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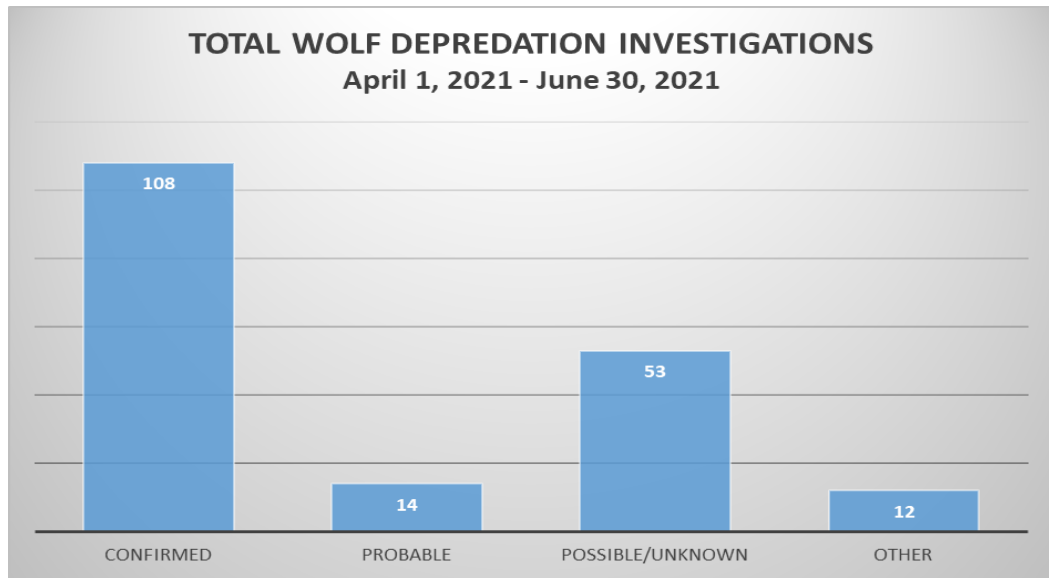
9134 W. Blackeagle Dr. Boise, ID 83709 (208) 373-1630

## Wolf Depredation Investigations and Control Actions Idaho Wildlife Services (WS) July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

On Aug 7, 2014, the Idaho Wolf Depredation Control Board (Board) entered into a Cooperative Service Agreement (Agreement) with USDA-APHIS-WS to respond to, and investigate, wolf depredation complaints in Idaho and conduct wolf control actions as directed by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG). The information listed below shows WS-Idaho’s activities the Board has funded from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

Investigations Summary: WS-Idaho conducted 187 depredation investigations related to wolf complaints, for 98 livestock producers in 18 counties (Adams, Blaine, Boise, Boundary, Butte, Camas, Clearwater, Custer, Elmore, Fremont, Gem, Idaho, Lemhi, Lewis, Nez Perce, Teton, Valley, and Washington) during this reporting period.

Of those 187 investigations, 108 (~59%) involved confirmed depredations, 14 (~7%) involved probable depredations, 53 (~28%) were possible/unknown wolf depredations, and 12 (~6%) of the complaints were determined to be causes other than wolves (Graph 1).



