Wolf Conservation & Management

WAG
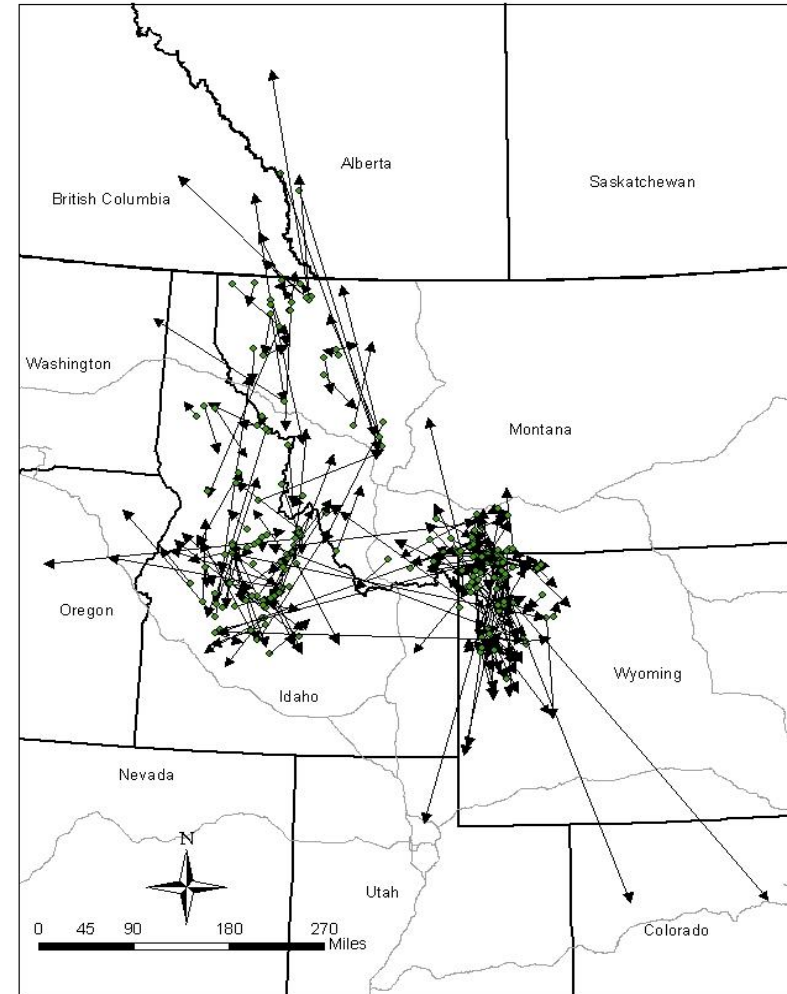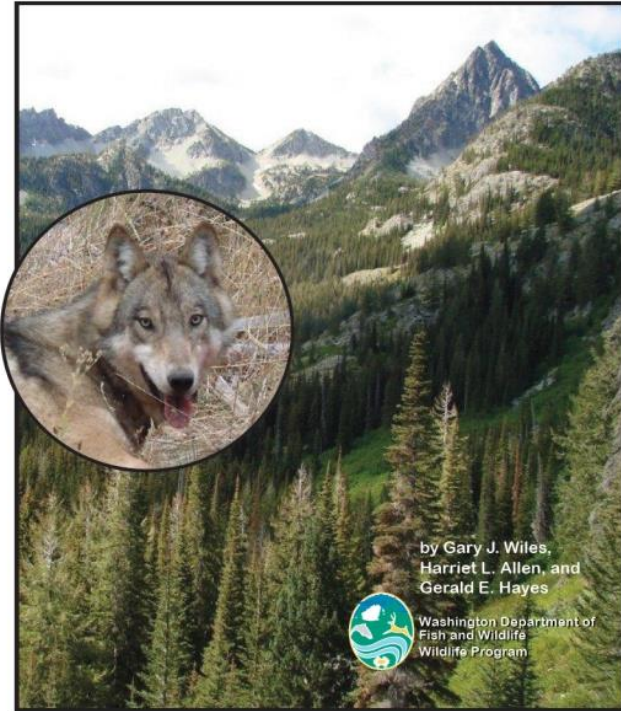## May 21 2015

Donny Martorello | Carnivore Manager
Stephanie Simek | Conflict Manager

Washington Department of
FISH and WILDLIFE

287 dispersals of radio collared wolves in the NRM from 1993-2008.

Wolf Plan Goals

- Restore self-sustaining wolf population

- Manage wolf-livestock conflicts

- Maintain healthy prey base

- Develop public understanding and promote coexistence

Diamond Pack, 2014

Recovery Objectives

- Delist at 15 successful breeding pairs for 3 consecutive years

- Or 18 successful breeding pairs for 1 year

- Distributed among 3 recovery regions
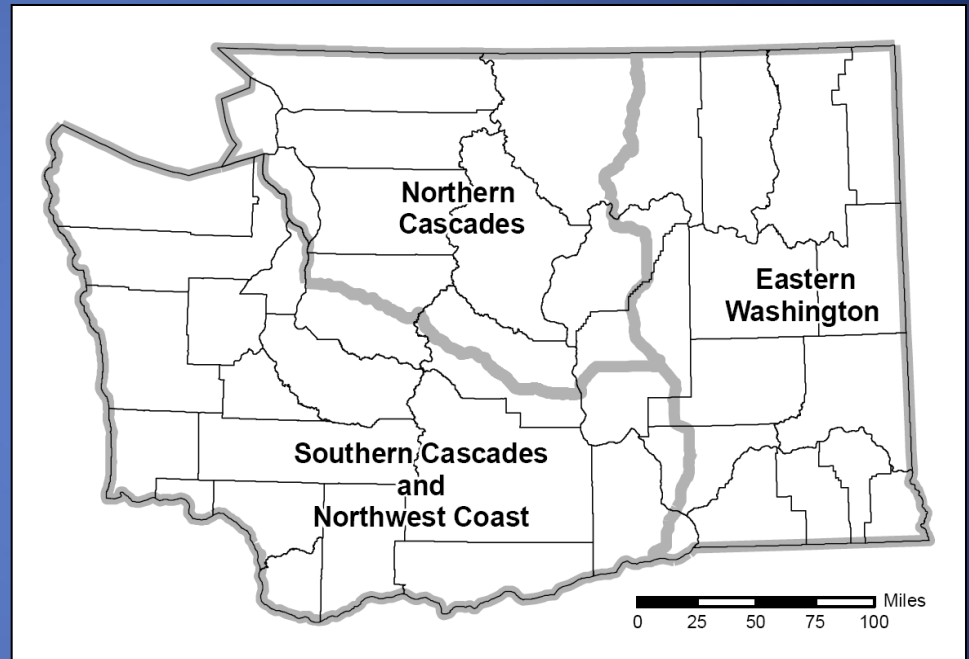
Definitions

