

Project Summary

Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: CONSERVATION OF AT-RISK WOLVERINES IN YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK
Type of Project: Research
Funding Agency: National Park Service
Other Partners/Cooperators: University of Montana, USFS, Wyoming Game and Fish
Effective Dates: 9/15/2004 - 9/30/2008
Funding Amount: \$10,000

Investigators and Agency Representative:

NPS Contact: Kerry Murphy, Yellowstone Center for Resources, P.O. Box 168, Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190; 307-344-2240, kerry_murphy@nps.gov

Investigator: Dan Pletscher, Dept. of Ecosystem & Conservation Sciences, College of Forestry and Conservation, University of Montana, Missoula, MT 59812; 406-243-6364, dan.pletscher@umontana.edu

Project Abstract:

In FY2005, we will develop a comprehensive study plan with cooperators University of Montana, Yellowstone National Park, USFS-Rocky Mountain Research Station, Gallatin National Forest, Shoshone National Forest, and Wyoming Game and Fish Department. We will initiate wolverine studies in Yellowstone National Park in December 2005. Wolverines will be captured in live-traps and equipped with radio transmitters. Various aspects of wolverine movements, interspecific and intraspecific interactions, and reproductive ecology will be monitored on a year-round basis. Through tactical field studies, the project will provide a variety of essential data on wolverine in context with multiple use lands adjacent to parks. This project will enable managers to identify adverse anthropogenic effects on wolverines, better interpret species life history and values for the public, and begin comprehensive conservation planning on a broad scale with interagency and non-governmental partners.

Outcomes with Completion Dates:

This work will result in the following:

- (1) A study plan containing a scope of work and statement of project goals, objectives, and methods.
- (2) Annual project reports, FY2006-FY2008.
- (3) Dissemination of the results via final reports, conference presentations, and publications as appropriate. (Due September 30 2008)

Keywords: wolverines, Yellowstone National Park, University of Montana, USFS, conservation planning

For Administrative Use Only:

Date Annual Report Received:

Date Final Report Received:

Publications, etc. on file: