

Profanity Peak wolf pack

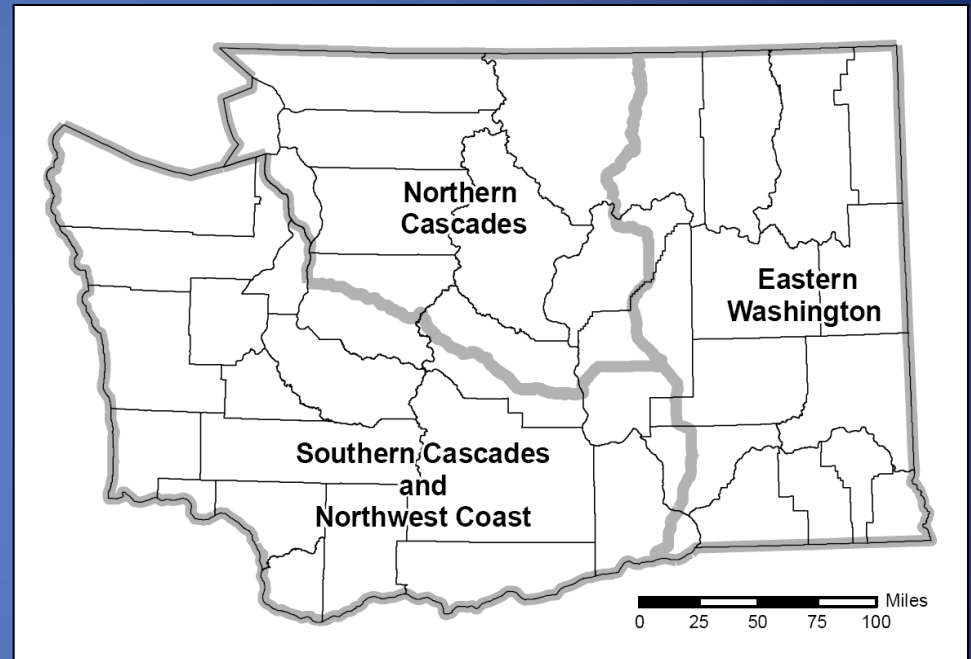
2016 lethal removal action



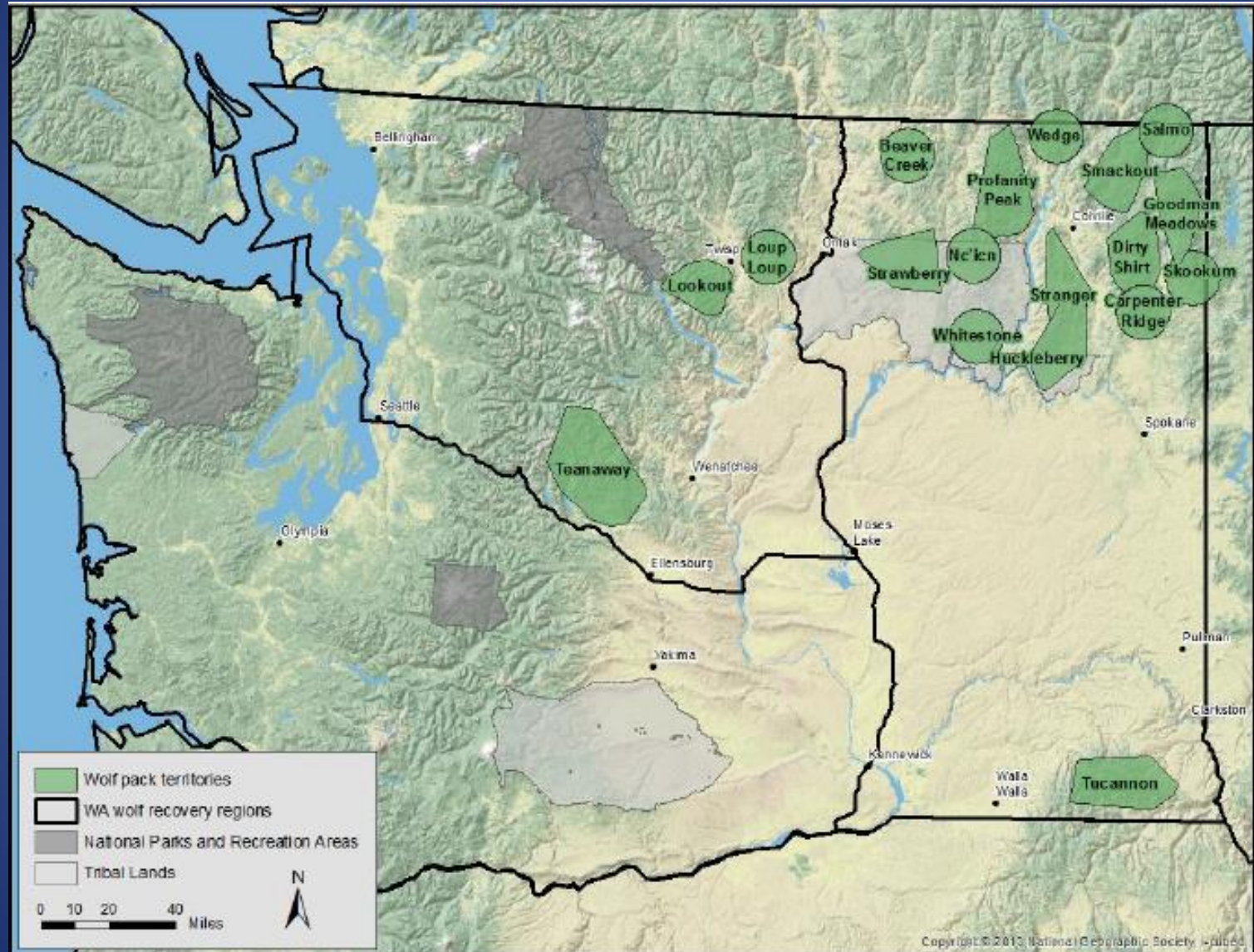
Donny Martorello | Wolf Policy Lead
Joey McCanna | Private Lands and Wildlife Conflict Supervisor
Trent Roussin | Wolf Biologist

