

October 12, 2011

Access Request: 2011-G-0046

Ms Christyann Olson
Alberta Wilderness Association
Box 6398 Stn D
Calgary, AB T2P 2E1

Dear Ms Olson:

Re: *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*
Request for Access to General Information

Alberta Sustainable Resource Development (SRD) received your request for access to general information under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act* on July 8, 2011.

SRD is pleased to advise you that partial access is being provided to the information you requested (copy enclosed).

The responsive records contain information that is excepted from disclosure under the *FOIP Act*. We have removed this information so that we could disclose to you the remaining information in the records. The detailed section supporting the severing is indicated on the face of each record. The attached chart outlines the page numbers along with the corresponding exceptions applied to the records. The section used to withhold information is as follows:

Section 17 – Disclosure harmful to personal privacy:

Section 17 of the *FOIP Act* protects the privacy of individuals whose personal information may be contained within records responsive to a FOIP request made by someone else. Third party personal information must not be disclosed when this would constitute an unreasonable invasion of the third party's privacy.

Personal information, where the disclosure is deemed to be an unreasonable invasion of a third party's personal privacy, is excepted from disclosure under section 17(1), 17(4)(d) and 7(4)(g)(i) of the *FOIP Act*.

Information non-responsive to the FOIP request:

Further to our conversation on August 8, 2011, you indicated that you did not want draft copies of records, duplicate records, fax cover sheets and information that is readily available to the public. This information and information contained within the responsive records that did not meet the criteria of your request for access to information has been deemed as non-responsive. Accordingly, this information was removed so that the balance of the information could be provided to you.

If you have any questions or concerns about a decision made during the processing of your request, please write or call me at (780) 644-5778 so that we can look at ways to address them. If we are unable to resolve your questions or concerns, you have the right to ask the Information and Privacy Commissioner to conduct a review under section 65 of the *FOIP Act*.

The logo for the Government of Alberta, featuring the word "Alberta" in a stylized, cursive font with a small square symbol to the right.

Freedom To Create. Spirit To Achieve.

Under section 65(1) of the *FOIP Act*, you may ask the Information and Privacy Commissioner to review this decision. To request a review, you must complete and deliver a *Request for Review* form within 60 days from the date of this notice to the Commissioner at 410, 9925 – 109 Street, Edmonton, Alberta, T5K 2J8. The form is available under the Resources tab on the Commissioner's website www.ojpc.ab.ca or you can call 1-888-878-4044 to request a copy of the form.

Should you request a review please provide the Commissioner with a copy of your original request, any letter(s) of clarification, a copy of this letter and provide the Commissioner with the reasons why you are requesting a review.

Yours truly,



Sharon E. Hunt
Access and Privacy Advisor
Alberta Sustainable Resource Development

Enclosures: Section 17 of the *FOIP Act*
Records Package (146 pages)

The following table details and summarizes the application of the above exceptions to information on the face of each record.

Records (Pages)	Exception to Disclosure	Comments
27, 102	17(1)	Partially severed
8, 15, 19, 24, 26, 30, 31, 41, 43, 45, 47, 55, 57, 64-67, 74, 75, 78-83, 88, 89, 90-98, 101, 103-106, 110, 112, 114, 120, 125, 127, 131, 138, 141, 142, 144-146	17(1), 17(4)(g)(i).	Partially severed
85, 103, 143	17(1), 17(4)(g)(i), 17(4)(d)	Partially severed
2, 4, 8, 10, 15, 16, 18, 20, 22-25, 32, 43, 44, 46, 49, 52, 54, 56, 62, 66-68, 70, 85, 86, 91, 95, 97, 98, 102, 106-108, 114, 117, 120, 133, 134, 136, 139, 141	Non-Responsive	Partially severed
3, 5, 9, 14, 37, 38, 69	Non-Responsive	Entirely severed

**Excerpt from
The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act**

...

Disclosure harmful to personal privacy

17(1) The head of a public body must refuse to disclose personal information to an applicant if the disclosure would be an unreasonable invasion of a third party's personal privacy.

(2) A disclosure of personal information is not an unreasonable invasion of a third party's personal privacy if

- (a) the third party has, in the prescribed manner, consented to or requested the disclosure,
- (b) there are compelling circumstances affecting anyone's health or safety and written notice of the disclosure is given to the third party,
- (c) an Act of Alberta or Canada authorizes or requires the disclosure,
- (d) repealed 2003 c21 s5,
- (e) the information is about the third party's classification, salary range, discretionary benefits or employment responsibilities as an officer, employee or member of a public body or as a member of the staff of a member of the Executive Council,
- (f) the disclosure reveals financial and other details of a contract to supply goods or services to a public body,
- (g) the information is about a licence, permit or other similar discretionary benefit relating to
 - (i) a commercial or professional activity, that has been granted to the third party by a public body, or
 - (ii) real property, including a development permit or building permit, that has been granted to the third party by a public body,and the disclosure is limited to the name of the third party and the nature of the licence, permit or other similar discretionary benefit,
- (h) the disclosure reveals details of a discretionary benefit of a financial nature granted to the third party by a public body,
- (i) the personal information is about an individual who has been dead for 25 years or more, or
- (j) subject to subsection (3), the disclosure is not contrary to the public interest and reveals only the following personal information about a third party:
 - (i) enrolment in a school of an educational body or in a program offered by a post-secondary educational body,

- (a) the disclosure is desirable for the purpose of subjecting the activities of the Government of Alberta or a public body to public scrutiny,
- (b) the disclosure is likely to promote public health and safety or the protection of the environment,
- (c) the personal information is relevant to a fair determination of the applicant's rights,
- (d) the disclosure will assist in researching or validating the claims, disputes or grievances of aboriginal people,
- (e) the third party will be exposed unfairly to financial or other harm,
- (f) the personal information has been supplied in confidence,
- (g) the personal information is likely to be inaccurate or unreliable,
- (h) the disclosure may unfairly damage the reputation of any person referred to in the record requested by the applicant, and
- (i) the personal information was originally provided by the applicant.

RSA 2000 cF-25 s17;2003 c21 s5

From: JPissot [jpissot@defenders.org]
Sent: Monday, February 26, 2007 12:39 PM
To: david.christiansen@gov.ab.ca
Subject: FW: Wolves, wild horses, and BOUNTIES in Alberta trying again...

Jim Pissot Defenders of Wildlife Canada jpissot@defenders.org

From: JPissot
Sent: February 26, 2007 12:11 PM
To: Dave Christiansen
Cc: Dave George (dave.george@gov.ab.ca); Carita Bergman; Terry Mack; CHaney; Suzanne Stone @ defenders; Nina Fascione; 'emerrill@ualberta.ca'; Ian Syme; Mike Gibeau @ pca; 'nwebb@ualberta.ca'; Marco Musiani; 'jfralr@ualberta.net'; Dianne Pachal; Paul Paquet
Subject: Wolves, wild horses, and BOUNTIES In Alberta

Good morning, Mr. Christiansen

The news articles below came to my attention this morning. As you might imagine, they raise a few questions. I hope you might be able to help me answer them.

Is this bounty offered by the Sundre Fish and Game Association legal under provincial law?

How do the SFGA observations and conclusions regarding elk-predator dynamics square with the Ministry's own research and guidelines?

"If they eat all the ungulates, they are going to starve," (see below) doesn't sound like a very sound basis for wildlife management. Has anyone from SFGA conferred with provincial conservation officers on the basics of wildlife management?

The SFGA web site (http://www.sundrefishandgame.com/f_projects.html) announces a 2006 project:

Ungulate fund designed to help improve the depleting ungulate population between Highway 1A and Highway 54 and west of Highway # 2. Financial support for this program has been received from the Iowa Chapter of FNAS (Foundation for North American Wild Sheep) as well as the Northwest Michigan Chapter of SCI (Safari Club International). Donations in support of this fund would be graciously accepted.

Was this project authorized or approved in any way by SRD?

How many wolves have been taken from the area described? Are you aware of any bounties or other payments from SFGA to wolf trappers or hunters?

Is there a program in the area to help ranchers deal with predation issues using lethal and non-lethal methods?

What are the ungulate trends and determinate factors as determined by Fish and Wildlife? What are habitat conditions, particularly winter range?

Has there been any correspondence between Fish and Wildlife and the SFGA regarding this program? Could you please send me copies of correspondence sent and received?

Defenders of Wildlife Canada has contributed to efforts of the Carnivore Advisory Group in the Chain Lakes area under the direction of Dr. Carita Bergman and Dave George (both of SRD Fish and Wildlife). We seek

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workable solutions in wildlife management, particularly regarding predators and livestock. It appears that efforts in the Sundre area may be seriously mis-guided. Perhaps our collective efforts in the southern corner of the province might apply farther north as well.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Best regards,

Jim Pissot

NON-RESPONSIVE
AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC

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Records removed as

Non-Responsive

Information does not meet the criteria of the FOIP request as set out by the applicant.

Page(s) 3

AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC

NON-RESPONSIVE
AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC

James H. Plssot, MS
Executive Director
Defenders of Wildlife Canada
PO Box 40001
Canmore, Alberta T1W 3H9 CANADA

403-678-0016 phone
403-678-0016 fax (call first)
www.DefendersCanada.org
jplssot@defenders.org

*Defenders of Wildlife Canada works to save and restore wildlife
and the special places it needs to survive for future generations.*

 The image "http://canflag.plbcanadian.com/images/animated/provl/ca-flag1.gif" cannot be displayed, because it contains errors.

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Records removed as

Non-Responsive

Information does not meet the criteria of the FOIP request as set out by the applicant.

Page(s) 5

Rob Lamont

From: Rob Lamont
Sent: Monday, June 14, 2010 3:28 PM
To: Lillian Zaleschuk
Cc: Kyland Pennoyer
Subject: RE: WOLF BOUNTY

Tracking: Recipient Read
Lillian Zaleschuk Read: 6/14/2010 4:14 PM
Kyland Pennoyer Read: 6/14/2010 3:34 PM

plus residents can hunt them from the beginning of a big game season to either May 31 or June 15 (co-inciding with the closure of the spring bear season) So basically from June 16 until August 24 they have to play by the rules that Dave mentioned on crown land. August 25 until June 15 they can kill them on any crown land.

Rob Lamont
Head, Enforcement Field Services
Peace/Upper Hay Area
Sustainable Resource Development
Fish and Wildlife Division

office 780-624-6246
Cell 780-625-8473
Fax 780-624-6455
Robert.Lamont@gov.ab.ca

From: Dave Moyles
Sent: Monday, June 14, 2010 3:01 PM
To: Lillian Zaleschuk
Cc: Rob Lamont; Kyland Pennoyer; Dave Walty; Bill Johnson; Lyle Fullerton
Subject: RE: WOLF BOUNTY

nope - they can have a bounty program without needing any paperwork or sanction from SRD.

Individuals can shoot wolves without a licence throughout the year:

1. on privately owned land by owner or occupant or with permission of the owner /occupant,
2. or on public land by a person authorized to keep livestock on that land or by a resident who has written permission from that authorized person (lease holder). And these authorities to hunt wolves extend to lands within 8 km of the land s described above, if the authorized person or resident has right of access.

Holders of Registered FMAs or Resident FMAs can trap wolves.

Take care

Dave Moyles

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7/25/2011

Senior Wildlife Biologist
Peace River - Upper Hay Area
Bag 900-26
Peace River, AB T8S 1T4
phone: 780-624-6465 (direct line)
fax: 780-624-6455
e-mail: Dave.Moyles@gov.ab.ca

From: Lillian Zaleschuk
Sent: Monday, June 14, 2010 2:33 PM
To: Dave Moyles
Subject: WOLF BOUNTY

Had a call from the Clearhills ID wondering if there was paperwork that had to be done or someone to tell - if they go ahead with a 'Wolf Bounty'?

Lil Zaleschuk
Fish & Wildlife Fairview
Phone (780)835-2737
Fax (780) 836-2773
email: Lillian.Zaleschuk@gov.ab.ca

May you always have love to share, health to spare, and friends that care.

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Rob Lamont

From: Rob Lamont
Sent: Wednesday, June 16, 2010 1:01 PM
To: Kyland Pennoyer; Dave Moyles
Subject: RE: MD council meeting in Worsley

NON-RESPONSIVE

Rob Lamont
Head, Enforcement Field Services
Peace/Upper Hay Area
Sustainable Resource Development
Fish and Wildlife Division

780-624-6246 office
780-625-8473 cell
780-624-6455 fax
Robert.Lamont@gov.ab.ca

From: Kyland Pennoyer
Sent: Wednesday, June 16, 2010 12:25 PM
To: Dave Moyles
Cc: Rob Lamont
Subject: RE: MD council meeting in Worsley

July 13 at 1000 it is. I just finished speaking with Al Rowe and he said that the council may or may not have there policy in place by then regarding the wolf bounty. It should be noted that Al is not a proponent of the bounty but is just facilitating our meeting. He stated that council is just interested in an update as to our efforts etc....Al also confirmed the rumors I heard yesterday that if the policy goes through they are going to put a bounty of \$500.00/wolf on adults and 250.00/wolf pup.....

I expressed my concern to Al regarding the money and the potential for adverse behaviour to obtain this bounty and Al was completely supportive of my point of view. However, the feeling I got from him is that the council will push this through next week.

Should be interesting...

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* 17(1)
17(4)(g)(i)

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Non-Responsive

Information does not meet the criteria of the FOIP request as set out by the applicant.

Page(s) 9

Rob Lamont

From: Sue Cotterill
Sent: Wednesday, June 16, 2010 4:28 PM
To: Rob Lamont
Subject: RE: Clearhills County wolf bounty

NON-RESPONSIVE

S

From: Rob Lamont
Sent: Wednesday, June 16, 2010 4:21 PM
To: Daniel Boyco
Cc: Sue Cotterill
Subject: Clearhills County wolf bounty

Dan,

District Officer Pennoyer has been communicating with Clearhills County councillors recently regarding wolf populations and livestock depredation. Livestock producers in the County have experienced losses over the last 18 months which can be best described as higher than normal. We have been diligent in responding to these complaints as per response standards and undertaking population control programs where required. Despite our efforts it seems that some of the county councillors are determined to develop a bounty program for wolves in the County. Pennoyer has been requested (and has confirmed) to attend the July 13 County Councillors meeting at which time he will be providing a brief update on our control efforts and the use of toxicants. The County has made it clear that they will move forward with developing the bounty program before the July 13 meeting.

The county has been made aware of the regulations pertaining to hunting and trapping of wolves and they are aware that there is no legislation that precludes them from developing a bounty program. Of concern is the amount of money that the County is intending on providing for each wolf carcass. They are suggesting that if the bounty program goes ahead, the County will pay \$500 per adult wolf and \$250 per wolf pup which will likely create some enforcement issues including such things as illegal poisoning and illegal trapping.

Sending you this as an FYI. I will update when I learn more.

Rob Lamont
Head, Enforcement-Field Services
Peace/Upper Hay Area
Fish and Wildlife Division
Alberta Sustainable Resource Development
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780-624-6455(Fax)
Robert.Lamont@gov.ab.ca

Sharon Hunt

From: Dave Moyles
Sent: Friday, June 25, 2010 8:58 AM
To: Dave Walty; Bill Johnson; Lyle Fullerton; Nathan Webb; Rob Corrigan; Jim Allen
Cc: Alain Fontaine; Dave Stepnisky; Kristina Norstrom; Barb Maile; Dave Hobson; Curtis Stambaugh; Hugh Wollis; Danielle Cross; Todd Powell; Anne Hubbs; Jeff Kneteman
Subject: FW: Clearhill county wolf hunting incentive

Attachments: 6307.pdf

FYI - we were not consulted on this, but Kyland Pennoyer and I are attending a Council meeting on July 13 to discuss this.
Take care

Dave Moyles
Senior Wildlife Biologist
Peace River - Upper Hay Area
Bag 900-26
Peace River, AB T8S 1T4
phone: 780-624-6465 (direct line)
fax: 780-624-6455
e-mail: Dave.Moyles@gov.ab.ca

From: Rob Lamont
Sent: Friday, June 25, 2010 8:48 AM
To: Kyland Pennoyer; Dave Moyles
Subject: Clearhill county wolf hunting incentive

Attached is the county policy that allows for the payment to hunters who kill wolf in the county. Interesting to note that they don't seem to be contemplating crown land, just private and grazing leases, although in the agreement at the end they



6307.pdf (50
KB)

refer to "all lands within 5 miles"

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Peace/Upper Hay Area
Fish and Wildlife Division
Alberta Sustainable Resource Development
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780-625-8473(Cell)
780-624-6455(Fax)
Robert.Lamont@gov.ab.ca



Clear Hills County

Effective Date: July 1, 2010	Policy Number 6307
Title: WOLF HUNT INCENTIVE POLICY	

1. Policy Statement

1.1. In an effort to support population control efforts and to further the public interest in regards to predatory wildlife Clear Hills County will implement procedures to provide for a wolf hunt incentive program for the purpose of promoting wolf hunting in the municipality. Through this program wolf registrants will receive a monetary reward for the pelt or carcass of a wolf hunted lawfully within the Municipality.

2. General

- 2.1. Council may annually during budget deliberations, establish a budget for the Wolf Hunt Incentive program.
- 2.2. By resolution of Council the Wolf Hunt Incentive program will be activated and deactivated.

3. Responsibilities

3.1 Clear Hills County shall pay compensation of five hundred (\$500.00) dollars per adult wolf and two hundred and fifty (\$250.00) dollars per non-adult wolf taken by a registrant within the boundaries of Clear Hills County in accordance with the listed conditions: The Clear Hills County Wolf Hunt Incentive program will be in effect for private property and grazing leases within the boundaries of Clear Hills County only.

3.1.1 Registrants requesting bounty payment shall be registered in advance with Clear Hills County and have entered into a hold-blameless agreement, attached as Appendix A.

3.1.2 Proof of carcass will be the pair of ears from each wolf harvested.

3.1.3 For verification and authorization of payment the proof of carcass must be presented at the County office to the Agricultural Fieldman, Community Development Manager or Chief Administrative Officer.

3.1.4 When presenting the proof of carcass Registrants must produce written verification from the landowner or occupant for the land declaring:

3.1.4.1 The land location where the wolf was harvested;

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- 3.1.4.2 That they are the landowner or occupant of said land; and
- 3.1.4.3 That the registrant had permission to hunt on said land.
- 3.1.5 Any proof of carcass received by a designated representative of the County will be marked.
- 3.1.6 Any proof of a carcass that has been previously marked will be rejected.
- 3.1.7 Registrants will be responsible for disposal of all parts of the wolf carcasses using recognized carcass disposal methods.
- 3.1.8 Registrants participating in the Wolf Hunt Incentive program shall follow all Federal and Provincial Regulations and Legislation, including but not limited to the Wildlife Act, Alberta Hunting Regulations, Firearms Act, Petty Trespass Act.
- 3.1.9 Registrants shall be removed from the list of qualified registrants if found to have not adhered to the policy as set by the Council, and shall not be able to receive benefit from the said program.
- 3.1.10 Registrants attempting to receive payment of bounty for wolves taken from outside of Clear Hills County shall be disqualified from receiving benefit from the program.

3. End of Policy

ADOPTED:

Resolution #C494(06/22/10)

Date: June 22, 2010

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Non-Responsive

Information does not meet the criteria of the FOIP request as set out by the applicant.

Page(s) 14

AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC

NON-RESPONSIVE

From: Steven Cross
Sent: Friday, June 25, 2010 11:47 AM
To: Mark Heckbert; Alain Fontaine
Subject: FW: Clearhills County wolf hunting Incentive program.

FYI

From: Rob Lamont
Sent: Friday, June 25, 2010 11:38 AM
To: Dave Barrett; Vans Hulbert; Tanis Boyko; Byron Schram; Terri Vance; Jacki Gerwing; Jeff Cochran; Owen Sabiston
Cc: Kyland Pennoyer; Lillian Zaleschuk; Brad Turner; Steven Cross; Dwayne Matier; Dave Moyles; Dave Walty; Lyle Fullerton; Bill Johnson
Subject: Clearhills County wolf hunting Incentive program.

Attached is a recent policy that was adopted by Clearhills county to provide a framework for the payment of wolf carcasses harvested by hunters and trappers. There are a fair number of restrictions in the policy and it is certainly not a free for all. I wanted to make everyone aware of this in case you field inquiries from the public. Any questions regarding the implementation of the program should be directed to the Ag fieldman for Clearhills whose number appears in the document. We should however be prepared to explain to folks the legalities of hunting wolf both on private and crown land and stay neutral if asked our opinion of this program. Kyland has been in contact with the County regarding this and will be meeting with them soon, if you have any questions he can likely answer them.

Steve and Dwayne, I am sending you this in case it becomes an issue

*

Dan has been briefed on this



6307.pdf (47 KB) *DUPLICATE*

17(1)

17(4)(3)(c)

6307.pdf (47 KB)

already.

Rob Lamont
Head, Enforcement-Field Services
Peace/Upper Hay Area
Fish and Wildlife Division

Darcy Whiteside

From: Sue Cotterill
Sent: Monday, June 28, 2010 8:17 AM
To: Deryl Empson; Todd Letwin; Dave Ealey; Darcy Whiteside
Cc: Carol Chawrun
Subject: FW: Clearhills County Wolf hunting incentive program

Attachments: 6307.pdf

Fyi - Information attached on the Clearhills County wolf hunt incentive program. It applies to private land and public grazing leases in the county.

Sue

From: Daniel Boyco
Sent: Monday, June 28, 2010 7:22 AM
To: Sue Cotterill
Subject: FW: Clearhills County Wolf hunting incentive program

Hi Sue:

FYI - *NON-RESPONSIVE*

Daniel Boyco
Acting Executive Director
Enforcement-Field Services
Fish and Wildlife Division

3rd Floor, Great West Life Building
9920 - 108 Street
Edmonton, Alberta
T5K 2M4

Tel: 780.427.2372
Fax: 780.422.9560
Daniel.Boyco@gov.ab.ca

From: Rob Lamont
Sent: Friday, June 25, 2010 11:28 AM
To: Daniel Boyco
Subject: Clearhills County Wolf hunting incentive program

Dan, attached is the recently passed wolf hunting policy of Clearhills County which provides the framework for the County to pay a financial reward to individuals who harvest wolf in the County. Having read the document it appears that the program has numerous restrictions not the least of which is the requirement that the wolf must be harvested on private land or grazing leases only in order to be eligible for payment. Additionally it appears that participants have to register in advance with the county in order to participate. Long story short, it doesn't appear to be a free for all and it's evident that the County has opted to not use the word "bounty". Officer Pennoyer spoke with a County official this morning to find out what they had planned for advertising the incentive program. At this point the only communication the County is contemplating is advising ratepayers through the monthly newsletter that is sent out to them.



DUPLICATE

6307.pdf (47 KB)

Rob Lamont
Head, Enforcement-Field Services

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Peace/Upper Hay Area
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Alberta Sustainable Resource Development
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780-624-6455(Fax)
Robert.Lamont@gov.ab.ca

NON-RESPONSIVE

From: Terry Mack
Sent: Monday, June 28, 2010 8:53 AM
To: Kim McAdam
Subject: FW: Clearhills County wolf hunting incentive program.

FYI, like they say everything that goes around comes around including wildlife management.

Terry Mack
Acting Provincial Problem Wildlife Specialist
Claresholm, Alberta

403-625-1450 Office
403-625-6359 Cell
403-625-3975 Fax

From: Curtis English
Sent: Monday, June 28, 2010 8:34 AM
To: Jeremy Lindsay
Cc: Terry Mack
Subject: FW: Clearhills County wolf hunting incentive program.

