

## **FECUNDITY OF MONTANA WOLVERINES, 1986-2004**

Neal J. Anderson, Wildlife Research Laboratory Supervisor, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks,  
1400 South 19th Ave., Bozeman, MT 59718

Keith Aune, Research and Technical Services Section Chief, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks,  
1420 East 6th Ave., Helena, MT 59620

Female reproductive tracts from wolverines harvested by trappers in Montana were examined for evidence of reproductive activity. Corpora luteal scars (CL) were used to determine potential fetus production for wolverines harvested within the state. CL counts were assessed and compared among the subpopulations described by Cegelski et.al. (2003) and between the northern and southern ecosystems of western Montana. Although statistically different ( $P < 0.05$ ) counts were not observed at the subpopulation level counts did differ between the two ecosystems. Variation in CL counts among subpopulations and between ecosystems was discussed.