- Pack: 2 or more wolves traveling together

- Successful Breeding Pair: male and female raising 2 or more pups until Dec 31
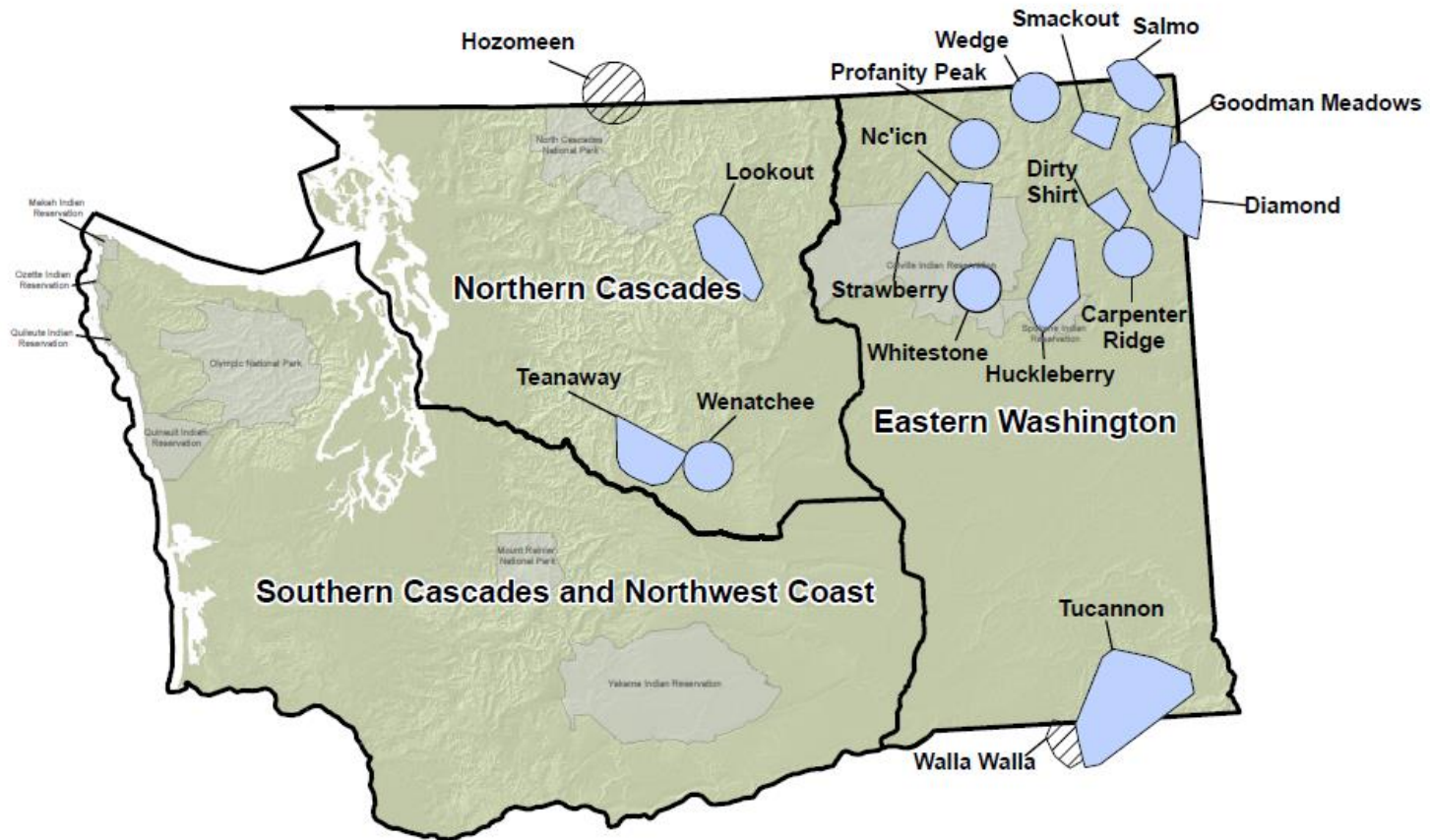
Legal Status

Federal listing status of gray wolves

- Entire state is State-listed as Endangered

- Federally delisted in Eastern 1/3 WA in 2011
- Federally listed as Endangered in Western 2/3 WA

Wolf Packs as of December 2014

Hozomeen

Smackout Salmo
Wedge
Profanity Peak
Goodman Meadows
Nc'icn
Dirty Shirt
Diamond
Lookout
Strawberry
Carpenter Ridge
Whitestone
Huckleberry

Northern Cascades

Eastern Washington

Teanaway
Wenatchee

Southern Cascades and Northwest Coast

Tucannon

Walla Walla

Legend

Confirmed pack*

Border pack that dens outside Washington

Wolf Recovery Region

Date: 3/5/2015

* Packs represented by polygons are packs that had collared wolves and the polygon is the estimated pack range. Packs represented by circles are packs that did not have collared wolves and the circle is a generic representation of the pack location.

