University of Nebraska - Lincoln
DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln

The Probe: Newsletter of the National Animal Damage Control Association

Wildlife Damage Management, Internet Center for

9-1-1982

The Probe, Issue 25 - September 1982

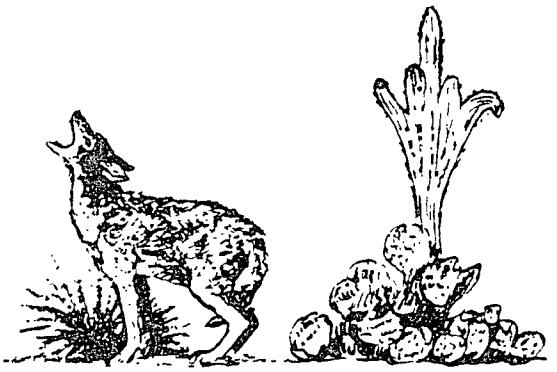
Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/icwdmprobe

Part of the Environmental Sciences Commons

"The Probe, Issue 25 - September 1982" (1982). *The Probe: Newsletter of the National Animal Damage Control Association.* Paper 99.
http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/icwdmprobe/99

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Wildlife Damage Management, Internet Center for at DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Probe: Newsletter of the National Animal Damage Control Association by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln.

THE PROBE



National Animal Damage Control Association

No. 25 September, 1982

WOLF AT THE DOOR

The three little pigs are not sleeping so soundly these nights because of the scheme to get packs of wolves roaming over old ranges [as the early Virginia settlers had wolf trouble, may I suggest they get a pack started in Rock Creek Park in Downtown Washington, D.C., if they are serious about getting them back on their old ranges]. While YE ED personally feels wolves have had a bad press over the years, at least as far as humans are concerned, there is no disputing these impressive predators have no place in a livestock raising area. The "wolf recovery team" is a project YE ED feels is a waste of public money and a step backward. We have spent millions [just ask the protectionists] in cleaning them out on rangelands and now they want to spend millions putting them back on ?

The wolf recovery project started in the Superior National Forest (Minnesota) where the only viable population of wolves in the contiguous 48 states exists [there are a few in upper Michigan, Wisconsin, Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming]. With typical shortsightedness, the protectionists wanted the animals given complete protection [the protectionists don't have any livestock to worry about !]. A compromise was worked out, typically unsatisfactory to the die-hards on either side. Julian Brzoznowski (St. Louis County, MN) by last year had been paid $400 per head for some 47 verified wolf-kills. He says he is not a "wolf-hater" as they are only doing what comes naturally. He saves his hate for the USFWS which has consistently buckled to protectionist' pressure and interferred with proper management. He stated when wolves come in conflict with agriculture, they are going to be controlled in spite of their protected status. Whereas proper management by burning or clear-cutting small areas (sacrilege to the protectionists !) would improve carrying capacity for the main prey item, the white-tailed deer (could be the protectionists wish to protect them too and would rather sacrifice somebody else's cattle ?). This would keep the wolves in the wilderness areas. His comment (not YE ED's): "Just once, I wish FWS would make a decision based on what's right for the wolves, taking into consideration their relationship to man instead of do ing what's politically expedient." (couldn't have said it better).

The cost of this project for 1981 (exclusive of damage payments by the State) was $208,350. Now $700,000 is being diverted from ADC money (appropriated by Congress to control predators) towards the development of a Northern Rocky Mountain wolf recovery team in Idaho-Montana-Wyoming. In this cost context it is interesting to review a Russian report on the wolf situation in that country. The Russian wolf population grew to 200,000 after World War II, but was cut down in the Sixties and is now estimated at 68,000 [Alaskan wolf population is estimated at between 8-15,000 and in the contiguous states 500-1,000]. Russian damage estimates during the 1870s show wolves reportedly took 200,000 cattle and 500,000 sheep and goats. In 1924/5, 1,000,000 cattle alone were reportedly taken. Current yearly damage is estimated at $40,000,000 for domestic animals only and a similar amount for the deer killed. Sounds like another dirty capitalist plot - - red deer being eaten by Czarist wolves.

