

Questions for CPW and other agencies that will have a part in Wolf Reintroduction (Updated 10/27)

- 1) How will the wolves be chosen/vetted? This is still a question I hear. Folks still remain concerned that problem wolves will be introduced if there is not full disclosure by the state providing the wolves. There are also concerns of introducing disease.
- 2) Can you make sure there are multiple copies (say 85) of the Wolf Resource Guide to Reduce Depredations available at the meeting? Also, copies of other materials pertinent to livestock producers and wolf reintroduction?
- 3) When will local livestock producers/producers in close proximity to the area of reintroduction be notified that wolves are being reintroduced into their area? If livestock owners are to have mitigation methods in place before incidents of depredation of livestock occur, then it is imperative that livestock producers be notified in advance of reintroduction into their area. We have heard the statements regarding that the wolves will want to quickly leave the area of reintroduction and move maybe 30 miles away. However, that is not a 100% guarantee. What will be the scope/size of the area where livestock owners will be notified that wolves are being reintroduced? What will be the timeline of notifying livestock producers?... A month out, two weeks out? The time will be quickly fleeting as this moves forward and getting all the pieces in place prior to reintroduction for the best possible outcomes is imperative. November is less than a week away as I write this. We have good working relationships with our local CPW and our AWM's and I also believe with other CPW, USFS, and BLM. We want to maintain that relationship and we know CPW and other agencies value that as well. We want to keep the trust going but this is very concerning if we aren't able to have a heads up if wolves are being reintroduced nearby our operations.
- 4) Following question 2 and inferred by it... When will livestock producers in the area of reintroduction have access to items such as fladry, turbo fladry, shell-crackers, propane cannons and fox lights... etc...? Are all of these allowed? I know this depends on the 10J. Also, will all deterrents be allowed on private, USFS and BLM permits, state lands, Wilderness and Wilderness Study Areas? Some of these questions may need to be answered by those agencies and USFWS.
- 5) How and who can identify if a depredation occurs or presence of wolves, so producers can be on the alert? Also, if fladry and other mitigation items will be limited in supply early detection of presence will be imperative. Also, having mitigation methods in use to both act as a deterrent and meet requirements for compensation. Can livestock producers assist in the identification of wolf presence and wolf depredation? Game cams, cell phone pics, scat, hair on fence, sightings—documentations of such? Producers are concerned that CPW is stretched to the limit as is. Will we be informed of what we can do to assist in identification? How will this work?
- 6) Following up on question 5 and in general – Can you list the steps/actions that will be taken after suspected presence and after suspected predation... a timeline? Can you list the steps in general after wolves are introduced into a specific area and a timeline of such steps/actions?
- 7) What if livestock producers cannot use their pastures whether private or permits/allotments through USFS, BLM, state lands due to wolf presence, wolf denning pack, and or depredation issues?
 - a) This is how I worded the question to Scott Fitzwilliams, USFS and Larry Sandoval, BLM -- If a denning or predating pack is identified in the allotment of a grazing permittee and the permittee has to move his

cattle or sheep, will there be any alternative allotments/range/feed provided to the livestock producer affected by this? (I don't know if I am using correct terminology here, but I think you understand what I mean.)

- 8) How is CPW handling pools of cattle ran as ONE HERD and on USFS permits and potentially BLM? Many of these producers have articles of organization to manage the cattle as one herd during the summer. Examples in our Holy Cross Cattlemen's Assoc. are N. Thompson, Coal Basin, East Divide, and West Divide. We believe pools of cattle should be handled as one herd for compensation and indirect losses compensation and ratios.
- a) How I asked question of USFS (PRELIMINARY INDICATIONS SHOW THAT POOLS OF CATTLE ARE CONSIDERED ONE HERD by the USFS) --How does USFS define the herds of cattle that are Cattlemen's Pools of cattle, say the N. Thompson Cattlemen's, Coal Basin, East Divide? Are the cattle defined as one herd, essentially one owner -- the pool is the owner while on the permits? This is important for indirect losses or losses of calves or lambs when a depredation has occurred and there are missing livestock. From what I remember in the plan CPW required the livestock to belong to the same individual owner. If USFS considers a pool as one owner while on the permit can we get CPW to consider the pool as one owner?

However, in a pool of cattle Rancher Jones could suffer a confirmed injury or death of a calf by a wolf and have potentially no missing calves and Rancher Smith's cows and calves were say 25 feet from Rancher Jones calf when it was killed or injured and Rancher Smith is missing two calves. Is Rancher Smith just out of luck or could CPW consider changing the definition of single ownership in a pool to the entire Pool as I believe USFS does (all ranchers in a pool as one owner)?

- b) (Updated 10/ 27) I just realized that there are other cases of cows that are ran as one herd. I'm a little slow as one example is Tom and I here on the ranch where we live and work. We have cows and they're all run with the cows of the ranch. Many places have either a hired man running cows with the ranch owner's cows or relatives running cows together that may not have said cattle under ownership of the ranch but maybe two brothers owning cattle running their cows together.
- c) The same example I gave for a pool of cattle would apply to the scenario in 8 b) where a wolf depredation could happen to one of the ranch calves and the hired man could be missing two calves. Or one brother has a calf injured or killed and the other brother is missing calves. Would the hired man and the brother missing calves but with no depredation on their calves not receive any compensation for missing calves even though calves are running in the same herd belonging to the ranch or the brother, who had confirmed depredation?
- 9) How will CDOT handle removal of carcasses on state highways and interstates? Will county road crews also remove road kill? What about when hunters leave carcass remains (guts, limbs, head piles) next to county roads or on BLM and USFS lands that directly abut private ranchlands? This could be a draw for the wolves and bring them into close proximity, or onto private ranchlands. Our ranch crew including myself saw a hunter's gut pile on Cottonwood Pass Road right next to the county road, near BLM ground, and in close proximity to one of the neighbor ranches private ground this October while bringing the ranch cattle off the mountain. Will this be the responsibility of CPW to remove carcasses from BLM, USFS, state lands, CPW lands if the carcasses are in close proximity to private ranchlands? As producers are required to have adequate carcass removal/containment it is imperative that road kill

and carcasses in close proximity to private ranchlands also be handled properly and not be an attractant to wolves or other predators.