FYI

From: Kyland Pennoyer
Sent: Friday, June 25, 2010 4:18 PM
To: Curtis English; Kelly Moran; Norm Backer; Lewis Watson; Ryan Green
Cc: Rob Lamont
Subject: FW: Clearhills County wolf hunting incentive program.

FYI

From: Rob Lamont
Sent: Friday, June 25, 2010 11:38 AM
To: Dave Barrett; Vans Hulbert; Tanis Boyko; Byron Schram; Terri Vance; Jackl Gerwing; Jeff Cochrane; Owen Sablston
Cc: Kyland Pennoyer; Lillian Zaleschuk; Brad Turner; Steven Cross; Dwayne Matier; Dave Moyles; Dave Walty; Lyle Fullerton; Bill Johnson
Subject: Clearhills County wolf hunting Incentive program.

Attached is a recent policy that was adopted by Clearhills county to provide a framework for the payment of wolf carcasses

harvested by hunters and trappers. There are a fair number of restrictions in the policy and it is certainly not a free for all. I wanted to make everyone aware of this in case you field inquiries from the public. Any questions regarding the implementation of the program should be directed to the Ag fieldman for Clearhills whose number appears in the document. We should however be prepared to explain to folks the legalities of hunting wolf both on private and crown land and stay neutral if asked our opinion of this program. Kyland has been in contact with the County regarding this and will be meeting with them soon, if you have any questions he can likely answer them.

Steve and Dwayne, I am sending you this in case it becomes an issue

✳

Dan has been briefed on this



DUPLICATE

6307.pdf (47 KB)

17(1)

17(4)(g)(i)

already.

Rob Lamont
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NON-RESPONSIVE

From: Dave Moyles
Sent: Monday, July 26, 2010 1:56 PM
To: Dave Walty; Bill Johnson; Lyle Fullerton; Rob Lamont; Jack Gerwing; Owen Sabiston; Byron Schram; Dave Barrett; Vans Hulbert; Jeff Cochrane; Alain Fontaine; Mark Heckbert; Steven Cross; Norm Backer; Dave Hervieux; Dave Stepnisky; Dwayne Matier; Paul MacMahon; Kristina Norstrom; Todd Powell; Barb Malle; Danielle Cross; Curtis Stambaugh; Hugh Wollis; Dave Hobson; Jim Allen; Nathan Webb; Rob Corrigan; Anne Hubbs; David Christiansen; Jon Jorgenson; Greg Hale; Pat Young; Dale Eslinger; John Taggart(MDH); Kim Morton; Terry Mack; Dave Moore; Edward Hofman; Reg Russell
Cc: Kyland Pennoyer
Subject: Notes from Meeting with MD of Clear Hills No. 21 regarding their wolf bounty

Hi all:

Kyland and I met with the Clear Hills No. 21 MD Council on the 13th to discuss their wolf bounty that now is in effect. Here are the notes from our session with them and a description of their bounty program.



July 13 2010 Clear Hills

MD 21 re wolf bounty.pdf (

DUPLICATE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC

FYI

Take care

Dave Moyles

Senior Wildlife Biologist

Peace River - Upper Hay Area

Bag 900-26

Peace River, AB T8S 1T4

phone: 780-624-6465 (direct line)

fax: 780-624-6455

e-mail: Dave.Moyles@gov.ab.ca

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Notes from meeting with M.D. of Clear Hills No. 21 Council regarding their move to institute a wolf bounty in the county. – July 13, 2010

Kyland Pennoyer and I met with the M.D. of Clear Hills (No. 21) Council on July 13, 2010 in the MD office in Worsley to discuss the wolf bounty declared for the MD.

- One of the councillors asked about effectiveness of bounties in controlling wolf numbers. I answered that bounties were not an effective form of controlling wolf numbers.
- One of the Councillors, Charlie Johnson mentioned that there were not too many problems yet this year.
- Later in the meeting, Council stated that they had instituted the wolf bounty in response to a delegation of 10 or more ranchers from the Clear River – Bear Canyon area who were frustrated with losses and wanted action.
- Kyland explained that he had done a wolf control program last winter and focused on the area from the Montagneuse River to the Clear River. He stated that he had taken about 24 wolves from this area. To date the only complaints registered with him are from the north end of the Bear Canyon Provincial Grazing Reserve.
- Kyland identified issues with the ongoing problem of theft of furs from trappers and real potential for theft of wolf carcasses from F&W control work. During the meeting both Kyland and I addressed the issue of use of strychnine, the re-instatement of strychnine as a control measure, and the need to accurately assess amount of target and non-target wildlife taken during F&W wolf control work. Kyland stated that it would be almost impossible to do any control work on land with uncontrolled access.
- Several of the councillors mentioned rate-payers' frustrations with the current compensation program, that losses due to predators were "too hard to prove" and that in past instances F&W staff "quit too soon".
- We reviewed the policy of not using strychnine in grizzly bear areas.
- Kyland encouraged the Council to encourage anyone with cattle on leases and bush pasture to be more vigilant and check animals more frequently, thus spotting wounds on their cattle or other evidence of predation.
- We mentioned that wolf populations have responded to the increase in prey numbers earlier in the decade but that deer numbers have dropped considerably, and that eventually predator numbers will decline.
- Kyland had investigated claims of heavy losses of calves to wolves this spring and found these claims to be unfounded. One rumour was based on losses dating from 2008. Kyland was able to squelch these rumours quite effectively during our meeting.
- They do not have any means of independently verifying the origin of wolves, so the potential for abuse is great.
- The Council stated that they did not want their wolf bounty program to interfere with any F&W wolf control work. They stated that they will keep in contact and will be reviewing this bounty in November. Their staff will keep Kyland informed as the year progresses.

000021

Non-Responsive

From: Nathan Webb
Sent: Friday, August 20, 2010 3:27 PM
To: Alain Fontaine
Subject: RE: Wolf bounty proposal - MD of Big Lakes

Hi Al,

Interesting, these seem to be picking up steam across the province. Unfortunately there isn't any literature of the effectiveness of bounty programs per se in controlling wolf numbers and/or reducing predation on livestock or wild ungulates. There's no doubt that historical bounty programs were very effective, but they had a key difference from modern times in that poison was widely used by the general public. Currently, studies in Alberta and Alaska have indicated that public harvests of wolves are not effective in reducing wolf populations enough to allow increases in wild ungulates. I am not aware of any studies that have looked at the effectiveness of public harvests in reducing predation on livestock. However, we do know that unless wolf populations across a large area can be reduced substantially (which is likely not possible by the public unless poison is allowed), it is important to remove the *offending* wolf pack when removing wolves to reduce livestock depredation. It is very possible for wolves to coexist with livestock without causing many problems, and when this occurs it is important to maintain that pack in the area, rather than kill it off, which may cause the vacated territory to be filled in by a pack that does kill livestock. In my opinion, unless we are going to do widespread wolf control to depress numbers over large areas (which is likely only possible with poison or aerial gunning), the best strategy to manage predation

on livestock is targeted removal of wolf packs that are known to have killed stock. If a bounty program could be designed to only target wolves near livestock, I suppose it could work, but I don't see how it would be possible to control where the wolves are killed with such precision. I do not believe that a bounty program will be effective across a large scale, given wolves' reproductive and dispersal capabilities and the big Alberta landscapes that we are working in. I might be proven wrong though!

I have attached a few relevant papers on wolf harvests, control programs, and dealing with livestock depredation ✖

** Non-Responsive*

✖

From: Alain Fontaine
Sent: Friday, August 20, 2010 2:41 PM
To: Nathan Webb
Subject: Wolf bounty proposal - MD of Big Lakes

Hi Nate,

Well, following the various wolf bounty programs that have been put in place in a few places in the province in recent years, a wolf bounty program proposal has reared its ugly head for our local municipal district (MD of Big Lakes) with one of the councillors pushing this pretty hard. He's got some support from the rest of the council.

I was wondering if you can write me a quick blurb on what you know of the effectiveness of wolf bounty programs and point me to some decent peer-reviewed articles on the matter.

I'm not sure what the MD's timeline is for this and I'm not sure where it's at right now but I'd like to nip this in the bud before it snowballs.

Cheers

Al

Alain J. Fontaine
Senior Area Wildlife Biologist
Fish and Wildlife Division
Alberta Sustainable Resource Development
P.O. Box 1500
5226 - 53rd Ave, Provincial Building
High Prairie, Alberta
T0G 1E0

Phone: 780-523-6570
Fax: 780-523-6525
Email: Alain.Fontaine@gov.ab.ca

000023

NON-RESPONSIVE

From: Steven Cross
Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2010 11:31 AM
To: 'agriculture@mdblakes.ca'
Cc: Jeremy Lindsay; Alain Fontaine; Terry Mack; Curtis English
Subject: Wolf Bounty

Hi Amanda

Attached is the Clear Hills Wolf Hunt Incentive Policy.



DUPLICATE

Clear Hills
f bounty.pdf (

I have some concerns over this initiative being taken in the MD of Big Lakes. Scientific study shows that a bounty has no affect on a predator population and some studies on coyote bounties have even shown an increase in the population. I suspect that you will see an increase in the requests for the use of vertebrate toxicant. Fish and Wildlife's mandate is to investigate suspected predator losses and mitigate any further losses. The use of strychnine has been reinstated with conditions that other control methods have been considered or implemented prior to it's use. My staff have received additional training on capturing wolves with the use of snares and leg hold traps. At this point approx 10 wolves have been removed from the MD of Big Lakes in relation to livestock predation. One concern is the interference of our mitigation efforts and the theft of captured wolves.

One alternative option would be to offer similar training to that my staff have taken. This would encourage producers to be part of the solution. I believe educating producers and local registered and resident fur management licence holders to assist in the ongoing control of predator populations would be far more successful than providing a monetary incentive. If you choose this route, I would suggest a two to three day seminar with Gordie Klassen * or the *
* The Alberta Trapper's Association may also be able to offer some assistance

If you would like more information or wish to discuss these options further, feel free to give me a call.

Steven Cross
Program Manager - Enforcement Field Services
Lesser Slave Area
2nd Floor, Prov. Building
High Prairie, Alberta
wk - 780-523-6733
cell - 780-536-5089
fax - 780-523-6525

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NON-RESPONSIVE

From: Mark Heckbert
Sent: Friday, August 27, 2010 2:02 PM
To: Ryan Green; Steven Cross; Alain Fontaine
Subject: RE: Wolf Bounty for MD of Opportunity

Hi Ryan,

Thanks for the information. Between Al and I we will get you some information that supports our position against the bounties. We have a similar meeting on Monday with the MD Big Lakes, so will have this material developed shortly.

Mark Heckbert
Fish and Wildlife Program Manager
Lesser Slave Area
Sustainable Resource Development
Box 1500
High Prairie, AB
T0G 1E0
(780) 523-6517

000025

From: Ryan Green
Sent: Friday, August 27, 2010 1:12 PM
To: Steven Cross; Mark Heckbert; Alain Fontaine
Subject: Wolf Bounty for MD of Opportunity

* called the other day and was inquiring about how he could start a wolf bounty for the Red Earth Area. He wants to meet with me within the next few weeks. I have talked with Kyland as to what his involvement is with the wolf bounty in Fairview. He told me that FW does not support it and that it is the MD's project. I will Advise * that this is an issue that needs to be talked about with the MD. Alberta Fish and Wildlife will not support any Wolf Bounty of any kind with the * or the MD of opportunity. Ryan

Ryan Green
District Fish and Wildlife Officer
Red Earth Creek

W-780-649-3853
C-780-649-9119
Fax-780-649-3598

You just can't beat the person who never gives up
"Babe Ruth"

* 17(1)
17(4)(9)(c)

000026

Steve Bradbury

From: Mark Heckbert
Sent: Tuesday, August 31, 2010 11:49 AM
To: _SRD-FWD-FW Program Managers
Cc: Dave Moyles; Dave Stepnisky; Alain Fontaine; Nathan Webb; Steven Cross; Rob Lamont; Dave Barrett; Kyland Pennoyer; Ryan Green; Wade Horton; Jeremy Lindsay
Subject: Municipal District Big Lakes Proposed Wolf Bounty
Attachments: Lettter MD Big Lakes Wolf Bounty 2010.doc

All,

The Municipal District of Big Lakes, following in the spirit of decision-making in the MD Clear Hills, is considering implementing a public bounty for wolves. Steve Cross and I made a presentation yesterday to the Council. Attached is a record of what we presented. We have also received an inquiry from the *
* at Red Earth for a provincially-funded wolf bounty in the Red Earth area.

Mark Heckbert
Fish and Wildlife Program Manager
Lesser Slave Area
Sustainable Resource Development
Box 1500
High Prairie, AB
T0G 1E0
(780) 523-6517

* 17(1)

000027

August 31, 2010

Amanda Nepstad
Agricultural Fieldman
Municipal District of Big Lakes
Box 239
High Prairie, AB
T0G 1E0

Dear Ms. Nepstad:

The following is brief summary of the presentation by Steven Cross, Enforcement Field Services Manager and Mark Heckbert, Fish and Wildlife Manager to Open Council yesterday regarding information on the value of implementing a public bounty program for wolves within the Municipal District of Big Lakes.

Response to Wolf Depredation Occurrences:

Steve summarized the 170 occurrences that have been documented within the MD in the last 10 years, our response efforts, results, and described and answered questions on the provincial Wildlife Predator Compensation Program. There were many favourable comments from Councillors and the public in attendance regarding our timeliness and level of response to predator depredation of livestock. The Alberta government wolf removal program is designed to maximize potential to eliminate problem individuals, not typically decrease wolf populations. This selective removal program may be able to modify wolf behaviour through decreased tolerance of humans, and may lessen depredation by removing genetic or behavioural traits conducive to depredation, but will not decrease reoccurrence of attacks due to local prey bases, environmental conditions or livestock grazing patterns.

Mark summarized the following information from Alberta and western Canada:

Have public bounties for wolves worked in North America?

- public bounties effectiveness at reducing wolf populations is doubtful despite many thousands of wolves killed in North American in the 20th century
- public bounties may have proven local effectiveness at the edge of wolf range where numbers are low, payments high and capture techniques efficient (poison has almost always been a part of these types of bounties)
- in parts of Canada and Alaska, wolves have persisted even when public wolf bounties have occurred for extended periods (similar numbers of wolves bountied at the start and end of the bounty period)
- where large tracts of land function as reservoirs for wolf populations, bounties can be expected to be ineffective

Alberta ■

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000028

- bounties provide wolf control "when and where wanted" rather than "when and where needed"
- concerns about wolf population response to widespread harvest pressures (wolves in Alberta can have 4-7 pups, most packs produce a litter every year and require significant mortality events to not have a litter every year). The wolf population and associated depredation on livestock may actually increase under a public bounty.
- we do know that it is important to remove the offending wolf pack in order to reduce livestock depredation
- some evidence that further refinement in targeting individual males may decrease subsequent depredations
- it is possible for wolves to coexist with livestock without causing many problems and when this occurs it is important to maintain that pack in the area rather than kill it off, which creates a vacant territory for a pack which may kill livestock
- a bounty that targets a very specific geographic area with livestock depredation would be the best bet, but there are problems with controlling where the wolves would be killed during a public bounty

What other historical incentive programs have been tried?

- extra-value payment to trappers (Yukon 1983-1986 \$200/trapped wolf, did not increase wolf harvest and program abandoned, 1989 AFGA \$150/trapped wolf by resident trappers, only 20 claims received in whole province and program abandoned after one year)

Are there any patterns to wolf depredation on livestock?

- 3-season pattern of depredation typically occurs in Alberta and in western Canada (highest May-September, lower October-January, lowest February-April)
- in Alberta, August is typically the worst month for depredation
- this is no surprise when we look at grazing patterns and livestock confinement i.e. more open grazing and less restrictive movements in spring and summer, more confinement October-April, calving operations typically quite confined.
- grazing pattern of least restriction occurs at the same time as wolf packs require the most protein in order to provide for growing pups and are teaching pups to hunt

What might be some other options for the MD to consider that may provide long-term protection to livestock producers?

- limiting livestock carcass availability to predators (community disposal sites). Currently we believe that random, above ground livestock carcass disposal methods are maintaining a higher than normal number of predators in the settled area of the MD and have contributed to depredation of livestock
- wolf trapping and livestock management seminars- a considerable body of expertise is available in Alberta to help trappers and ranchers improve their programs
- subsidizing costs of electric fence or rental opportunity, piloting program on HPGR, longterm benefit -fladry/electric fence has been demonstrated to work

Please feel free to contact me at (780) 523-6517 if you have any further questions.

Mark Heckbert
Fish and Wildlife Manager



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000029

Ruoy Allenby

From: Warren Singh
Sent: Thursday, September 09, 2010 12:09 PM
To: Chad Barber
Cc: Kimberly Lougheed-Kain
Subject: Fw: wolf bounty incentive rocky mountain house

From: X
To: Mel Knight 176)
Sent: Thu Sep 09 11:01:27 2010 176)(9)(6)
Subject: wolf bounty incentive rocky mountain house

Honourable Mel R. Knight

Sept.9/10

I am writing to you out of complete frustration.

Last March I applied for the Wolf bounty/incentive program the F&W and ATA {Rocky and Sundre} are offering. I followed the rules exactly: was properly licensed, shot the four wolves during the season in a designated WMU, and registered them with the F&W as required.

I submitted my claim to the ATA as instructed. The normal claim would have been \$1200 [\$300 per wolf}, but because I was not a "member in good standing" I only qualified for \$600. I agreed to this and was assured by both the Presidents of the AFGA and ATA locals I would be paid. I believe the AFGA and the Sheep Foundation supply the money and the trappers pay it out for wolves meeting F&W requirements.

Finally after weeks of phoning and writing I was told my claim was rejected because of my attitude and I did not have a membership in AFGA at opening day of wolf season. This is not a requirement as their conditions for approval clearly state in their newsletter.

I tried to lay a complaint with the F&W in Rocky and was brushed off completely, with officer T Brooks saying my problem was with the trappers, not them.

Then I went to my lawyer to have him recover the \$600 owing me. He told me I could not get my money because the program was completely illegal and you cannot sue to get illegal money. He said it was clearly not an incentive program, but a bounty, and the only bounty programs which are legal are government ones.

I then contacted the F&W in Rocky again to get them to endorse the program in writing to make it legal so I could proceed recovering my money. I was totally shocked when T Brooks, enforcement officer said the Rocky F&W had absolutely nothing to do with this incentive program of the trappers [strange; because I know the biologist who helped set the program up?] and that it was not a bounty; it was completely legal. When I asked him to explain this in writing he refused and told me I could read the dictionary as well as he could! He further said that it was no different than a county or municipality offering to pay volunteers who do the spring ditch cleaning! It was just an incentive to kill wolves not a bounty. He also said farmers and ranchers could pay out a per head payment to any one to kill deer, elk, moose; whatever, as long as they had a license. I can get nothing in writing despite repeated requests.

000030

9/9/2010

With respect; I simply do not believe what Brooks is telling me.

How can I get my money? What is the truth? Can these trappers do as they please and not be accountable to anyone?

I would appreciate as prompt a response as possible – it's very frustrating after all these months and I don't know where to go from here. Any help would be really appreciated.

Thank you

*

*17(1)

17(4)(g)(i)

000031

NON-RESPONSIVE

From: Nathan Webb
Sent: Friday, September 10, 2010 4:06 PM
To: Alain Fontaine
Cc: Mark Heckbert
Subject: RE: Wolf Bounty - Final Policy & Agreement

Yup, that's what I would think too. But it would be neat to show this with data...especially if depredations by chance went up after they started their program

From: Alain Fontaine
Sent: Friday, September 10, 2010 4:00 PM
To: Nathan Webb
Cc: Mark Heckbert
Subject: RE: Wolf Bounty - Final Policy & Agreement

Maybe... but depredation problems have varied so much between years that I don't think you could state anything conclusively either way...

From: Nathan Webb
Sent: Friday, September 10, 2010 3:51 PM
To: Alain Fontaine
Cc: Mark Heckbert
Subject: RE: Wolf Bounty - Final Policy & Agreement

Thanks Al. I wonder if they will pay for pups, as they are ~50 pounds right now?

000052

8/26/2011

With this program and the one up near peace river, it would be interesting to do a before and after comparison of livestock depredations to evaluate the programs, maybe after they've been in effect for a year. That might provide some more info for other municipalities that are considering this.

From: Alain Fontaine
Sent: Friday, September 10, 2010 3:28 PM
To: Nathan Webb
Subject: FW: Wolf Bounty - Final Policy & Agreement

FYI

From: Steven Cross
Sent: Friday, September 10, 2010 2:34 PM
To: Charles Best; Cole Smith; Curtis English; Jeremy Lindsay; Mike Hewitt; Owen Butz; Ryan Green; Tim Krikun; Travis Gloeckler; Wade Horton
Cc: Mark Heckbert; Alain Fontaine; Dennis Palkun
Subject: FW: Wolf Bounty - Final Policy & Agreement

On Wednesday Sept 8, 2010, the council for the MD of Big Lakes approved the implementation of a wolf bounty. Attached are the related documents. On August 30, Mark, Curtis & I attended a council meeting and attempted to convince them that a bounty was not the most effective approach to controlling wolf depredation; however, it appears they have chosen to proceed with the program. The MD fieldperson requested FWD assistance in inspecting carcasses when submitted for payment. Mark & I have discussed it and declined any involvement in the program. I have provided some advice is inspecting carcasses that may reveal the cause of death and offered that if illegal activity is suspected that it should be reported to the High Prairie Fish and Wildlife Office.

Steven Cross
 Program Manager - Enforcement Field Services
 Lesser Slave Area
 2nd Floor, Prov. Building
 High Prairie, Alberta
 wk - 780-523-6733
 cell - 780-536-5089
 fax - 780-523-6525

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From: Amanda Nepstad [mailto:agriculture@mdbiglakes.ca]
Sent: Friday, September 10, 2010 2:15 PM
To: Steven Cross
Subject: Wolf Bounty - Final Policy & Agreement

Hi Steven:

Attached is the final Policy and the Contract of Participation (Schedule A). I will try to get as many as possible to register in advance so I can provide them with copies of the Permission to Enter neighbouring lands, and explain to them that they are not entitled to harvest on SRD lands, unless the land is immediately adjacent to a grazing lease, and only with the permission signed by the leaseholder, and obviously, they are not entitled to harvest on private land without permission from the landowner.

000033

8/26/2011

Amanda Nepstad
Agricultural Fieldman
M.D. of Big Lakes
Box 239
High Prairie, AB. T0G 1E0
telephone: 780-523-5955

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000034



**SCHEDULE A - (POLICY AG-10)
 CONTRACT OF PARTICIPATION – Wolf Hunting Incentive
 between registered Participants and the Municipal District of Big Lakes**

In an effort to support population control efforts regarding predatory wildlife, the Municipal District of Big Lakes (“Municipality”) has approved a wolf hunting incentive program (“Incentive Program”) for the purpose of reducing livestock predation. Through this program, hunters or licensed trappers (“Participants”) may qualify to receive a monetary reward (“Incentive Reward”) upon delivery of the carcass of an adult wolf, hunted lawfully, within the Municipality by a resident of the Municipality.

