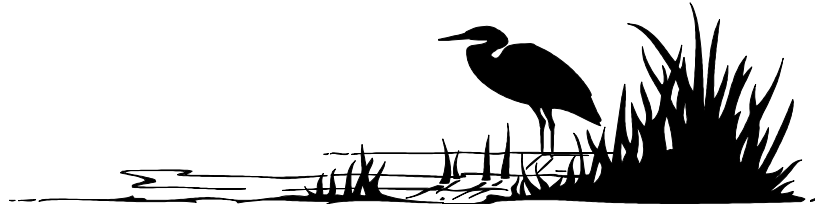


# Donald A. Molde, M.D.

3290 Penfield Circle  
Reno, Nevada 89502



June 23, 2010

## NEVADA BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS: REPORT CARD

Effectiveness in using sportsmen's dollars to enhance the mule deer population

in Nevada by killing predators as its only major strategy; an 11-year look.

Table 1.

FISCAL YEAR	COYOTES KILLED	LIONS KILLED	MULE DEER NUMBERS	SPORTSMEN'S DOLLARS SPENT
2010	(7950)	(187)	107,000	FY 10 (est) \$557,330
2009	(7950)	(187)	106,000	FY 04-09 (est) \$2 million
2008	9420	215	108,000	
2007	10,468	180	114,000	
2006	8427	154	110,000	
2005	7370	141	107,000	
2004	8454	238	105,000	
2003	6135	170	109,000	FY 00-03 \$608,400
2002	5896	209	108,000	
2001	7163	227	129,000	
2000	8215	164	133,000	
TOTALS	87,551	2072	110,000 10-year avg.	\$3,165,000 (est)

## Explanations for Table 1.

- Coyote kill numbers represent all sources of mortality, and are a combination of numbers from APHIS/Wildlife Services annual activity reports, and from NDOW's Statewide Fur Harvest summary. Obviously, coyote deaths are somewhat higher than the numbers shown because of unreported coyote killings.
- Lion kill numbers also represent all sources of mortality and are a combination of NDOW's lion harvest data (sportsmen + depredation) and APHIS/Wildlife Services annual activity reports. Until I am told differently, I do not believe NDOW includes APHIS/Wildlife Services lion kills in its annual summary reports.
- Mule deer population estimates are taken from NDOW's Big Game Population Estimate History, 1976-2010.
- Coyote and lion kill numbers for FY 09-10 are extrapolated by averaging the previous nine years shown on the table. This is necessary because APHIS/Wildlife Services does not yet have its data posted for those two fiscal years. The reader can judge whether the estimates are sensible.
- Financial estimates of expenditures by NDOW for FY 04-09 represents my best judgment, based upon an expected annual income of about \$350,000 from the predator fee for each of those years, and the amount of carry-over shown in NDOW's FY 2010 Predator Management Plan budget. I am fairly confident of the FY 00-03 number. The FY 2010 number comes directly from the Predator Management Plan for FY 2010 document.
- NDOW's financial contracts with APHIS/Wildlife Services do not fund the latter agency's entire budget, but simply represent reimbursement for work done on behalf of NDOW/Commission. Recently, that financial commitment to APHIS/Wildlife Services represents approximately \$250,000 - \$400,000/year.

## GRADES:

- Creativity/flexibility/ability to adjust strategy/evaluate results: **F**
- Benefit derived for sportsmen/mule deer/general public for resources expended: **F**

Send all comments, suggestions, opposing ideas to [skyshrink@aol.com](mailto:skyshrink@aol.com).

Donald A. Molde, M.D