Graph 1. Total investigations responded to by WS-Idaho

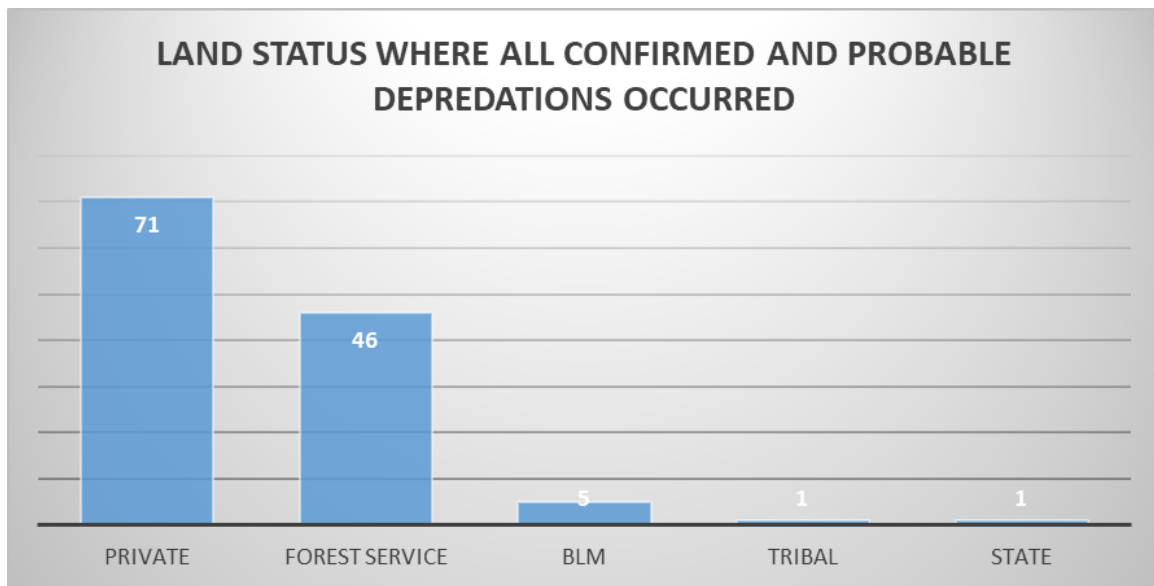
During the same period in FY 2020, WS-Idaho conducted 205 wolf depredation investigations for Idaho livestock producers, of which 102 (~50%) were determined to be confirmed wolf depredations. These numbers indicate there were 18 less investigations, but 6 more confirmed investigations in FY 2021 than during this same period last year.

Based on WS-Idaho’s investigations, the minimum number of confirmed and probable livestock depredations due to wolves during the reporting period is provided below (Table 1).

<b>Confirmed</b>	<b>Probable</b>
32 cows (killed)	11 cows (killed)
5 cow (injured)	8 calves (killed)
45 calves (killed)	4 sheep (killed)
9 calves (injured)	
80 sheep (killed)	
4 herding/guard dogs (killed)	
1 horse (killed)	
1 horse (injured)	
1 domestic bison calf (killed)	

Table 1. All confirmed and probable depredations

As mentioned above, WS-Idaho responded to 187 potential wolf depredations between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021. Investigations that turned out to be either confirmed or probable depredations took place on four different land classes (Graph 2).



Graph 2. Land status where confirmed and probable depredations occurred

**Wolf Depredations and Removals:**

In response to confirmed wolf depredations on livestock in or near Game Management Units (GMU) 1, 10A, 13, 15, 18, 22, 23, 24, 28, 29, 30, 30A, 31, 32, 32A, 33, 36A, 36B, 37, 37A, 39, 43, 44, 48, 49, 50, 51, 58, 59A, 60, 62, 65, and 67 the IDFG established, or extended, 121 control actions for WS-Idaho to conduct wolf control activities between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021.

During this time frame, WS-Idaho successfully removed 31 wolves for the protection of livestock. Wolves were removed in GMUs 8A(6), 10A(1), 13(1), 23 (5), 28(4), 39(4), 43(1), 49(1), 50(3), 51(2), and 58(3). Additionally, 8 wolves were radio collared – one in each of the following GMUs 22, 23, 28, 39, 49, 50, 58, and 63. WS-Idaho did not remove any wolves for the protection of wild ungulates during this reporting period.

Aircraft:

WS-Idaho conducted 49 flights (25 fixed wing and 24 helicopter) totaling 100.2 hours flown. Twenty five fixed wing flights totaled 48.1 hours and twenty four helicopter flights totaled 52.1 hours. During this FY, 5 wolves were removed by the fixed wing and 3 were radio collared by the helicopter.

Summary of employee hours worked:

For the period July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, 17 WS-Idaho employees performed wolf control actions in some degree for a total of 10,333.02 hours worked. During this same time frame, 14 WS-Idaho employees spent time responding to depredation investigations, which totaled 853 hours. This equates to approximately 8% of total hours worked on wolf related activities this quarter. Additionally, all these depredation investigations were in response to livestock protection.