The terms and conditions of participation in the Incentive Program are as follows:

1. **STATUTORY ADHERENCE:** While participating in the Incentive Program, the Participant will, at all times abide by all statutes, regulations, and bylaws enacted by the Federal, Provincial, and Municipal governments, and the Participant agrees not to violate any statutory or regulatory provision in any way. The relevant statutes include, but are not limited to: the Firearms Act, the Wildlife Act and the Wildlife Regulations, and the Petty Trespass Act. Any Participant who fails to strictly adhere to all relevant laws will forfeit any right to an Incentive Reward under the Incentive Program.

2. **Indemnify and Save Harmless:** The Participant will indemnify the Municipality, its officers, representatives, agents and employees, against and save them harmless from and against any and all liability for any and all claims, costs, damages, and expenses or liability arising out of or on account of injury or death to persons or damage or destruction to property resulting from or arising out of or in any way connected to the Incentive Program or participation in the Incentive Program.

3. **Preconditions of Reward:** In order to obtain the Incentive Reward, the carcass of a lawfully hunted adult wolf must be presented to an appropriate designation as outlined in the Municipal District of Big Lakes Policy (AG – 10) for examination. To qualify for the Incentive Reward, a wolf must have been lawfully hunted within the boundaries of the Municipality, by a resident of the Municipality, a Licensed Trapper or a Licensed Resident Trapper. Any person, who has not agreed to be bound by the terms and conditions of the Contract of Participation (“Contract”) in advance of the wolf harvest, will be considered ineligible to receive the Incentive Reward. The Participant must declare the location where each wolf was killed, and must also produce appropriate documentation as follows:
 - a) **If the wolf was hunted on private property,** the Participant must, at the time of the claim for reward, produce either
 - (i) a letter of permission, written and signed by the registered legal owner of the property or the authorized occupant of the property, authorizing the Participant to hunt wolf on the property,
 - (ii) proof that the Participant is the registered legal owner of the property or the authorized occupant of the property
 - b) **If the wolf was hunted on public lands,** the Participant must, at the time of presentation of the claim for reward, produce one of the following:
 - (i) proof that the Participant is authorized to maintain livestock on that land,
 - (ii) a letter of permission, written and signed by the person authorized to maintain livestock on that land, and authorizing the Participant to hunt wolf on the land,
 - (iii) proof that the land is immediately adjacent to property owned by the Participant or lands on which the Participant is authorized to maintain livestock, or lands for which the Participant has a letter of permission as contemplated in (ii) just above and if the land is leased, a letter of permission, written and signed by the authorized lessee and if the land is not leased, proof that it is not leased.

4. **INCENTIVE REWARD:** If, and only if, the representative of the Municipality is satisfied that the Participant has complied with the terms and conditions of this Contract, the Incentive Reward will be paid by the Municipality to the Participant. The Incentive Reward will be paid by the Municipality to a successful Participant at the rate of three hundred (\$300.00) dollars per adult wolf harvested.

SIGNED this _____ day of _____, 20_____

Participant (print) _____ Signature _____

Municipal Officer (print) _____ Signature _____

000035



M.D. OF BIG LAKES WOLF HUNTING INCENTIVE PROGRAM

PERMISSION TO ENTER UPON LANDS
FOR PROBLEM WILDLIFE CONTROL and LIABILITY WAIVER

Name: _____ Address: _____ Telephone: _____
Beaver
Coyote
Wolf

I DECLARE THAT I AM THE REGISTERED AND LEGAL OWNER OR AUTHORIZED LESSEE, AS DESCRIBED ABOVE, OF THE PROPERTY (OR PROPERTIES):

(SECTION - TOWNSHIP - RANGE - MERIDIAN) (SECTION - TOWNSHIP - RANGE - MERIDIAN) (SECTION - TOWNSHIP - RANGE -MERIDIAN)

(hereinafter referred to as the "Lands"), do hereby grant permission to _____, who is a resident and ratepayer of the Municipal District of Big Lakes, or Registered Trapper, or Licensed Resident Trapper, to enter upon the Lands and use such equipment and materials considered necessary (excepting poisonous toxicants) for the removal/destruction of problem wolves on the Lands, under the Municipal District of Big Lakes Wolf Hunting Incentive Program.

I am aware that the removal or destruction of problem wolves involves inherent risks, dangers and hazards, and may involve the use of firearms. I freely accept and assume all such risks, dangers and hazards and the possibility of personal injury, death, property damage or loss resulting therefrom.

I release the Municipal District, its' Councillors, officers, employees, agents and representatives (the "Releasees") from any and all liability for any loss, damage, injury or expense that I may suffer or that my successors or assigns may suffer as a result of anything done that may be related to the removal or destruction of problem wolves, due to any cause whatsoever, INCLUDING NEGLIGENCE ON THE PART OF THE RELEASEES.

I agree to hold harmless and indemnify the Releasees from any and all liability for any property damage, personal injury to any third party or other financial loss or expense, including legal expenses and costs (on a solicitor and his own client basis), which may be caused by the removal or destruction of problem wolves.

I fully understand and agree to the above terms.

DATED this _____ day of _____, in the year _____.

REGISTERED LANDOWNER / AUTHORIZED LESSEE

WITNESS

000036

Records removed as

Non-Responsive

Information does not meet the criteria of the FOIP request as set out by the applicant.

Page(s) 37-38

AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC

Rob Lamont

From: Steven Cross
Sent: Wednesday, September 15, 2010 12:46 PM
To: Charles Best; Cole Smith; Curtis English; Jeremy Lindsay; Mike Hewitt; Owen Butz; Ryan Green; Tim Krikun; Travis Gloeckler; Wade Horton
Cc: Mark Heckbert; Alain Fontaine; Pat Dunford; Dwayne Matier; Rob Lamont
Subject: Treaty Indian / Recognized Metis Harvesters Participating in Wolf Bounties

Ryan asked if a treaty can participate in a wolf bounty program. The bottom line is that we would not treat them any different than a recreational hunter. Schedule 15, Section 8(2)(d) of the Wildlife Regulation outlines when a wolf can be hunted on crown land, other than by trapping. In the majority of our area this season would be from August 25 - June 15. The pelt of a wolf harvested on crown land during this time period must be salvaged.

8(1) Table 5 establishes, subject to the noted limitations, the open seasons in Fur Management Zones 1 to 8 for the hunting of fur-bearing animals by specifying the dates during which they may be hunted.

(2) Subject to subsections (3) and (4), the holder of a non-resident/non-resident alien wolf/coyote licence or a resident may hunt, other than by trapping,

- (a) coyote from October 1 to the last day of February on land within Big Game Zones 1 to 16 that is public land within the Green Area,
- (b) coyote throughout the year on any land within Big Game Zones 1 to 16 except on public land within the Green Area,
- (c) coyote from January 4 to the last day of February in WMUs 728 and 730, and
- (d) wolf from the opening of the big game season in the WMU in which he is hunting to
 - (i) June 15 in those WMUs that have a spring season for the hunting of black bear ending on that date, and
 - (ii) May 31 in all other WMUs within Big Game Zones 1 to 16.

Also, according to Schedule 1, Section 7, Subsections (3) & (4), wolf can be hunted, other than trapping at anytime of the year on private land or public land and any land within 5 miles of that land with authorization from the resident, owner, or occupant.

Section 7

(3) Wolf and black bear may be hunted, otherwise than by trapping,

(a) on privately owned land by

(i) the owner or occupant of that land, or

(ii) a resident who is authorized by the owner or occupant of that land to hunt on the land,

or

(b) on public land by

(i) a person authorized to maintain livestock on that land, or

(ii) a resident who is authorized in writing by a person referred to in subclause (i) to hunt on the land.

(4) Wolf may also be hunted under the conditions specified in subsection (3) on any land that is within 5 miles of the land described in subsection (3).

000039

Schedule 1, Section 13 (2) of the WR provides an exemption of the requirement to salvage the pelt of a wolf taken in accordance to Section 7.

Spoilage, etc., of skin - s.41

13(1) A corporation that uses the carcasses of migratory game birds described in section 136(3) to train dogs as retrievers is exempt from the application of section 41(1) of the Act in relation to those carcasses.

(2) A person who hunts wildlife in accordance with a section 7 exemption is exempt from the application of section 41(2) of the Act.

Section 41 (WA)

(2) A person who has killed or is in possession of the skin of a fur-bearing animal, bear or mountain lion shall not allow the skin to be wasted, destroyed, spoiled or abandoned.

The holder of a Registered, Resident, Indian or Metis Fur Management Licence must hold the required licence and harvest the prescribed wildlife during the designated season.

IF, a Treaty Indian or recognized Metis Harvester shoots or traps a wolf within the legal confines of the sections described above they can submit a wolf to a wolf bounty program, the same as any properly licenced recreational hunter or trapper. If a wolf is harvested outside of the legal confines described above and was not harvested for subsistence, they may be liable to prosecution.

Hope this answers any questions.

Steven Cross
Program Manager - Enforcement Field Services
Lesser Slave Area
2nd Floor, Prov. Building
High Prairie, Alberta
wk - 780-523-6733
cell - 780-536-5089
fax - 780-523-6525

You will not be remembered for what you do for yourself but rather what you do for others.
What is your Legacy?

BRIEFING NOTE

DEPUTY MINISTER

- For Information
 For Signature
 For Decision
 Communications
 For Meeting

MINISTER

- For Information
 For Signature
 For Decision
 For Meeting

SUBJECT

Wolf incentive program.

ISSUE

* has written the Minister to inquire about a wolf bounty program (attached). The wolf incentive program is funded by the Wild Sheep Foundation and carried out by local trapping groups and fish and game associations south of the Brazeau River.

RECOMMENDATION

The Minister receives this briefing note as information only.

ALTERNATIVE (S) - N/A**CURRENT STATUS**

Sustainable Resource Development has no involvement in this program, did not help to set it up, and does not officially endorse it.

The wolf incentive program mentioned in the letter is funded primarily by the Wild Sheep Foundation, which distributes funding to local chapters of the Alberta Trappers' Association and the Alberta Fish and Game Association. The local clubs distribute the funds as they see fit and set up their own criteria for the incentive program.

The department staff member referred to in the letter is correct: this is not a department program and the writer needs to contact the local organization in charge of distributing funds about the program requirements.

Sustainable Resource Development requires trappers and hunters south of the Brazeau River to register their wolf harvest, but this requirement has nothing to do with the private incentive program.

The wolves harvested in this program must be hunted or trapped following the department's wildlife regulations.

* 17(i)
17(4)(g)(i)

UU0041


RATIONALE/RISKS - N/A

BACKGROUND

The wolf incentive program has been running in the Sundre/Rocky Mountain House area for several years. It is not a bounty program, as the writer suggests. The program is intended to increase the population of elk and sheep in the area (and therefore, the potential for hunting opportunities) by reducing the number of wolves.

COMMUNICATION PLAN - N/A

DEPUTY MINISTER'S COMMENTS:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> APPROVED	<input type="checkbox"/> NOT APPROVED	 Eric J. McGhan	DATE
----------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------

MINISTER'S COMMENTS:

<input type="checkbox"/> APPROVED	<input type="checkbox"/> NOT APPROVED	<u>FOR INFORMATION ONLY</u> Minister of Sustainable Resource Development
-----------------------------------	---------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------

ADM: Deryl J. Empson, Acting Assistant Deputy Minister, Fish and Wildlife Division
Contact: Dave Christiansen, 403-845-8269
Clearwater Area Fish and Wildlife Manager
Date: September 16, 2010

ATTACHMENTS: Draft response for the Minister

000042

Sharon Hunt

From: Trevor Miller
Sent: Wednesday, September 22, 2010 6:52 PM
To: Barb Maile
Subject: FW: Coyote Wolf Reduction Incentive 2010.doc

Attachments: Picture (Metafile); Picture (Metafile)

PS. Also yes a meeting to clarify points would be beneficial for sure.

Trevor J Miller
Superintendent Waterways Area
Enforcement-Field Services
Fish and Wildlife Division
Sustainable Resource Development
Lac La Biche AB
780-623-5416 office
780-212-1509 cell



From: Trevor Miller
Sent: Wednesday, September 22, 2010 6:50 PM
To: Barb Malle
Subject: RE: Coyote Wolf Reduction Incentive 2010.doc

Could you explain the many other issues? I'm not sure I quite understand what you are getting at. Presently the law allows for the hunting of coyote and wolf, as well as we allow trapping with a licence, and the bounty really does not change much. Perhaps you could give me call tomorrow to discuss. *

NON-RESPONSIVE

Trevor J Miller
Superintendent Waterways Area
Enforcement-Field Services
Fish and Wildlife Division
Sustainable Resource Development
Lac La Biche AB
780-623-5416 office
780-212-1509 cell

* 17(1)
17(4)(9)(c)



From: Barb Maile
Sent: Wednesday, September 22, 2010 3:59 PM
To: Trevor Miller; Danelle Cross
Cc: Kenton Yaceyko
Subject: RE: Coyote Wolf Reduction Incentive 2010.doc

There are many other issues and messages with the program that we need to make aware to the MD -

*

* Non-RESPONSIVE

Barb Maile
Senior Wildlife Biologist
Alberta Fish & Wildlife, SRD
St Paul (780) 645-6335

*



4 33 1-1008
COPY

ALBERTA
SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Office of the Minister
MLA, Grande Prairie - Smoky

AR25937

September 29, 2010

*

*
17(1)
17(4)(5)(1)

Dear *

Thank you for your September 9, 2010 email regarding the wolf incentive program in your area. I welcome the opportunity to provide the following information.

Sustainable Resource Development is not involved in any way with this incentive program, which is funded by the Wild Sheep Foundation and carried out by local trapping and fish and game associations. You may want to contact the organizations that deliver this program in your area to further discuss the eligibility requirements.

Thank you for the opportunity to advise you on this matter.

Sincerely,

Mel R. Knight
Minister

cc: Ty Lund, MLA
Rocky Mountain House



404 Legislature Building, 10800 - 97 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2B6 Canada Telephone 780-415-4815 Fax 780-415-4818

Constituency Office #105, 9804 - 100 Avenue, Grande Prairie, Alberta T8V 0T8 Canada Telephone 780-513-1233 Fax 780-513-1247
Web Address: melknightmla.com

000045

*

From: Barb Maile
Sent: Thursday, September 30, 2010 4:15 PM
To: Kenton Yaceyko; Simon Tatlow
Subject: FW: Coyote Wolf Reduction Incentive 2010.doc

Hi gents,

Attached are my notes from the meeting.

*

Barb



MD Bville
bounty meeti

From: Kenton Yaceyko
Sent: Thursday, September 23, 2010 9:07 AM
To: 'Matt Janz'
Cc: Barb Maile; Al Gibson
Subject: FW: Coyote Wolf Reduction Incentive 2010.doc

Matt

*

K

From: Barb Maile
Sent: Wednesday, September 22, 2010 3:59 PM
To: Trevor Miller; Danielle Cross
Cc: Kenton Yaceyko
Subject: RE: Coyote Wolf Reduction Incentive 2010.doc

There are many other issues and messages with the program that we need to make aware to the MD

*

*

Barb Maile
Senior Wildlife Biologist
Alberta Fish & Wildlife, SRD
St Paul (780) 645-6335

* Non-Responsive

000046

MD Bonnyville Coyote / Wolf Incentive Program
WMB, EFS, MD Meeting
Sept 30, 2010 @ the MD Compound

Attendees:

FWD: Kenton Yaceyko, Simon Tatlow, Barb Maile

MD: Matt Janz – Director of Ag & Waste Services ; Eldon Kozak

Livestock depredation problem areas of the MD identified?

- 3 producers – Glendon, Fort Kent, Cold Lake

* 17(1) - * had requested compensation for coyote depredation
17(2)(3)(i) - Pressure from MLA and beef producers for MD to control predators

Previous MD bounty programs – how many animals submitted? Where were they taken from? Same problem areas as previous bounty years?

- Program conducted in 2000 & 2001 with approximately 1000 coyotes submitted each year. Incentive was \$10 per animal with the program capped at \$10 K. MD encountered 2 suspect individuals; may not accept submissions from them in the current program.

- The program this year is estimated to be capped at \$15 K, thus generating 1000 animals if the program is fully spent.

- Program to run Oct 1, 2010 – Feb 28, 2011.

MD coyote control - how many animals compared to previous years?

- MD following AB Agriculture's Coyote Mgmt Plan. The number of poisons issued by MD have not increased this year although coyote sightings to MD have increased.

MD has hosted 3 trapping workshops in the past 10 years and may be willing to hold another. They have been in contact with the ATA (Gord Klassen) but may opt for local trappers with wolf / coyote snaring experience. FW offered assistance where we can.

Information discussed with the MD:

- bounty programs (across North America) historically not successful at reducing wolf / coyote populations

- wolf / coyote biological response to persecution is increased litter sizes

- non-target species are killed or injured when inexperienced trappers attempt to set for wolves / coyotes

- illegal use of private land or crown land

- potential for big game animals taken illegally to be used as baits OR legally taken but wastage

- use of livestock as bait may have positive reinforcement for predatory wolves / coyotes

- persecution of wolves/coyotes that currently co-exist with livestock without problems may be replaced with packs that potentially will kill livestock

- potential for animals brought in from outside of MD

UUUU47

- no noticeable increase in livestock occurrence reports in the last 10 years.
- agricultural husbandry practices of leaving carcasses where they die, concentrating deads, less frequent herd checks create ample opportunity for predators to focus on livestock.

Agreements:

- explore trapping seminar open to interested landowners & trappers
- requirement to provide documentation of trapping licence and location of kill at time of carcass submission
- inclusion of pertinent text from trapping & hunting regs in the MD program
- close scrutiny of each carcass submission; right of payment refusal for suspect submissions
- close communication with EFS for suspicious submissions
- further discussions for educational products to be included with MD quarterly newsletter &/or Planning/Development Permits – living with wildlife (bears, coyotes, wolves, skunks, etc), reducing preventing wildlife-human and wildlife-livestock encounters.
- meeting to be held b/t WMB, EFS, and MD at conclusion of program to review & assess program

*

From: Barb Maile
Sent: Tuesday, October 05, 2010 9:59 AM
To: Paul MacMahon; Dan Walker; Danielle Cross; Kristina Norstrom; Todd Powell; Rob Corrigan; Nathan Webb; Alain Fontaine; Dave Moyles; Jim Allen; Dave Hervieux; Bill Johnson; Dave Walty; Dave Stepnisky; Curtis Stambaugh; Anne Hubbs; Dave Hobson; David Christiansen; Jon Jorgenson; Greg Hale; Pat Young; Dale Eslinger; Kim Morton; Dave Moore; Reg Russell; Al Gibson; Trevor Miller; Dennis Prodan; Ronald Mikolas; Duane Fleming
Cc: Kenton Yaceyko; Simon Tatlow
Subject: MD Bonnyville Wolf & Coyote Incentive Program

Hi folks.

*

Officers Kenton Yaceyko, Simon Tatlow, and I met with representatives of the MD of Bonnyville on Sept 30th to discuss their wolf and coyote incentive program. The program came into effect Oct 1. Attached are details of the program and our notes from the meeting.

DUPLICATE



MD Bville Coyote Wolf Coyote
 bounty meetiduction Incentive - version

* NON-RESPONSIVE

FYI
Cheers,

Barb Maile
 Senior Wildlife Biologist
 Fish & Wildlife Division
 Waterways/Lac La Biche (Edmonton - Cold Lake)
 #416 5025-49 Ave, St Paul, AB T0A 3A4
 phone 780-645-6335 cell 780-210-0252
 fax 780-645-6267

000049

Coyote & Wolf Reduction Incentive Program

The Municipal District of Bonnyville No 87 will implement a Coyote & Wolf Reduction Incentive Program for the 2010-2011 winter season.

Following are the details of this Program:

1. The M.D. will pay an incentive of \$15.00 per coyote & wolf killed during the five month period from October 1, 2010 to February 28, 2011.
2. To qualify for the incentive payment, the coyote & wolf carcasses must be taken to the ASB/Public Works Shop north of Bonnyville. Call 826-3951 prior to bringing the coyotes in for the incentive payment to assure there is someone there to verify of the number of animals. When bringing the animals to the shop for verification, please cover them with a tarp to avoid displaying them to the general public, especially if you plan on stopping in town to do some shopping.
3. **Only whole, unskinned animals are accepted for payment; pelts are not eligible for payment.**
4. **Wolf may be hunted (but not trapped) without a license during all seasons, as follows:**
 - a) On privately owned land by the owner or occupant of the land, or by a resident with permission from the owner or occupant.
 - b) On public land by a person authorized to keep livestock on the land, or by a resident who has written permission from that authorized person.

The above authorities to hunt wolves extend to lands within 8 km (5 mi.) of the land described above, provided the authorized person or resident has right of access.

5. Coyotes may be hunted (but not trapped), without a license, at all times of the year throughout the province:
 - a) By a resident who has right of access to hunt on lands that are not public lands within the Green area;
 - b) By the owner or occupant of privately owned land, on the privately owned land;
 - c) By a person maintaining livestock on public land, on that public; or
 - d) *On lands described in c) that are in the Green Area, by a resident who is authorized in writing by the person described in c).

** These pelts must be salvaged.*

6. Trappers will be asked to provide their Registered or Resident Fur Management License number when bringing carcasses to claim the incentive payment.
7. Residents living within the M.D. of Bonnyville boundaries will be eligible to participate in this program and will be asked to provide the legal land location where the animals were trapped or shot.
8. Residents are advised that it is illegal to sell whole or unskinned carcasses to anyone other than a fur buyer.
9. The ASB staff will cut the left front foot off the carcass to identify it as having been paid the \$15.00 incentive.
10. The carcass will be returned to the owner who will be responsible to dispose of it properly.
11. Animals that originate from outside the M.D. boundaries, or are brought in by a non-resident of the above noted areas will not be accepted for payment under this program.

This program may terminate at an earlier date than the February 28, 2011 deadline subject to budget limitations.

The ASB will only accept carcasses by **APPOINTMENT ONLY**. Please phone ASB office @ 780-826-3951 to make appointment.

The ASB staff has the right to disqualify carcasses if they suspect they do not meet criteria.

For information on regulations governing the use of snares for coyotes, please contact the Fish & Wildlife office at 780-826-3142 or 780-594-7876.

000050

**M.D. of Bonnyville No. 87 – Agricultural Service Board
Coyote & Wolf Reduction Incentive Program**

Name: _____ Date: _____

Mailing Address: _____ Phone: _____

Registered Fur Management License #: _____

Resident Fur Management License #: _____ OR

Legal Land Location of kill: _____

No. Animals Registered: _____ @ \$15 = \$ _____

Coyotes & Wolves Killed

Location Killed

Shot: _____	Cherry Grove _____
Trapped: _____	Riverhurst _____
Other: _____	Ardmore _____
	La Corey _____
Other Comments (i.e. Mange/pelt condition)	Glendon _____
_____	Goodridge _____
_____	Flat Lake _____
_____	Bonnyville _____
_____	Beaver Dam _____

GUIDELINES

1. The dollar amount is to be determined by the Agricultural Service Board and set by resolution. The amount of the incentive can change from time to time.
2. The program comes into effect on October 1, 2010. The timing and the program length will be determined by resolution of the Agricultural Service Board.
3. Eligibility of persons wanting to participate in this program is restricted to M.D. residents and all urban residents within the boundaries of the M.D. of Bonnyville.
4. Only animals killed within the M.D. of Bonnyville boundaries will be accepted for the incentive payment.
5. Eligible persons participating in the program shall present the carcasses at the ASB/PW Shop to be eligible for payment.
6. Whole, unskinned coyotes will only be accepted for payment. Pelts will not be eligible under the program.
7. The Agricultural Fieldman or assigned Ag Service Board staff will inspect the animals and determine whether the carcass is eligible for payment under the program. The ASB staff has the right to disqualify carcasses if they suspect they do not meet criteria.
8. The left front foot will be docked for identification purposes and the remainder of the carcass will be returned to the person receiving the incentive payment.
9. The person delivering the carcass for inspection is responsible for proper disposal of the animal.
10. The ASB will only accept carcasses by **APPOINTMENT ONLY** please phone ASB office @ 780-826-3951 to make appointment.