** Packs may be removed from map due to natural breakup of the pack, lethal control, or no longer detected.
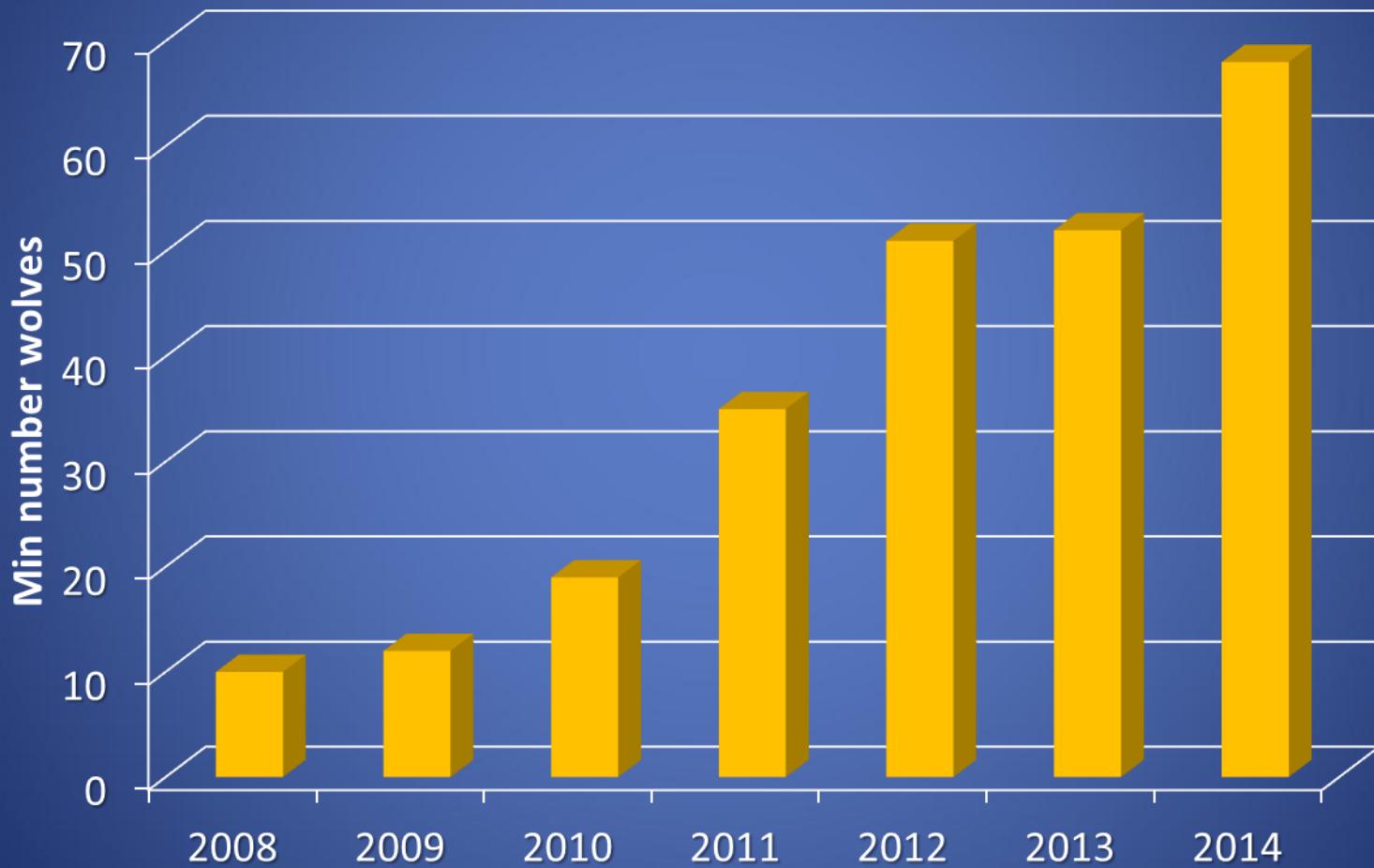
Trend in Number of Wolf Packs
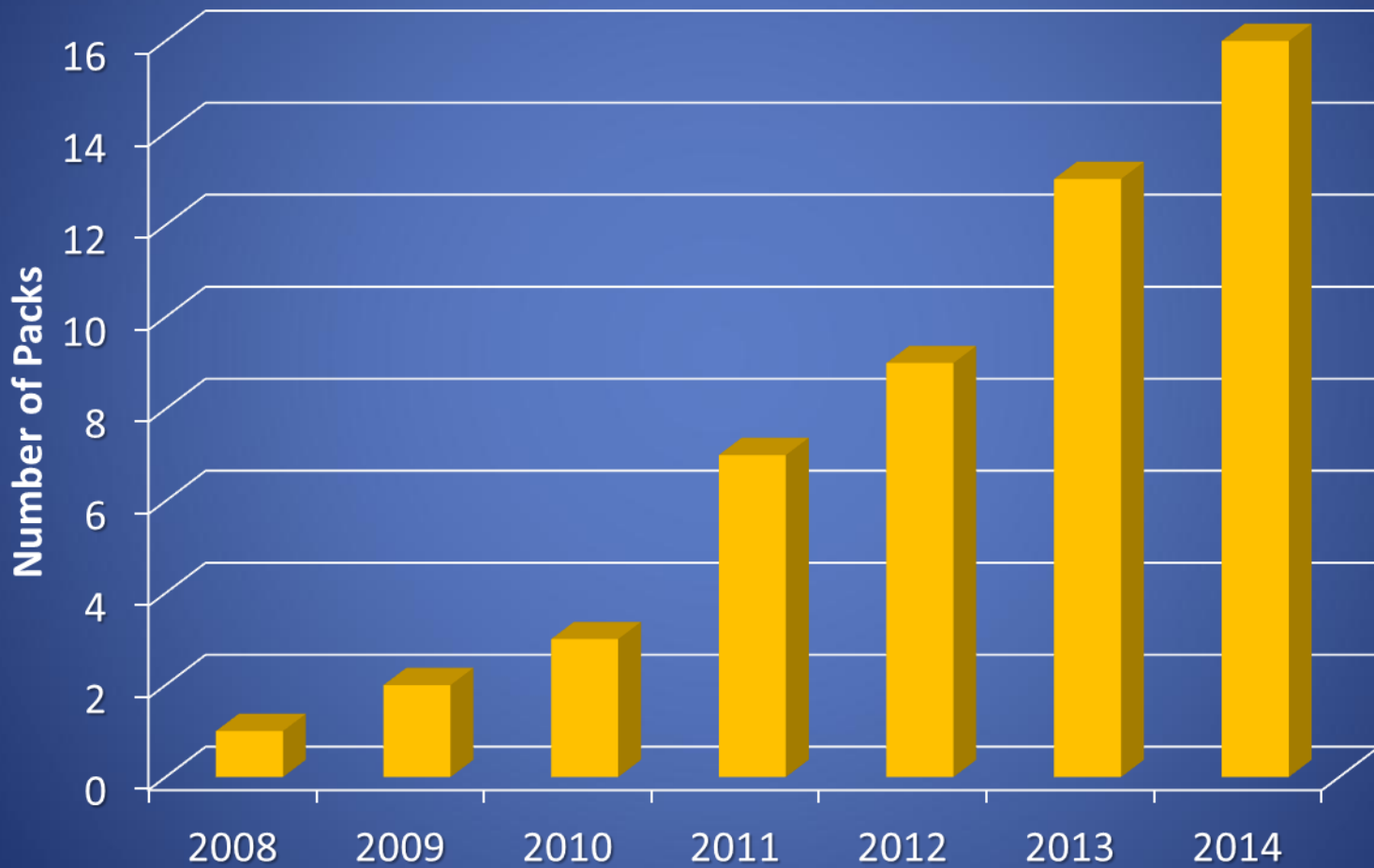
Trend in Successful Breeding Pairs
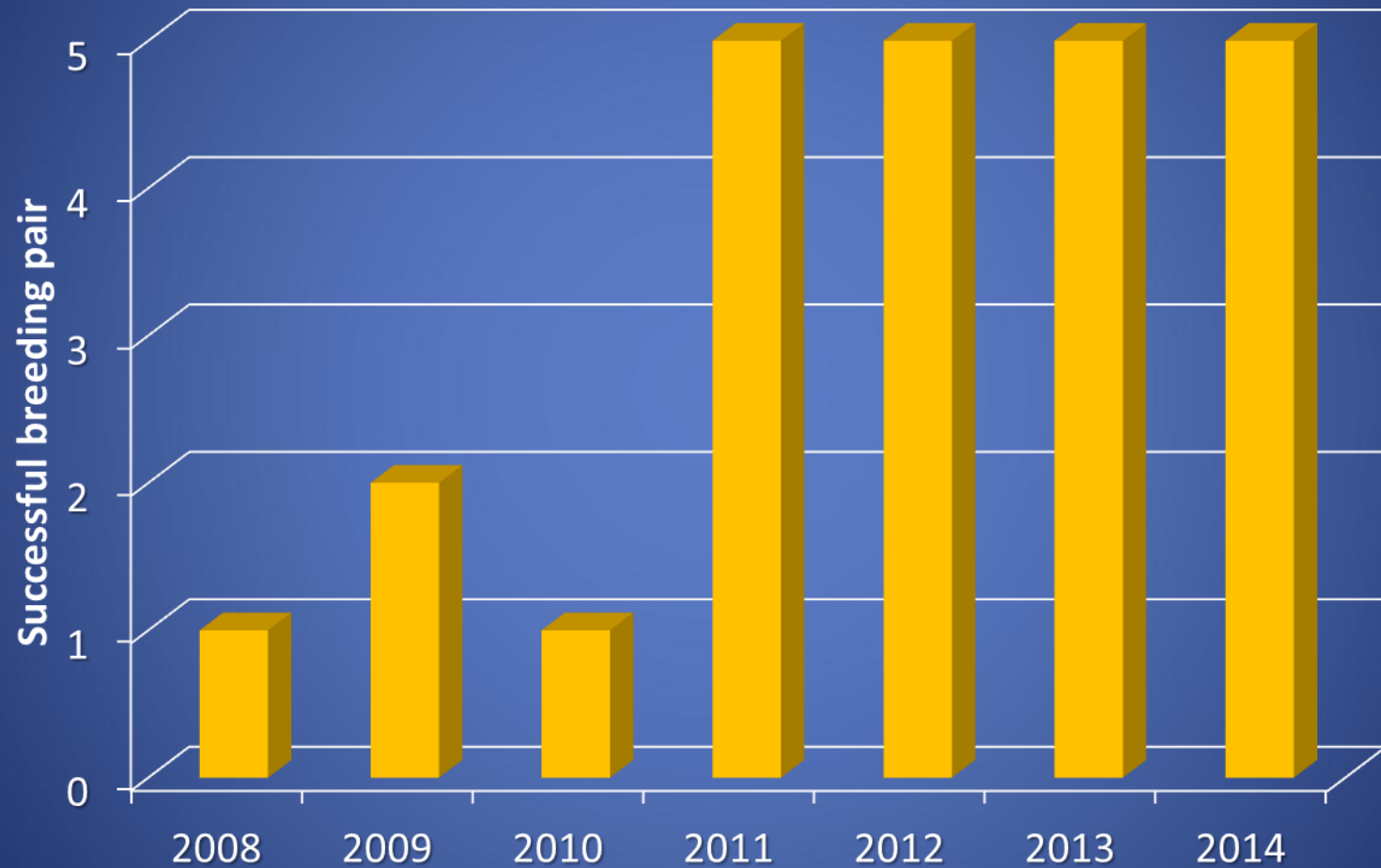
Trend in Minimum Number of Wolves

