

Directors' Report

Purpose of Committee

“To identify the highest priority human/wildlife conflict issues and pool information regarding successful techniques to address them; to identify those wildlife damage and human/wildlife conflict issues where effective management techniques are lacking, and make recommendations to member agencies for the development of new alternatives, and to facilitate the exchange of information regarding human/wildlife conflict among the western states and provinces”.

AFWA Human Wildlife Conflicts Committee Update

- Virtual meeting at AFWA on September 9th (1:00 -3:00 pm)
- Developing a series of best management practices that deals with conflicts
 - Urban deer and black bear monographs have been published (manage, mitigate, or reduce conflicts with these species - not prescriptive in nature)
 - Working on coyote manuscript and may start work on a turkey publication

Landowner Incentive Programs by State/Province

- Chad Wilson and Eric Gardner presented summary of survey results
- 13 of 23 agencies provided responses
- The purpose of these surveys are to compile all information into one place that highlights how various agencies build tolerance for wildlife on private lands
- Each state/province survey will be uploaded on Human/Wildlife Conflicts Committee for others agencies to access
- Links to code, rule, or policy are included in the surveys
- Discussions on how to better fund human wildlife conflicts (possibly from a national level), including responses to cougars, bears and big game depredation

Upcoming Trainings/Workshops

- Deer and Elk Workshop – August 3-4 2021 (virtual)
- Mountain Lion Workshop – April 4-7 2022 (Hood River, Oregon)
- Western Black Bear Workshop – May 22-25 2023 (Jackson, Wyoming)
- International Human-Bear Conflicts Workshop – October 16-20 2022
- Human wildlife conflicts should be a theme for a portion of these conferences
- Wildlife Human Attack Response Training – no trainings scheduled (4-5 day training) because of covid-related travel restrictions in Canada

Berryman Institute Updates

- Upcoming Human Wildlife Interactions Journal is focusing on ravens and feral equids
- 3 monographs recently published on human-deer conflicts, human-black bear conflicts, and managing wild pigs (a decision will be made shortly on a feral cat monograph)
- The wildlife damage management conference and non-lethal predation management workshops were a success, and a feral equids meeting will be in St George, UT in 2022

Private Lands Program Survey in Utah

- Justin Shannon presented information on attitudes of landowners and public hunters in Utah (these groups value different things pertaining to wildlife, access, depredation, etc.)
- Results will facilitate improvement in the private lands programs

Roundtable

- Oregon has included elk as part of their urban deer program
- Golden eagle take on domestic lambs increased substantially in Utah this year
- WAFWA agencies can still respond to the landowner program survey (due Sept 1)