INCENTIVE PAYMENT: \$ _____

PC-63-0005
Project Code

539
Class

Approved by (M.D. of Bonnyville No. 87)

000051

Teresa Tuttle

From: Dave Ealey
Sent: Wednesday, October 06, 2010 11:39 AM
To: Pat Dunford
Cc: Deryl Empson; Daniel Boyco; Kim McAdam; Darcy Whiteside
Subject: RE: Media inquiry - wolf bounty

✱

From: Pat Dunford
Sent: Wednesday, October 06, 2010 11:26 AM
To: Dave Ealey
Cc: Deryl Empson; Daniel Boyco; Kim McAdam
Subject: FW: Media inquiry - wolf bounty

Dave;

Enclosed is a message I received from ARD about an inquiry they have from the Edmonton Journal on this topic.

✱

Pat

✱ Non-Responsible

From: Cliff Munroe
Sent: Wednesday, October 06, 2010 11:22 AM
To: Nikki Booth
Cc: Floyd Mullaney; Pat Dunford
Subject: Re: Media inquiry - wolf bounty

I had a discussion with Pat Dunford from SRD, and yes wolves do fall under their department. They are not listed in our Legislation like coyotes etc. Therefore Pat says you should be referring this to their Communication people who will in turn have an appropriate person from SRD call Florence. ARD has nothing to do with wolves other than avoiding them.

Cliff Munroe, Executive Director
 Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development
 Regulatory Services Division
 #304, 7000-113 Street
 Edmonton, AB T6H 5T6
 Ph: 780-422-7249 Fax: 780-422-4513

Nikki Booth/AAFRD

10/06/2010 10:58 AM

To Cliff Munroe/AAFRD@AAFRD
 cc Floyd Mullaney/AAFRD@AAFRD
 Subject Media inquiry - wolf bounty

Hi Cliff and Floyd,

000052

7/22/2011

I have an interesting one for you. A reporter from the Edmonton Journal (Florence Loyie) called the Ag Media Line looking for information related to a wolf bounty that has been issued by the Municipal District of Big Lakes. According to Florence, there has been a problem with wolves and livestock and the MD of Big Lakes has put a \$300 bounty on wolves.

I've gone to their website and can't find anything on this, and Florence is sending us more information.

My questions to you are:

- 1) Does this fall under SRD because it is wolves? Or is this ARD?
- 2) Can they put a bounty on wolves?
- 3) Do there need to be rules/regulations around how the wolves are killed?
- 4) What involvement do we have in this sort of thing?

And the most important question of all, can one of you call Florence and talk to her about this, if it falls under ARD? The above questions are so I can do up key messages for the Minister's Office. Florence needs a call back today.

Feel free to call me to discuss this...

Thanks!

N.

Nikki Booth
Public Affairs Officer
Alberta Agriculture & Rural Development
7000-113 Street
J.G O'Donoghue Building
780-422-7678

000053

* NON-RESPONSIVE

From: Steven Cross
Sent: Friday, October 15, 2010 2:29 PM
To: Mark Heckbert; Alain Fontaine
Subject: FW: New Bounty in Big Lakes

Fellas

I have received two e-mails and three phone messages from Sadie Parr of the Canadian Wolf Coalition in regards to the MD of Big Lakes wolf bounty.

* * * EFS is not going to respond. If I receive further calls, I will inform that we have no comment on the program.

* * * Second e-mail to follow.

Steven Cross
Program Manager - Enforcement Field Services
Lesser Slave Area
2nd Floor, Prov. Building
High Prairie, Alberta
wk - 780-523-6733
cell - 780-536-5089
fax - 780-523-6525

You will not be remembered for what you do for yourself but rather what you do for others. What is your Legacy?

From: S parr [mailto:sadester@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, October 01, 2010 9:00 AM
To: Steven Cross
Subject: New Bounty in Big Lakes

Hello Mr. Cross. My name is Sadie Parr, I have left a few phone messages for you, but figured that it would be

000054

8/26/2011

best to begin dialogue over e-mail as I imagine you are extra busy right now....

It has been brought to our attention that there is a new \$300 bounty on wolves in the Big Lakes and that Fish and Wildlife is not in support of this decision, has presented against it, and that the biology does not support this management decision and has been handling livestock incidences well in the past through targeted removal of problem individuals and compensation for losses. I would like to know how much budget or spending has gone towards education of preventative practices? Perhaps this is something we could help with, or other individuals such as * (have you been in touch with him or * about this?)

I would like to speak to you directly to learn if Fish and Wildlife is opposed, and if I can quote you on that. Have there been increased depredation rates or concerns? Can you please provide me with statistics of losses over the past 10 years? Is there an increase in livestock numbers? Are there statistics on other causes for livestock mortality for comparison (ie. The B gov't wesbiste says its mostly poisonous plants killing and then being scavenged upon...do you see this in the High Prarie region?)Any other insight or information that you think to pass on would also be appreciated.

I understand that a budget has not been set yet for the bounty program....I would like to see this budget and money used for LONG_TERM prevention through education....are you interested in helping us to realise this? I would like to set up some public information nights as well, to increase awareness about coyotes and wolves and livestock...can you help to arrange this?

I realise that ranchers are upset, but I think that they are being fooled into thinking this is a solution. There ARE other options as I know you are aware...please help me to make this public and improve things for wildlife and coexistence with predators. You can reach me at work 250-344-6798 or *

I look forward to hearing from you. Most sincerely, Sadie Parr
sadester@hotmail.com
www.canadianwolfcoalition.com

Northern Lights Wildlife Wolf Centre & Blackwolf Photography
1745 Short Road, Golden BC V0A 1H1
(250) 344-6798 or toll-free 1-877-377-WOLF (9653)
www.northernlightswildlife.com

* 17(1)
17(4)(c)(i)

000055

NON-RESPONSIVE

From: Steven Cross
Sent: Friday, October 15, 2010 2:30 PM
To: Mark Heckbert; Alain Fontaine
Subject: FW: try again

2nd e-mail. FYI

Steven Cross
Program Manager - Enforcement Field Services
Lesser Slave Area
2nd Floor, Prov. Building
High Prairie, Alberta
wk - 780-523-6733
cell - 780-536-5089
fax - 780-523-6525

You will not be remembered for what you do for yourself but rather what you do for others. What is your Legacy?

From: S parr [mailto:sadester@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2010 2:46 PM
To: Steven Cross
Subject: try again

Hello Mr. Cross. This is Sadie Parr from the Canadian Wolf Coalition trying to make contact with you again. I am still awaiting a response from you about Fish and Wildlife's official stand on the bounty (or wolf hunting incentive) in Big Lakes. I have attached a draft of a letter to town council that I would like to send on, as soon as I can verify your position. Please let me know your thoughts, and if you have any suggestions or feedback about the letter please do share it with me.

I am also going to send a letter to the editors of the local papers in the next few days. I would really appreciate

000056

8/26/2011

some communication from your end as soon as possible, and the chance to discuss this. I can be reached at
* or at the Northern Lights Wolf Centre tomorrow (Friday) b/n 10 - 5 MST.

Most sincerely, Sadie Parr

www.canadianwolfcoalition.com

Be the change you want to see in the world.

M. Gandhi

* 17 (1)

17(4)(9)(ci)

October 4, 2010



000058

Canadian Wolf Coalition

To: All members of Big Lakes Municipal Council:

DAVID MARX (DEPUTY REEVE)
Box 814 High Prairie, Alberta T0G 1E0
Ward 1: Heart River / Salt Prairie

FERN WELCH
Box 157 Grouard, Alberta T0G 1C0
Ward 2: Grouard

KEN MATTHEWS
Box 83 High Prairie, Alberta T0G 1E0
Ward 3: Gilwood North/ Triangle

KEN KILLEEN
Box 204 Kinuso, Alberta T0G 1K0
Ward 4: Kinuso

VIOLET CAMPIOU
Box 67 Faust, Alberta T0G 0X0
Ward 5: Faust

GUY L'HEUREUX
Box 68 Jousard, Alberta T0G 1J0
Ward 6: Jousard

RAY DUPRES
Box 700 High Prairie, Alberta T0G 1E0
Ward 7: Enilda/ Big Meadow

ALVIN BILLINGS (REEVE)
Box 871 High Prairie, Alberta T0G 1E0
Ward 8: Banana Belt/ HP East

RANDY EHMAN
Box 1854 High Prairie, Alberta T0G 1E0
Ward 9: Sunset House/ Gilwood South

SADIE send to Amanda nepstad and steven cross (FandW), exec. Secretary =

cao@mdbiglakes.ca

Hello. It has come to our attention that the Municipal District of Big Lakes, AB has initiated a \$300 bounty on wolves for the purposes of reducing livestock predation as part of the regions' population control efforts of natural predators. We have several concerns about this decision and would like to work with you to change this into a more effective, long-term and ethically acceptable plan. We hope that you will take the time to learn about our alternative solutions and the reasoning behind the necessary change. As well, we have several questions that we would like answered so that we may better understand the decision making processes involved thus far. We demand an explanation to the below questions and a response.

Regarding the Municipal District of Big Lakes, Alberta:

- Will you please provide information about the numbers of livestock being raised in the area, and any changes over the past 20 years.
- Will you please provide information on the number of confirmed livestock losses due to wolves for each year over the past 20 years. Please do the same for other natural predators as well as domestic dogs. Please do the same for other confirmed causes of mortality such as weather, disease, etc.
- Please summarize why the above data lead you to the decision of a wolf bounty?
- Please provide the budget that the MD has spent on education for prevention of livestock losses for each year over the past 10 years? Also include the methods of education being used: workshops, pamphlets, websites, etc.
- Please explain why council decided that Fish and Wildlife were not doing an adequate job of handling the situation. Were other biologists/ecologists with experience in this field consulted before making the decision?
- Schedule A – (Policy AG-10) Contract of Participation for the "Wolf Hunting Incentive" states in the first line that the incentive is in place "In an effort for support population control efforts". Please provide evidence as to why this is required, and what scientific data were used to determine that population control efforts were needed. Please reference the studies determining that removal of wolves in the Big Lakes and surrounding area would result in a decreased wolf population and/or decrease in rates of livestock predation
- The Municipal District of Big Lakes Wolf Hunting Incentive Policy Statement states "The Municipal District of Big Lakes recognizes a need to support wolf population control efforts to reduce livestock predation". Please explain how this has been recognized, when local agricultural people we have spoken with, as well as Fish and Wildlife do not "recognize" this.
- Do the locals support the decision to spend their tax dollars this way?

Please provide me with a response from the decision-makers to these questions soon. Your reply will be shared among conservation groups within the Canadian Wolf Coalition and we will continue from there. I trust that other conservation organizations, as well as the majority of the public at large will be aghast at this unfortunate

decision. I do hope that we can work together to come up with a long-term solution that is more effective, acceptable and responsible. If the decision to pay a bounty for murdered wolves in and by the Municipal District of Big Lakes is not changed, we will begin to bring this issue into the public eye through media attention and public outreach. In this way, the council of the MD of Big Lakes would become aware of how many are against the killing of large predators. I look forward to your response.

Canadian Wolf Coalition

Sadie Parr

Canadian Wolf Coalition

10/12/2010

NON-RESPONSIVE

From: Steven Cross
Sent: Friday, October 29, 2010 3:48 PM
To: Steven Cross
Subject: FW: Wolf Hunting Incentive

Oct 28 approx 1300 hrs - received call on cell phone from 250-344-6798. Caller was Sadie Parr.

Mrs Parr requested my comments or opinions on the MD wolf bounty - I informed I would not provide an opinion. She asked if I had spoke to the MD council in an attempt to stop them from implementing the bounty. - I informed I gave the historical information of what EFS has done (complaints, responses, mediation efforts) and some biological information to make an informed decision. She asked if there was an increase in complaints - I informed that the # of complaints fluctuated from year to year. She asked if there was an education program or budget in SRD. - I informed only what the Officer's provided in advice in husbandry practices. She asked if the producers used good practices.- I informed I thought they were fine as cattled are checked regularly & deads were disposed of. She asked if grazing practices could be changed - I informed I did not think so as the producers grazed the land they owned.

Approx 20 minute conversation.

Steven Cross
Program Manager - Enforcement Field Services
Lesser Slave Area
2nd Floor, Prov. Building
High Prairie, Alberta
wk - 780-523-6733
cell - 780-536-5089
fax - 780-523-6525

You will not be remembered for what you do for yourself but rather what you do for others. What is your Legacy?

From: S parr [mailto:sadester@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 28, 2010 1:36 PM
To: agriculture@mdbiglakes.ca
Cc: execsecretary@mdbiglakes.ca; Steven Cross
Subject: Wolf Hunting Incentive

Hello. Please find attached a letter that I require a response too. Please make sure that it gets into the hands of the people making these decisions if they have not been addressed. Thank you for your time. I look forward to hearing from you.

UU0062

9/7/2011

Most sincerely, Sadie Parr

www.canadianwolfcoalition.com

Be the change you want to see in the world.

M. Gandhi

Subject: Wolf Hunting Incentive
Date: Tue, 28 Sep 2010 08:56:10 -0600
From: agriculture@mdbiglakes.ca
To: sadester@hotmail.com

Thank you for your telephone request for information regarding the Wolf Hunting Incentive newly initiated at the MD of Big Lakes.

Background:

The Municipal District of Big Lakes is a rural municipality in the Peace Region of northwestern Alberta. The municipality was incorporated into a Municipal District after 90 years as an Improvement District (a Municipal District is similar to a County – self administering, with an elected Council). It is located in the Peace Region of northwestern Alberta, with a total area of nearly 3 million acres (approximately 600,000 acres of developed farmland) and covering approximately 12,300 square kilometers. The municipality encompasses a huge area of undeveloped Crown land, which is mostly forested. This land is owned by the Alberta government – and managed by the department known as Alberta Sustainable Resource Development.

Those agricultural producers adjacent to the forested land have complained that their livestock are suffering predation by wolves, and requested that the municipality assist them. Alberta Sustainable Resource Development (Fish & Wildlife Department) has had an on-going wolf predation mitigation program, where producers suffering predation losses could apply for compensation. In addition, the Wildlife Officers could intervene to remove problematic predators when deemed appropriate.

Some vocal producers complained that the service provided by Fish and Wildlife was insufficient to meet their needs and lobbied for further assistance. The Council of the MD of Big Lakes weighed all of the factors, and decided to enact a Wolf Hunting Incentive as a means of reducing livestock predation. For your information, I have attached a copy of the Wolf Hunting Incentive Policy, and the corresponding Contract of Participation that participants must enter into in order to claim hunting incentive rewards.

I am also enclosing an email address for Fish and Wildlife. The officers can provide detailed statistics regarding the numbers and types of predation claims they have dealt with in this region. Steven.Cross@gov.ab.ca

I trust this is the information you require. If you have additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Amanda Nepstad

Agricultural Fieldman
M.D. of Big Lakes
Box 239
High Prairie, AB. T0G 1E0
telephone: 780-523-5955

This Communication is intended for the use of the recipient to which it is addressed, and may contain confidential, personal and/or privileged information. Please contact us immediately if you are not the intended recipient of this communication, and do not copy, distribute or take action relying on it. Any communication received in error, or subsequently reply, should be deleted or destroyed.

000063

9/7/2011

Steve Bradbury

From: David Christiansen
Sent: Monday, November 22, 2010 3:07 PM
To: *
Subject: RE: incentive or bounty

*

The terms incentive, bounty, reward, payment etc. have all been used for these types efforts in the past, so I do not think the term used is the issue.
 The groups offering the payment have chosen to call it an incentive.

The key thing from our end is that in its current form it is legal, and Fish and Wildlife Division has no involvement in the program.

Your issue is with the folks offering the payment, not us.
 Sorry I can't be of more help.

Dave

From: *
Sent: Friday, November 19, 2010 10:43 AM
To: David Christiansen
Subject: incentive or bounty

Dave

Nov. 19

Thank you for your prompt response – hope your counterparts will answer as well.

I give up! When the F&W sees nothing, knows nothing, or has nothing to do with private interest groups paying a \$300 - \$500 bounty on big game animals, especially one as contentious and now abused as wolves it's time. F&W has reduced them to nothing more than scapegoats!

As I see it the whole program hinges on the difference between the words "incentive" and "bounty", one being legal and the other not. I asked Brooks the difference and he told me "I could read the dictionary as well as he could"; then finally in a demeaning manner explained the wolf incentive as being no different than a County paying the volunteer spring ditch cleaners an "incentive" to do their work, this after he suggested I was a hypocrite.

I don't believe Brooks has a clue what he is talking about and therefore am asking you to define the difference between a bounty and an incentive. Why is this money being paid on the head of a dead wolf an incentive and not a bounty? The minister has refused to explain as has everyone else I have contacted. Please, please explain the difference for me.

Thanks in advance for your time.

*

* 17(c)
 17(c)(9)(c)

Steve Bradbury

From: *
Sent: Sunday, December 05, 2010 10:34 AM
To: Steve Bradbury
Subject: Re: wolf bounty

Steve

Seems quite remarkable the F&W who are directly responsible for managing wolves in the public interest does not even know which special interest groups in their area are paying a bounty of from \$300 - \$500 per head on wolves.

Sorry; but with respect I don't beleive this for a second. What is going on? I am trying to determine the extent of this "management" effort in the province.

Am looking forward to your responce.

*

— Original Message —

From: Steve Bradbury
To: *
Sent: Friday, December 03, 2010 8:04 PM
Subject: Re: wolf bounty

*

In Dave's email of Nov 22 he indicated that there is nothing Fish and Wildlife can do.
Steve.

From: *
To: Steve Bradbury
Sent: Fri Dec 03 16:26:46 2010
Subject: wolf bounty

Steve Bradbury

On Nov 17 Dave Christiansen of Rocky copied an e mail from myself to you. I still have not recieved a resronce.

Would you please reply.

Thank you - *

* 17(1)
17(4)(g)(i)

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000065

Steve Bradbury

From: David Christiansen
Sent: Monday, December 06, 2010 11:54 AM
To: *
Cc: Steve Bradbury; Travis Ripley; Tony Brooks; Anne Hubbs
Subject: RE: bounty legality

*

Have had a few other things on the go, sorry.

I have looked at the Wildlife Act and Regulations and the Agricultural Pests Act and can find no reference in either Act to bounties.

Never the less, to offer a payment for a legally taken wolf is not illegal.

In fact, similar type programs are being run by several Counties in the province.

As I advised previously, Fish and Wildlife has no involvement in these programs.

If you have an issue with the program you need to work with the group in Rocky who is running it.

Dave

From: *
Sent: Friday, December 03, 2010 4:37 PM
To: David Christiansen
Subject: Re: bounty legality

Dave

I realize that it has been a fairly short time since my inquiry but am wondering about the legality of a bounty on wolves in Alberta?

What Act, Section, Regulation, etc covers this.

Hope to hear from you soon.

*

--- Original Message ---

From: David Christiansen
To: * *
Cc: Travis Ripley ; Steve Bradbury
Sent: Wednesday, November 17, 2010 5:47 PM
Subject: RE: wolf incentive

*

NON-RESPONSIVE

As far as a wolf incentive program, you would have to check with the groups who have run this previously in the Sndre/Rocky Area, as I have indicated, F&W is not involved in this.

I have copied this e-mail to Travis Ripley and Steve Bradbury my counterparts to the south and north respectively.

Dave.

From: *
Sent: Tuesday, November 16, 2010 2:58 PM

* 17(1)
* 17(4)(g(i))

000066

To: David Christiansen
Subject: wolf incentive

Dave Christiansen

Nov 16/10

NON-RESPONSIVE

Is the wolf incentive program going to be in place in your Clearwater area this winter?

Please supply me with the names and email addresses of your counterparts in the adjacent areas both north and south of your area. I spoke to Dianne and she recommended that I contact you.

Thanks -- 17(i)
 17(4)(g)(i)

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000067

Conference Call minutes
F&W Program Managers mtg. December 6, 2010

Outstanding Actions

NON-RESPONSIVE

000068

Records removed as

Non-Responsive

Information does not meet the criteria of the FOIP request as set out by the applicant.

Page(s) 69

NON-RESPONSIVE

8. Wolf Bounty - Approach verified, i.e. these activities are not endorsed by the Department, but the offering of payment for a harvested wolf by another party is not illegal. Concerns with these programs should be referred to the group offering the payment. Dave C. to circulate his response to the individual with questions about this matter.

000070

Rob Lamont

From: Rob Lamont
Sent: Tuesday, December 07, 2010 11:04 AM
To: Camille Ducharme
Cc: Terri Vance
Subject: RE: Whitemud Grazing Association

Fish and Wildlife takes no position on bountys. If the grazing association wishes to pay a trapper for dead wolves then so be it.

Rob Lamont
Head, Enforcement Field Services
Peace/Upper Hay Area
Sustainable Resource Development
Fish and Wildlife Division

780-624-6246 office
780-625-8473 cell
780-624-6455 fax
Robert.Lamont@gov.ab.ca

From: Camille Ducharme
Sent: Tuesday, December 07, 2010 10:59 AM
To: Rob Lamont
Cc: Terri Vance
Subject: FW: Whitemud Grazing Association

Rob-Can you help me with this question?
The Whitemud PGR is located within MD Northern Lights 22.

Camille

From: Terri Vance
Sent: December 7, 2010 10:45 AM
To: Camille Ducharme
Subject: Whitemud Grazing Association

Hi Camille
I have a question for you. Kevin Klein is a junior partner on RFMA 1202 Lawrence Johns that includes the WGR. Is there a problem with the WGA giving him a bounty type payment for any wolves killed/trapped on the PGR. As well do you know if the PGR is in the Clearhills County?

Terri Vance
Fish and Wildlife Division
Box 720
Manning, Alberta, T0H 2M0
ph: (780) 836-3065 fax: (780) 836-3666
e-mail: terri.vance@gov.ab.ca

Tracking:

Recipient
Camille Ducharme
Terri Vance
Kyland Pennoyer

Read
Read: 12/7/2010 11:04 AM
Read: 12/7/2010 11:08 AM
Read: 12/7/2010 11:35 AM

Sharon Hunt

From: Alain Fontaine
Sent: Thursday, December 16, 2010 3:01 PM
To: Bill Johnson; Dave Moyles; Barb Maile; Greg Hale; Nathan Webb; Lyle Fullerton; Dave Walty
Cc: Kyland Pennoyer; Dave Barrett; Mark Heckbert
Subject: RE: Clearhills Wolf Bounty

As of this morning, the MD Big Lakes is at 24 with 2 more coming in sometime this week. Bounty is 300\$ for adults only (0 \$ for pups) and has been going since mid-September.