Wolf Population Growth In NRM DPS

Figure 7a. Northern Rocky Mountain Wolf Population Trends in Montana, Idaho and Wyoming: 1982-2014 (excludes Oregon and Washington)
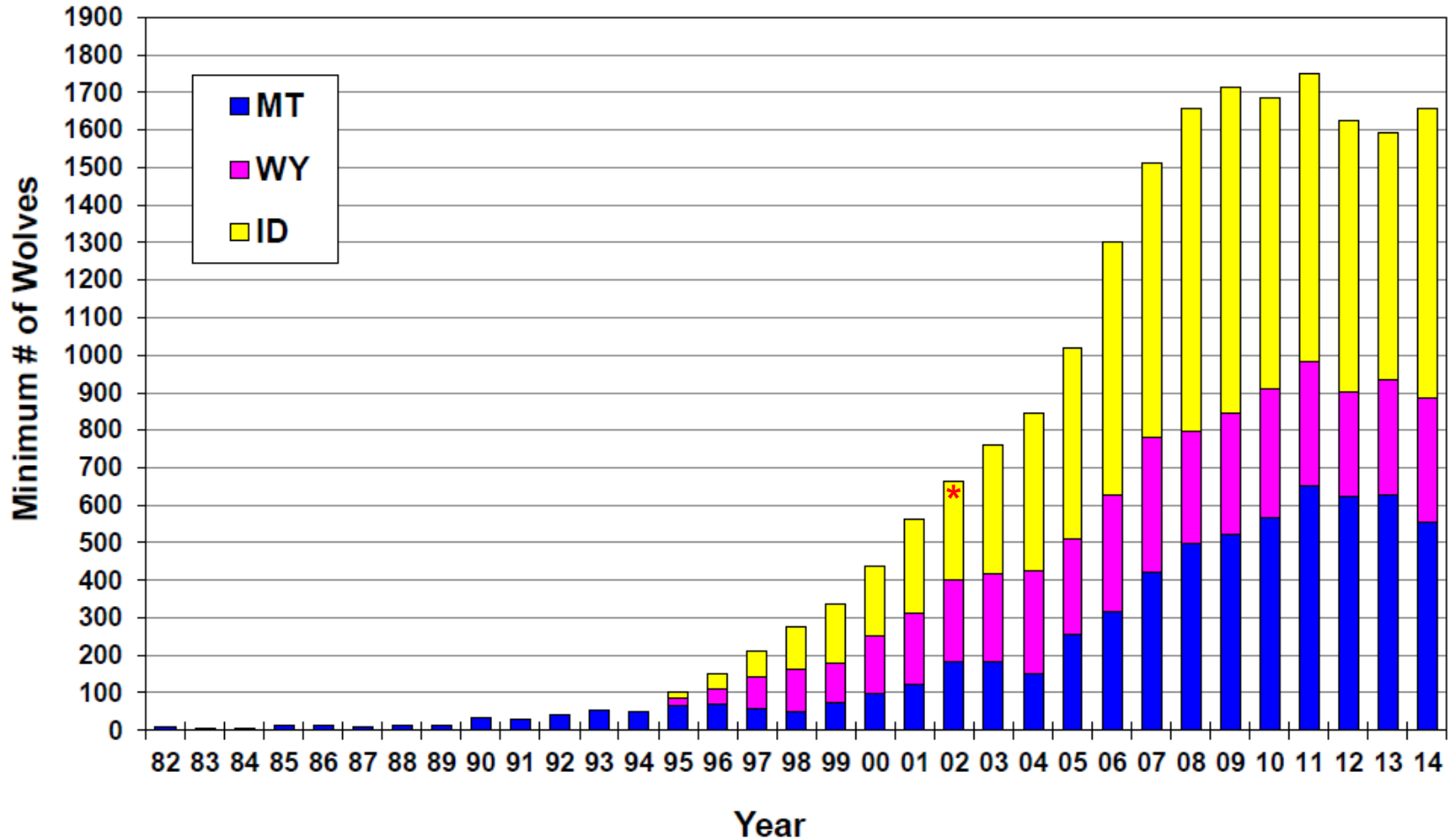
Washington Wolf Population Summary

Year	Min Number	Known Packs	SBP	Growth Rate	Known Wolf Mortality
2008	10	1	1	--	0
2009	12	2	2	20%	0
2010	19	3	1	58%	2
2011	35	7	5	84%	0
2012	51	9	5	46%	9
2013	52	13	5	2%	5
2014	68	16	5	31%	10
Ave				38%	

Washington Wolf Packs Relative to Estimated Suitable Wolf Habitat

Legend

☐ Game Management Units

▭ Wolf packs (as of Dec 2014)