Wolf Recovery and Objectives

- Delist at 15 successful breeding pair for 3 consecutive years
- Or 18 successful breeding pair for 1 year
- Distributed among 3 recovery regions
- May reach recovery as soon as 2021



Washington Wolf Packs – June 2016

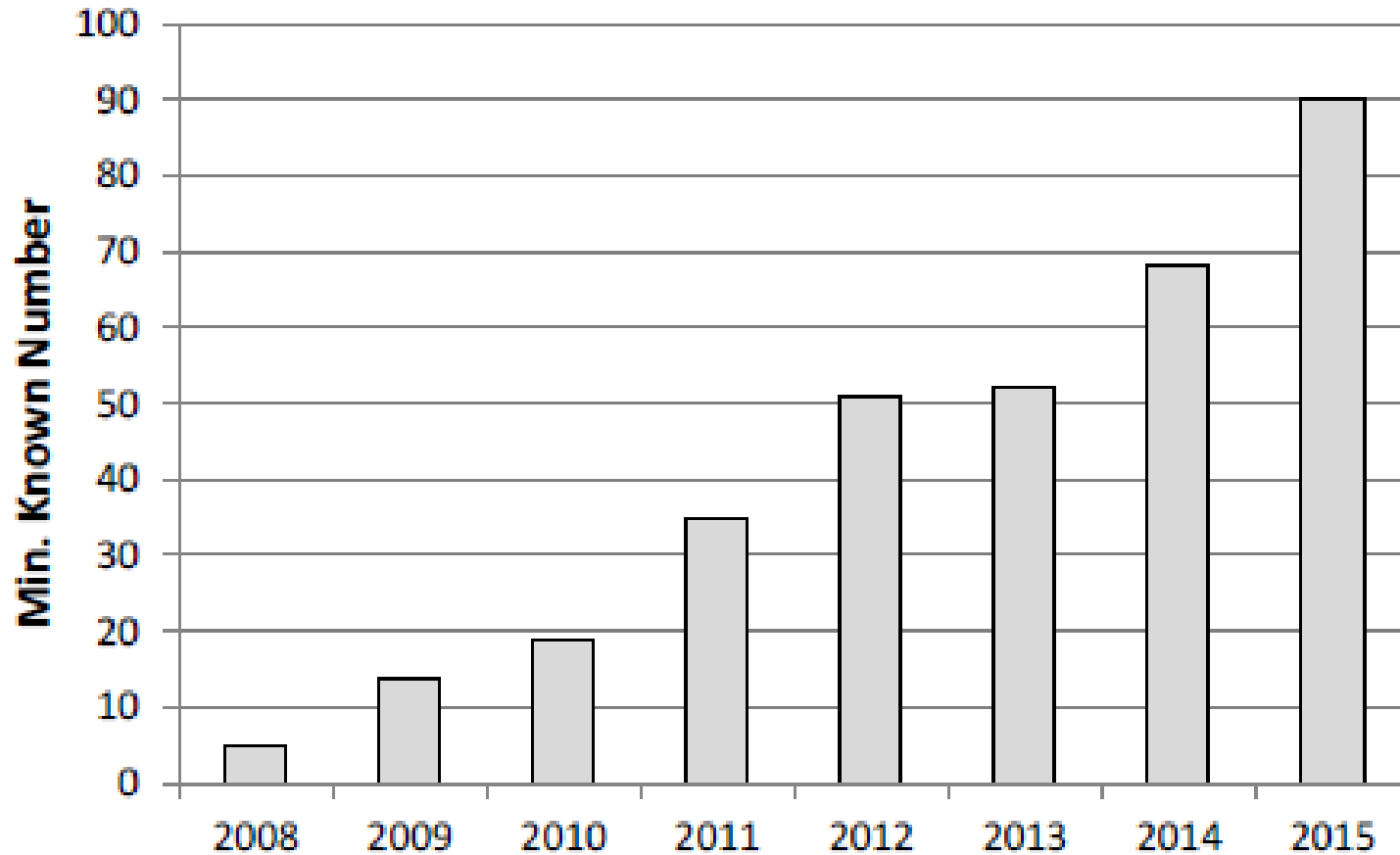


Pack Status Summary

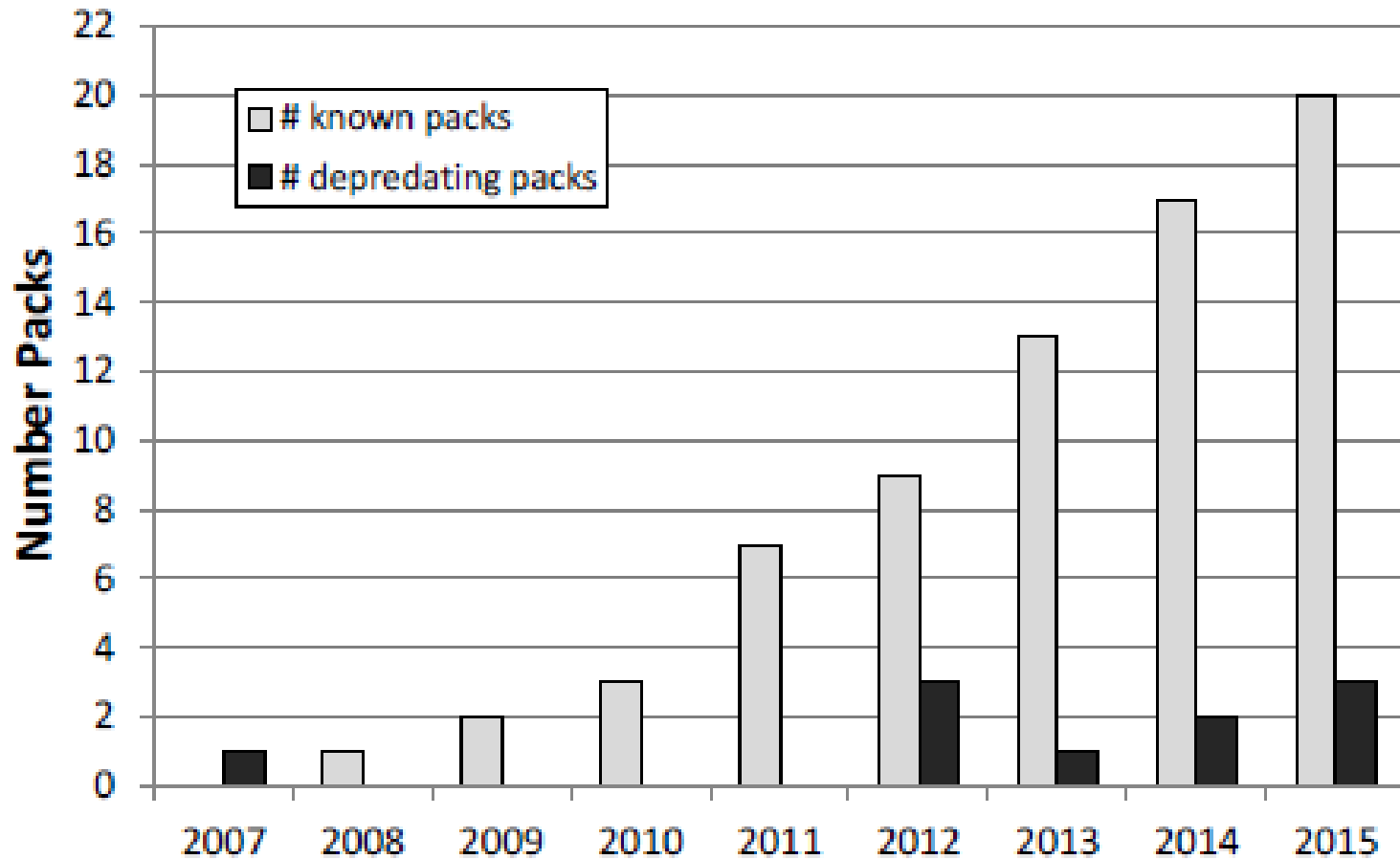


| Pack | Successful Breeding Pair | Min Count |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------|
| Beaver Creek | No | 2 |
| Carpenter Ridge | No | 2 |
| Dirty Shirt | Yes | 8 |
| Goodman Meadows | Yes | 7 |
| Huckleberry | Yes | 5 |
| Lookout | No | 3 |
| Loop loop | Yes | 6 |
| Nc'icn | No | 5 |
| Profanity Peak | Yes | 7 |
| Salmo | No | 3 |
| Skookum | Yes | 5 |
| Smackout | Yes | 8 |
| Stranger | No | 2 |
| Strawberry | No | 4 |
| Teanaway | No | 3 |
| Tucannon | Yes | 5 |
| Wedge | No | 3 |
| Whitestone | No | 2 |
| Misc./lone wolves | -- | 10 |
| Statewide | | 90 |

Trend in Minimum Number of Wolves



Trend in number of packs and packs depredating on livestock



Wolf Advisory Group

- Mission: To promote equitable, inclusive, and respectful dialogue and decision-making among diverse people to foster durable peace by transforming the root causes of social conflict and providing high quality recommendations on wolf recovery, conservation, and management.



Damage Prevention Cooperative Agreement for Livestock

- Range riders
- Sheep herders
- Other human presence
- Fencing of carcass disposal sites
- Electric/predator proof fencing
- Turbo fladry fencing
- Guard dogs
- Herding dogs
- Screams, projectile pyrotechnics
- Hazing tools
- Radio activated guard units
- Remote activated deterrents
- Avoid care wolf activity centers
- Delayed turnout of livestock
- Other



Expectations for Non-lethal Deterrence Measures

Wolf- Livestock Conflict Prevention/Reduction Activities and Associated Expectations -

Examples of prevention measures listed under this agreement

