

FY 2010 Projects Proposed for 2011 Continuation

Project 6A: Protection of Desert Bighorn Sheep: Delamar Mountains

Project Inception and Current Status: 2002, and approved through 2010.

Budget accepted by WDMC in March: \$15,000

Proposed budget for FY11 based on Wildlife Services Charges: \$34,845

Project Area: Delamar Mountains, North & South Pahroc Ranges and Hiko Range.

Predator Control Action: USDA-APHIS-Wildlife Services (WS) hunts mountain lions using dogs and other control tools such as a call box and snares. Bobcats and coyotes are targeted on a case-by-case basis using calling, shooting, leghold traps, aerial hunting and snares, to remove offending animals.

Project 18: Washoe County Deer

Project Inception: FY 2005

Budget accepted by WDMC in March: \$93,564

Proposed budget for FY11 based on Wildlife Services Charges: \$102,193.42

Project Conclusion: FY 2009 (5 year project)

Project Area: Treatment Area: Granite Range, Washoe County.
Control Area: Balance of northern Washoe County and the Sheldon NWR.

Target Predators: Coyotes and Mountain Lions.

Control Period: Year-round.

Project 20: Virginia Mountains BHS

Project Inception: 2008

Budget accepted by WDMC in March: \$5,000

Proposed budget for FY11 based on Wildlife Services Charges: \$17,678.03

Project Conclusion: Not determined.

Project Area: Washoe County, Unit 022.

Target Predator: Mountain Lions

Project 21a: Statewide Sage Grouse Protection/Raven Removal

Project Inception: 2008

Project Conclusion: Not determined.

Budget accepted by WDMC in March: \$15,000

Proposed budget for FY11 based on Wildlife Services Charges: \$16,261

Project Area: Twenty two leks in Elko and Lincoln Counties. (Leks added in 2010 and planned project expansion for 2011)

Target Predator: Ravens

Predator Control Action: The USDA/APHIS Wildlife Services will remove ravens using DRC-1339.

Control Period: March-May.

Areas for Consideration but not limited to: Kings River Valley (031), Leonard Creek (032), N. Paradise Valley (051).

The WDMC approved project for 2011 with the caveat to expand work if funding was available.

Project 21b: Overton WMA Turkey

Project Inception: 2008

Project Conclusion: Not determined.

Budget: \$2,000 of the \$16,261 above identified in 21a

Proposed budget for FY11 based on Wildlife Services Charges: \$2,000 of \$16,261

Project Area: Overton Wildlife Management Area

Target Predator: Ravens

Predator Control Action: The USDA/APHIS Wildlife Services will remove ravens using DRC-1339.

Control Period: March-June.

Project 22: Statewide Deer and Multi Species Enhancement Project

Project Inception: FY 2010

Project Conclusion: Undetermined.

Budget accepted by WDMC in March: \$145,187

Proposed budget for FY11 based on Wildlife Services Charges: \$145,187

Project Areas: Based on current information in regards to big game species. Areas will be selected on several criteria. Those will include but not be limited to:

1. Mule deer herds below carrying capacity, below long term averages (post-season) for fawn: doe ratios and areas where recruitment is below long term averages (spring).

2. Areas where multi big game species exist.
3. Areas where long term habitat improvements are under way.
4. Areas where recent augmentations or reintroductions are planned.
5. Areas where other big game species are below carrying capacity, under long term averages for adult female: offspring ratios and areas where recruitment is below long term averages.

Areas for Consideration: Specific winter and/or summer ranges in Areas 1, 3, 6, 7, 10, 11, 14, 17, 22, 23, and 24.

This proposal is for the perpetuation of Wildlife Service's aerial hunting program to control predatory animals for game species enhancement. Selective and timely control in designated areas based on aforementioned criteria will focus the effort in critical seasonal ranges. The funding will be applied to either existing, or proposed projects. The timing of the control work will be in accordance with the individual projects criteria, but should occur mainly on critical winter range and summer fawning areas. Wildlife Services will have the ability to utilize the funding for either fixed wing or helicopter services. The proportion of use will be determined project by project.

Fixed wing costs are \$175/hour. Helicopter cost varies by type of aircraft and is estimated between \$600 to \$850/hour plus expenses.

The WDMC approved project for 2011 with the caveat to expand work if funding was available.

Project 23: Mason Valley Pheasant

Project Inception: 2010

Budget accepted by WDMC in March: \$8,500

Proposed budget for FY11 based on Wildlife Services Charges: \$9,872.75

Project Description:

In 2010 the Mason Valley Wildlife Management Area has initiated a ring-necked pheasant program incorporating two surrogate incubator boxes designed to raise pheasant chicks for a period of four weeks, at which time they will be released onto the WMA. The action is to augment the existing wild population of ring neck pheasants. A total of 260 birds will be released onto the area this year, with another 260 slated for next year. It is anticipated that a fairly high number of these birds will be lost due to predation.

Target Predators:

Coyotes, raccoons, skunks, badgers, and ravens.

Wildlife Services Field Specialist Positions

Budget accepted by WDMC in March: \$85,000

Proposed budget for FY11 based on Wildlife Services Charges: \$98,727.50

Description:

The position(s) allows the flexibility to adaptively manage the needs of multiple projects. Wildlife Services is authorized to expend up to \$85,000 to facilitate personnel needs to cover ground crew for aerial operations, ground trapping, raven control, and other duties as required.

The WDMC approved project for 2011 with the caveat to expand work if funding was available.

Project 25: Area 16 Predator Prey Study, Utah State University.

Project Inception: FY 2010

Budget : \$25,000 contingent on match. Match is almost assured as final edits to the Grant Proposal have been submitted. Selection of the PhD candidate is in the interview status and equipment has already been purchased.

The project will require WS assistance in capturing coyotes for collaring effort in 2011.

Then in 2012 will become a full-time project with a removal effort component to be funded with the \$3 fee.

Administrative Overhead for Wildlife Services in 2010 was \$56,100.

Estimated Budget Summary for 2010 and 2011 Projection	
Starting Balance 2010	\$631,471
Total Budgeted Expenditures 2010	\$489,375
Estimated Carry Forward to 2011	\$142,096
Total Estimated Income for 2011	\$410,353
Estimated Carry Forward to 2011	\$142,096
Total Estimated Budget for 2011	\$552,449