🟩 Estimated suitable wolf habitat (greater than or equal to 50% probability of occupancy; see page 60 in Wolf Conservation and Management plan)
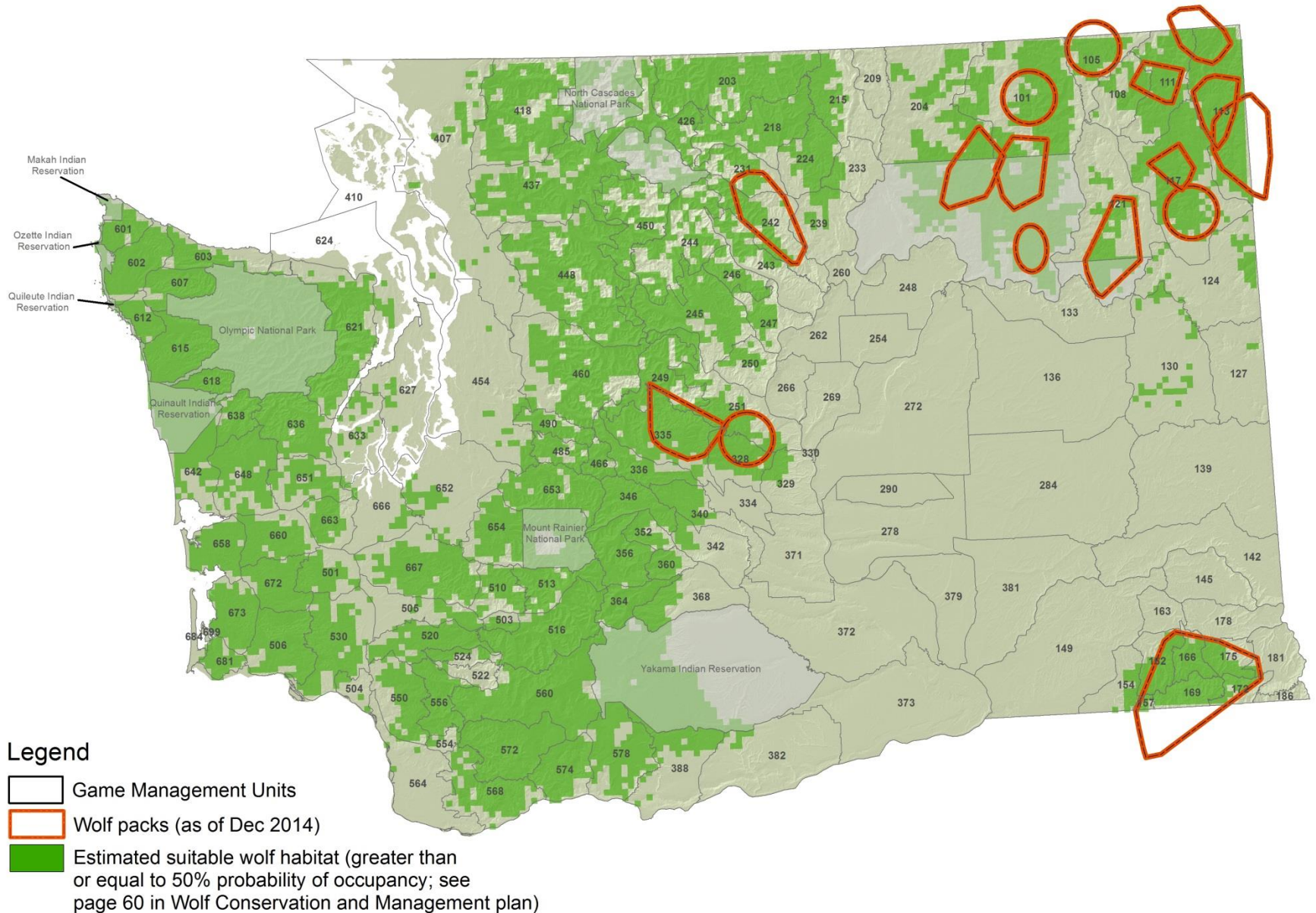
Wolf-Livestock Conflict

Wolf Management

Washington

Year	Packs	Depredating Packs	Percent
2011	7	0	0%
2012	9	3	33%
2013	13	1	8%
2014	16	2	13%
Total	45	6	13%

Montana

Year	Packs	Depredating Packs	Percent
1999	11	4	36%
2000	15	6	40%
2001	19	4	21%
Total	45	14	31%

Packs Depredating on Livestock
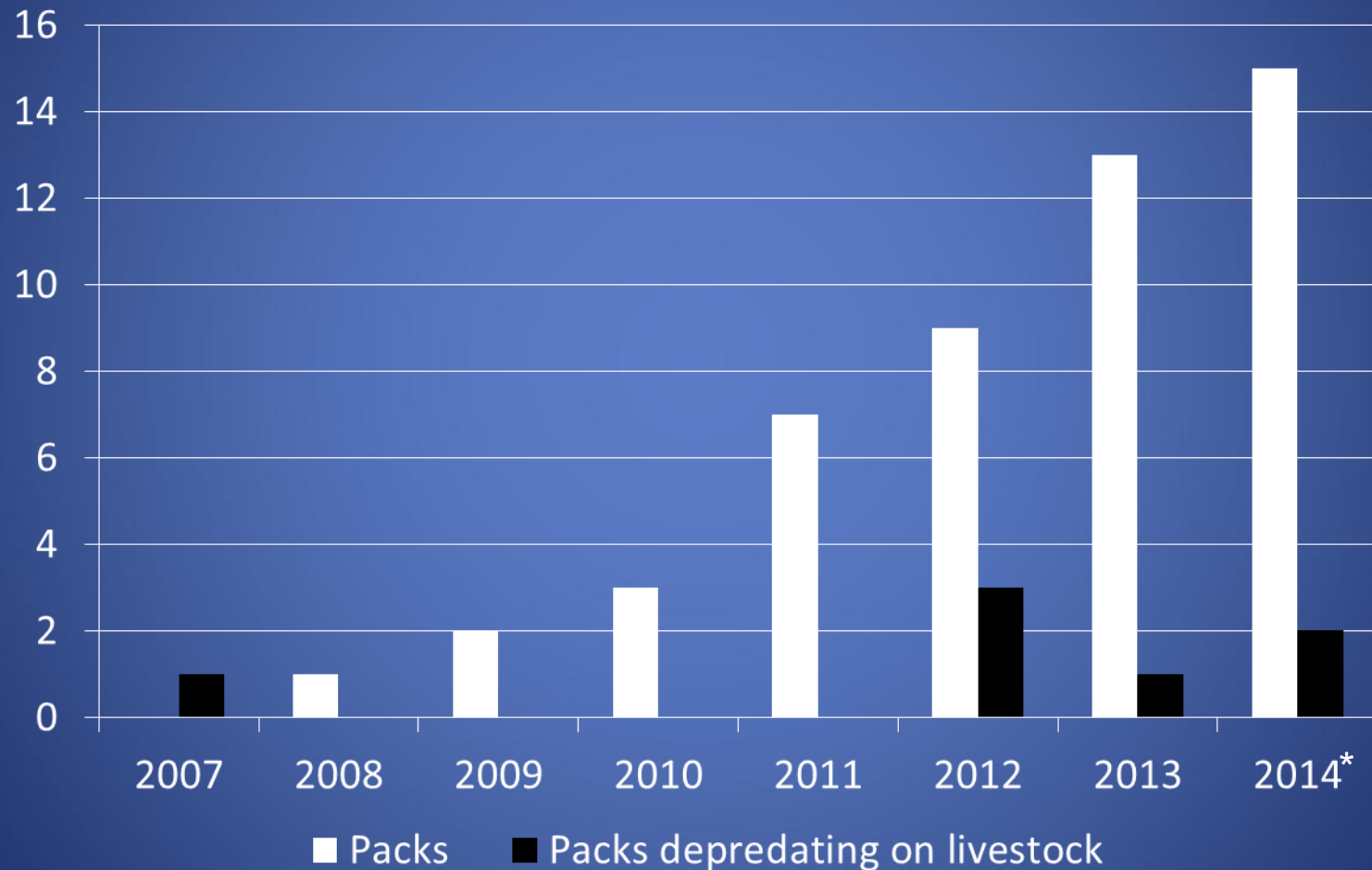
* Preliminary estimate based on information on Sept 20, 2014