Al

Alain J. Fontaine
Senior Area Wildlife Biologist
Fish and Wildlife Division
Alberta Sustainable Resource Development
P.O. Box 1500
5226 - 53rd Ave, Provincial Building
High Prairie, Alberta
T0G 1E0

Phone: 780-523-6570
Fax: 780-523-6525
Email: Alain.Fontaine@gov.ab.ca

From: Bill Johnson
Sent: Thursday, December 16, 2010 2:55 PM
To: Dave Moyles; Barb Maile; Alain Fontaine; Greg Hale; Nathan Webb; Lyle Fullerton; Dave Walty
Cc: Kyland Pennoyer
Subject: RE: Clearhills Wolf Bounty

I am actually surprised they got that many wolves. Kyland do you know from how many contributors?

Bill Johnson
Senior Wildlife Technician
Peace River-Upper Hay Area
P.O. Bag 900-26, Peace River, Ab. T8S-1T4
phone: 780-624-6497 fax: 780-624-6455
e-mail: Bill.Johnson@gov.ab.ca

From: Dave Moyles
Sent: Thursday, December 16, 2010 12:00 PM
To: Barb Maile; Alain Fontaine; Greg Hale; Nathan Webb; Bill Johnson; Lyle Fullerton; Dave Walty
Cc: Kyland Pennoyer
Subject: FW: Clearhills Wolf Bounty

FYI - results of the Clearhills County bounty. The County's program ran from June 1 or thereabouts. They had budgeted \$20,000 and paid \$500/adult wolf and \$100 per pup. I don't know the distribution of the kills.

Take care

Dave Moyles
Senior Wildlife Biologist
Peace River - Upper Hay Area

000072

Bag 900-26
Peace River, AB T8S 1T4
phone: 780-624-6465 (direct line)
fax: 780-624-6455
e-mail: Dave.Moyles@gov.ab.ca

From: Kyland Pennoyer
Sent: Wednesday, December 15, 2010 11:56 AM
To: Rob Lamont
Cc: Dave Moyles
Subject: Clearhills Wolf Bounty

FYI

I spoke with Aaron Zylstra with the M.D. today regarding their wolf bounty. They have received/paid out for 36 wolves as of today. They are closing the bounty on wolves effective January 1, 2011 supposedly so that they do not interfere with any winter program which Fish and Wildlife may be conducting. I explained that currently there is only one area/producer that received a lot of depredation from wolves this summer and that area will be our priority for some control work this winter. I advised that we may not be doing any control work in other areas of the M.D. this winter due to the lack of confirmed depredation by wolves. I reiterated to Aaron that Fish and Wildlife will only conduct winter control work in area's were the amount of wolf depredation warrants it (ie. Isolated confirmed wolf depredation does not warrant any control work being done in the winter).

Aaron advised that council would like to have me attend a council meeting in February either the 15 or 22nd to discuss wolves/occurrences/control work. At that time they may reinstated the wolf bounty.

Cheers,

Kyland J Pennoyer
Fish and Wildlife Officer
Fairview District
Alberta Fish and Wildlife Division
Phone: 780-835-2737
Fax: 780-835-2773
Kyland.Pennoyer@gov.ab.ca

<< OLE Object: Picture (Metafile) >>

000073

Re: Allenby

From: Mel Knight
Sent: Thursday, December 09, 2010 4:09 PM
To: Chad Barber
Subject: Fw: wolf bounty legal?
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Red

From: *
To: Mel Knight
Sent: Wed Dec 08 20:45:28 2010
Subject: wolf bounty legal?

M. Knight
Minister SRD

Dec. 7/10

Mr. Knight

Are wolf bounties legal in Alberta?

I would appreciate as prompt a response as possible.

Thank you

*

*
17(1)

17(4)(g)(i)

000074

12/10/2010

4337-W02



ALBERTA
SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Office of the Minister
MLA, Grande Prairie - Smoky

AR26571

December 15, 2010

*

* 17(1)
17(4)(g)(i)

Dear *

Thank you for your December 8, 2010 email inquiry regarding wolf bounties. I welcome the opportunity to provide the following information.

Wolf bounties or incentives conducted by private organizations are legal in Alberta, providing the wolf is harvested by a licensed hunter or trapper during a legal season, as stated in Sustainable Resource Development's wildlife regulations.

Thank you for inquiring about this matter.

Sincerely,

Mel R. Knight
Minister

cc: Ty Lund, MLA
Rocky Mountain House

EXECUTIVE FILE ROOM

JAN 7 / 2011

000075

Sharon Hunt

From: Dave Moyles
Sent: Tuesday, January 18, 2011 10:37 AM
To: Dave Walty; Bill Johnson; Lyle Fullerton; Rob Corrigan
Subject: FW: CLEARHILLS COUNTY

Dave Moyles
Senior Wildlife Biologist
Peace River - Upper Hay Area
Bag 900-26
Peace River, AB T8S 1T4
phone: 780-624-6465 (direct line)
fax: 780-624-6455
e-mail: Dave.Moyles@gov.ab.ca

From: Rob Lamont
Sent: Friday, January 14, 2011 9:17 AM
To: Dave Moyles
Subject: FW: CLEARHILLS COUNTY

fyi

Rob Lamont
Head, Enforcement Field Services
Peace/Upper Hay Area
Sustainable Resource Development
Fish and Wildlife Division

office 780-624-6246
Cell 780-625-8473
Fax 780-624-6455
Robert.Lamont@gov.ab.ca

From: Kyland Pennoyer
Sent: Thursday, January 13, 2011 5:58 PM
To: Rob Lamont
Cc: Dave Barrett
Subject: FW: CLEARHILLS COUNTY

000076

7/27/2011

FYI

From: Lillian Zaleschuk
Sent: Thursday, January 13, 2011 3:58 PM
To: Kyland Pennoyer
Subject: CLEARHILLS COUNTY

Audrey called to advise that they have reactivated their 'Wolf Bounty Program'.

Lil Zaleschuk

Fish & Wildlife Fairview

Phone (780)835-2737

Fax (780) 835-2773

email: Lillian.Zaleschuk@gov.ab.ca

May you always have love to share, health to spare, and friends that care.

000077

7/27/2011

Steve Bradbury

From: *
Sent: Thursday, January 20, 2011 4:04 PM
To: Steve Bradbury
Subject: Re: wolf bounty---thank you

Steve - Thank you very much for your response; getting information on this "under cover" program is like pulling teeth.

Thanks - *

--- Original Message ---

From: Steve Bradbury
To: *
Sent: Thursday, January 20, 2011 10:29 AM
Subject: RE: wolf bounty

*

I am not aware of any bounty programs in my Area.
Thanks,
Steve.

Steve Bradbury, Ph.D.
Fish & Wildlife Program Manager - Foothills Area
Alberta Sustainable Resource Development
Rm 107, Provincial Building
111 - 54 Street
Edson, AB
T7E 1T2

Tel: 780-723-8329
Cell: 780-712-6476
Fax: 780-723-8542
Email: Steve.Bradbury@gov.ab.ca

From: *
Sent: Friday, January 14, 2011 11:52 AM
To: Steve Bradbury
Subject: Re: wolf bounty

Steve Bradbury Jan14/11

I am trying to determine the extent of the wolf bounty program in Alberta. please advise me of the trapper locals, counties, etc. which are participating in your area.

Thank you - *

*17(1)
17(4)(g)(i)

000078

*

----- Original Message -----

From: Steve Bradbury

To: *

Sent: Friday, December 03, 2010 8:04 PM

Subject: Re: wolf bounty

*

In Dave's email of Nov 22 he indicated that there is nothing Fish and Wildlife can do. Steve.

From: *

To: Steve Bradbury

Sent: Fri Dec 03 16:26:46 2010

Subject: wolf bounty

Steve Bradbury

On Nov 17 Dave Christiansen of Rocky copied an e mail from myself to you. I still have not recieved a responce.

Would you please reply.

Thank you - *

* 17(i)
17(4)(g)(i)

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000079

From: Anne Hubbs
Sent: Sunday, January 23, 2011 10:41 AM
To: Tony Brooks; 'gordy@trappergord.com'; 'Pat Long'
Cc: David Christiansen; Dianne Forsythe; Kevin Stalker
Subject: RE: wolf study-funding trappers

Thanks Tony & Pat. Pat- I echo Gordy's comment that I too admire your patience. As Tony indicated, * has talked to several people in our office already as well as FWD Managers elsewhere. The response has consistently been the same. Hopefully he will let it rest, but I doubt it.

Cheers, Anne

From: Tony Brooks
Sent: Sunday, January 23, 2011 10:32 AM
To: gordy@trappergord.com; Pat Long
Cc: Anne Hubbs; David Christiansen; Dianne Forsythe; Kevin Stalker
Subject: RE: wolf study-funding trappers

Very good reply Pat. Thanks for keeping me in the loop. I, in addition to Head Biologist Anne Hubbs, Wildlife and Fisheries Manager Dave Christiansen, and Admin support Dianne Forsythe, have been getting several calls and emails from * on the same issue. I'm too sure where he will go from here. have informed him that it is an incentive program and not a bounty but he is unhappy with my responses. I'm not

From: gordy@trappergord.com [mailto:gordy@trappergord.com]
Sent: Saturday, January 22, 2011 9:32 PM
To: Pat Long; Tony Brooks
Subject: Re: wolf study-funding trappers

Thanks Pat. Nice reply and I admire your patience. I've got a pretty big file on this. I'm sure Tony has been shaking his head.

Sent on the TELUS Mobility network with BlackBerry

From: "Pat Long". *
Date: Sat, 22 Jan 2011 20:02:21 -0700
To: Gordy Klassen<gordy@trappergord.com>; <tony.brooks@gov.ab.ca>
Subject: Fw: wolf study-funding trappers

Gordy and Tony,
 I'm forwarding this to you FYI as it appears the complainant has directed some correspondence to you regarding his concern with the program (Ungulate Enhancement Program is the politically correct term we use) we are funding. This is the last he will be hearing from me.

Pat Long
 Wild Sheep Foundation Alberta
 780 624-1208

* 17(1)
 17(4)(g)(i)

000080

From: Pat Long
Sent: Friday, January 21, 2011 9:25 AM
To: *
Cc: Reg Prostebby ; Roger Bratrud ; Jeff Miller ; Brian Hallock
Subject: Re: wolf study-funding trappers

*17(1)
 17(4)(9)(1)

Hi *

With respect to your earlier email dated Jan. 10/11 I will repeat what I have previously stated, and that is the fact that Wild Sheep Foundation Alberta will not become involved in resolving conflict or disagreement between a trapper and a trapping local or Fish and Game Association. My organization allocates a sum of money to a number of locals and clubs, the locals and clubs manage the program. That is the position of the Board of Directors.

Also, rest assured that neither myself or the Board will get drawn into a debate regarding the credibility of the clubs and locals we direct funding to or the individuals volunteering their time to manage the programs. The funding program we have set up with the clubs and locals has worked very well to date. We wanted to provide incentive to individuals having the opportunity to harvest wolves to do so, and that is what has been happening. Our program as it is currently set up may not be perfect but it getting the job done and we are not prepared to jeopardize the results we are seeing because of an isolated situation. If, as you have indicated, other trappers are considering not participating because they are not happy with the program, that is unfortunate as they are choosing not to take advantage of an opportunity to supplement their trapping income.

With regards to your Jan. 20/11 email I would first like to point out the fact that we do not and never have called our funding arrangements with the clubs and locals a "wolf bounty program" for obvious reasons.

Our funding initiative involves a number of trapping locals and clubs located along the East Slopes and varies to some degree each year, depending on which locations choose to participate. I may stand to be corrected but believe that last year we directed funding in the amount of \$3,000 each to Sundre, Rocky Mtn. House, Drayton Valley and Grande Cache.

The wolf study you refer to was to be a 2 phase study conducted by the University of Alberta, with partner funding from a number of organizations including Wild Sheep Foundation Alberta. The first phase involved collaring wolves to determine movement. etc. The 2nd phase was to involve sterilization of dominant pack members and removal of sub dominant pack members. The proposed 2nd phase did not proceed because of opposition from a number of sources. Detailed information regarding the project can be obtained from the U. of Alberta, attention Dr. Evelyn Merrill.

* is I indicated previously, what we are doing may not be viewed by some as a progressive program that is making a major difference. However, Wild Sheep Foundation Alberta did choose to try to make some difference by setting up a program and getting involved in an initiative that no other agency or organization wanted to be involved in. We now have the program up and running and we are proud of the fact that we have a role in seeing some impact on the level of wolf depredation occurring in some areas along the East Slopes. Because of the program's success we are not prepared to jeopardize the working relationship we have established with various locals and clubs, particularly when we believe they have demonstrated the responsibility and dedication required to manage the program in the fairest way possible, recognizing that regardless of how well the program is managed there will always be some who can find fault with it.

000081

Pat Long

From: _____ *

Sent: Thursday, January 20, 2011 4:30 PM

To: Pat Long

Subject: wolf study-funding trappers

Pat -- The minister has advised me that the Sheep Foundation is funding the wolf bounty program and therefor I should direct any questions I have to you. {I am sure AFGA is funding as well} My question is what organizations are you funding and how much?

On your web site you mention funding a wolf study in central western Alberta a short time ago [\$49,000] I think. Would you please tell me what study this is, I would love to read it.

Am also looking forward to your comments on my last email.

Thanks in advance . ✖

* 17(1)
17(4)(g)(i)

000082

Office of the Premier

From: * 17(1) 17(4)(9)(1)
 Sent: Friday, March 18, 2011 1:00 PM
 To: execsecretary@mdbiglakes.ca; agassist@mdbiglakes.ca; agriculture@biglakes.ca; ARD Agriculture Minister; SRD.Info-Centre M; env.inforcent@gov.ab.ca; Office of the Premier
 Cc: info@northernlightswildlife.com
 Subject: wolves in big lake

Blakerry valley
 Golden, BC Canada V0A 1H1

1745 Short Road
 Blakerry Valley
 Golden, BC

Sq#	48974
Issues/Action:	MR
Rcvd	MAR 21 2011
C	Pro:
Subject	16
Logged	

www.northernlightswild

March 6, 2011

Attn:
 Alberta Minister of Agriculture Honourable Jack Hayden
 Alberta Minister of Environment Honourable Rob Renner
 Alberta Sustainable Resource Development Minister Honourable Mel Knight
 Alberta Premier Ed Stelmach
 Alberta Fish and Wildlife Program Manager Enforcement Field Services Steven Cross

Hello. We are writing to let you know about our extreme concern over the wolf bounty initiated in the rural municipality of Big Lakes Alberta this past September 2010. Just 8 months ago this misguided \$300 per wolf bounty came into effect, and already 53 wolves have been killed and claimed. This practice was begun in the name of livestock loss prevention, when decades of research have shown that predator bounties ARE NOT an effective long-term solution for reducing livestock losses to predators.

Alberta's Fish and Wildlife program had been mitigating for losses in this region to the satisfaction of their expertise in this area. This management involved the removal of problem wolves that had been identified as depredating on livestock. Not all wolves kill domestic animals, and it is unethical and extremely irresponsible to impose a reward for killing a highly intelligent, enormously social animal that has evolved as a keystone species and top predator to have a very important ecological role.

Some of the cattle in the rural municipality of Big Lakes are grazing on lands that are either crown-owned or abutting crown-owned forests. This natural resource is public, as is the wildlife living on it. We have proposed to engage with the municipal council and work together to educate the community about preventative husbandry practices that are effective at deterring predators. They have refused to respond to our letters and questions. We are aware that Alberta Agriculture is not supporting this decision, but we feel that by not stepping in to improve the situation nor taking a public stand against it, you are being negligent and irresponsible.

We feel that it is the responsibility of Fish and Wildlife, Alberta Sustainable Resource Development, and the Ministry of Agriculture to put an end to this outdated, ineffective and cruel practice. There are alternative solutions and individuals with experience using alternative measures successfully that are willing to help and be involved in ethical alternatives. We would be happy to help arrange this if you are interested. In what has evolved into the IUCN designated "Decade of Biodiversity", surely you can recognize that coexistence with top predators is an environmental priority at a local, provincial, national and global level. Canada is one of only 2 countries left hosting the last significant populations of wolves

in the world. Their future is dependent upon the actions we take today.

Almost \$16,000 of local taxpayers money was spent in half a year to kill an animal important to the health of its surrounding ecosystem, when this animal may not have killed livestock in the past nor future. Can we please act as true stewards and work to balance OUR needs with he needs of other species? We call upon you to put an end to this bounty, engage in education about responsible husbandry, and have rightful jurisdiction over a public resource. It appears that Alberla is regressing in its tolerance of predators and it is important to recognize the true dangers on the landscape are more guns, traps, and poison. \$16,000 would have been better spent in

hosting workshops, subsidizing for preventative measures (guardian dogs, fladry systems, range riders, etc), producing community resources via pamphlets or websites if reduction in livestock losses is indeed the goal of the Regional Municipality of Big Lakes. We have included 2 images from the March 2010 issue of National Geographic depicting 1)the environment with and without wolves 2) livestock losses due to wolf predation on sheep in Montana. Similar statistics apply to cattle in North America.

Please tell us how you will address this issue. We would be happy to speak by phone or e-mail or arrange a meeting. Killing wolves is NOT the solution.

Most sincerely, Sadie Parr
Shelley and Casey Black

Mission Statement:

Northern Lights Wildlife Wolf Centre promotes wolf and bear conservation throughout the natural environment through public education. We value the role these carnivores play in nature. We strive to provide a one-of-a-kind, quality experience to the public as we support wolf conservation through education.

UU0084

Sharon Hunt

From: Steven Cross
Sent: Tuesday, March 08, 2011 2:33 PM
To: Sue Cotterill; Deryl Empson
Subject: FW: Big Lakes Wolf Bounty must end
Attachments: Big Lakes Letter to Gov.doc;

NON-RESPONSIVE

You may have been forwarded this already, but below is an e-mail from Sadie Parr from the Canadian Wolf Coalition, based out of BC. I see it has went to the Office of the Premier and our Info Centre. I had Mark Heckbert (FWM Program Manager) read the letter before he left the office today. *

*

*17(1)

17(4)(g)(i)

17(4)(d)

Steven Cross
 Program Manager - Enforcement Field Services
 Lesser Slave Area
 2nd Floor, Prov. Building
 High Prairie, Alberta
 wk - 780-523-6733
 cell - 780-536-5089
 fax - 780-523-6525

You will not be remembered for what you do for yourself but rather what you do for others. What is your Legacy?

From: sadie parr [mailto:canadianwolfco@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 08, 2011 1:52 PM
To: jack.hayden@assembly.ab.ca; AENV Infocent; Office of the Premier; Steven Cross; SRD.Info-Centre M; ARD Agriculture Minister
Subject: Big Lakes Wolf Bounty must end

Hello

1. Alberta Minister of Agriculture Honourable Jack Hayden
2. Alberta Minister of Environment Honourable Rob Renner
3. Alberta Sustainable Resource Development Minister Honourable Mel Knight
4. Alberta Premier Ed Stelmach
5. Alberta Fish and Wildlife Program Manager Enforcement Field Services Steven Cross

Please find attached a letter we are expecting a reply to as soon as possible. We have also included 2 images as referred to in the letter. Please review all of these and contact us by phone or e-mail. We look forward to discussing this issue with you further.

Most sincerely, Sadie Parr on behalf of the Northern Lights Wildlife Wolf Centre

www.northrnlightswildlife.com 250-344-6798

www.canadianwolfcoalition.com 250-344-7998

000085

Sharon Hunt

From: Deryl Empson
Sent: Friday, March 18, 2011 12:53 PM
To: Sue Cotterill
Cc: Steven Cross
Subject: Wolf Bounty - Start of Letter Writing Campaign

Attachments: FW: Big Lakes Alberta Wolf Bounty; FW: Big Lakes Alberta Wolf Bounty. Put an end to this misguided cruelty!!

Sue. see attached messages from Steve. This began some time ago with the wolf folks in BC writing an open letter and urging others to write. *

* *NON-RESPONSIVE*



FW: Big Alberta Wolf
FW: Big Alberta Wolf

Deryl J. Empson
Executive Director, Enforcement-Field Services Branch
Fish and Wildlife Division
Alberta Sustainable Resource Development
3rd Floor, Great West Life Bldg.
9920 - 108 Street
Edmonton, AB , T5K 2M4
Phone: 780 422-0044
Cell: 780 991-8441
Fax: 780 422-9560
Email: Deryl.Empson@gov.ab.ca

Teresa Tuttle

From: Steven Cross
Sent: Friday, March 18, 2011 11:18 AM
To: Deryl Empson; Sue Ireland
Cc: Mark Heckbert
Subject: FW: Big Lakes Alberta Wolf Bounty

FYI

From: Benoit Clan des loups [mailto:clanloups@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 18, 2011 8:13 AM
To: execsecretary@mdbiglakes.ca; agassist@mdbiglakes.ca; agriculture@mdbiglakes.ca; ARD Agriculture Minister; SRD.Info-Centre M; AENV Infocent; Office of the Premier; Steven Cross
Cc: info@northernlightswildlife.com
Subject: Big Lakes Alberta Wolf Bounty

Madame, Monsieur,

Rural Municipality of Big Lakes Alberta began offering a \$300 bounty on wolves in September 2010 and more than 60 wolves killed and claimed. Because not all of these wolves have killed livestock, and many likely never would have. Because the executives of the Big Lakes rural municipality refuse to respond or even those of Fish and Wildlife who presented to the council about alternative solutions.

This is \$18,900 paid out in tax dollars which could have gone to prevention through improved husbandry practices, education about how to reduce conflicts between predators and livestock, or many other areas in need of funding???

Will the bounty work? No! Because decades of research show that bounties are not effective in the long term for reducing livestock losses to predators, so wolves are being killed needlessly. Other wolves **will move in to fill vacant territories. Remember that not all wolves kill livestock.**

What right does this municipality have to disrupt a top predator that is a natural resource to you? The ecological role of wolves as top predators and keystone species means they help maintain biodiversity and healthy ecosystems.

This unethical act in the name of livestock protection is NOT being supported by Alberta Agriculture.

Livestock producers need to take some responsibility and promote responsible husbandry practices.

Many of the wolves being claimed are not even by livestock producers! This is a cash grab.

Wolf bounties are immoral and irresponsible. Please, stop the wolf bounty.

Thank you for your attention.

Benoit Ayotte
 Coord. Clan
 Quebec, Canada
www.clanloups.com

000087

Teresa Tuttle

From: Steven Cross
Sent: Friday, March 18, 2011 11:17 AM
To: Deryl Empson; Sue Cotterill
Cc: Mark Heckbert
Subject: FW: Big Lakes Alberta Wolf Bounty. Put an end to this misguided cruelty!!

FYI

From: Paul Craig * 17(1)
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2011 1:51 PM 17(4)(9)(1)
To: Steven Cross
Cc: "mailto:canadianwolfco@gmail.com" *
Subject: Big Lakes Alberta Wolf Bounty. Put an end to this misguided cruelty!!

Attn;
 Association of Alberta Agriculture Fieldmen for Municipal District of Big Lakes
 Attn;
 Alberta Fish and Wildlife program manager enforcement field services. Steven Cross

Hello. We are writing to let you know about our extreme concern over the wolf bounty initiated in the rural municipality of Big Lakes Alberta this past September 2010. Just 8 months ago this misguided \$300 per wolf bounty came into effect, and already 53 wolves have been killed and claimed. This practice was begun in the name of livestock loss prevention, when decades of research have shown that predator bounties ARE NOT an effective long-term solution for reducing livestock losses to predators.

