



**WYOMING WOLF LAWSUIT
FACTSHEET**

MYTH: Wolves are devastating Wyoming's livestock industry.

REALITY:

- In 2005, wolves killed a total of 54 cattle and 27 sheep in entire state of Wyoming. *Source:* U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Rocky Mountain Wolf Recovery 2005 Interagency Annual Report 96, http://www.fws.gov/mountain%2Dprairie/species/mammals/wolf/annualrpt05/2005_WOLF_REPORT.pdf
 - Only 2% of sheep mortality statewide in 2005 is attributable to wolves. More sheep died in 2005 from poisoning (5.5%), eagles (3.3%), lambing (13.9%), weather (17.8%), disease (8.2%), and other predators (45.1%). *Source:* USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service, <http://www.nass.usda.gov/wy>.
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MYTH: Wolves are decimating Wyoming's elk population.

REALITY: The state of Wyoming continues to manage for a *reduction* in Wyoming's elk population. The population is currently estimated at 93,449 elk — 10,264 more elk than the state's population objective. *Source:* Wyoming Game and Fish Department, [Annual Report 2006](#) 157.

MYTH: Wyoming Game & Fish revenues are dropping precipitously.

REALITY: Wyoming Department of Game & Fish revenues from sales of elk hunting licenses have steadily increased from \$6.3 million in 2001 to \$7.6 million in 2006. *Source:* Wyoming Game and Fish Department, [Annual Report 2006](#) 157.

MYTH: Wolves are destroying Wyoming's tourism industry.

REALITY: Through 2005, total spending on Wyoming tourism, tourism revenues, and the number of people employed in the industry have all increased every year since 1997. *Source:* Wyoming Business Council, [Wyoming Travel Industry 2005 Impact Report 2](#).