Washington Wolf Population Summary

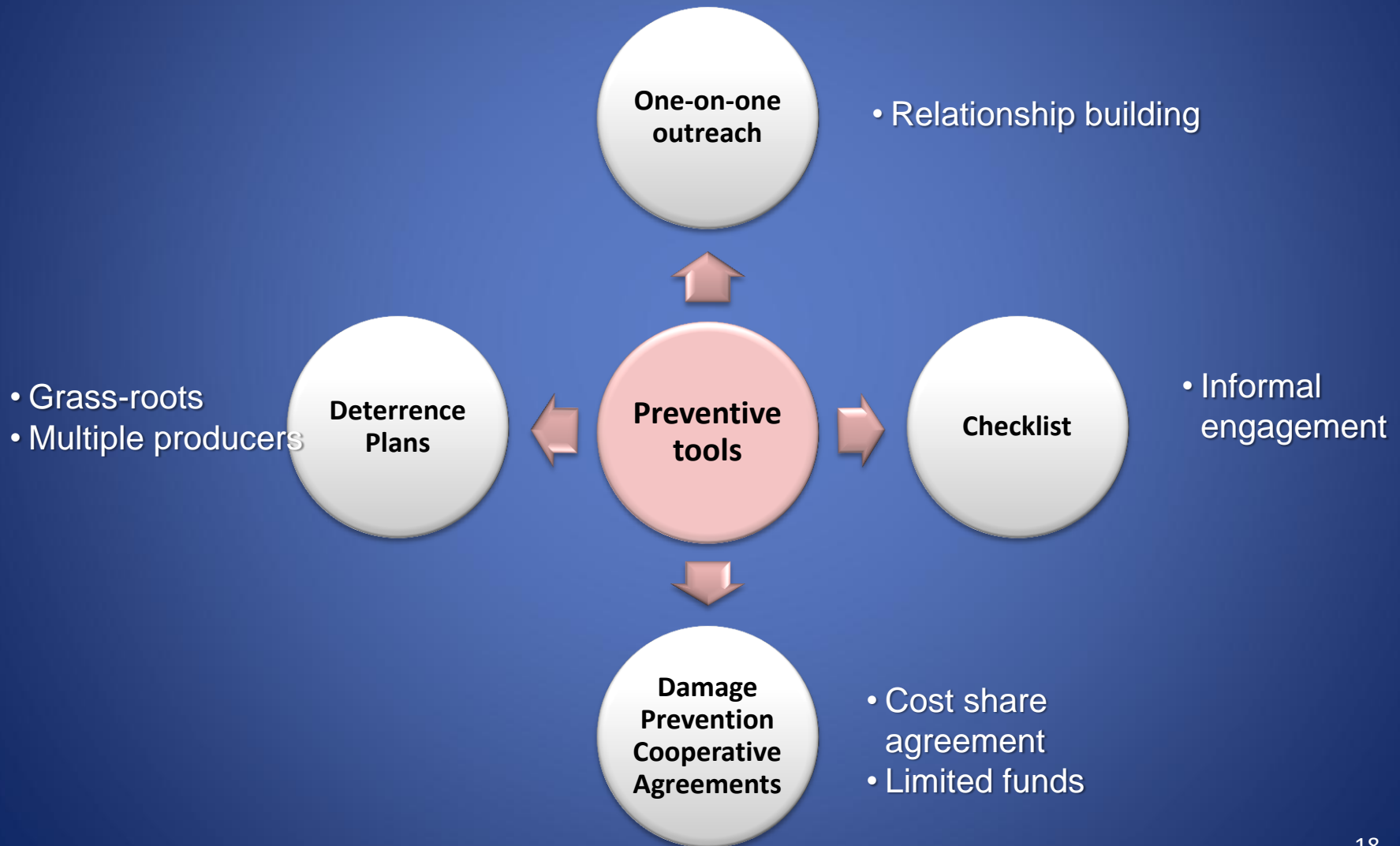| Year	Min Number	Known Packs	SBP	Growth Rate	Known Wolf Mortality	Depredating Packs (% of known packs)
2008	10	1	1	--	0	0%
2009	12	2	2	20%	0	0%
2010	19	3	1	58%	2	0%
2011	35	7	5	84%	0	0%
2012	51	9	5	46%	9	33%
2013	52	13	5	2%	5	8%
2014	68	16	5	31%	10	13%
Ave				38%		12%

Four Methods of Incorporating Preventive Tools

One-on-one outreach

• Relationship building

Deterrence Plans

• Grass-roots
• Multiple producers

Preventive tools

Checklist

• Informal engagement

Damage Prevention Cooperative Agreements

• Cost share agreement
• Limited funds

Evaluating Risk and Prevention

Legend
- Forest Service Grazing Allotment
- WDFW Wildlife Area
- WDFW Land Open to Hunting
- Federal - Forest Service Wilderness
- Federal - Forest Service
- Federal - National Park Service
- Federal - Other
- State - DNR
- State - Other
- Municipal
- Tribal