Wyoming objected to the plan on the grounds the wolf has now lost its place in the ecosystem and no amount of artificial management can be successful. It will cost millions of dollars at a time when the economy can ill afford it, cause livestock raisers additional predator losses, provide no safeguards for protecting the livestock industry from an "endangered" species, and interfere with the normal and legal control operations against the little brother to the wolf, the coyote. An interesting sidelight is the only non-Federal agency represented on the team is the Audubon Society.

Andy Anderson (Idaho Farm Bureau) says: "...once again the Endangered Species Act is being used not only to regulate animals, but to implement arbitrary, restrictive, and far-reaching land use goals and social goals. The agencies are smiling and saying, 'trust us', but are putting in writing everything opposite to what they are saying, knowing full well that it is only a matter of time until a lawsuit or appeal will force them to apply the strict language they are putting into the wolf recovery guidelines." *Thanks to materials submitted by NADCA members - Guy Connolly, Lyle Crosby, Homer Ford, Dennis Kopp, Norton Miner, and Mark Worcester.*

The only nice thing about being imperfect is the joy it brings to others.

TOO LITTLE - - TOO LATE

When the protectionists stick their noses into a wildlife management problem, the problem usually gets worse. A recent example is the Florida deer program which you may have seen on TV or read about in the local papers as it was on the AP line in July. The Florida Game & Fresh Water Fish Commission announced plans to hold a hunt to reduce the Everglades deer herd drastically as the animals were confined to islands with limited food due to 30-inch high flood waters.

The protectionists offered their favorite solution to solving a wildlife management problem - - "take 'em to court andget an injunction" [they must have proportionately the largest number of lawyers outside of a law school of any organization]. By the time the injunction was lifted, it was too late to do any real good. Two thousand hunters tried to lower the herd in a two-day shoot out. While they hoped to destroy some 1,500 animals out of an estimated population of 5,500 white-tailed deer, they only got 507. The protection groups, who never learn, claimed they were going to airlift some 100 animals. They ended up with a better than usual success factor by actually taking out 14. Biologists examining the take

reported some deer were 15 pounds (30%) under normal weight. They lacked the excess body fat needed to survive and hundreds more would have died without the hunt. The Humane Society rep on the scene said: "There must be a better way." Slow starvation vs. a bullet ? - *Thanx to Harry Pratt.*

Among benefits of retirement is the delight in tying up tomato vines with neckties.

OUR THOUGHT FOR THE DAY FOR THE BALANCE OF NATURE WORSHIPERS

"Our world is so complex that we can't just let nature take its course any more. We need to decide what kinds of wildlife resources we want and how to get them. When making decisions we must understand ecological realities. On the way to making a decision there is often a lot of trading off because there are no simple answers. Only complex problems waiting for intelligent decisions." - *Jeff Jackson, Extension Wildlife Specialist, Univ. of Georgia in: WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT: MORE OR LESS ?, "Georgia Outdoors" 27 July 1981.* (Jeff has a number of short articles he's written on controlling various species that you can probably get by writing to the University.)

Marriage ceremonies now drop the "obey". Too bad as it lent a little humor to the occasion.

WHO SAYS RATS AREN'T GOOD FOR SOMETHING ?

The Army has found albino rats are cheaper to rear and train than dogs and may be more effective in detecting TNT in booby traps, bombs, and land mines. Of course, you can't use the common alley rat but have to recruit an elite breed of white, Sprague-Dawley laboratory rats. These can be conditioned so a whiff of TNT evokes a subtle but detectable change in their brain waves. A surgically implanted wire (oh! oh! I can hear the Animal Rightists shuffle their feet) delivers an electrical brain stimulus that when activated, pleasures the rat with a sensation more profound "than anything known to man" [you mean they've invented chocolate, brandied sex for the rats ?]. This response alters their brain waves which can be monitored by a microcomputer. The rats can be taught in a month and other noises and odors have no distracting effect. *Pest Control, 50(8):14 (1982).*

A man can find true happiness after marriage - - if his wife doesn't watch him closely.