Alberta's Fish and Wildlife program had been mitigating for losses in this region to the satisfaction of their expertise in this area. This management involved the removal of problem wolves that had been identified as depredating on livestock. Not all wolves kill domestic animals, and it is unethical and extremely irresponsible to impose a reward for killing a highly intelligent, enormously social animal that has evolved as a keystone species and top predator to have a very important ecological role.

Some of the cattle in the rural municipality of Big Lakes are grazing on lands that are either crown-owned or abutting crown-owned forests. This natural resource is public, as is the wildlife living on it. We have proposed to engage with the municipal council and work together to educate the community about preventative husbandry practices that are effective at deterring predators. They have refused to respond to our letters and questions. We are aware that Alberta Agriculture is not supporting this decision, but we feel that by not stepping in to improve the situation nor taking a public stand against it, you are being negligent and irresponsible.

We feel that it is the responsibility of Fish and Wildlife, Alberta Sustainable Resource Development, and the Ministry of Agriculture to put an end to this outdated, ineffective and cruel practice. There are alternative solutions and individuals with experience using alternative measures successfully that are willing to help and be involved in ethical alternatives. We would be happy to help arrange this if you are interested. In what has evolved into the IUCN designated "Decade of Biodiversity", surely you can recognize that coexistence with top predators is an environmental priority at a local, provincial, national and global level. Canada is one of only 2 countries left hosting the last significant populations of wolves in the world. Their future is dependent upon the actions we take today.

000088

Almost \$16,000 of local taxpayers money was spent in half a year to kill an animal important to the health of its surrounding ecosystem, when this animal may not have killed livestock in the past nor future. Can we please

act as true stewards and work to balance OUR needs with the needs of other species? We call upon you to put an end to this bounty, engage in education about responsible husbandry, and have rightful jurisdiction over a public resource. It appears that Alberta is regressing in its tolerance of predators and it is important to recognize the true dangers on the landscape are more guns, traps, and poison. \$16,000 would have been better spent in

hosting workshops, subsidizing for preventative measures (guardian dogs, fladry systems, range riders, etc), producing community resources via pamphlets or websites if reduction in livestock losses is indeed the goal of the Regional Municipality of Big Lakes. We have included 2 images from the March 2010 issue of National Geographic depicting 1)the environment with and without wolves 2) livestock losses due to wolf predation on sheep in Montana. Similar statistics apply to cattle in North America.

Please tell us how you will address this issue. We would be happy to speak by phone or e-mail or arrange a meeting. Killing wolves is NOT the solution.

Most sincerely, Sadie Parr
Shelley and Casey Black
Paul Craig
Box 55 Site 20 RR2
Strathmore AB

*

17(1)

17(4)(g)(i)

000089

Office of the Premier

From: *
Sent: Saturday, March 19, 2011 3:34 PM
To: Office of the Premier
Subject: Big Lakes Wolf Bounty

Sq#	48977
Issues/Action:	ma
Recvd	MAR 21 2011
C Prev	
Subjects:	6
Logged to:	

Hi, * , I recently read about the wolf bounty in Big Lakes. The whole wolf hunting thing disgusts me. Wolves are probably the least dangerous creature out there. When people come at me with "Oh, but they kill livestock!" I laugh. Why, because research shows that more often than not the wolf didn't do a thing. Usually the work dogs are guilty of the kill.

The thing that makes me maddest is this. I want you to imagine this. Hunters go out and kill the deer, moose, elk, etc. They also tramp through the forests, thus scaring all the rodents off. The hunters do this, and the wolves starve because of it. So they do what they have to. They move. Then the work dogs kill the livestock. The wolves can smell the carcass. They come in against their instinct, and they eat the dead carcass. The next morning the rancher finds the remains. He asks the DOG to find the scent, and the dog leads the rancher to the wolves. the rancher kills as many wolves as he can.

The dog did not get punished for the kill. So the dog continues to kill, and the wolves continue to eat. and why do they eat? Because they are living beings, and they want to survive. The dog is not seen killing, and so he is not punished.

And people are punishing the wolves.

As I said * But I want to stop the wolf hunting, and make it illegal around the world. People cannot seem to realize that without wolves, the sick wildlife will not be killed, and the disease will spread. No healthy wildlife will be around.

Please take this into consideration.

Thanks,

*

* 17(1)
17(4)(g)(1)

000090

NON-RESPONSIVE

From: *

Sent: Saturday, March 19, 2011 3:40 PM

To: execsecretary@mdbiglakes.ca; agassist@mdbiglakes.ca; agriculture@mdbiglakes.ca; ARD Agriculture Minister; AENV Infocent; Steven Cross

Subject:

Hi, _____ *

and I recently read about the wolf bounty in Big Lakes.

The whole wolf hunting thing disgusts me. Wolves are probably the least dangerous creature out there.

When people come at me with "Oh, but they kill livestock!" I laugh. Why, because research shows that more often than not

the wolf didn't do a thing. Usually the work dogs are guilty of the kill.

The thing that makes me maddest is this.

I want you to imagine this.

Hunters go out and kill the deer, moose, elk, etc. They also tramp through the forests, thus scaring all the rodents off. The hunters do this, and the

wolves starve because of it. So they do what they have to. They move. Then the work dogs kill the livestock. The wolves can smell the carcass. They come in

against their instinct, and they eat the dead carcass. The next morning the rancher finds the remains. He asks the DOG to find the scent, and the dog leads the rancher to the wolves. the rancher kills as many wolves as he can.

The dog did not get punished for the kill. So the dog continues to kill, and the wolves continue to eat. and why do they eat? Because they are living beings, and they want to survive. The dog is not seen killing, and so he is not punished.

And people are punishing the wolves.

As I said - _____ *

But I want to stop the wolf hunting, and make it Illegal around the world.

People cannot seem to realize that without wolves, the sick wildlife will not be killed, and the disease will spread. No healthy wildlife will be around.

Please take this into consideration.

Thanks,

*

* 17(1)
17(4)(9)(c)

000091

Office of the Premier

From: *
Sent: Monday, March 21, 2011 8:01 AM
To: Office of the Premier
Cc: info@northernlightswildlife.com
Subject: FW: Wolf Bounty

Sq#	48474
Issues/Action:	MP
Rcvd	MAR 21 2011
C	Prev
Subject(s)	Le
League to	

Dear Mr. Stelmach

Wolf Bounty in the MD of Big Lakes

I am extremely opposed to the Wolf Bounty that the MD of Big Lakes instigated in an effort to prevent wolf predation in the MD. *

We take the time and invest in livestock management in order to prevent predation and by doing this have managed to co-exist with all our wild neighbors without suffering major losses.

I believe a wolf bounty upsets the balance and will start other problems. Many farmers are now complaining that we are getting overrun with deer. The coyote population will explode and predation issues will start with them. Our MD is mismanaging our wildlife, our tax money and is not being transparent in their dealings as they refuse to answer questions to our letters. Their decision was not based on any research and was not budgeted for. The MD is using money budgeted for other programs to pay for this one.

I have spoken to our local councilor, Ken Mathews and he only expected about 10 wolves to be handed in for the bounty. At this stage 63 wolves have had bounties claimed on them at a cost of 18 900 dollars of my tax dollars. Looking at these statistics and the very lenient claims rules the MD has also opened its doors to fraudulent claims. Of these 63 wolves killed, only 6 were shot and killed by livestock ranchers, which makes me wonder if livestock ranchers are really having so many problems as initially claimed. It seems more like the recreational lobby is turning this bounty into a "shoot for cash" grab. Not only I am opposed to this bounty but the Alberta government does not support this form of control, neither does Fish and Wildlife, they also agree that this method of control does not work and many people in this region feel that the MD should have considered other more sustainable forms of control.

I would sincerely ask you to please put an end to this mindless slaughter and mismanagement of the MD of Big Lakes. As they do not respond to any questions and have not based their decision on sound biological and ecological research, I would implore you to intervene and stop this wastage. In order to do my share, I did volunteer my time to help the MD find other and better ways to look into this predation problem. I offered to write a "best practices manual for ranchers" however I did not hear anything back from the MD and this indicates to me the unwillingness for this council to look into alternative methods to help the livestock ranchers reduce predation. I am always available to help or for more information and remain,
Yours sincerely,

*

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17(4)(g) (i)

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*

* 17(c)
17(c)(9)(i)

Office of the Premier

From: *
Sent: Sunday, March 20, 2011 4:55 PM
To: Office of the Premier
Subject: Stop the Big Lakes, Alberta, Wolf Bounty

*

20 March 2011

Sq#	78477
Issues/Action:	MR
Revd	MAR 21 2011
C Prev	
Subject	16
Longitude	

Alberta Premier Ed Stelmach

Dear Premier Stelmach:

We are writing to let you know our concern over the wolf bounty in the municipality of Big Lakes, Alberta, initiated during September 2010. In the past eight months 53 wolves were killed and claimed. This has been done in the name of livestock loss prevention.

Alberta's Fish and Wildlife program had been removing problem wolves identified as preying on livestock. As you know, not all wolves kill livestock, and it is irresponsible to offer a bounty for killing a top predator with an important ecological role.

Some of the cattle in the rural municipality of Big Lakes are grazing on lands that are either crown-owned or abutting crown-owned forests. This natural resource is public, as is the wildlife living on it. The municipal council should, instead of offering a bounty, work with the province to educate the community about practices that are effective at deterring predators. We feel that Alberta Fish and Wildlife should take a public stand against the bounty. Canada is one of only 2 countries in the world left with a significant populations of wolves. Their future is dependent upon the actions we take. This goes for other keystone species, such as the grizzly bear, as well.

It has been shown that many livestock die from natural causes such as exposure to harsh winters, and that wolves and bear then scavenge the carcasses. In these cases the stock owners are responsible rather than the predators. Offering incentives to kill predators will only create a vacuum that will be filled by predators moving in from other areas. This is not the solution anyone wants.

Please tell us how you will address this issue. Killing wolves is NOT a solution.

Sincerely,

*

* 17(1)
17(4)(g)(i)

000094

NON-RESPONSIVE

From: *
Sent: Sunday, March 20, 2011 4:58 PM
To: Steven Cross
Subject: Stop the Big Lakes, Alberta, Wolf Bounty

*

20 March 2011

Steven Cross, Alberta Fish and Wildlife Program Manager Enforcement Field Services

Dear Mr. Cross:

We are writing to let you know our concern over the wolf bounty in the municipality of Big Lakes, Alberta, initiated during September 2010. In the past eight months 53 wolves were killed and claimed. This has been done in the name of livestock loss prevention.

Alberta's Fish and Wildlife program had been removing problem wolves identified as preying on livestock. As you know, not all wolves kill livestock, and it is irresponsible to offer a bounty for killing a top predator with an important ecological role.

Some of the cattle in the rural municipality of Big Lakes are grazing on lands that are either crown-owned or abutting crown-owned forests. This natural resource is public, as is the wildlife living on it. The municipal council should, instead of offering a bounty, work with the province to educate the community about practices that are effective at deterring predators. We feel that Alberta Fish and Wildlife should take a public stand against the bounty. Canada is one of only 2 countries in the world left with a significant populations of wolves. Their future is dependent upon the actions we take. This goes for other keystone species, such as the grizzly bear, as well.

It has been shown that many livestock die from natural causes such as exposure to harsh winters, and that wolves and bear then scavenge the carcasses. In these cases the stock owners are responsible rather than the predators. Offering incentives to kill predators will only create a vacuum that will be filled by predators moving in from other areas. This is not the solution anyone wants.

Please tell us how you will address this issue. Killing wolves is NOT a solution.

Sincerely,

*

* 17(1)
17(4)(3) (1)

000095

9/7/2011

Office of the Premier

From: *
Sent: Monday, March 21, 2011 12:13 PM
To: agassist@mdbiglakes.ca
Cc: Office of the Premier
Subject: wolf bounties

This outdated, 'wild west' attitude towards one of the key predators verifies that those who are in charge of decision-making have not availed themselves of research which documents that bounties do not solve the problem of losing livestock.

Why are MY tax dollars being used for this purpose when alternative methods could have been attempted that would result in wolves not being slaughtered?

We urge this municipal district to REFRAIN from engaging in this slaughter!!!! and urge livestock producers to improve their husbandry practices!!!!

Please contact us with information on this issue. Thank you.

*

* 17(i)
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Sq#	48074
Issues/ Action:	MR
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c	Prev
Subject:	16
Logged to	

NON-RESPONSIVE

From: *
Sent: Monday, March 21, 2011 12:18 PM
To: SRD.Info-Centre M
Cc: Steven Cross
Subject: Fwd: wolf bounties

Dear Sirs:

Please find attached a copy of the letter sent re wolf bounties.

We are appalled that this type of 'management' is being promoted - We are NOT impressed with the fact that OUR tax dollars are being directed towards this program!!!

We await a response. Thank you.

*

Begin forwarded message:

From: *
Date: March 21, 2011 12:12:53 PM MDT (CA)
To: agassist@mdbiglakes.ca
Cc: premier@gov.ab.ca
Subject: wolf bounties
Reply-To: *

This outdated, 'wild west' attitude towards one of the key predators verifies that those who are in charge of decision-making have not availed themselves of research which documents that bounties do not solve the problem of losing livestock.

Why are MY tax dollars being used for this purpose when alternative methods could have been attempted that would result in wolves not being slaughtered?

We urge this municipal district to REFRAIN from engaging in this slaughter!!!! and urge livestock producers to improve their husbandry practices!!!!

Please contact us with information on this issue. Thank you.

*

* 17(1)
:7(4)(9)(1)

000097

NON-RESPONSIVE

From: *
Sent: Thursday, March 24, 2011 9:59 AM
To: execsecretary@mdbiglakes.ca; agassist@mdbiglakes.ca; agriculture@mdbiglakes.ca; ARD Agriculture Minister; SRD.Info-Centre M; Office of the Premier; AENV Infocent; Steven Cross
Cc: info@northernlightswildlife.com
Subject: FW: Hunting of Wolves in Alberta, Canada

ACTION ALERT ! Big Lakes Alberta Wolf Bounty!!!

Put an end to this misguided cruelty!!

Problem: Rural Municipality of Big Lakes Alberta began offering a \$300 bounty on wolves in September 2010.

In just 7 months 63 wolves killed and claimed!

Why?: Because not all of these wolves have killed livestock, and many likely never would have.

- Because the executives of the Big Lakes rural municipality refuse to respond to our concerns and recommendations, or even those of Fish and Wildlife who presented to the council about alternative solutions.
- This is \$18,900 paid out in tax dollars which could have gone to prevention through improved husbandry practices, education about how to reduce conflicts between predators and livestock, or many other areas in need of funding???

Will the bounty work? No! Because decades of research show that bounties are not effective in the long term for reducing livestock losses to predators, so wolves are being killed needlessly. Other wolves will move in to fill vacant territories. Remember that not all wolves kill livestock.

Issues: What right does this municipality have to disrupt a top predator that is a natural resource to You?

The ecological role of wolves as top predators and keystone species means they help maintain biodiversity and healthy ecosystems.

- ✦ • This unethical act in the name of livestock protection is NOT being supported by Alberta Agriculture.
- ✦ • Livestock producers need to take some responsibility and promote responsible husbandry practices.
- ✦ • Many of the wolves being claimed are not even by livestock producers! This is a cash grab.

000098

Action: Phone or e-mail the following people to let them know that you do not support these unnecessary actions in the name of livestock loss prevention.
Wolf bounties are immoral and irresponsible.
Urge them to do what they can to see this stopped!

People to Contact:

Municipal council through the executive secretary of the Big Lakes Municipality (Amanda):
execsecretary@mdbiglakes.ca
780-523-5955 or toll free 1-866-523-5955

Association of Alberta Agriculture Fieldmen for Municipal District of Big Lakes:
agassist@mdbiglakes.ca 780-523-5955
agriculture@mdbiglakes.ca 780-523-5955

Alberta Minister of Agriculture, Jack Hayden: agriculture.minister@gov.ab.ca 780-427-2137

Alberta Sustainable Resource Development, Mel Knight: srd.infocent@gov.ab.ca 780-415-4815
Alberta Minister of Environment, Rob Renner - complaints: 1-800-222-6514
env.infocent@gov.ab.ca

Alberta Premier, Ed Stelmach: premier@gov.ab.ca (780) 427-2251

Alberta Fish and Wildlife program manager enforcement field services: steven.cross@gov.ab.ca

See Canadian Wolf Coalition's attached letter asking the municipal district to refrain from engaging in this outdated practice. This letter has not been acknowledged nor answered.

Please cc: info@northernlightswildlife.com on all emails.

//////

NORTHERN LIGHTS WILDLIFE WOLF CENTRE



March 6, 2011

Attn:

Alberta Minister of Agriculture, Honourable Jack Hayden

Alberta Minister of Environment, Honourable Rob Renner

Alberta Sustainable Resource Development Minister, Honourable Mel Knight

Alberta Premier, Ed Stelmach

000099

9/7/2011

Alberta Fish and Wildlife Program Manager Enforcement Field Services, Steven Cross

Hello. We are writing to let you know about our extreme concern over the wolf bounty initiated in the rural municipality of Big Lakes Alberta this past September 2010. Just 8 months ago this misguided \$300 per wolf bounty came into effect, and already 53 wolves have been killed and claimed. This practice was begun in the name of livestock loss prevention, when decades of research have shown that predator bounties ARE NOT an effective long-term solution for reducing livestock losses to predators.

Alberta's Fish and Wildlife program had been mitigating for losses in this region to the satisfaction of their expertise in this area. This management involved the removal of problem wolves that had been identified as depredating on livestock. Not all wolves kill domestic animals, and it is unethical and extremely irresponsible to impose a reward for killing a highly intelligent, enormously social animal that has evolved as a keystone species and top predator to have a very important ecological role.

Some of the cattle in the rural municipality of Big Lakes are grazing on lands that are either crown-owned or abutting crown-owned forests. This natural resource is public, as is the wildlife living on it. We have proposed to engage with the municipal council and work together to educate the community about preventative husbandry practices that are effective at deterring predators. They have refused to respond to our letters and questions. We are aware that Alberta Agriculture is not supporting this decision, but we feel that by not stepping in to improve the situation nor taking a public stand against it, you are being negligent and irresponsible.

We feel that it is the responsibility of Fish and Wildlife, Alberta Sustainable Resource Development, and the Ministry of Agriculture to put an end to this outdated, ineffective and cruel practice. There are alternative solutions and individuals with experience using alternative measures successfully that are willing to help and be involved in ethical alternatives. We would be happy to help arrange this if you are interested. In what has evolved into the IUCN designated "Decade of Biodiversity", surely you can recognize that coexistence with top predators is an environmental priority at a local, provincial, national and global level. Canada is one of only 2 countries left hosting the last significant populations of wolves in the world. Their future is dependent upon the actions we take today.

Almost \$16,000 of local tax payer's money was spent in half a year to kill an animal important to the health of its surrounding ecosystem, when this animal may not have killed livestock in the past or future. Can we please act as true stewards and work to balance OUR needs with he needs of other species? We call upon you to put an end to this bounty, engage in education about

000100

NON-RESPONSIVE

-----Original Message-----

From: Mark Heckbert
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2011 11:39 AM
To: Steven Cross; Alain Fontaine
Subject: RE: Big Lakes Alberta Wolf Bounty

Please don't respond directly to 17(1) . Thanks.

Mark Heckbert
Fish and Wildlife Program Manager
Lesser Slave Area
Sustainable Resource Development
Box 1500
High Prairie, AB
T0G 1E0
(780) 523-6517

-----Original Message-----

From: Steven Cross
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2011 10:52 AM
To: Mark Heckbert; Alain Fontaine
Subject: FW: Big Lakes Alberta Wolf Bounty

000102

FYI

-----Original Message-----

From:

Sent: Saturday, March 26, 2011 3:42 PM

To: execsecretary@mbbiglakes.ca; agassist@mbbiglakes.ca

Subject: Fwd: Big Lakes Alberta Wolf Bounty

To Whom It May Concern,

* 17(c)
17(4)(g)(i)

ARD Agriculture Minister; Office of the Premier; Steven Cross

* *

Shortly, the recently enacted Big Lakes Alberta Wolf Bounty caught my attention.

Basically, if possible, I'd like to learn a bit more about your respective stances regarding this issue. Is it ongoing? Is this the first time Alberta has enacted something of this nature? Will there be repercussions be if the legislation is/not dissolved? Is there scientific evidence to prove such conclusions (have any "scientific" studies been done that underscore that the correct decision has been made)?

Please advise asap; I look forward to your responses,

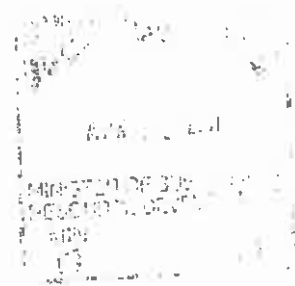
Respectfully,

* 17(c)
17(4)(g)(i)
17(4)(d)

*

000103

*



March 31, 2011

The Honourable
Mel Knight
Legislature Office
404 Legislature Building
10800 97 Avenue
Edmonton, AB
T5K 2B6

Mr. Knight:

Due to the lack of understanding and acting by the local authorities and politicians I feel the need to bring the following matter to your attention.

Our MD (of Big Lakes) has recently set up a bounty on wolves. This is a measure that feels to me like going right back to medieval times. I thought we would be more sensitive about nature in the 21st century. With tourist season starting we have to ask ourselves what kind of impression this gives about our country. Especially given the fact that overseas tourists travel to Canada because of nature. Aren't we in the headlines enough with our oilsands and the devastation they cause to the water fowl population? I refuse to believe that our Government spends huge amounts of money to protect wildlife in tourist areas like national parks and goes along with a totally opposite philosophy in non-protected areas.

The reasoning for the wolf hunt is the danger they pose to livestock. But there are actually very few farmers who think wolves are a threat to their livestock. And looking a bit deeper into the statistics it turns out that most bounties are claimed by trappers which makes me suspect that there is a lobby behind this affair.

Unfortunately the local authorities are known for their protectionism of certain interest groups. As far as I heard there have been requests to discuss the issue on council meeting but these requests were never even answered. That is the reason why I think this has to be brought to the attention of a higher jurisdiction and I would appreciate if you could look in to this matter.

Yours sincerely

*

* 17(r)
17(d)(g)(i)

000104

Office of the Premier

From: *

Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2011 4:09 PM

To: Office of the Premier

Subject: Big Lakes Wolf Bounty

I am sending this message to you sir in response to finding out that your government has approved the murders of these animals. I am an Alberta resident who is not only in opposition to this unethical and irresponsible endeavour, but also to the use of tax dollars to fund it. I also ask why have you not responded to a letter sent to you on March 6 from the Canadian Wolf Coalition on this matter – as an elected official you have a responsibility to look into all sides of an issue before rendering a decision – it is quite clear that in this case you have not done so.

*

* 17(i)
17(4)(g)(i)

Sq#	44019
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Subject(s)	IC
Large IC	

000105

NON-RESPONSIVE

From: *
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2011 4:21 PM
To: Steven Cross
Subject: Big Lakes Wolf Bounty

I am sending you this letter as a resident of Alberta who is opposed not only to this practice but to the use of tax dollars for funding this unethical and irresponsible endeavour as well. I also ask why you have not responded to a letter which was sent to you on March 6 by the Canadian Wolf Coalition - as a government official it is your duty to look into all sides of an issue before making a decision - I can see that this was not done here!