Range Riders and Sheep Herders

Range riders and sheep herders protect livestock, and act as a sentry/guard in the vicinity of livestock. Their purpose is to increase the frequency of human presence around livestock and to deter wolves from coming into contact with the herd/flock. Range riders and sheep herders must be able to accurately identify wolves and wolf sign. They communicate frequently with the livestock producer and WDFW regarding, but not limited to, livestock depredations, grazing rotations, and wolf activity. Range riders are equipped with applicable non-lethal devices for hazing wolves encountered near livestock. They may be used to proactively manage range health and minimize conflicts with predators by actively managing livestock distribution in a pasture or allotment setting. They are encouraged to use locations of radio collared wolves through a signed WDFW sensitive data sharing agreement. Their duties include: monitoring livestock, protecting calving/lambing areas, avoiding den and rendezvous sites, and using scare devices.

Monitoring Livestock

- Watch for changes in livestock behavior, condition, and reproductive status.
- Remove sick or injured livestock from pastures within a wolf territory.
- Count livestock regularly and note any missing or dead livestock.
- Notify the livestock owner and/or WDFW of any dead livestock immediately.
- Manage livestock distribution to optimize forage utilization while minimizing wolf-livestock conflict.

Protecting Calving/Lambing Areas

- If practical and feasible, establish calving or lambing areas in pastures near ranch houses to provide for easier and more frequent livestock checks and intervention, when necessary, and away from areas occupied by wolves.
- Use protective fencing and fladry around calving or lambing areas and/or provide sheds in calving/lambing areas.
- Keep the area clean of livestock carcasses and afterbirth.

