

From: Hagener, Jeff
Sent: Tuesday, June 13, 2006 8:44 AM
To: Childress, Don, Sime, Carolyn, Flowers, Pat, Ait, Kurt
Cc: Smith, Chris (FWP)
Subject: Wolves - 10j on Wall Creek

I wanted to follow up to verify my recent conversations and directions regarding wolves on Wall Creek WMA. We are currently in the liberal mode with wolf management since breeding pair and pack numbers are in excess of the threshold levels specified in the Wolf Management Plan.

I have instructed that the 10j rule will apply for wolves on Wall Creek. That means that in order for a lethal take to occur it must be by a livestock owner or designated agent. The taking must clearly follow 10j rules - not simply because wolves are in the same pasture as livestock. The lethal taking of any wolf on the WMA will be investigated by USFWS like it would anywhere else, except that FWP personnel should be present during the investigation.

Additional measures such as shoot-on-sight permits or authorization for Wildlife Services to take wolves on the WMA will not be approved unless FWP personnel deem it appropriate. The preference is that if control efforts are deemed appropriate, FWP should be the lead on any such activities on the WMA.

Livestock operators should be made clearly aware that they will be grazing their livestock in an area that has wolves present. They are assuming the risk of depredation and will not be given special consideration beyond the 10j allowance, for wolf depredation.

If the status of breeding pair/packs in the state changes, or if FWP determines the 10j is not being properly utilized on any WMA, the allowance of the 10j applicability on WMAs can be discontinued.

My understanding is that Kurt Ait will be relating this information and direction to the livestock operators today.

Jeff Hagener

Attn:
Todd Everett

from
Debbie
Barrett