*

* 17(1)
17(4)(3)(i)

NON-RESPONSIVE

From: Mark Heckbert
Sent: Friday, April 08, 2011 3:08 PM
To: Curtis English; Alain Fontaine
Cc: Steven Cross
Subject: RE: Wolf Bounty

No, not at this time as this is their program and we are not involved and do not serve any gain to give an impression that we are involved in any way. Perhaps the time will come where if continued depredation of livestock occurs in the farmland over time, that the MD will share where the wolves were harvested with us. But, we will not ask for the information at this time.

Mark Heckbert
Fish and Wildlife Program Manager
Lesser Slave Area
Sustainable Resource Development
Box 1500
High Prairie, AB
T4G 1E0

(780) 523-6517

From: Curtis English
Sent: Friday, April 08, 2011 3:05 PM
To: Alain Fontaine
Cc: Mark Heckbert
Subject: RE: Wolf Bounty

Amanda said most were from "local hunters and trappers."
Would it be beneficiary to have a look at their reports for wolf mgmt purposes?
See where the wolves were allegedly harvested. *

** Non-RESPONSIVE*

C

From: Mark Heckbert
Sent: Friday, April 08, 2011 2:58 PM
To: Curtis English; Jeremy Lindsay; Steven Cross; Alain Fontaine
Cc: Travis Gloeckler; Tim Krikun; Cole Smith
Subject: RE: Wolf Bounty

I understand that most of them are from trappers, from the green zone.

Mark Heckbert
Fish and Wildlife Program Manager
Lesser Slave Area
Sustainable Resource Development
Box 1500
High Prairie, AB
T0G 1E0
(780) 523-6517

From: Curtis English
Sent: Friday, April 08, 2011 2:34 PM
To: Jeremy Lindsay; Steven Cross; Mark Heckbert; Alain Fontaine
Cc: Travis Gloeckler; Tim Krikun; Cole Smith
Subject: Wolf Bounty

To date there has been 69 wolves turned into the MD of Big Lakes

Curtis English

District Fish & Wildlife Officer
Box 1500
High Prairie, AB
T0G 1E0
Phone: 780-523-6521
Fax: 780-523-6525

000109



ALBERTA
SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

*Office of the Minister
MLA, Grande Prairie - Smoky*

AR27211

April 11, 2011

*

*17(i)
17(4)(g)Ci)

Dear *

Thank you for your March 21, 2011 email regarding your concerns about the wolf bounty in the Municipal District (MD) of Big Lakes. I welcome the opportunity to provide the following information.

I appreciate your deep interest in the conservation of wolves in this area. There is no provincial legislation that prevents any municipality from starting a wolf bounty program, and wolves can be hunted year-round without a licence on private land with permission of the landowner. A number of livestock losses to wolves did occur in this area last year, due largely to the late spring and early calving. In these cases, compensation can be provided to livestock producers for their loss. When wolf predation can be confirmed, our Fish and Wildlife officers will focus on removing the specific wolf or wolves in question.

Sustainable Resource Development's approach to wolf management is to work with livestock producers and local communities to reduce or prevent livestock losses to predators, including wolves. This can sometimes be a challenging task, particularly in the fringe area between forested and agricultural land.

.../2

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Web Address: melknightrmla.com

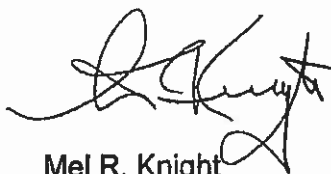
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Department staff did attend a MD council meeting last fall to provide information on ways to prevent wolf predation, including effective husbandry practices, carcass disposal units, electric fencing and an increased human presence, such as range riders in grazing areas. Our department will continue to monitor the bounty program to watch for any changes in wolf populations that might be a concern.

Thank you for writing to share your views on this matter. I would also encourage you to make your views known again to the MD of Big Lakes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mel R. Knight', written in a cursive style.

Mel R. Knight
Minister

cc: Pearī Calahasen, MLA
Lesser Slave Lake

000111



ALBERTA
SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Office of the Minister
MLA, Grande Prairie - Smoky

AR27333

April 18, 2011

*

* 17(1)
17(4)(g)(i)

Dear *

Thank you for your March 31, 2011 letter concerning the wolf bounty in the Municipal District (MD) of Big Lakes. I welcome the opportunity to provide the following information.

I appreciate your interest in the conservation of wolves in this area. There is no provincial legislation that prevents a municipality from starting a wolf bounty program, and wolves can be hunted year-round without a licence on private land with permission of the landowner. A number of livestock losses to wolves did occur in this area last year, due largely to the late spring and early calving. In these cases, compensation can be provided to livestock producers for their loss. When wolf predation can be confirmed, our Fish and Wildlife officers will focus on removing the specific wolf or wolves in question.

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Sincerely,

Mel R. Knight
Minister

cc: Pearl Calahasen, MLA
Lesser Slave Lake

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Web Address: melknightmla.com

000112

Val Poirier

From: S parr [sadester@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 21, 2011 1:07 PM
To: Chad Barber
Subject: FW: Big Lakes Wolf Bounty must end
Attachments: Big Lakes Letter to Gov.doc; livestock loss chart Nat'l Geo.jpg; Yellowstone health NAT'l Geo.pdf

Hello. I am still awaiting a response to the e-mail below sent March 8th (attachments provided). Please respond to the letter to both myself, Sadie Parr of the Canadian Wolf Coalition sadester@hotmail.com or canadianwolfco@gmail.com, as well as the Blacks at the Northern Lights Wolf Centre info@northernlightswildlife.com. Please let me know when I can expect a response, as animals continue to die needlessly in the meantime.

Sincerely, Sadie Parr

www.canadianwolfcoalition.com

Be the change you want to see in the world.

M. Gandhi

Date: Tue, 8 Mar 2011 13:51:32 -0700
Subject: Big Lakes Wolf Bounty must end
From: canadianwolfco@gmail.com
To: jack.hayden@assembly.ab.ca; env.infocent@gov.ab.ca; premier@gov.ab.ca; steven.cross@gov.ab.ca; srd.infocent@gov.ab.ca; agriculture.minister@gov.ab.ca

Hello

1. Alberta Minister of Agriculture Honourable Jack Hayden
2. Alberta Minister of Environment Honourable Rob Renner
3. Alberta Sustainable Resource Development Minister Honourable Mel Knight
4. Alberta Premier Ed Stelmach
5. Alberta Fish and Wildlife Program Manager Enforcement Field Services Steven Cross

Please find attached a letter we are expecting a reply to as soon as possible. We have also included 2 images as referred to in the letter. Please review all of these and contact us by phone or e-mail. We look forward to discussing this issue with you further.

Most sincerely, Sadie Parr on behalf of the Northern Lights Wildlife Wolf Centre

www.northernlightswildlife.com 250-344-6798

www.canadianwolfcoalition.com 250-344-7998

000113

4/26/2011

NON-RESPONSIVE

From: *
Sent: Friday, April 22, 2011 9:17 PM
To: execsecretary@mdbiglakes.ca; AENV Infocent; Office of the Premier; Steven Cross; info@northernlightswildlife.com; agassist@mdbiglakes.ca; *
Subject: Big Lakes Wolf Bounty

I do not support the implementation of wolf bounties within our country. The practice is immoral and irresponsible. Empirical evidence supports the importance of the wolf as a key stone animal in our ecological environment and the link to livestock loss is incorrect and fraudulent. Stop the unnecessary killing of this keystone animal.

*

* 17(1)
17(4)(5) (i)

000114

Rob Lamont

From: Dave Walty
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2011 11:40 AM
To: Darcy Beach; Rob Lamont
Subject: FW: Wolf Issues - MD of Northern Sunrise

Info, another bounty program in the making.

From: Dave Moyles
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2011 11:38 AM
To: Bill Johnson; Lyle Fullerton; Dave Walty
Subject: FW: Wolf Issues - MD of Northern Sunrise

FYI - The MD staff are preparing a report for the MD council regarding wolf control; the report will be presented to the council sometime next week.

Dave Moyles
Senior Wildlife Biologist
Peace River - Upper Hay Area
Bag 900-26
Peace River, AB T8S 1T4
phone: 780-624-6465 (direct line)
fax: 780-624-6455
e-mail: Dave.Moyles@gov.ab.ca

From: Dave Barrett
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2011 10:57 AM
To: 'sdutr@sac@northernsunrise.net'
Cc: Dave Moyles
Subject: Wolf Issues - MD of Northern Sunrise

Hi Sebastian,

Attached is the information you requested in regards to Fish and Wildlife involvement with wolves in the MD of Northern Sunrise and the proposed bounty.

All suspected wolf attacks or kills reported to the Peace River Fish and Wildlife office are investigated by a Fish and Wildlife Officer. The purpose of the investigation is two fold:

- 1) Confirm cause of death (or attack) as a predator or otherwise and initiate compensation process if applicable.
- 2) Determine if any control action is required based on circumstances.

In confirmed cases where wolves have killed cattle or other livestock that fall within the guidelines of the compensation program there is 100% compensation to the producer. The minimum payment is \$400.00 and if there is a loss to a young of the year animal, the producer can choose to be paid based on the Canfax October Average for an animal at 550lbs. Therefore, the program takes into account what that same animal would be worth in the fall of the year.

The number of confirmed predator issues specific to wolves investigated in the Northern Sunrise County for 2008, 2009 and 2010 are as follow:

2008- 6 confirmed kills
2009 - 16 confirmed (15 kills one attack)
2010 - 9 confirmed

Some considerations the MD must take into account are as follows:

- 1) How are they going to regulate where wolves are harvested?

000115

- 2) How are they going to mark wolves so that the hides are not damaged (there are legal obligations for trappers and hunters to salvage hides)?
- 3) Consistency in payment between MD's.
- 4) Who is eligible?
- 5) Legal considerations?
- 6) Is this a long term or a short term project (likely based on funding)?

One suggestion in lieu of a bounty would be to work with local trappers within the MD so that it would be a very regulated effort by a small group of individuals who are most likely to produce the best results. Perhaps they could be provided some additional financial incentive to encourage them to harvest wolves, purchase of materials or equipment to assist with their efforts, or financial assistance to put some trappers through training specific to trapping wolves. Increased education and effort by folks in the business would likely generate longer term results in controlling wolf numbers within the MD of Northern Sunrise.

I would encourage you to contact Dave Moyles (ph# (780) 624-6465), who is our Senior Area Wildlife Biologist and receive his professional opinion as to the effectiveness of wolf bounties based on extensive studies and research.

Hopefully this information will assist you in presenting the facts to the MD of Northern Sunrise. Regardless of the decision made by the MD it will not change Fish and Wildlife's approach to investigating predator kills or taking appropriate control action when deemed necessary. I would suggest there are preferred methods of approaching the issue if the MD determines any program is necessary at all. If you have any further questions, I can be reached on my cell phone at (780) 625-8079 or by e-mail.

Dave Barrett
District Fish and Wildlife officer
Peace River District
Office: (780) 624-7116
Cell: (780) 625-8079

NON-RESPONSIVE

From: sadie parr [mailto:canadianwolfco@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, May 08, 2011 2:25 PM
To: Alain Fontaine; Dave.Herview@gov.ab.ca; grandeprairie.smokey@assembly.ab.ca; citydesk@edmsun.com; city@edmontonjournal.com
Cc: Chad Barber; agriculture@mdbiglakes.ca; coa@mdbiglakes.ca; execsecretary@mdbiglakes.ca
Subject: Big Lakes Wolf Bounty

Hello. Please find attached a letter on behalf of the Canadian Wolf Coalition to individuals within the Alberta government that we are expecting a reply to as soon as possible regarding the wolf bounty in Big Lakes Alberta, and 97 wolves killed in less than one year. I have been attempting to learn about this process and become engaged in it since the early stages, and would appreciate an open discussion to identify common goals and ethical solutions. We look forward to discussing this issue with you further.

Most Sincerely, Sadie Parr
Coordinator, Canadian Wolf Coalition
250-344-7998

www.canadianwolfcoalition.com

000117



Attn: Alain Fontaine, High Prairie ASRD
Dave Hervieu, Alberta Predator Control

May 8, 2011

Hello. We are writing to let you know about our extreme concern over the wolf bounty initiated in the rural municipality of Big Lakes Alberta this past September 2010. Just 9 months ago this misguided \$300 per wolf bounty came into effect, and already 97 wolves have been killed and claimed. This practice was begun in the name of livestock loss prevention, when decades of research have shown that predator bounties ARE NOT an effective long-term solution for reducing livestock losses to predators.

We understand that Alberta's Fish and Wildlife program had been mitigating for losses in this region adequately. Not all wolves kill domestic animals, and it is unethical and extremely irresponsible to impose a reward for killing a highly intelligent, enormously social animal that has evolved as a keystone species and top predator to have a very important ecological role.

Some of the cattle in the rural municipality of Big Lakes are grazing on lands that are either crown-owned or abutting crown-owned forests. This natural resource is public, as is the wildlife living on it. We have proposed to engage with the municipal council and work together to educate the community about preventative husbandry practices that are effective at deterring predators. They have refused to respond to our letters and questions. We are aware that there is currently no law in place preventing a municipality from initiating a wolf-bounty, but we feel that by not stepping in to improve the situation nor taking a public stand against it, you are being negligent and irresponsible. In 2011 all management of wildlife should be for conservation.

We feel that it is the responsibility of Fish and Wildlife and Alberta Sustainable Resource Development to put an end to this outdated, ineffective and cruel practice. There are alternative solutions. Several expert individuals with experience using alternative measures successfully are willing to help and be involved in planning ethical alternatives. We would be happy to help arrange this if you are interested. In what has evolved into the IUCN designated "Decade of Biodiversity", surely you can recognize that coexistence with top predators is an environmental priority at a local, provincial, national and global level. Canada is one of only 2 countries left hosting the last significant populations of wolves in the world. Their future is dependent upon the actions we take today.

Almost \$30,000 of local taxpayers money was spent in under one year to kill an animal important to the health of its surrounding ecosystem, when this animal may not have killed livestock in the past nor future. Can we please act as true stewards and work to balance OUR needs with the needs of other species? We call upon you to put an end to this bounty, engage in education about responsible husbandry, and have rightful jurisdiction over a public resource. It appears that Alberta is regressing in its tolerance of predators and it is important to recognize the true dangers on the landscape are more guns, traps, and poison. \$30,000 would have been better spent in hosting workshops, subsidizing for preventative measures (guardian dogs, fladry

000118



systems, range riders, etc), producing community resources via pamphlets or websites if reduction in livestock losses is indeed the goal of the Regional Municipality of Big Lakes. We have included 2 images from the March 2010 issue of National Geographic depicting 1) the environment with and without wolves 2) livestock losses due to wolf predation on sheep in Montana. Similar statistics apply to cattle in North America.

Please tell us how you will address this issue. We would be happy to speak by phone or e-mail or arrange a meeting. Killing wolves is NOT the solution.

Most sincerely, Sadie Parr
Coordinator, Canadian Wolf Coalition
250-344-7998

000119

* *

From: Dave Hervieux
Sent: Monday, May 09, 2011 11:05 AM
To: Alain Fontaine; Mark Heckbert; Steven Cross
Subject: FW: Wolf Bounty

Dave Hervieux
Fish and Wildlife Manager, Smoky Area, and
Provincial Caribou Management Coordinator
Alberta Fish and Wildlife Division
1601 Provincial Building
10320 - 99 Street
Grande Prairie, Alberta
T8V 6J4

Phone 780 - 538 - 5618
Cell 780 - 518 - 0588

From: Dave Hervieux
Sent: Monday, May 09, 2011 10:55 AM
To: Nathan Webb
Cc: Jim Allen
Subject: RE:

* *

From: Nathan Webb
Sent: Monday, May 09, 2011 10:49 AM
To: Dave Hervieux
Cc: Jim Allen
Subject: RE:

Thanks :).

*

* *

* 17(1)
17(4)(g)(i)

From: Dave Hervieux
Sent: Monday, May 09, 2011 10:48 AM
To: Nathan Webb
Cc: Jim Allen
Subject:

I have been getting phone messages from a lady named Sadie something, regarding the Big Lakes wolf bounty program. She is with the Canadian Wolf Coalition. I called her back and left a message. Indicated that she should contact the MD, and you if wanted to. Good luck on that. Her number is 250-344-7998. I didn't say that you would call back, but indicated she could call you.

Dave Hervieux
Fish and Wildlife Manager, Smoky Area, and
Provincial Caribou Management Coordinator

* * Non-RESPONSIVE

000120

Alberta Fish and Wildlife Division
1601 Provincial Building
10320 - 99 Street
Grande Prairie, Alberta
T8V 6J4

Phone 780 - 538 - 5618
Cell 780 - 518 - 0588



ALBERTA
SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

*Office of the Minister
MLA, Grande Prairie - Smoky*

AR27481

May 12, 2011

Casey and Shelley Black
Northern Lights Wildlife Wolf Centre
1745 Short Road
Blaeberry Valley
Golden, BC V0A 1H1

Dear Casey and Shelley Black:

Thank you for your recent email regarding your concerns about the wolf bounty in the Municipal District (MD) of Big Lakes. The Premier has also received your letter and asked that I respond on behalf of the Alberta government.

I appreciate your deep interest in the conservation of wolves in this area. There is no provincial legislation that prevents any municipality from starting a wolf bounty program, and wolves can be hunted year-round without a licence on private land with permission of the landowner. A number of livestock losses to wolves did occur in this area last year, due largely to the late spring and early calving. In these cases, compensation can be provided to livestock producers for their loss. When wolf predation can be confirmed, our Fish and Wildlife officers will focus on removing the specific wolf or wolves in question.

Sustainable Resource Development's approach to wolf management is to work with livestock producers and local communities to reduce or prevent livestock losses to predators, including wolves. This can sometimes be a challenging task, particularly in the fringe area between forested and agricultural land.

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Alberta

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Page 2

Department staff did attend a MD council meeting last fall to provide information on ways to prevent wolf predation, including effective husbandry practices, carcass disposal units, electric fencing and an increased human presence, such as range riders in grazing areas. Our department will continue to monitor the bounty program to watch for any changes in wolf populations that might be a concern.

Thank you for writing to share your views on this matter. I would also encourage you to make your views known again to the MD of Big Lakes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mel R. Knight', written in a cursive style.

Mel R. Knight
Minister

cc: Honourable Ed Stelmach
Premier

Honourable Rob Renner
Minister of Environment

Honourable Jack Hayden
Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development

Pearl Calahasen, MLA
Lesser Slave Lake

Steven Cross
Sustainable Resource Development

000123

Rob Lamont

From: Dave Barrett
Sent: Saturday, May 14, 2011 2:50 PM
To: Rob Lamont
Cc: Dave Moyles; Kyland Pennoyer
Subject: Wolf Bounty Denied - MD Northern Sunrise

Just a note to let you know that the MD of Northern Sunrise had a meeting this past week to discuss the proposed wolf bounty. It was determined by the board that current provincial programs in place by Fish and Wildlife are sufficient in addressing the issue and the MD felt they didn't "need" and/or "want" to interfere with the current way of doing business.

Dave Barrett
Fish and Wildlife officer
Peace River District
Office: (780) 624-7116
Cell: (780) 625-8079



ALBERTA

SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Office of the Minister
 MLA, Grande Prairie - Smoky

AR27523

May 16, 2011

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* 17(1)

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Dear *

Premier Ed Stelmach forwarded your recent email regarding your concerns about the wolf bounty in the Municipal District (MD) of Big Lakes. The Premier has reviewed your comments and asked that I respond on behalf of the Alberta government.

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Mel R. Knight
Minister

cc: Honourable Ed Stelmach
Premier

Len Webber, MLA
Calgary-West



ALBERTA
SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

*Office of the Minister
MLA, Grande Prairie - Smoky*

AR27523

May 16, 2011

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* 17(1)
17(4)(9)(i)

Dear ✧

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I appreciate your deep interest in the conservation of wolves in this area. There is no provincial legislation that prevents any municipality from starting a wolf bounty program, and wolves can be hunted year-round without a licence on private land with permission of the landowner. A number of livestock losses to wolves did occur in this area last year, due largely to the late spring and early calving. In these cases, compensation can be provided to livestock producers for their loss. When wolf predation can be confirmed, our Fish and Wildlife officers will focus on removing the specific wolf or wolves in question.

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Mel R. Knight
Minister

cc: Honourable Ed Stelmach
Premier

Ron Liepert, MLA
Calgary-West



ALBERTA

SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

*Office of the Minister
MLA, Grande Prairie - Smoky*

AR27481

May 18, 2011

Ms. Sadie Parr
Northern Lights Wildlife Wolf Centre
1745 Short Road
Blaeberry Valley
Golden, BC V0A 1H1

Dear Ms. Parr:

Thank you for your March 8, 2011 email regarding your concerns about the wolf bounty in the Municipal District (MD) of Big Lakes. The Premier has also received your letter and asked that I respond on behalf of the Alberta government.

I appreciate your deep interest in the conservation of wolves in this area. There is no provincial legislation that prevents any municipality from starting a wolf bounty program, and wolves can be hunted year-round without a licence on private land with permission of the landowner. A number of livestock losses to wolves did occur in this area last year, due largely to the late spring and early calving. In these cases, compensation can be provided to livestock producers for their loss. When wolf predation can be confirmed, our Fish and Wildlife officers will focus on removing the specific wolf or wolves in question.

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Alberta

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Thank you for writing to share your views on this matter. I would also encourage you to make your views known again to the MD of Big Lakes.

Sincerely,



Mel R. Knight
Minister

cc: Honourable Ed Stelmach
Premier

Honourable Rob Renner
Minister of Environment

Honourable Jack Hayden
Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development

Pearl Calahasen, MLA
Lesser Slave Lake

Steven Cross
Sustainable Resource Development - *Hick Prairie*

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ALBERTA
SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Office of the Minister
MLA, Grande Prairie - Smoky

AR27568

May 18, 2011

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17(1)
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Alberta

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Page 2

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mel R. Knight', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mel R. Knight
Minister

cc: Honourable Ed Stelmach, Premier
Ray Prins, MLA, Lacombe-Ponoka

-000132

* NON-RESPONSIVE

From: Rob Lamont
Sent: Monday, May 30, 2011 8:36 AM
To: Dave Walty
Subject: RE: wolves

I agree that we should keep tabs on existing bounties and any M.D.'s that may be contemplating a bounty. We have a good track record when it comes to making ourselves available to attend county meetings and I was thinking that it would be nice if the county of Clear Hills could attend one of our meetings and provide a summary of their bounty program. That way we hear it direct from them and gives us an opportunity to ask questions

From: Dave Walty
Sent: Friday, May 27, 2011 1:39 PM
To: Rob Lamont
Subject: RE: wolves

*
bit.

Do you agree we should track these a

From: Rob Lamont
Sent: Friday, May 27, 2011 8:03 AM
To: Dave Walty; Bill Johnson; Dave Moyles; Lyle Fullerton
Cc: Nathan Webb; Kyland Pennoyer
Subject: RE: wolves

* NON-RESPONSIVE

000133

7/25/2011

* NON-RESPONSIVE

Perhaps we should have the county provide us a summary rather

From: Dave Walty
Sent: Thursday, May 26, 2011 5:10 PM
To: Bill Johnson; Dave Moyles; Lyle Fullerton; Rob Lamont
Cc: Nathan Webb
Subject: RE: wolves

Bill, we have flagged these initiatives as important to track. There are several in the province and I think discussions so far were for areas to summarize their respective situations; how the program played out, number of wolves, District issues, affect on # complaints etc. Kyland was going to summarize the Clear Hills program. I brought it up in the managers meeting. Not sure if Rob discussed on EFS side.