19
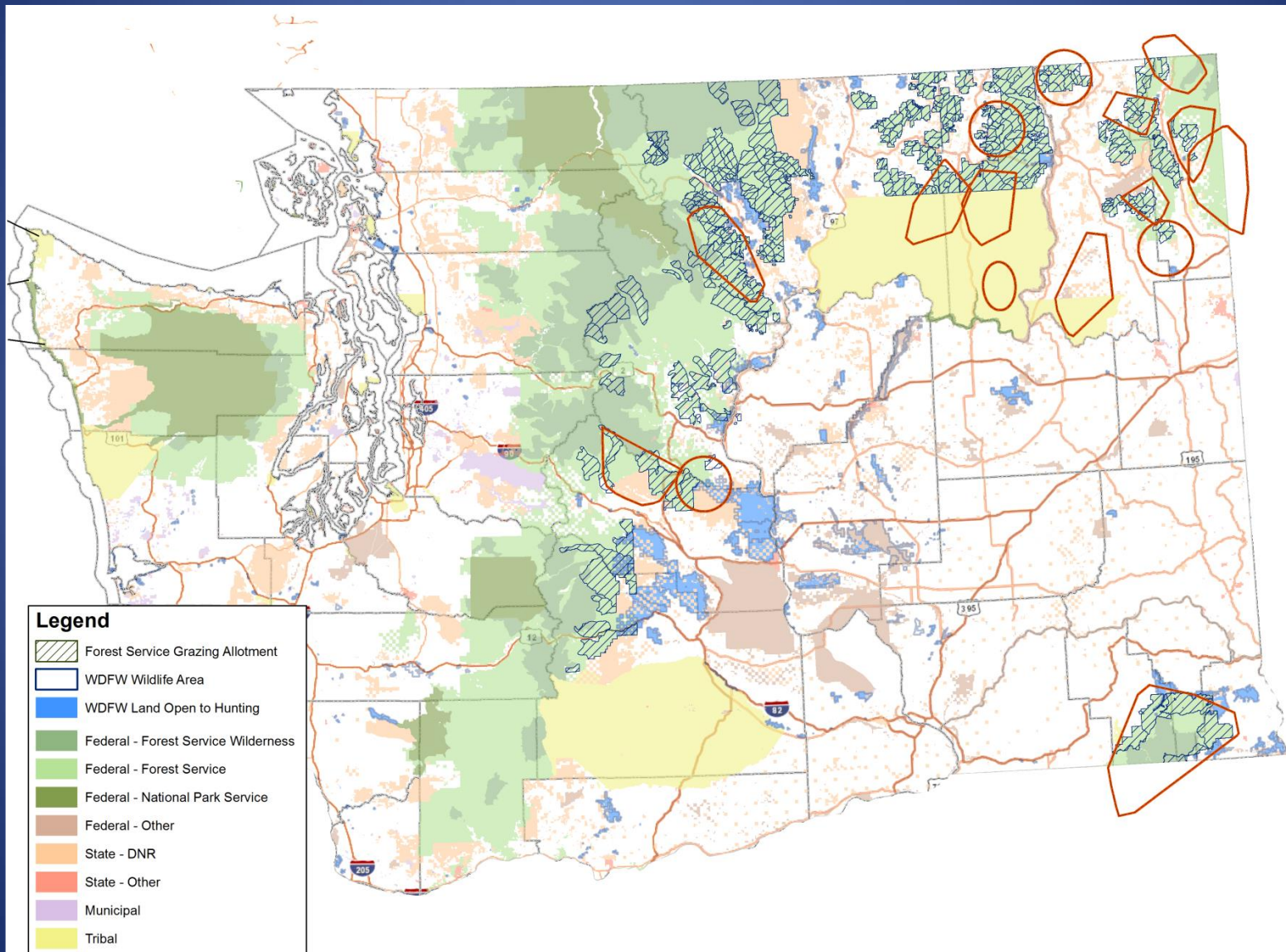
Conflict Prevention Planning

- Depredations could happen in any pack

- Six packs have pack size of 3 or less
  - ✓ Salmo, Diamond, Tucannon, Wedge, Strawberry, Wenatchee

- Emphasizing preventive resources in seven packs
  - ✓ Particularly concerned about Profanity, Huckleberry, Smackout, and Teanaway
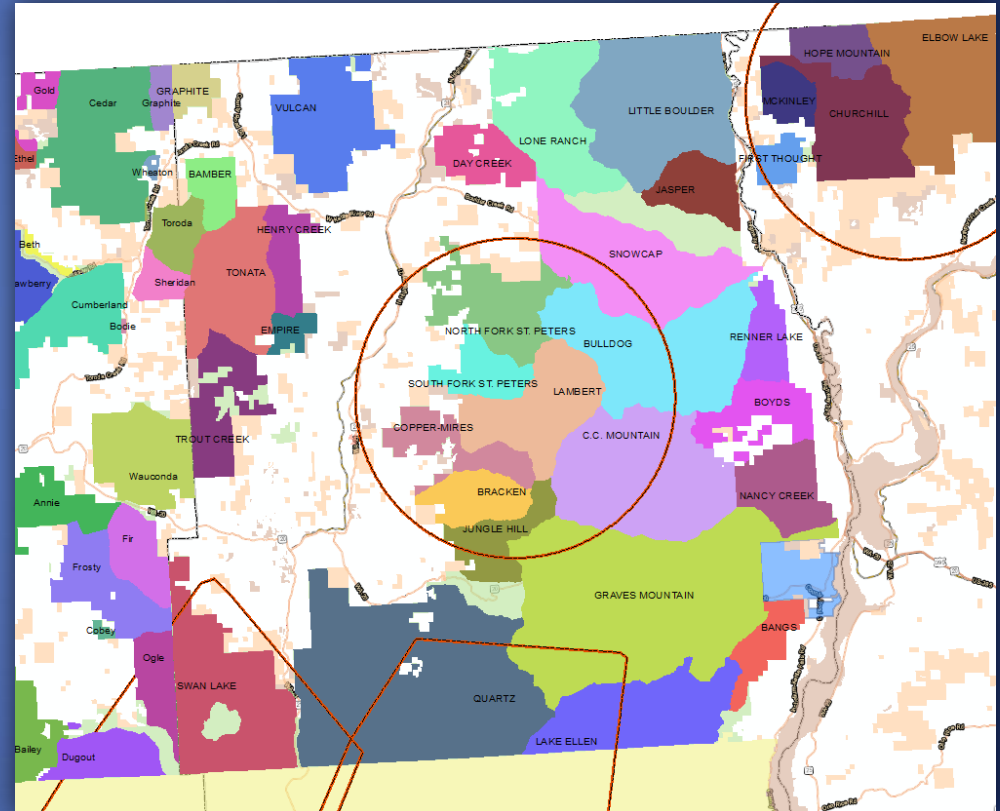
Profanity Pack

- Pack size: 6+
- Overlap with livestock: High
- Number of livestock: 1,000+
- History of depredations: Yes
- Collars: 0

2015 Plan
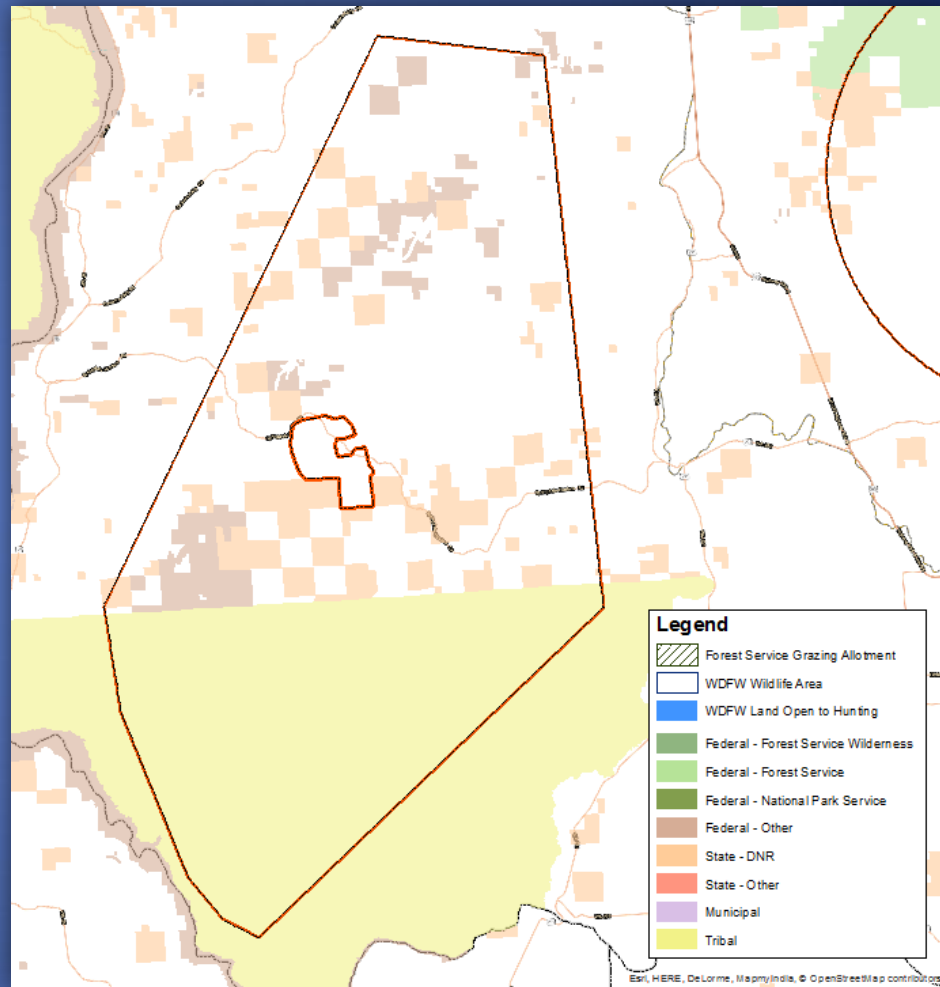- Collar wolves
- Data sharing
- Range rider

Huckleberry Pack

- Pack size: 6+
- Overlap with livestock: Unk
- Number of livestock: Unk
- History of depredations: Yes
- Collars: 1