WRCC-26

Nope ! Not a ham radio station, but the "Western Regional Coordinating Committee" concerned with predator control. They met in Waco, TX on August 10-11, 1982 and *RO Milt Caroline* took these notes during the program:

Since urine seems to be the most attractive lure in the natural environments of coyotes, it must contain some very attractive elements. Seventeen fractions have already been isolated and there are probably more.

Trimethyl ammonium decanoate (TMAD) may be one of the best lures because it causes a high lick-chew response in coyotes. Response is highest in January and lowest in April; therefore an additive may be desirable or necessary at certain times.

The new Bait Delivery Unit (BDU) is a one-inch angle iron stake which is driven into the ground (length varies with soil texture) and to which a "top" is attached. The "top" is approximately 2.5 inches high and 1.5 inches wide when completed. The base can be a thread spool around which a plastic packet is wrapped, held in place with veterinary tape. This contains whatever is to be presented to a coyote. (see Marsh, etal, *in 10th Vertebrate Pest Conf. Proceed. 1982*)

A dead cow carcass is one of the best attractants around which to set traps. An excellent lure is a mixture of TMAD, fish oil, and sugar because it takes advantage of several of the coyote behavior patterns.

The following were tested as methods for presenting placed (drop) baits for coyotes: buried, lying on the ground, covered with vegetation, placed in tall vegetation, and elevated above ground. Buried baits were least acceptable while those elevated above ground were best. A lard-beeswax mix was used with good results. Sixty percent of the baits were eaten the first day; 90% by the sixth.

Problems with the toxic collar: Only 60% effective, collar wears out, will not stay in place on Spanish goats, cannot be used in brush because of punctures, and cost. Costs include: original cost of collar, value of the animal killed, cost of replacing those which are punctured or lost, labor cost of inspection, transportation, cost of feed to lure stock into a corral, warning signs, ear tags, and labor involved in attachment. In certain instances it is cheaper not to use collars and decision depends greatly on degree of coyote infestation.

Lack of reliability of M-44 seems due to mechanical failures [This was based on tests in which units were left in the ground for six weeks. This is too long. M-44 and even traps should be removed from the ground every week or ten days and given a complete inspection and cleaning. *M. Caroline*].

After five years of research with guard dogs, it seems that Great Pyrenees are best suited to both range and small pastures. The Komondor is best in small pastures. In any case, sheep breeds should be those that bunch up instead of going off in all directions. Sheep should be given time to become accustomed to dogs before they are put out together. At this research station, there was a 20% loss of dogs before they were two years old. Some died from accidents (auto), some were shot, some were stolen, and some died because of necessary surgery.

YE ED will report when copy of proceedings are available.

Grave inscription: "Here lies a lawyer and a gentleman." Do you suppose they put both of them in the same coffin ?

SORRY, BUT IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN

It may seem a little early to some of you, but YE ED wants a break. Anyone signing up for NADCA now will be a member for the rest of 1982 and 1983. This time YE ED is not sending out the January issue of THE PROBE as a final reminder. Your PROBE stops with the November issue of this year. Furthermore, the DIRECTORY will appear in the January issue. So if you want your name in the only Directory that will be published in 1983, get your dues in before December 31st. Just remember

YE ED has reached the top (and bottom) of his pay grade so help the poor man out ! It saves him considerable trouble if he has all the names and addresses before a set date so they can be alphabetized for the records and the Directory.

This is your organization. Us old fuddy-duddies who set up NADCA have nothing personnally to gain (the smaller the membership, the fewer newsletters YE ED has to mail out). We did it because we felt a committment for our life's work in ADC and the opportunity to get a better deal for ADC personnel and the profession without job or policy restraints. Considering the lack of support we've gotten from those who have the most to gain from a strong organization, we've been doing a fantastic job. We had impact on the 1080 hearings, anti-trap legislation in Congress and several States, and have put on a number of educational meetings. But our efforts can go just as far as your moral and financial support. The response has been better proportionately from retirees than actives causing us to wonder at the committment of those who have their careers in front of them compared to those winding them up. These are difficult times for ADC and you who are starting or in the middle of your life's work should be more supportive of NADCA for your own good.