*

NON-RESPONSIVE

From: Bill Johnson
Sent: Thursday, May 26, 2011 4:31 PM
To: Dave Walty; Dave Moyles; Lyle Fullerton
Subject: wolves

I questioned Nate, as attached, and suggested we should get a fact sheet on impacts of these sorts of wolf removal initiatives. Nate will start one and circulate for changes.

*

NON-RESPONSIVE

I'm sure you know the MD. of Clear Hill paid folks an incentive to harvest wolves this past winter. I think they paid for more than 60 wolves at a \$500. each.

Now the MD. of Northern Lights is considering a similar incentive for legally harvested wolves, MD council and others are seeking our guidance relative to consequences of this activity.

I think wolf populations in these areas are relatively high, based on observations during ungulate surveys. I'm also getting more wolf activity observations from settled agriculture parts of the country. I'm not sure though that wolf problems have increased.

I seem to recall information regarding the effect of these sorts of wolf removals that indicate;
-In order to actually reduce an isolated wolf pack, roughly 30% of the wolves must be removed each year, to keep ahead of their biological potential for increase? For non-isolated wolf packs a higher percentage of wolves must be removed to account for resultant increases in adjacent packs?

-removal of wolves below this level, and particularly if alpha members are removed, may result in higher populations as social pack restrictions on mating, are lost?

-the number of "problem wolves" in fragmented packs or packs where leadership and social order is degraded, increases?

I don't know how many wolves are in the Clear Hills and Whitemud Hills areas, but I don't think that removing 60 wolves would equate to 30% of it. I'm also not sure what will happen in subsequent years, will the novelty wear off, or increase. Five hundred dollars is a good incentive.

What do you think?

000134

7/25/2011

Bill Johnson
Senior Wildlife Technician
Peace River-Upper Hay Area
P.O. Bag 900-26, Peace River, Ab. T8S-1T4
phone: 780-624-6487 fax: 780-624-6455
e-mail: Bill.Johnson@gov.ab.ca

000135

7/25/2011

*

From: Kyland Pennoyer
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2011 3:13 PM
To: Rob Lamont; Dave Moyles
Cc: 'allan@clearhillscounty.ab.ca'
Subject: Wolf Bounty Discussion

Rob/Dave

I spoke with Al Rowe, whom I have cc'd on this email, regarding getting together informally to discuss the wolf bounty. Al has agreed to meet and have Audrey Bjorklund and Aaron Zylstra attend as they were the ones primarily dealing with the bounty. Al advised that they have maps and locations already prepared showing harvest locations etc..

*

Cheers,

Kyland J Pennoyer

Fish and Wildlife Officer

Fairview District

Alberta Fish and Wildlife Division

Phone: 780-835-2737

Fax: 780-835-2773

Kyland.Pennoyer@gov.ab.ca

** NON-RESPONSIVE*

<< OLE Object: Picture (Metafile) >>

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7/25/2011

000136

Darcy Whiteside

From: Sue Cotterill
Sent: Wednesday, June 16, 2010 4:28 PM
To: Deryl Empson; Todd Letwin; Darcy Whiteside; Duncan MacDonnell
Subject: FW: Clearhills County wolf bounty

fyi

From: Rob Lamont
Sent: Wednesday, June 16, 2010 4:21 PM
To: Daniel Boyco
Cc: Sue Cotterill
Subject: Clearhills County wolf bounty

Dan,

District Officer Pennoyer has been communicating with Clearhills County councillors recently regarding wolf populations and livestock depredation. Livestock producers in the County have experienced losses over the last 18 months which can be best described as higher than normal. We have been diligent in responding to these complaints as per response standards and undertaking population control programs where required. Despite our efforts it seems that some of the county councillors are determined to develop a bounty program for wolves in the County. Pennoyer has been requested (and has confirmed) to attend the July 13 County Councillors meeting at which time he will be providing a brief update on our control efforts and the use of toxicants. The County has made it clear that they will move forward with developing the bounty program before the July 13 meeting.

The county has been made aware of the regulations pertaining to hunting and trapping of wolves and they are aware that there is no legislation that precludes them from developing a bounty program. Of concern is the amount of money that the County is intending on providing for each wolf carcass. They are suggesting that if the bounty program goes ahead, the County will pay \$500 per adult wolf and \$250 per wolf pup which will likely create some enforcement issues including such things as illegal poisoning and illegal trapping.

Sending you this as an FYI. I will update when I learn more.

Rob Lamont
Head, Enforcement-Field Services
Peace/Upper Hay Area
Fish and Wildlife Division
Alberta Sustainable Resource Development
780-624-6246(Office)
780-625-8473(Cell)
780-624-6455(Fax)
Robert.Lamont@gov.ab.ca

0001-37--

4

Dwight Rodtka

From: *
To: <anne.hubbs@gov.ab.ca>
Sent: Monday, June 20, 2011 9:50 AM
Subject: email of May 18/11

Anne Hubbs

June 20/11

Have still not recieved a responce to my email of May 18 ? nor have I recieved any information from Edmonton as you indicated.

I am especially interested in knowing how much the wolf kill has increased since the bounty on them has been instituted.

Please reply

*

*17(1)

17(4)(g)ci)

7/6/2011


UUU138

Sharon Hunt

From: Dave Moyles
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2011 12:00 PM
To: Dave Walty; Bill Johnson; Lyle Fullerton; Nathan Webb; Kim McAdam; Dave Stepnisky; Alain Fontaine; Mike Russell; Sandi Robertson; Laura MacPherson; Kristina Norstrom; Barb Maile; Jeff Kneteman; Curtis Stambaugh; Hugh Wollis; Dave Hobson; Anne Hubbs; Carrie Nugent; Jon Jorgenson; Pat Young; Edward Hofman; Dave Moore; Kim Morton; Greg Hale; Dale Eslinger
Cc: Rob Lamont; Kyland Pennoyer; Dave Hervieux; Mark Heckbert; Paul MacMahon
Subject: Update on County of Clear Hills wolf bounty

Attachments: * Clear Hills County 2010_2011 bounty kill locations.pdf

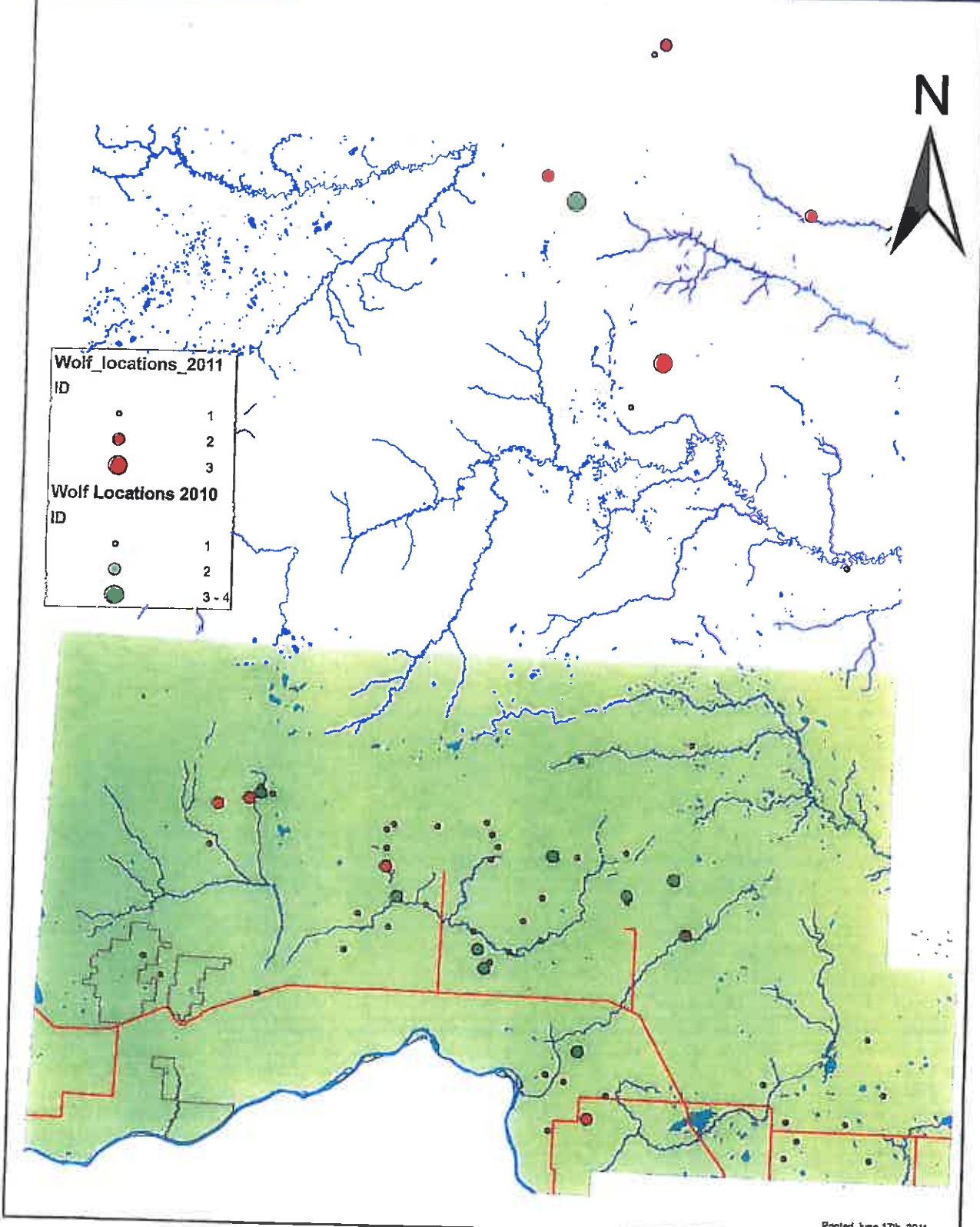
Hi all:
just an update of the County of Clear Hills wolf bounty. They have run their program for 2 years now and will reinstate the bounty again as soon as the first request/complaint comes in from a ratepayer..

*  DUPLICATE
Clear Hills
2010_2011:

FYI * NON-RESPONSIVE
Take care

Dave Moyles
Senior Wildlife Biologist
Peace River - Upper Hay Area
Bag 900-26
Peace River, AB T8S 1T4
phone: 780-624-6465 (direct line)
fax: 780-624-6455
e-mail: Dave.Moyles@gov.ab.ca

000139



Printed June 17th, 2011

96 total

000140

NON-RESPONSIVE

From: Anne Hubbs
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2011 12:38 PM
To: *
Subject: RE: wolf bounty

Hi *

I have nothing to add to what I've already provided.

Regarding compulsory registration for wolves- the requirement to register them in WMUs 300-316 & 400-426 came in between 1999-2002. WMUs 318, 324-330, 339, 428-434 were added in 2008.

Cheers, Anne

From: *
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2011 7:45 PM
To: Anne Hubbs
Subject: wolf bounty

Anne

May 18/11

Thank you very much for your prompt reply. With respect though; many of my questions were unanswered. As the head biologist for this area your answers and opinions are very important to me - therefore with your indulgence I would like to request further clarification.

1. This answer would be applicable to most areas throughout Alberta at any one given time. I do not sense any feeling of the urgency or loss I feel on your part. I guess it's a matter of agreeing to disagree. I have never seen lower numbers of big game including wolves - ever.

* 17(1)
17(4)(g)(i)

2. I agree there are many factors which control ungulate numbers that's why I didn't ask for any one "single factor" but asked what SIGNIFICANCE wolves have played in this recent decline? Where do they stand in this long list of contributory factors? Is it even known?
3. I did not ask if the F&W had anything to do with the bounty program -- or by who and how many times I have been told they didn't. I simply want to know if you agree with and endorse the bounty program?

In response to your and others contention that F&W "has nothing to do" with the program I disagree. Now that the program has drawn some attention the AFGA is also claiming nothing to do with it. I know the F&W biologist and an officer personally who designed and helped implement the bounty and have read quotes of department personal endorsing it. The fact that bounty is paid only in areas that you have approved and on wolves you have registered is interesting. There is a long history of wolf cull attempts directly by the F&W in this area -- this bounty is only the latest. The backbone of this program is the Sheep Foundation which you didn't mention -- there is a reason the bounty started in Sundre.

4. I am hoping the information coming from Edmonton covers the Rocky - Sundre area. I would like to know how many wolves are bountied in each area -- this information is kept secret. You cannot even get qualification criteria.
5. Do you see this program continuing? I have received misleading information, out right lies, personal threats, and name calling, from all involved since I started asking questions. I am about as far from being a wolf lover as there is but in all respects this program is unacceptable. How can programs like this which depend on the abuse of the public and wildlife solely for the political and financial gain for so few exist?

Thank you in advance for your response.

*

From: Anne Hubbs
Sent: Tuesday, April 26, 2011 9:30 PM
To: *
Subject: RE: Rocky-Sundre wolf bounty

*

Thanks for the clarification, but I realized right after wolves came up in the conversation with * that I'd gotten you mixed up in that particular moment. There are no misunderstandings.

In reply to your questions below,

1. Do you agree there has been a tremendous decline in ungulate numbers excepting for wht. Deer in the general area west of Rocky approx. from the Red Deer to Brazeau rivers?

- Moose numbers have generally declined in 300-series WMUs with the exception of 326 & 332 where increases are evident. Moose numbers in the 400-series are thought to be stable.
- Elk numbers are stable, decreasing or increasing in the 300-series WMUs, depending on the unit. Elk numbers in the 400-WMUs peaked in 1994-1996, declined until 2004 and have been stable since.
- Mule deer numbers are stable to declining.
- Bighorn sheep numbers appear to be stable across the area.
- White-tails have increased across the area.

2. What significance have wolves been in reducing ungulate numbers to where they are today?

* 17(1)
17(4)(9)(i)

- The impacts of wolves on prey populations depend on numerous factors, including relative abundance of different prey species, prey vulnerability, wolf pack sizes and also landscape features, to name but a few. For example, wolves are more successful at killing elk & moose closer to waterways, in areas of abundant forest cover and close to man-made linear features (e.g. cut-lines). As the amount of logging in a wolf pack's home range increases, more openings are created and wolves are less successful at killing elk. While there is lots of variability among wolf packs, overall deer generally comprise > 50% of wolf kills, followed by moose, elk and lastly feral horses. When looking at relative biomass, moose generally make up 40% of the kills, followed by elk & deer (~20% each) and lastly feral horses. Some wolf packs actively select for deer, elk and feral horses, while they take moose based simply on their availability (where moose numbers are low, few will be taken). Given all these factors affecting wolf kill rates and prey selection, the impacts of wolves on prey populations is difficult to predict. Wolves have the potential to have significant negative impacts on prey populations, when several of the factors that improve their kill rates (as mentioned above) exist.

- Certainly other factors such as habitat quality and quantity, harvest levels by other predators (including humans) and landscape or populations manipulations can impact prey populations. For example, there is presently little high quality moose or elk habitat in the mountain WMUs as a result of shrub & conifer encroachment, plus man-made linear features. Also, moving close to 1300 elk from the Ya Ha Tinda between 1994-99 and high hunting allocations for moose + elk in the past may have contributed to their population declines.

- Generally it is not a single factor but an interaction between factors that contribute to ungulate population declines.

Do you agree with the \$300 - \$500 per wolf bounty in place today? Has this bounty been effective to date in increasing the wolf kill compared to pre bounty days? If so, by how much? In increasing ungulate numbers? Given the problems with public perception and lack of oversight do you believe it will continue? Is this why it is being kept secret and even it's existence denied by so many participants?

- As you're aware from previous conversations with myself, Dave Christiansen & Tony Brooks, Fish & Wildlife has nothing to do with the 'ungulate incentive program' run by the ATA & F&G. I have nothing new to add.

Would you please advise me the number of wolves taken by trappers by year since registration began? Hunters?

- This information is maintained by our Edmonton office; I have requested these data and will send it to you when we receive it.

- Previous research on wolves in the area suggests that trapper & hunter harvest is sustainable (does not result in declines in wolf populations) and that young wolves make up the bulk of the harvest.

Anne

From: *
Sent: Tuesday, April 26, 2011 10:10 AM
To: Anne Hubbs
Subject: Rocky-Sundre wolf bounty

Anne Hubbs
SRD, Rocky Mtn. House

April 26/11

It has recently been brought to my attention that the telephone conversation we had regarding the wolf bounty here in Rocky you thought I was my *

* *

* *

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* 17(1)
17(4)(3)(1)

** 17(4)(2)

In order to insure there are no misunderstandings I would appreciate it if you would please answer the following questions all relating to the general area west of Rocky approx. from the Red Deer to Brazeau rivers or the area of your responsibility.

Do you agree there has been a tremendous decline in ungulate numbers excepting for wht. deer?

What significance have wolves been in reducing ungulate numbers to where they are today?

Do you agree with the \$300 - \$500 per wolf bounty in place today?

Has this bounty been effective to date in increasing the wolf kill compared to pre bounty days? If so by how much?

In increasing ungulate numbers?

Given the problems with public perception and lack of oversight do you believe it will continue? Is this why it is being kept secret and even it's existence denied by so many participants?

Would you please advise me the number of wolves taken by trappers by year since registration began? Hunters?

Thank you in advance for your response. -- *

*

From: Pat Long [mailto:pelong@telus.net]
Sent: Wednesday, March 02, 2011 10:59 AM
To:

*

Cc: Gordy Klassen; Anne Hubbs; Tony Brooks
Subject: Fw: wolf bounty

FYI.

From: Pat Long
Sent: Wednesday, March 02, 2011 10:46 AM
To: *
Subject: Re: wolf bounty

*

There are 3 reasons I didn't respond to your last email. First, I would have just been repeating what I had already told you twice, our Board has not changed it's position and it is not going to. We are not going to get involved in arbitrating a disagreement between 2 parties just because we provide some of the funding. We provide funding, the organization receiving the funds makes the rules. Like it or not, that is the way it is. Second, I am way too busy to spend a bunch of time debating a situation that is not going to change. Third, As a result of you indicating you had retained legal counsel, I sought legal advice and was directed not to discuss this matter further with you in the event that you may decide to pursue legal action against my organization and/or myself.

Dwight, I have the utmost respect for the years of experience and knowledge you carry as a conservationist and a trapper and would look forward to sitting down with you over coffee to discuss wildlife matters of mutual interest. Once the current situation is resolved we will have to try to make that happen.
Pat

From: *
Sent: Friday, February 25, 2011 4:43 PM
To: Pat Long

* 17(1)
17(4) (g) (4)

Pat

Feb 25/11

I still have not recieved a reply to my letter from either yourself or any of the board members you cc'd.

If you can't or won't, fine it would still be common courtesy to respond and say so.

I do believe that you owe me an explanation as too why your board refused to even read my correspondance after you told me you would take it to them for discussion. Every single thing I have said I stand behind but am completely willing to be shown I was wrong.

Why do I not recieve even this minimum consideration? If you would feel more comfortable speaking confidentially on the phone - fine . *

Very dissappointed - *

From: Pat Long [mailto:pelong@telus.net]
Sent: Sunday, January 23, 2011 9:03 PM
To: *

Cc: Tony Brooks; Anne Hubbs; Gordy Klassen
Subject: Fw: wolf bounty ---

FYI. He will not be getting a response from me.

From: *
Sent: Sunday, January 23, 2011 8:01 PM
To: Pat Long
Subject: wolf bounty ----- *

Hello Pat -- Thanks for your reply. "Well Worded Indeed", not a shred of concern for the conniving and in the opinion of my lawyer illegal conduct of your partners, the Rocky trappers. Apart from taking credit for a bounty program that cannot work, only appeases some of your membership and buys support from the AFGA and ATA you have accomplished nothing except setting back genuine wildlife mgt. You are providing the perfect scapegoat for govt. and industry by taking the pressure off of them and blaming wolves for the declining ungulate numbers. Do you still not realize that govt. is purposely managing game for absolute minimum numbers? Big game is a nuisance to govt, business, industry and farming. With respect - WAKE UP! - put the pressure where it belongs, quit blaming an imaginary boogie man just to make yourselves feel better. Your organization would gain respect and members if you pressured govt and business rather than sneak around trying to keep your bounty program a secret. Quit wasting your money and destroying countless other animals..

Your bounty program is not [getting the job done] as you say, if by that you mean reducing wolf numbers to allow ungulates to recover in number.. Your own study proves that. Where is the proof that wolves are responsible for the decline in ungulate numbers? If your bounty can claim a 50 to 60 % reduction in overall wolf numbers per year then you may be able to expect an increase in ungulates, that's assuming wolves were responsible for the decline in the first place. The study indicates these wolves can sustain the overall mortality they have now, presumably including your bounty, comfortably! Please explain to me what the increase in ungulates has been as a result of your bounty.

"If, as you have indicated, other trappers are considering not participating" etc. etc. is a statement I didn't expect from you! I don't bullshit and don't appreciate your suggesting I am a liar: these trappers are not "considering" quitting wolves as you say but have quit, One of them a member of 37 years. They have quit because they were screwed as I was and are completely disgusted with the way wolves are being blamed for everything. You have created 3 more wolf "protectors" now which have control over a huge amount of the west country.

Have you ever considered the abuses inherent in a bounty system? all the way from the dishonesty among the participants to the thousands of non target animals killed in wolf snares! Obviously neither of these mean a damn thing to you! How many non targets are taken for each wolf killed? How many snares are left out and not picked up? I am told that your trapper buddies even got a horse last summer in the Ram

drainage and a wolf the end of May west of Sundre. Over the years I've lost track of the number of ungulates and cougars accidentally caught, even a bald eagle and a 5 1/2 year old big horn ram.

Like it or not you are funding a 100% bounty program for wolves – it is not an incentive program. When you give club money to encourage them to kill wolves you are giving them an incentive which will cause them to hopefully kill wolves – when the club only pays its members a designated amount of your money to someone upon them providing proof of a dead wolf it is a bounty plain and simple. You may mislead the public with semantics but it certainly doesn't change the fact you are funding a genuine old fashioned bounty program right out of the 1800's.—very progressive.

I understand that funding may vary from year to year [your website indicates \$17,000 to Rocky and Sundre alone one year for an "ungulate enhancement program". Therefore please provide current details or refer me to someone in your organization who can.; treasurer etc.

Thank you for the reference to the wolf study; I read it and thought it very informative – money well spent on your part. I have several questions for the author, was the bounty considered? How did they determine there was no shortage of big game etc., which I will follow up on.

I would like to see the documented evidence on the decreased level of wolf predation which you attribute to your programs success. Would you please provide this or advise me where I can obtain it.

In closing I am especially offended by your remark that "there will always be some one who can find fault". Why not just come out and call me a trouble maker and full of bullshit? I have offered you proof that this is not true and challenge you and or your board members to explain and stand behind your words.

* and that the Sheep Foundation could care less. I'm willing to swear to the truthfulness of my claim! Where is your trapper's explanation?

Hiding behind the excuse you may offend a small select group of Rocky good old boys by not reviewing my complaint is about as sorry an excuse as it gets. I am sending a copy of this letter to those people you cc'd. I look forward to your answering my questions at your earliest convenience and especially hearing comments from those you copied.

I have done one thing wrong in this entire mess which I truly regret and that is to agree with G Klassen to keep our conversations on this issue confidential. You would really learn something.

Thank you again for your patience --

*

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* 17(1)
17(4)(9) (1)