

Ecology and Behavior of the Coyotes in Jackson Hole

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Investigations were continued on the coyote population in Jackson Hole. Eighteen dens were located and observations were made involving denning and related behavior. As in 1971, one den contained two pair of adults and 10 pups. One pair being the same as in 1971 while the second pair was new. The pair that shared this den in 1971 was in a new den this year and had 6 pups. This new den was less than one mile from the original. By the end of June, these three pairs were occupying the area of the new den and all the pups (16) were using the den. Another den contained three adults, one male and two females and their three pups. One of these females was a yearling. The average number of pups per den was 4.7.

Home range investigations indicated that the coyotes on the National Elk Refuge are territorial during the denning season. These observations were made on coyotes ear tagged in 1970. Trapping and tagging operations were again initiated and food habits material was collected.

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