Non-lethal Checklist

- Sanitation
- Sick and injured livestock
- Calving and lambing areas
- Turnout
- Range riders and shepherders
- Hazing practices
- Fencing
- Other techniques



Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Staff Guidelines: LIVESTOCK-WOLF MITIGATION
MEASURES

This checklist contains examples of proactive measures that are recommended for use by livestock operators to help avoid or reduce conflicts between livestock and wolves when practical and applicable. Identified within the checklist are measures that can be implemented to meet the requirements to enact non-lethal measures provided by state law (chapter 77) and WDFW regulations (WAC 232-36). The measures identified as essential are the minimum baseline measures that should be implemented if feasible prior to consideration for compensation or lethal management options. Identification of such measures through this checklist does not guarantee either compensation claims or that requests for lethal control measures will be granted. Effective implementation at the time of the conflict must be verified by WDFW.

| SANITATION | | Compensation or Control Actions |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Remove or manage livestock carcasses from lambing or calving areas and from cooperator's lands when they are discovered (includes burying, burning, or composting consistent with state law and county or city ordinances). | Essential action |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Install predator-proof fencing around a bone yard. | Essential action where applicable |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | In areas where available, contact WDFW when livestock carcasses are discovered so that they can be removed or protected from wolves. | Essential action where applicable |
| Rationale: | | |
| SICK AND INJURED LIVESTOCK | | Compensation or Control Actions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Remove or treat non-ambulatory (sick or injured) livestock from unsafe pastures in areas where wolves are present (when feasible). | Essential action |
| Rationale: | | |

Protocol for consideration and implementation of lethal removal of gray wolves during recovery to stop wolf depredations on livestock

The purpose of lethal removal is to stop wolf depredations from continuing in the near future

WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Protocol for consideration and implementation of lethal removal of gray wolves during recovery to stop wolf depredations on livestock

Revision date May 31, 2016

Section 1. Purpose and background

The primary purpose of this document is to describe when the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (herein Department or WDFW) considers lethal removal of gray wolves during recovery to stop repeated wolf depredations on livestock and the implementation of lethal removals. Wolf depredations on livestock and the lethal removal of wolves are serious matters, and affect a diverse array of Washingtonians in different ways. To understand the diversity of views and needs, the Department's Wolf Advisory Group (WAG) and a diversity of Department staff co-developed and unanimously agreed to this protocol. As such, this protocol represents input and considerations from numerous individuals representing Department staff, livestock producer, environmental, and hunter interests.

Criteria in Protocol

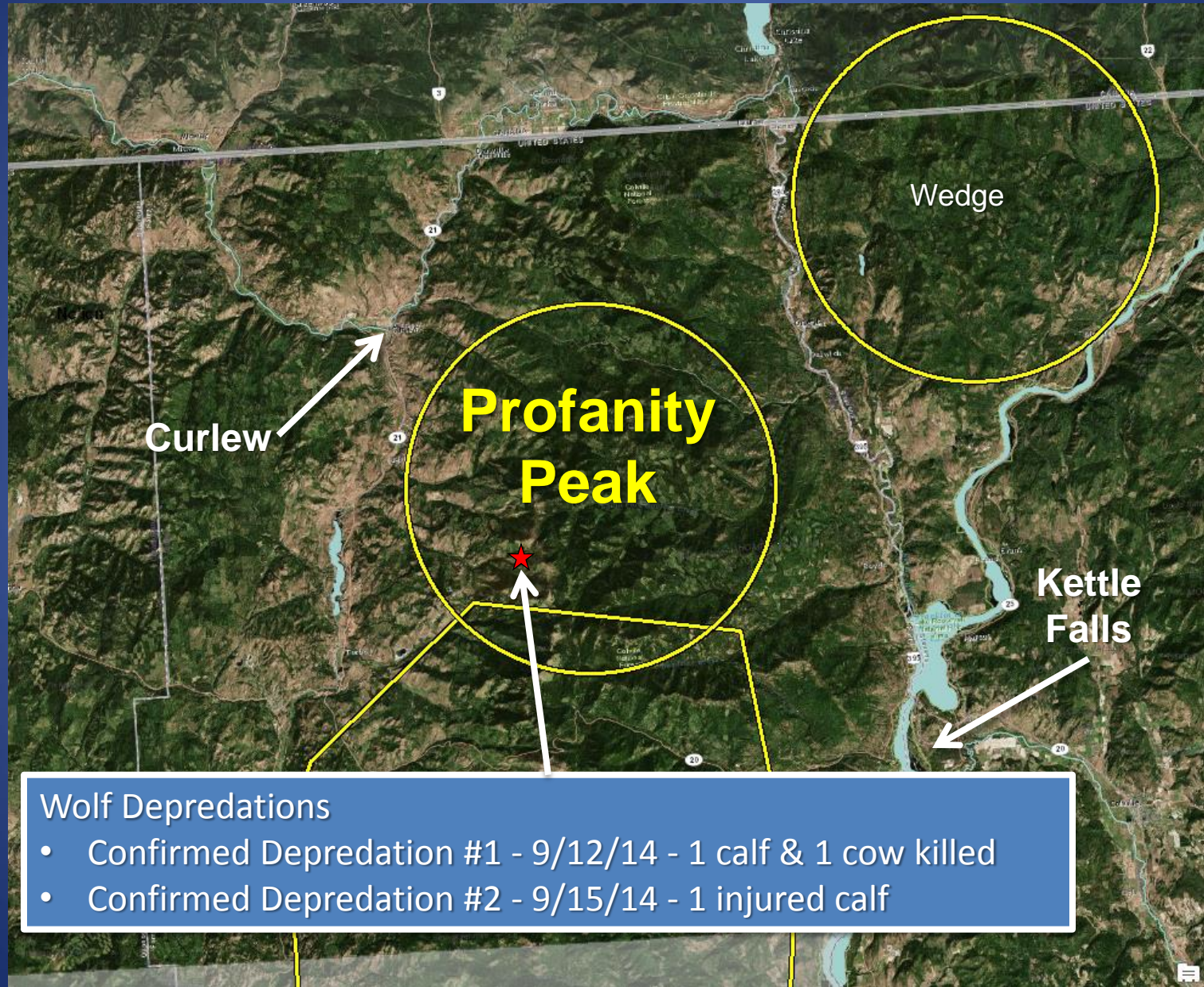
1. The Department has documented four or more confirmed wolf depredation events within a calendar year, or six or more confirmed wolf depredation events within two consecutive calendar years, AND
2. At least one of the confirmed wolf depredation events was livestock killed by wolves, AND
3. The proactive deterrence measures have been implemented and failed to prevent depredations, AND
4. WDFW expects depredations to continue, AND
5. The Department has notified the public on wolf activities