If we have failed in our other objectives of getting technical and personnel information to the field, it is <u>your</u> fault. YE ED prints anything he gets as you should realize by now. He no longer has official ties with the USFWS, EPA or any University and must rely on those of you who have information of value to the profession to pass it on.

Enclosed is the new brochure and two new registration cards. Pass one on to somebody who should join. YE ED has had complaints for not making the fee schedule clearer. The new schedule set at the annual meeting is on the card so check off which group you belong to and give what you can. Dues are tax deductable and the Sec/Treas will furnish a receipt if requested. Ten bucks is damn cheap, particularly when almost half of it goes to printing and mailing out the newsletter.

I prefer the miniskirt to the slit skirt - you don't have to be so alert.

EPA AT WORK

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has finally advised registrants they would need acute toxicity safety data to retain anti-Vitamin K [sulfaquinoxalin *PROLIN™*] in registrations. The in effectiveness of this additive to enhance the action of warfarin has been recognized for a long time. Many registrants have opted to cancel products rather than supply the additional data. EPA has also extended its efficacy data waiver policy to exclude registration of public health pesticides. Public health pesticides are defined as those controlling pests of public health significance that attack humans or pets - - commensal rodents, birds, and vectors of diseases like rabies and plague. Control of microorganisms will still require efficacy data. EPA reserves the right to require efficacy data on a per case basis for products with substantial suspected risk or with records of inadequate performance. These changes are made because of budgetary restrictions and to reduce the regulatory burden on industry [those of you who never worked for EPA can't realize what a switch in basic philosophy that is !]. It does mean vertebrate pest controllers must become more knowledgable in selecting new chemicals and formulations to use in the area of public health. *Bill Hoffman (EPA) in Pest Control, 50(7):10 (1982).*

Middle age - When your knees buckle and your belt don't.

THERE'S GOOD NEWS TONIGHT

S.B. #2239, the antitrap bill in Congress, was not reported out of Committee (see Letters - *Cyd Fossler*) so the issue is dead for the present though like the Phoenix it will rise again. California's anti-trap bill (A.B. #2600) also died in the Ways and Means Committee. It seems the sponsor, Sam Farr, D-Monterey, reneged at the last momment on a compromise bill so not a single vote for the bill could be found in the Committee.

It takes a smart woman to decide if a man is too old to be eligible or too eligible to be considered old.

RODENT CONTROL GETS THE AXE

There are so few installations in this country working on commensal rodent research, that it is with deep regret we report the loss of the Rodent Control Evaluation Laboratory (Troy, NY) due to federal budget cuts. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) coordinated the Federal Urban Rat Control Program by awarding grant money to the States to run approximately 80 urban programs. Their $13.6 million rodent control budget of 1981 was completely wiped out in 1982 so the NY State Health Department did not get any money to fund the RCEL. This lab has been monitoring rodent populations for anticoagulant resistance, conducted product and efficacy testing, investigated long-range population dynamics studies on wild rats, and designed educational programs to encourage community participation in the urban rat control programs. The loss of this lab leaves only the work being conducted at Bowling Green State University (OH) under Bill Jackson and University of California-Davis under Walter Howard and Rex Marsh. It really hurts when they cut this close to home.

Inflatation isn't all that bad. It lets you live in a more expensive neighborhood without having to move.

THAT TAKES A LOT OF NERVE

A Pasadena (CA) man reports he found a coyote chasing his pet dog around the house after following the dog in through the doggie door. *The Trapper, Aug. 1982.*

How come a slight tax increase costs us $200, while a substantial tax cut is only 30¢ ?

ANY NOMINATIONS FROM THE FLOOR ?

It is time for you to make nominations for the offices to be vacated this year: Vice President and Regional Directors for 2 and 5 - respectively, Homer Ford, Pink Madsen, and Wes Jones. Would you please send in your nominations for these offices to Homer Ford (we're watching him !), 1501 NW 189 St., Ridgefield, WA 98642? Remember nominees have to be retired from fulltime government Service. A mail ballot will be included in the November issue of the PROBE. Let's have some input !!!

