



University of Idaho

Inter-Office Memorandum

To Dean Ehrenreich and Owen Sowles

From Maurice Hornocker

Subject Research Proposal

Date 13 January 1975

I should like to propose the enclosed abstracted proposal for your consideration for funding through the Wilderness Research Institute.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Maurice".

Maurice Hornocker
Unit Leader

MH:elb

PRELIMINARY RESEARCH PROPOSAL

Idaho Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit

1. Program: Animal Damage Control
2. Project Title: Dynamics of an unexploited coyote population
3. Project Leader: Maurice Hornocker, Leader, Idaho Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit.
4. Management Contact: Idaho Fish and Game Department, U. S. Forest Service, BLM, various private organizations.
5. Objectives:
 1. To study the dynamics of an unexploited population of coyotes, determining sex and age structure, productivity and survival.
 2. To determine what, if any, self regulatory factors are operating to limit population size.
 3. To study the influence of coyotes on mule deer populations.
6. Justification: There is need for an understanding of natural regulatory mechanisms which operate in an unexploited population of coyotes. The effects of food abundance or food shortage on such a population may be predicted, but little has been documented on self-regulatory factors. An understanding of such mechanisms, if they exist, could be most helpful in the management of coyote populations. The relationship of such a population of coyotes to mule deer populations is important and could have management implications in many areas of the West.
7. Scope: The study will be conducted in the Idaho Primitive Area, a 1.1 million acre area managed by the U. S. Forest Service as wilderness since the 1930's. No coyote control has been carried out in the area since the mid-1940's. No domestic livestock are grazed anywhere in the Idaho Primitive Area; coyotes prey only on wild species. The research will be carried out in the Big Creek drainage in the central part of the Primitive Area. The Project Leader conducted mountain lion research in this area for 10 years - logistics have been worked out. Coyotes will be live-trapped, individually marked, and instrumented with radio transmitters. Data will be collected from individual coyotes throughout the year on all aspects of the project. We expect to coordinate the project closely with the Denver Predator Units of the FWS: it would be beneficial if Dr. [Name] serve on the graduate committee.

8. Personnel: One Ph.D. candidate, one full-time field assistant, Project duration - 3 to 4 years. Estimated man months, total, including Unit Leader - 144.

9. Schedule: Initiation - Fall 1975. Completion - Fall 1979.

10. Budget Estimates:

	FY 1976	FY 1977	FY 1978	FY 1979
I Salaries & Wages				
Ph.D. Student	3,600	3,600	3,800	3,800
Field Asst.	8,000	8,200	8,400	8,400
Fringe benefits 17%	1,972	2,006	2,074	2,074
Total Salaries & Wages	13,572	13,806	14,274	14,274
II Permanent Equipment				
Radio telemetry equipment:				
2 receivers	1,350	-	-	-
25 transmitters @ \$65	1,625	1,625	1,625	1,625
50 coyote traps @ \$4.00	200	-	-	-
III Travel				
Light aircraft rental:				
Radiotracking	3,000	4,000	4,000	3,000
Travel to study area from Moscow	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200
IV Misc. Equip & Supplies				
Misc. radio equip	300	300	300	300
Food and misc. field supplies for camps, etc.	1,750	1,750	1,750	1,750
Computer time	-	1,000	1,000	2,000
Publishing Costs	-	-	-	3,500
	22,997	23,681	24,149	27,649

Grand total, 4 year project \$ 98,476