



ADMINISTRATIVE RULES OF MONTANA



12.9.1303 CONTROL METHODS OF THE GRAY WOLF INCLUDE NONLETHAL AND LETHAL MEANS

- (1) These rules address when and how the department may carry out nonlethal and lethal control of wolves.
- (2) To undertake control actions that are consistent with this rule, the department may:
 - (a) take control actions;
 - (b) authorize USDA Wildlife Services pursuant to an interagency cooperative agreement;
 - (c) authorize the Department of Livestock pursuant to an interagency cooperative agreement; or
 - (d) issue permits to individuals pursuant to ARM 12.9.1305.
- (3) The department is responsible for the status, conservation, and management of the gray wolf population as a state species in need of management, game animal, or a furbearer as guided by administrative rules and statutes.
- (4) Control of the gray wolf by an agency or an individual may include nonlethal and lethal actions. Specific control actions shall connect in both time and location to a wolf or wolves with the highest likelihood of having injured or killed the livestock.
- (5) The department shall take an incremental approach to lethal control.
- (6) Killing or harassing a wolf not in conformance with these rules is subject to criminal penalties pursuant to 87-5-106, 87-5-111, 87-6-201, and 87-6-203, MCA, as applicable.

Authorizing statute(s): 87-1-201, 87-1-301, 87-1-901, 87-5-105, 87-5-110, 87-5-131, MCA

Implementing statute(s): 87-1-201, 87-1-301, 87-1-901, 87-5-102, 87-5-103, 87-5-104, 87-5-105, 87-5-108, 87-5-131, MCA

History: NEW, 2008 MAR p. 2165, Eff. 10/10/08; AMD, 2014 MAR p. 843, Eff. 4/25/14; AMD, 2024 MAR p. 76, Eff. 1/13/24.