The reason we love pro sports is because where else can you get to boo millionaires to their faces?

OL' SPOTTY

The Federal Register (47:140:31670-2, July 21, 1982) has listed the ocelot as a rare and endangered species in the U.S.A., despite the fact that it does not maintain any semblance of a viable wild population in this country. In its brief, the FWS maintains that habitat destruction has reached a point where only about 50,000 acres of effective habitat remain in southeastern Texas. This has a reported population of 12-60 animals. Of this 50,000, 20,000 acres of this habitat are in the Laguna Arascosa National Wildlife Refuge. The remainder is in private land holdings used for lease hunting and cattle and goat raising. The paper does not list the critical habitat as it would focus attention on where the ocelot was commonly found. Individuals can be taken only by permit for scientific purposes or to enhance the survival or propagation of the species. As the State of Texas already protects the ocelot, this would probably not affect the legal status of the animal, but it does indicate the problem of possible conflict with endangered predators (gray wolf, red wolf, grizzly bear, some kit foxes, and the black-footed ferret) with legimate predator control programs - *Thanks to Don Spencer.*

There's no fool like an old fool - - ask any young fool.

A "GOOD" BEAR STORY

A West Virginia bear killing sheep May, 1978 was captured, ear tagged, lip tattooed and outfitted with a radio transmitter. It then got a free airplane ride of 160 miles from the capture site. This May the same bear was caught killing sheep again less than 10 miles from the original site. Identified by his tattoo (Mother always warned me about those things) as the tags and collar were gone, he was made into a bear rug this time. *The Trapper, Aug. 1982.*

There ought to be a better way to start the day than having to get up.

THE BLACK DEATH

This is still with us as we are well aware in New Mexico. World-wide plague cases totaled 881 in 1979 compared to 505 in 1980. However, deaths in those two years increased from 30 (1979) to 56 (1980). Here in New Mexico we have already had 8 cases with 2 deaths for 1982. According to the World Health Organization, the hot spot was Asia with 283 cases and 29 deaths in 1980. The Americas had the second highest total - - 142 cases. Brazil had 98 of these but no deaths. The majority of cases in the U.S.A. were in New Mexico with California and Nevada also reporting cases. Africa declined from 471 (1979) to 80 (1980), but the deaths increased from 12 to 20. Tanzania with 44 cases and 19 deaths had the worst record for Africa.

Seems the only way to live longer is to cut all the things that make you want to.

LETTERS TO YE ED

Mark Worcester - Bumper Sticker - If Dolly Parton was a trapper, she'd be flat-busted too.

Cyd Fossler (Tyler, TX) sent in a copy of Senator Bentsen's reply to his (Cyd's) letter questioning Bentsen's advocacy of SB 2239, the anti=trapping bill:

"...At recent town hall meetings I have held in Texas, interested persons have questioned my support fo this legislation (SB 2239). I told them if they could provide me with evidence that cyanide guns (M-44) and other more modern, scientific devices could not do a better job of controlling predators that I would withdraw my sponsorship of the bill. Since then, they have provided me with such evidence... (so I am)...having my name withdrawn as one of the sponsors of the bill.

...We control predators on our ranches by using cyanide guns; we have not used steel traps in many years. I have seen the painful results caused by misuse of steel traps, and I have opposed their use when alternatives are available.

However, I have been informed that about 40% of the predators taken in Texas are now being taken with steel traps. Unlike my own experience with coyotes in the Rio Grande valley, I am told that bobcats, which prey on sheep and goats in Texas, cannot be effectively controlled without steel traps. To me these are convincing arguments."

YE ED Footnote: *The Trapper (August , 1982)* reported that in a public meeting in Temple, TX, Senator Bentsen stated he had seen what "tooth" traps had done to animals during hunting trips to foreign countries. When assured these are no longer used in the U.S.A., the Senator did vow to withdraw his co-sponsorship of the bill if he could be convinced that traps having "teeth" were no longer in use.

