

Integrated carnivore-ungulate management: a case study in west-central Montana, April 14

Additional Questions & Responses

Is there any discussion about incorporating prescribed fire for habitat enhancement and maintenance?

Yes, there was much discussion about habitat enhancement (see the 2016 Proffitt et al paper). The Forest Service has not used prescribed fire in the area, but they are implementing a timber project that has objectives of enhancing wildlife habitat. I believe that project is currently held up in litigation (it will put the Forest out of compliance on elk security standards). There was a wildlife in 2013 in the western portion of the study area that likely will result in enhanced forage opportunities for elk.

What was the wolf density in the treatment and control areas?

We do not have very accurate wolf population estimates. At the start of the mountain lion harvest treatment in 2012, there were an estimated minimum count of 45 wolves in the 3,336km² treatment area (1.3 wolves/100km²) and 23 wolves in the 2,031km² control area (1.13wolves/100km²). Again, these are minimum counts.

If you have any questions, please reach out to communications@bcwf.bc.ca.