2015 Plan
- Collar additional wolf
- Data sharing
- Damage prevention agreement
- Range riders

Legend
- Forest Service Grazing Allotment
- WDFW Wildlife Area
- WDFW Land Open to Hunting
- Federal - Forest Service Wilderness
- Federal - Forest Service
- Federal - National Park Service
- Federal - Other
- State - DNR
- State - Other
- Municipal
- Tribal

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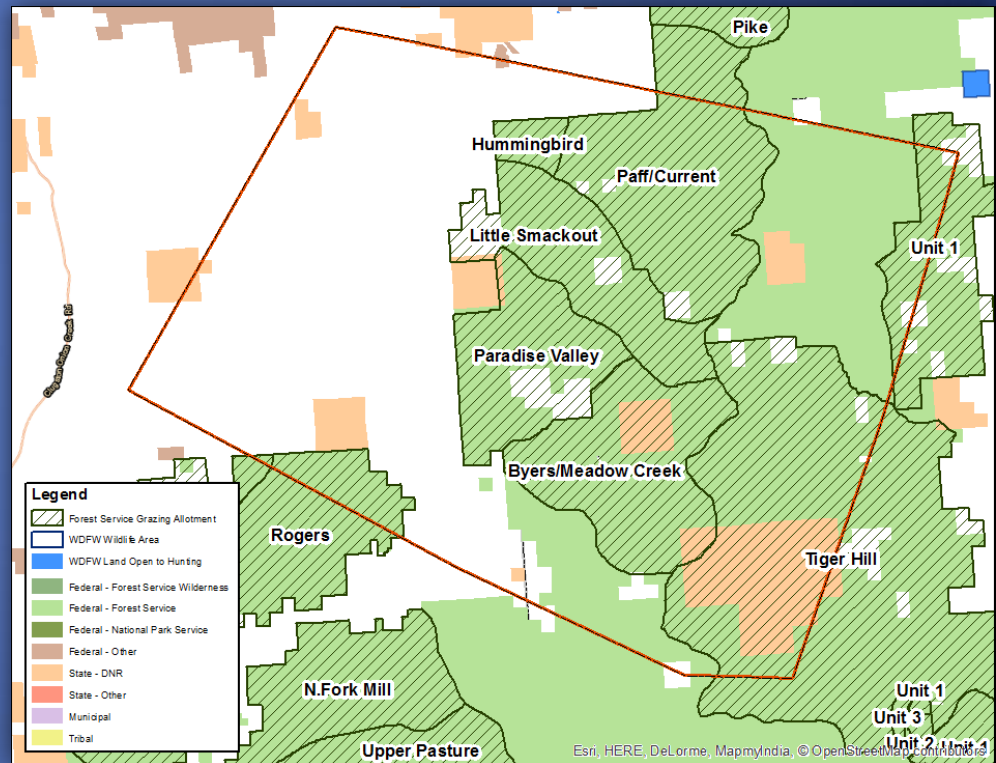
Smackout Pack

- Pack size: 5+
- Overlap with livestock: High
- Number of livestock: 650+
- History of depredations: No
- Collars: 2

2015 Plan
- Data sharing
- Damage prevention agreement
- Range riders

Legend
- Forest Service Grazing Allotment
- WDFW Wildlife Area
- WDFW Land Open to Hunting
- Federal - Forest Service Wilderness
- Federal - Forest Service
- Federal - National Park Service
- Federal - Other
- State - DNR
- State - Other
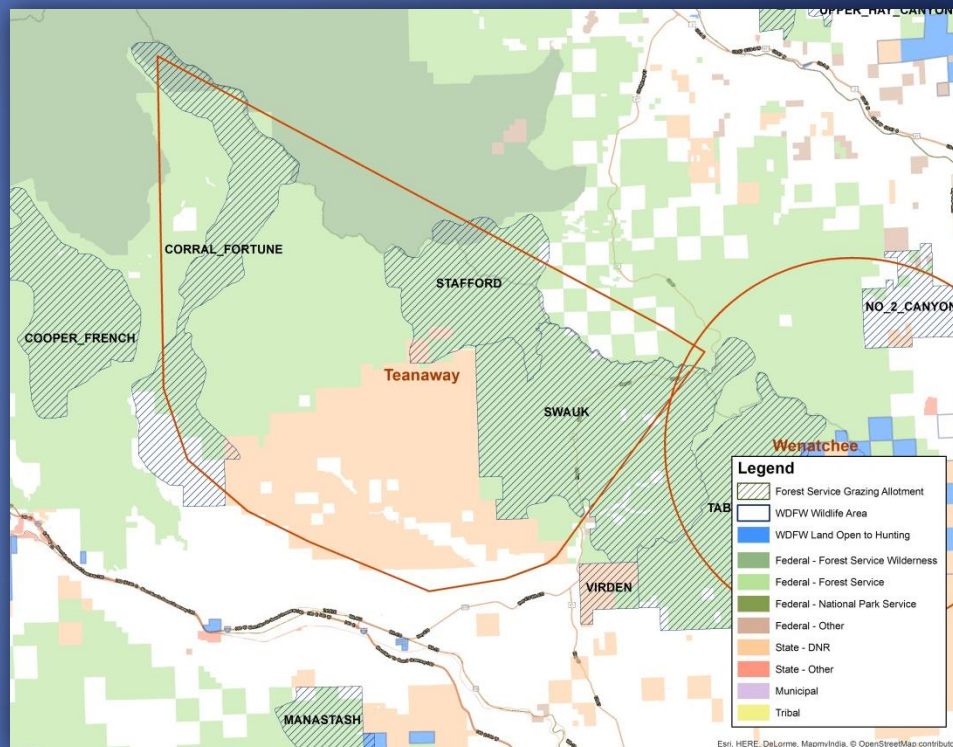- Municipal
- Tribal

Teanaway Pack

- Pack size: 5+
- Overlap with livestock: High
- Number of livestock: 1,000+
- History of depredations: No
- Collars: 3

2015 Plan
- Data sharing
- Damage prevention agreement
- Range rider

2015 Summary

- Continue one-on-one contact with producers
- Continue using checklist
- Encourage damage prevention agreements with new producers, particularly in higher risk areas
- Work collaboratively with producers to craft deterrence plans
- Focus resources on areas evaluated at increased risk for potential conflict

Questions

Contact
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