

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: \$15,000

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: \$93,564 (increase ≈6% cola)

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: \$5,000

Project Conclusion: Not determined.

Project Area: Washoe County, Unit 022.

Target Predator: Mountain Lions

FY2009 Projected Expenditures: A total budget request of \$5,000 for Wildlife Services to perform control work as needed and as available.

Project 21a: Elko and Lincoln County Sage Grouse

Project Inception: 2008

Project Conclusion: Not determined.

Budget: \$15,000

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).

Project 21b: Overton WMA Turkey

Project Inception: 2008

Project Conclusion: Not determined.

Budget: \$2,000

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.

FY2009 Projected Expenditures: \$2,000.

Project 22: Statewide Deer and Multi Species Enhancement Project

Project Inception: FY 2010

Project Conclusion: Undetermined.

Budget: WS \$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.

Project 23: Mason Valley Pheasant

Project Inception: 2010

Projected Budget: \$8,500

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

Projected Budget: \$85,000.

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.

Project 24: Predation Management Brochure and Public Outreach

Project Inception: FY 2010

Project Concluded and is in Final Review Status.

Proposal: Two pamphlets have been produced and will be made available to the public both online and at field offices. One is on coyotes and the other on the three dollar fee. This effort is directly related to Commission Policy regarding wildlife and damage control. It is directed by both the NDOW Comprehensive Strategic Plan and the Conservation Education Division Strategic Plan.

Project 25: Area 6 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.

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	\$557,330
Estimated Carry Forward to 2011	\$74,141
Total Estimated Income for 2011	\$410,353
Estimated Carry Forward to 2011	\$74,141
Total Estimated Budget for 2011	\$484,494