

## GETTING TO KNOW YOU: GRAY WOLVES IN MONTANA AND THE FWP PROGRAM

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In 2005, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks and the USDI Fish and Wildlife Service finalized a cooperative agreement that paved the way for FWP to begin implementing as much of the state's approved wolf plan as allowed by federal regulations. Agency-wide the transition has been underway for over a year. Part of the effort has been to learn more about basic wolf ecology and pack dynamics in Montana by summarizing monitoring information collected over the last 20 years. Data will be presented on average pack sizes through time, pack tenure, wolf mortality in 2005, territory characteristics, diseases documented, differences between northwest and southwest Montana, and livestock depredations. Other FWP program activities will be summarized.