Don Heinbaugh (Ainsworth, NE) writes it cost him 20¢ extra and a trip to the Post Office to pick up PROBE #24. Sorry, Don, but it usta cost me 25¢ penalty to get a letter back plus the 20-37¢ to mail it out again to the new mailing address until I changed that note under the address. With this system, I don't get notified of your change of address so unless you want to keep paying for them, please keep me posted on change of addresses. At least Don was the first one to pay his dues for 1983. He stated that due to budget cuts, they got rid of his pilot and plane so Don is now back to chasing to coyotes on foot. Things are tough all over.

Frank Anderson (Ignacio, CO) sent us the sad news of his father's death (see below) and said: "Thanks again and keep up the good work. Sometimes I don't entirely agree with some of the view points, but that is what makes our world go 'round. How dull it would be if we all saw things out of the same perspective."

Be yourself. No one can ever tell you you're doing it wrong.

OL' TIMER'S CORNER

Bud Albrecht (Livingston, MT) got his name in the paper (*The Billings Gazette, 8 July 1982, p.1-C*) in an interesting column on Montana's Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks bear research program. They had to call Bud in to show them how to set snares and they gave him credit for the success they achieved. The researchers found each bear had a different personality, but they could have saved themselves time if they'd just asked Bud in the first place. *Thanks to Norton Miner.*

Lloyd J. Anderson was born August 24, 1905 in Chromo, CO. His grandparents were among the earliest settlers in the Chromo area and Highway 84 was named after them. He spent his boyhood days in the Chromo and Chama (NM) areas hunting, fishing, and ranching. In 1928 he married Goldie W. Hotz and they had 4 children. Lloyd started with the USFWS on September 14, 1936 and retired in 1975. During his service he was considered one of the leading experts on bear (YE ED still uses the pictures of a bear Lloyd snared for me) and an excellent woodsman. He killed one of the last grizzly bears in Colorado which resulted in the formation of the Weminuche Wilderness Area for the preservation of the grizzly bear. He is survived by his wife, 4 children, 12 grandchildren, and 4 great-grandchildren. With his passing, one of the last true mountain men of that area has been lost. *Thanks to F.W.ANDERSON.*

Lyle Crosby, Predator Control Administrator for Wyoming Department of Agriculture, has been nominated for the 1982 National Association of State Departments of Agriculture Honor Award for his achievement in developing a well-rounded predator program for Wyoming and his efforts in reregistering 1080. Good goin', Lyle.

When a man says he approves of something in principle, it means he hasn't the slightest intention of putting it into practice.

PREDATORS CULL THE HERD BY TAKING ONLY THE WEAK AND UNFIT

Don't try to pull that ol' wheeze in New Mexico. In a recent study, biologists found one female cougar killed 5 healthy bighorn sheep. All of them had been equipped with radio collars and they only put those on good specimens. In another instance, a 70-pound female cougar and her two cubs killed 9 healthy adult elk. *The Trapper, July, 1982, p.3.*

Only place I get more for my money now is the weight scale at the drug store.

MORE READIN'

The USFWS has just published an attractive little booklet, *The Golden Eagle*, which is free for the asking at any USFWS field office. This has a little on life hsitory and the conflicts between eagles and men.

For those interested in extension publications there is a 42-page bibliography, *Cooperative Extension Service Literature on Wildlife, Fish, and Forest Resources*. This is indexed by topics and States so you can find out what is available in your State. It only costs you the 20¢ to ask for it from Natural Resources Unit, Extension Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.

Milt Webster (Mercer Island, WA) sent me a copy of the *Seattle Times Pacific* supplement for July 11, 1982. This featured *Alone on the Range* - a good treatment of the lonely life of a sheepherder and the problems he faces, particularly coyotes. It is sad to note that all the sheepherders interviewed were sixty or over, primarily from Spain or Mexico. One rancher pointed out he had tried to hire domestic help, but "...they're not that conscientious. Some of the young ones are good, but they don't stay with it long." This is what the DEFENDERS OF WILDLIFE are trying to claim

is a viable alternative to lethal controls. It is - if you can find and keep a good one.