Expectation for deterrence measures

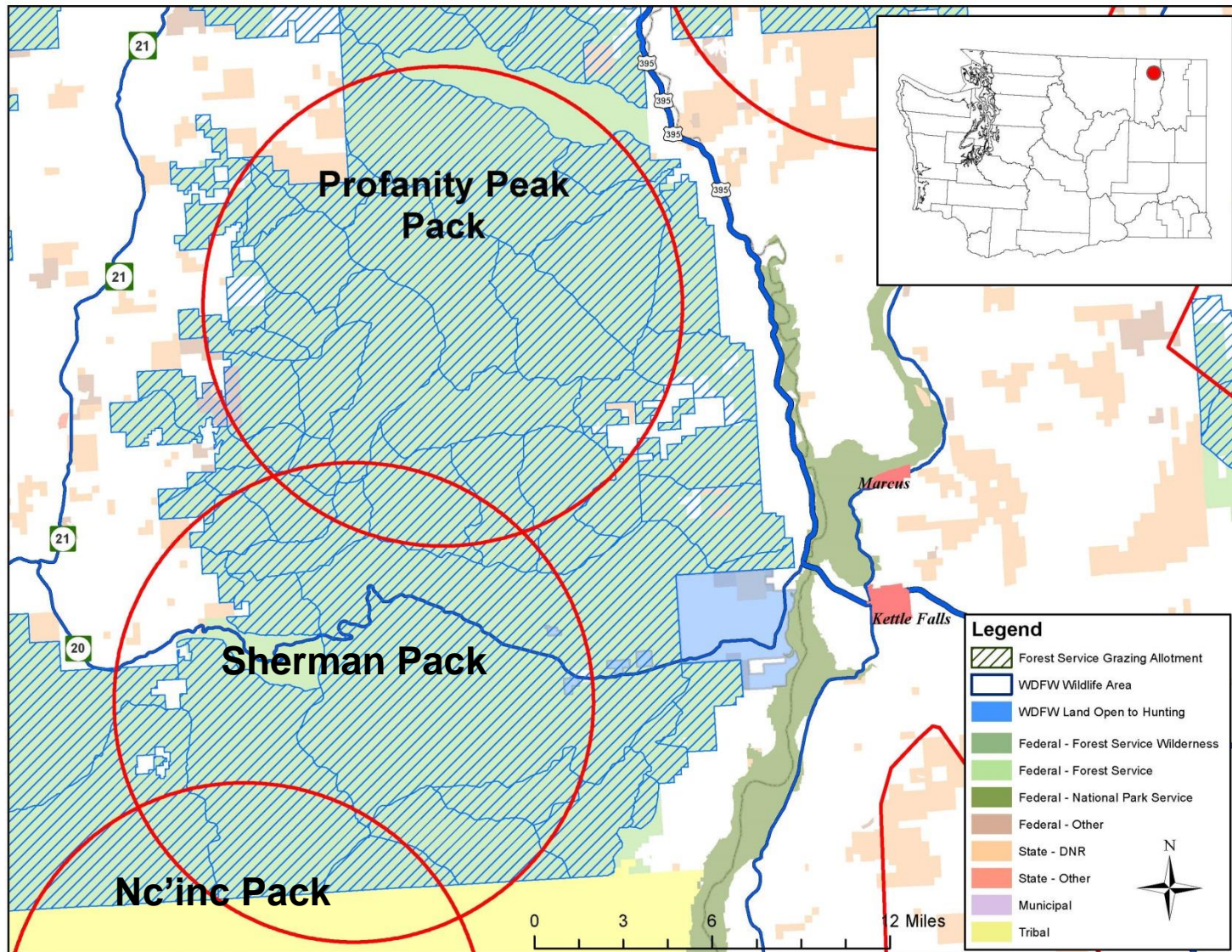
- ❑ Livestock producers are expected to proactively implement appropriate sanitation measures plus one additional deterrence measure with concurrence from the local WDFW Wildlife Conflict Specialist
- ❑ The sanitation and accompanying deterrence measure must be suited to the specific livestock operation.
- ❑ Following a confirmed wolf depredation, Wildlife Conflict Specialists will work with the livestock producer to assess the local on-the-ground conditions and determine what reactive deterrence measures should be enacted
- ❑ The expectation is the implementation of reactive deterrence measures will occur in most situations after the first confirmed wolf depredation

