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To skozlowski@fs.fed.us
cc George.E.Graves@aphis.usda.gov
bcc
Subject field diary for Aug 07 and Jul 08

Steve I have included scans of the 4 dates we talked about last week involving grizzly bear activity on USSES.

In case the scan is illegible; July 28 entry says, "USSES @ Big Mtn chased by a g. bear". That is a reported event, I did find evidence of grizzly activity in the vicinity, but also found black bear sign as well. August 1 2008 says, "Big Mtn herder chased by bear again, 1 ewe poss (possible) black bear".

Aug 2 07 says, " Odell 1 ewe grizzly v. poss. blk bear" meaning prescence of grizzly bear at the carcass confirmed, but evidence insufficient to verify loss attributable to grizzly, possibly black bears involved. August 6, 07 says, "Odell 1 ewe reported grizzly". We (Idaho WS) were in conference with Montana Wildlife services to verify if I was eligible to conduct work on grizzly bears under MT's documentation and establish protocol for involving MGFP personell. Aug 20, 2007 says, "Odell Creek, 5 reported ewes, grizzly". This was a count-off report. The USSES had moved sheep to a different grazing unit ofr 'scoring' (weighing lambs) and returned only breifly to the unit adjacent to where suspected bear predation had been occuring. The herder found remains of 5 ewes when the herd returned near that area, but these were too far decomposed to establish predation.

Our state office will also be forwarding EA summary of predator activity for 07 and 08.

I hope this is valuable for you.



Jon Aug 2 07.jpg Aug 6 07.jpg Aug 20 07.jpg july 08.jpg

Summary of Grizzly Bear Activity 2007, 2008

Personal communication from Jonathan Farr. (3/15/2010)

2007 – August 2 – 1 ewe killed in Odell. presence of grizzly bear at the carcass confirmed, but evidence insufficient to verify loss attributable to grizzly, possibly black bears involved.

2007 – August 6th – 1 ewe killed in Odell Pasture, West Summer Range, grizzly bear reported. Idaho Wildlife Services were in conference with Montana Wildlife services to verify if eligible to conduct work on grizzly bears under MT's documentation and establish protocol for involving MGFP personell.

2007 – August 20 – Odell - The USSES had moved sheep to a different grazing unit for 'scoring' (weighing lambs) and returned only briefly to the unit adjacent to where suspected bear predation had been occurring. The herder found remains of 5 ewes, but these were too far decomposed to establish predation.

Info from APHIS 2007 Annual Report

During FY 2007, WS respond to 2 grizzly bear-related requests for assistance. Both of the requests were in the GYA following post-delisting. WS received reports on August 2, 6, and 20, 2007 that a grizzly bear had killed 1, 1 and 5 ewes, respectively, on an Agricultural Research Service grazing allotment north of Spencer, ID. All three reports were from the same producer. WS investigated the incidents and was unable to confirm that the sheep were killed by a grizzly bear. No action was taken, however, WS personnel advised the sheep producer and herder to closely monitor the sheep and to immediately contact WS if additional predation was observed. On September 24, 2007, WS investigated a complaint of 5 cows being killed by grizzly bears on a Caribou-Targhee National Forest grazing allotment east of Tetonia, ID. An onsite investigation was conducted and evidence at the scene confirmed that 3 of the 5 cows were killed by grizzly bears. The other 2 cow carcasses were too far decomposed to accurately evaluate predation, but enough evidence remained to classify them as probable depredation. No action was taken since the cattle were scheduled to be moved off the grazing allotment and out of the area. No grizzly bears were taken by WS during FY 2007.

2008 – July 28 – Big Mountain pasture in West Summer Range. USSES personnel chased by a grizzly bear. Investigation by APHIS found evidence of grizzly activity in the vicinity, but also found black bear sign as well.

2008 – August 1 – Big Mountain pasture, West Summer Range. Herder chased by bear again. 1 ewe killed possibly by black bear".