Mike Fall (Lakewood, CO) sent copies of two articles on coyotes of interest: S.B.Linhart, J.D.Roberts, & G.J.Dasch, *Electric fencing reduces coyote predation on pastured sheep*, J. Range Mgtm. 35(3):276-281, 1982:

Interviews with ranchers in North Dakota and Kansas indicated electrified fences with 4-5 strands of hot wire about 5 inches apart and between 30-66 inches high did keep coyotes from ranges. Sheepmen indicated a high to moderate degree of satisfaction with the method but nearly all producers continued to use other control methods. Sixty percent had maintenance problems though most were due to poor construction or failure to check fences periodically. They figured the costs could be amortized in 5-9 years.

Frank Turkowski, *Testing predator lures*, Voice of the Trapper, 22(4):34-39, 1982:

This is the final report on the objective study of predator lures conducted by the USFWS. "Trap baits are somewhat like fishing lures, almost all of them can catch something." While not all lures tested would catch a lot of coyotes or the most cautious ones, most of them were 90% effective as the best lures. There were a few though in which coyote visits were less than half of those to the best lures, so these should be weeded out before wide-scale use. One of the better mixtures was a formulation (DRC-6503) copied from a synthetic fermented egg product.

Other findings of interest were incorporating the lure in beeswax, paraffin, etc. to prolong odor release and weather protection. A paste can be made by mixing 1 teaspoonful of lure to a mixture of half petroleum jelly and half plaster of paris. There is a lack of selectivity in lures, as many non-target animals investigated even coyote urine. Observations indicated that sets needed to be rebaited every 5 days under dry conditions. Coyotes could probably be attracted to traps with the same lure for at least 3 weeks.

Don Spencer (RD, Silver Spring, MD) sent in a reprint from the *South Dakota Conservation Digest* [48(6):10-13, 1981]. While it is a little late now as it looks like we've won the "bobcat decision", the article by Larry Fredrickson entitled, *Bobcat Management*, gives an excellent background on the bobcat status in South Dakota and the impractical ruling by unknowledgable jurists.

John Jones (RD, Bethesda, MD) interesting papers in J. Wildlife Mgmt. 46, July 1982: G. H. Matschke, etal (p.671-7), *Population reduction of Richardson's ground squirrels with zinc phosphide*. DWRC re-discovers zinc phosphide ! Reductions ranged from 60-95% but populations recovered within one year. Bait used was 2% ZnP on rolled oats with a green dye to repel birds. No non-target kills were reported.

E. F. Hill & J.W.Carpenter (p.678-685), *Responses of Siberian ferrets to secondary zinc phosphide poisoning*. This assessed possible harm to black-footed ferrets if ZnP was used to control prairie dogs confirmed previous studies that showed carnivores are generallyhighly tolerant of ZnP as well as protected by its emetic effect. No test animals, except the prairie dogs, were killed, but the long-term effects on liver, kidneys, and heart were not studied.

S.J.Johnson & D.E.Griffel (P.786-790), *Sheep losses on grizzly bear range*. A summary of sheep losses on Targhee National Forest adjacent to Yellowstone NP showed

grizzly bears killed 85, black bears 196, and 296 by miscellaneous means (coyotes, disease, 'lost', etc.) out of 15,700 sheep grazed. Four grizzly bears were radio-collared and released and 31 black bears deleted. Grizzlies are opportunistic feeders, and if livestock is readily available they will be eaten.

