 | 0.01% | 10,054 | 0.01% | 13,060 | 0.02% | 23,397 | 0.03% |
| Bald Eagle | 39,273 | 0.05% | 44,132 | 0.05% | 19,448 | 0.02% | 18,021 | 0.02% | 18,791 | 0.02% |
| Black-Footed Ferret | 254,573 | 0.33% | 321,846 | 0.34% | 279,062 | 0.36% | 303,465 | 0.38% | 148,665 | 0.18% |
| Canadian Lynx | 4,534 | 0.01% | 5,599 | 0.01% | 9,427 | 0.01% | 2,804 | 0.00% | 1,995 | 0.00% |
| Prebles Jumping Mouse | 16,139 | 0.02% | 3,089 | 0.00% | 25,288 | 0.03% | 33,506 | 0.04% | 72,093 | 0.09% |
| Predatory Mammals | 45,467 | 0.06% | 48,298 | 0.05% | 43,816 | 0.06% | 50,454 | 0.06% | 39,059 | 0.05% |
| Black-Tailed Prairie Dog | 12,211 | 0.02% | 11,694 | 0.01% | 2,384 | 0.00% | 276 | 0.00% | 1,549 | 0.00% |
| White-Tailed Prairie Dog | 15,396 | 0.02% | 10,926 | 0.01% | 155,233 | 0.20% | 169,273 | 0.21% | 146,416 | 0.18% |
| Wyoming Toad | 6,778 | 0.01% | 15,251 | 0.02% | 56,413 | 0.07% | 117,833 | 0.15% | 48,000 | 0.06% |
| Exotic Game | 2,826 | 0.00% | 685 | 0.00% | 884 | 0.00% | 1,556 | 0.00% | 1,824 | 0.00% |
| Nonwildlife | 856,147 | 1.11% | 985,723 | 1.06% | 767,183 | 0.98% | 1,029,499 | 1.29% | 1,101,313 | 1.34% |
| TOTAL PROGRAM COSTS | 77,123,383 | 100.00% | 93,376,523 | 100.00% | 77,983,563 | 100.00% | 80,094,107 | 100.00% | 81,980,655 | 100.00% |