Profanity Peak wolf pack

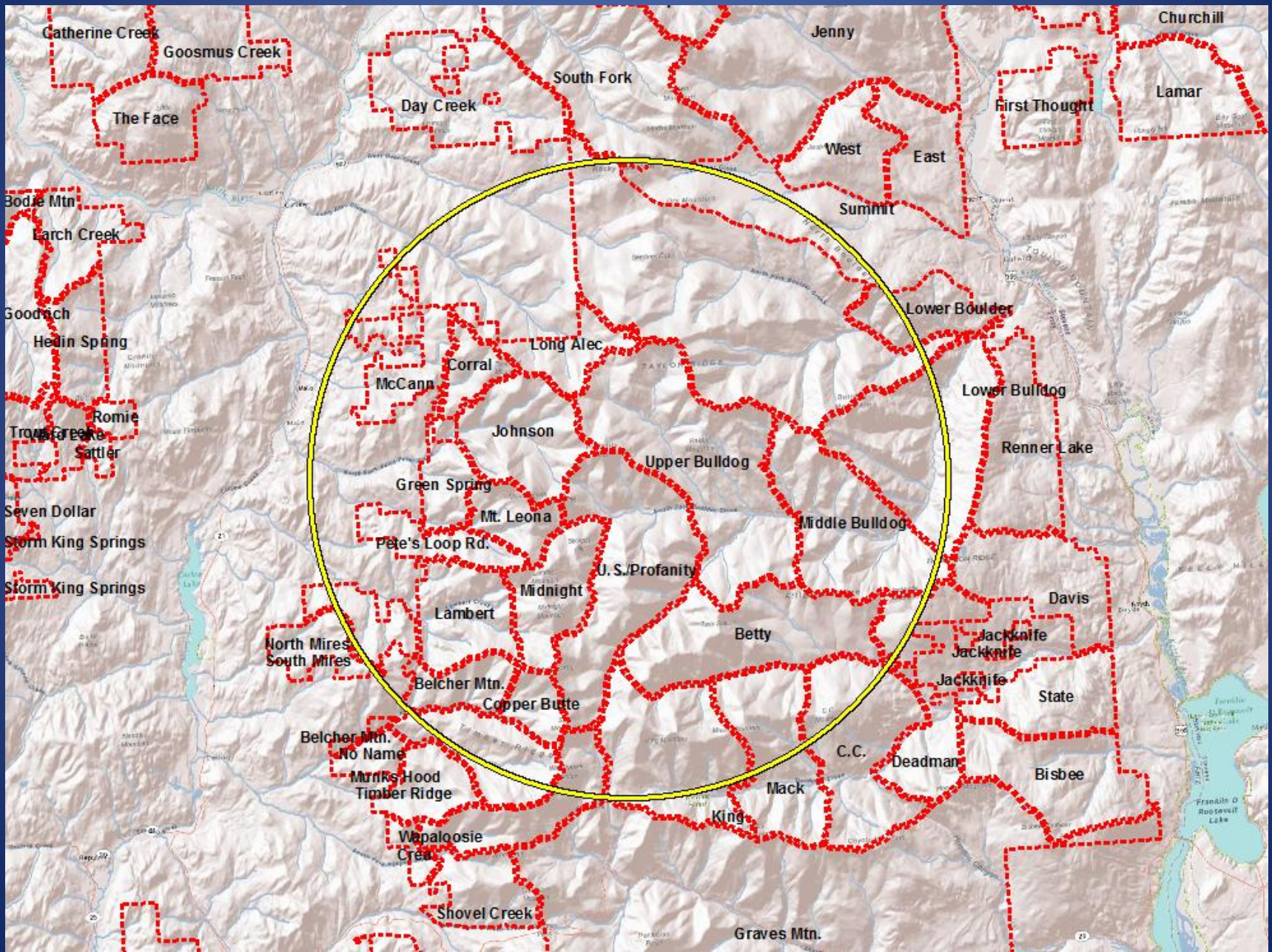
Prior wolf-livestock conflict in Profanity Peak Pack



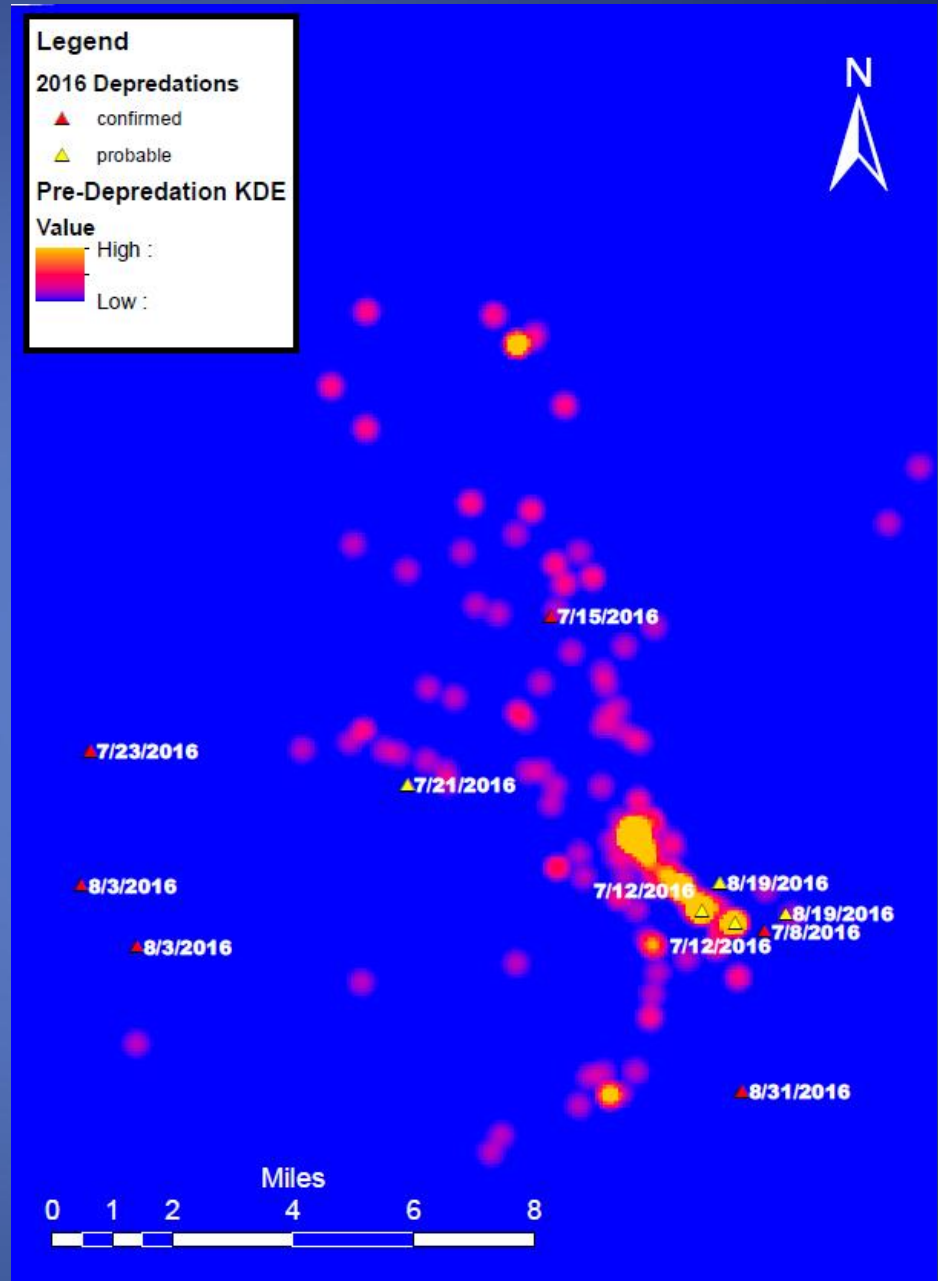
Profanity Peak Pack 2016



USFS Grazing Allotments



Wolf activity areas June 10 – July 7, 2016



Profanity Peak Producers Affected

Producer 1

- Wedge Pack
- Profanity Peak Pack
- Operational Changes
- Earlier Calving Larger Calves Upon Turnout