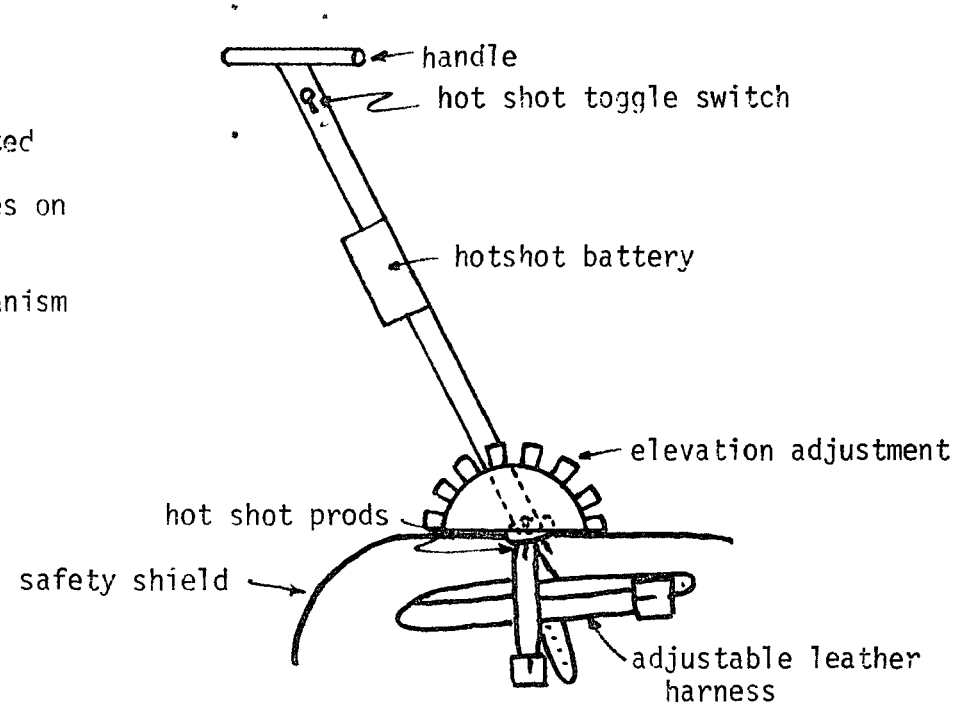
They said work hard and you will be rewarded. And I was - - with more work.

THE PEERLESS POSTHOLE DIGGER

Guy Connolly is a very productive research-type (reminds me of the gal who wanted to buy ten yards of material to make a night gown. When told that was too much, she remarked "My husband is a wildlife researcher. He'd rather look for it than find it.") but the strain is too much for him as witness his latest:

Specs.

Right or left hand operated
Air cooled
Adjusts for vertical holes on any slope
Portable
Replaceable digging mechanism



Badger not supplied.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

1. Fasten badger securely in leather harness.
2. Walk implement to site where post hole is required.
3. Set elevation adjustment so hole will be vertical
4. Turn on hot shot switch and quickly stand to one side.
5. When hole is required depth, turn off switch and walk implement to next hole.
6. Hard hats and other applicable safety equipment should be worn at all times when operating this equipment.

Note: Several badgers may need trial before the best results are obtained. Those in a comatose condition when released from a trap often cannot be revived and are unsuitable for this purpose.

Be thankful for bad luck - - without it you'd have to blame yourself !

THIS PUBLICATION IS INTENDED AS AN INFORMAL NEWSLETTER TO MEMBERS AND SUPPORTERS OF NADCA. IT IS NOT AN OFFICIAL DECLARATION OF NADCA POLICY OR CONCENSUS IN ALL INSTANCES.

YE ED - *William D. Fitzwater*

This is a little early again but I'm trying to get my toothbrush and enough film together for Alaska. This and Hawaii earlier this year brings the total number of states Ann and I have been in up to 49. Somehow we've missed (if you can call it that) little Rhode Island.

I hope some of you are able to attend the predator control meeting at San Angelo in September as it promises to be a good one. Will let you know about the proceedings when they are available. As stated before I hope to keep the costs around $4.00. You might give me a tenative order so Ill know how many to get printed.

Would appreciate your signing up early as it does make it easier for me. Also please shake the bushes for new members. We've basically got a good organization and I know THE PROBE gets a much wider distribution than goes out of this office. Let the freeloaders contribute to NADCA if they want to read it. Depending upon funds and materials submitted, I may get out an October issue but right now am planning on a last one in November. THE PROBE is supposed to be bimonthly but you've already gotten 8 issues (an even 100 pages at that) so far this year.

Adios,

Fitz

National
Animal
Damage
Control
Association

3919 Alta Monte, NE
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87110

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ALBUQUERQUE N M
PERMIT NO 1005

FORWARDING AND RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED