

Carnivore & Wolf Population Survey

Crex Meadows Wildlife Area Volunteers

Objectives

- Host a Timber Wolf Ecology class at Crex Meadows to train volunteers on the dynamics of wolf ecology.
- This course is critical and required of trackers, to conduct WDNR Carnivore Tracking Surveys.
- Conduct a Timber Wolf Howl Survey to identify pack locations and confirm each pack's existence.
- Presenting another Carnivore Track Training at Crex Meadows to train more volunteers on WI Carnivore Tracks and educate them on how to correctly conduct the track surveys.
- Conduct WI Carnivore Surveys with volunteers mentored by trained WDNR Trackers.

Methods

Between January through March of 2009 track training and surveys are completed. The surveys are conducted by automobile by volunteers one to three days after an inch or two of snow. Exact weather conditions for the survey timeframe are available on the DNR website. The average survey is 20 miles in length within the survey block, and all carnivore tracks are counted while wolf tracks are counted and mapped with the number of individuals and direction of travel. Carnivore Track Survey forms are carefully filled-out and submitted to WDNR Crex. Each of the two blocks are surveyed three times at least one week apart.

Howl surveys are also used to estimate wolf populations after dark between July through September of 2009. These are conducted to prove pack status and pup production by call and respond methods.



Volunteer carnivore tracking survey blocks



Track training workshop, January 2009



Results

To date, 118 people have participated in the track training course provided by Friends of Crex, Inc. members and Crex Meadows Wildlife Area staff. Eighteen of the trained people have volunteered to be trackers for the Carnivore and Wolf Survey.

Throughout Survey Block 13 volunteers surveyed over 132 miles, resulting in 75 wolf tracks recorded.

In Survey Block 14 volunteers covered over 184 miles and found 46 wolf tracks.

During the howl surveys two packs with pups responded in Survey Block 13. Survey Block 14 had one pack respond with pups.

Carnivore Tracking Annual Survey Summary												Carnivore Tracking Annual Survey Summary											
Survey Block 13												Survey Block 14											
Year	Month	Day	Time	Start	End	Miles	Wolves	Coyotes	Bobcats	Other	Total	Year	Month	Day	Time	Start	End	Miles	Wolves	Coyotes	Bobcats	Other	Total
2009	Jan	1	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Jan	1	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Jan	8	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Jan	8	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Jan	15	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Jan	15	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Jan	22	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Jan	22	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Jan	29	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Jan	29	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Feb	5	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Feb	5	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Feb	12	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Feb	12	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Feb	19	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Feb	19	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Feb	26	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Feb	26	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Mar	5	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Mar	5	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Mar	12	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Mar	12	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Mar	19	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Mar	19	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Mar	26	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Mar	26	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Apr	2	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Apr	2	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Apr	9	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Apr	9	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Apr	16	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Apr	16	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Apr	23	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Apr	23	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Apr	30	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Apr	30	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	May	7	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	May	7	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	May	14	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	May	14	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	May	21	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	May	21	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	May	28	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	May	28	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Jun	4	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Jun	4	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Jun	11	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Jun	11	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Jun	18	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Jun	18	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Jun	25	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Jun	25	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Jul	2	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Jul	2	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Jul	9	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Jul	9	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Jul	16	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Jul	16	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Jul	23	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Jul	23	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Jul	30	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Jul	30	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Aug	6	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Aug	6	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Aug	13	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Aug	13	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Aug	20	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Aug	20	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Aug	27	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Aug	27	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Sep	3	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Sep	3	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Sep	10	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Sep	10	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Sep	17	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Sep	17	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Sep	24	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Sep	24	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Sep	30	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Sep	30	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Oct	7	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Oct	7	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Oct	14	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Oct	14	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Oct	21	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Oct	21	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Oct	28	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Oct	28	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Nov	4	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Nov	4	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Nov	11	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Nov	11	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Nov	18	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Nov	18	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Nov	25	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Nov	25	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Dec	2	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Dec	2	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Dec	9	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Dec	9	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Dec	16	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Dec	16	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Dec	23	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2009	Dec	23	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1
2009	Dec	30	10:00	10:00	11:00	10	1	0	0	0	1	2											