Producer 2

- WSU livestock collaring study
- WDFW DPCA – proactive range rider

Chronology of Events

| Date | Proactive deterrence measures | Reactive deterrence measures | Wolf depredation | Action |
|-------|---|------------------------------|--|--------|
| 07-08 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turned out earlier born calves desiring calves on allotment to be 200 lbs. or larger. • Rancher/employees on allotment approx. twice a week. • Sanitation maintained by removing/securing attractants | | <p>Confirmed depredation #1</p> <p>One confirmed depredation event with one dead calf.</p> | -- |
| 07-12 | Continued | Range rider deployed | <p>Probable depredation #1 & 2</p> <p>Two probable depredation events, each with one dead calf.</p> | -- |

Checklist of Non-lethal Tools

Sanitation

- ✓ **Remove/secure livestock carcasses**
- Predator-proof fencing around a bone yard
- Contact WDFW when livestock carcasses are discovered so that they can be removed

Calving & lambing areas

- ✓ **Calving or lambing areas are away from areas occupied by wolves**
- Use protective fencing or fladry around calving or lambing areas
- Lambing sheds

Turnout

- Other techniques for managing risks of wolves being attracted to young calves
- Turnout of calves onto forested/upland grazing allotments until calving is finished
- ✓ **Turnout of calves onto allotments once calves are larger**
- Delay the turnout of livestock onto forested/upland grazing pastures or allotments until June 10th when wild ungulates are born

Chronology of Events

| Date | Proactive deterrence measures | Reactive deterrence measures | Wolf depredation | Action |
|-------|---|------------------------------|--|--------|
| 07-15 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Range rider checking cattle almost daily since May 2016. • Sanitation maintained by removing/securing attractants (carcass was surrounded with fladry given large size of cow and distance to road). | Range riders deployed | <p>Confirmed depredation #2</p> <p>One confirmed depredation event with one dead cow.</p> | -- |

Chronology of Events

| Date | Proactive deterrence measures | Reactive deterrence measures | Wolf depredation | Action |
|--|---|-------------------------------|---|-----------|
| <p>07-21</p> <p>07-23</p> <p>08-03</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turned out earlier born calves desiring calves on allotment to be 200 lbs. or larger • Rancher/employees on allotment approx. twice a week • Sanitation maintained by removing/securing attractants | <p>A range rider deployed</p> | <p>Probable depredation # 3</p> <p>Confirmed depredations #3</p> <p>Confirmed depredations #4 & #5</p> | <p>--</p> |

Protocol for consideration of lethal removal

1. The Department documented **5** confirmed wolf depredation events within 2016, AND
2. All **5** were confirmed wolf depredations where livestock were killed by wolves, AND
3. The proactive deterrence measures have been implemented and failed to prevent depredations, AND
4. WDFW expects depredations to continue, AND
5. The Department notified the public on wolf activities

Removal level and methods

Regional recommendation:

- Partial pack removal
- Five wolves – mix of adults and pups
- Rationale – Protocol criteria met, incremental removal

Methods outlined in protocol:

- Helicopter
- Ground trapping
- Shooting from ground

Chronology of Events

| Date | Proactive deterrence measures | Reactive deterrence measures | Wolf depredation | Action |
|-------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|---|
| 08-05 | -- | -- | -- | WDFW removed 2 female wolves |
| 08-18 | -- | -- | -- | WDFW Director ended removal of a portion of Profanity Peak wolf pack. |

Chronology of Events

| Date | Proactive deterrence measures | Reactive deterrence measures | Wolf depredation | Action |
|-------|---|------------------------------|---|---|
| 08-19 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turned out earlier born calves desiring calves on allotment to be 200 lbs. or larger • Rancher/employees on allotment approx. twice a week • Sanitation maintained by removing/securing attractants | A range rider deployed | Confirmed depredations #6 and #7 Probably depredations #4 & #5 | WDFW Director authorized <u>up to</u> full pack removal for the Profanity Peak wolf pack. |
| 08-21 | | | | Removed 1 adult male |
| 08-22 | | | | Removed 1 adult male, 1 adult female, 1 female pup |
| 08-25 | | | | Adult female recovered |

Threats to human safety

To Producers, WDFW staff, WAG members

“I don't give a [REDACTED] who you are! Nor am I afraid or scared of any of you! You are all my enemy now! You took part in WAG and allowed the Profanity Peak pack to get killed! I will do everything in my power to take your [REDACTED] down. I'm coming for you! Just try and stop me now!”

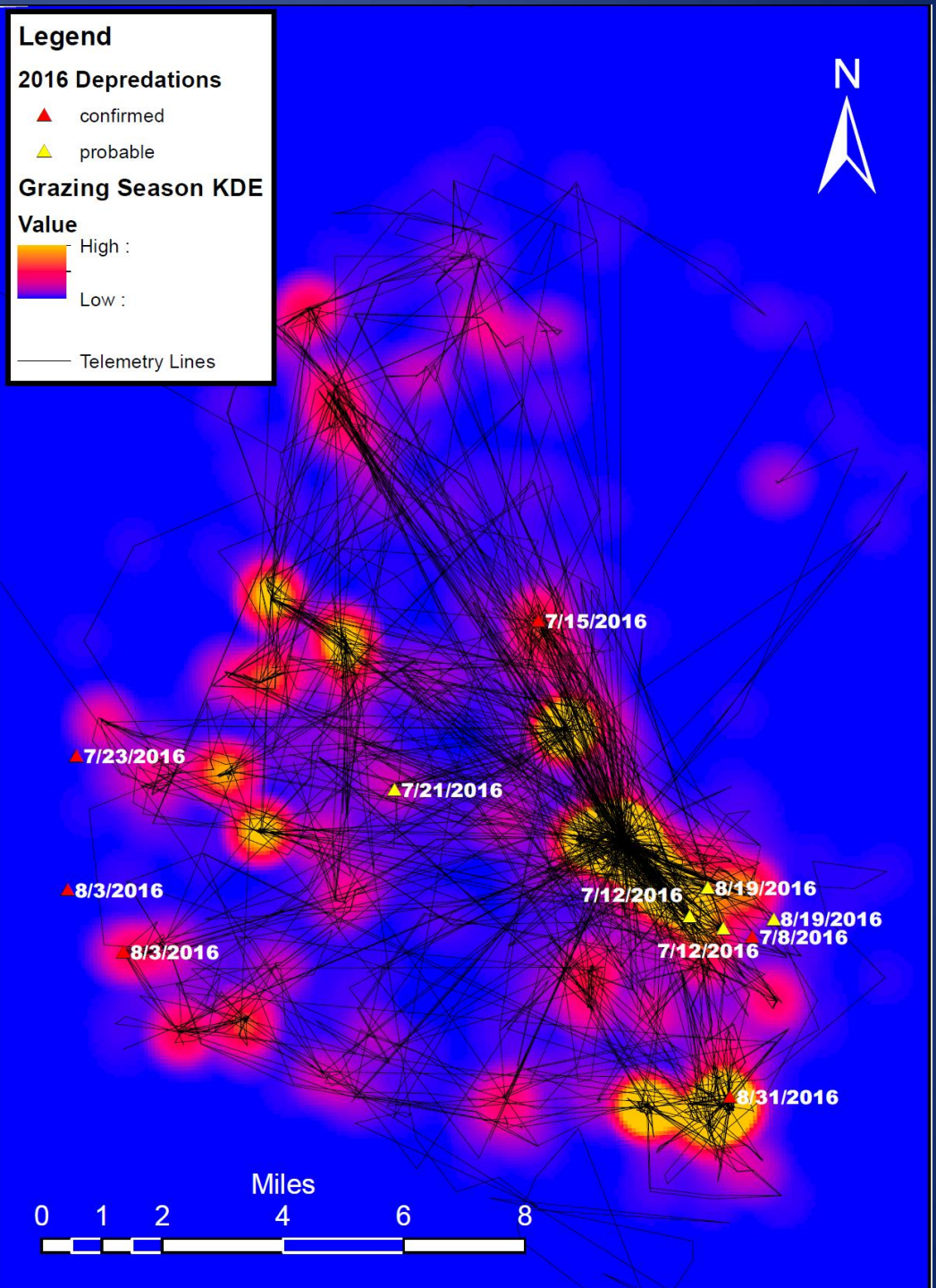
Chronology of Events

| Date | Proactive deterrence measures | Reactive deterrence measures | Wolf depredation | Action |
|-------|---|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| 10-03 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turned out earlier born calves desiring calves on allotment to be 200 lbs. or larger • Rancher/employees on allotment approx. twice a week • Sanitation maintained by removing/securing attractants | A range rider deployed | Confirmed depredations #10 | Removal action ongoing |

Chronology of Events

| Date | Proactive deterrence measures | Reactive deterrence measures | Wolf depredation | Action |
|---------------|---|------------------------------|------------------|---|
| 10-4 to 10-14 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turned out earlier born calves desiring calves on allotment to be 200 lbs. or larger • Rancher/employees on allotment approx. twice a week • Sanitation maintained by removing/securing attractants | A range rider deployed | -- | Contracted trapper – removal action ongoing |
| 10-19 | -- | -- | -- | Suspended removal action |

Profanity Peak 2016 Grazing Season Territory Use



Livestock Depredations

| Depredation # | Date | Livestock | Disposition | Determination |
|---------------|---------------|-----------|-------------|---------------|
| 1 | Jul 08,2016 | calf | mortality | confirmed |
| 2 | Jul 12, 2016 | calf | mortality | probable |
| 3 | Jul 12, 2016 | calf | mortality | probable |
| 4 | Jul 15,2016 | cow | mortality | confirmed |
| 5 | Jul 21, 2016 | calf | mortality | probable |
| 6 | Jul 23,2016 | calf | mortality | confirmed |
| 7 | Aug 3,2016 | calf | mortality | confirmed |
| 8 | Aug 3, 2016 | calf | mortality | confirmed |
| 9 | Aug 19, 2016 | calf | mortality | probable |
| 10 | Aug 19, 2016 | calf | mortality | probable |
| 11 | Aug 19, 2016 | calf | injured | confirmed |
| 12 | Aug 19, 2016 | calf | injured | confirmed |
| 13 | Aug 31, 2016 | calf | mortality | confirmed |
| 14 | Sept 27, 2016 | calf | injured | confirmed |
| 15 | Oct 3, 2016 | calf | injured | confirmed |

Cost of lethal removal

| Description | Amount |
|------------------------------|----------------|
| Helicopter contracts | \$73,440 |
| Employee salary and benefits | \$50,410 |
| Trapper contract | \$9,128 |
| Vehicle costs | \$1,676 |
| Supplies and equipment | \$345 |
| TOTAL | 134,999 |

Profanity Peak pack: Next Steps

- Monitor wolf activity and behavior
- Outreach to other producers in area
- Coordinate with producers on proactive deterrence measures
- Review protocol; lessons learned
- Coordination capture opportunities
- Coordinate with Forest Service on deterrence strategies

Questions