

manage wolves in Montana to conserve the wolf population above recovery levels and to also minimize conflicts with people. MTFWP's active participation in wolf conservation and management will help to increase local acceptance and tolerance of wolves.

In addition to conducting traditional wolf management such as, population monitoring, research, and public outreach, this agreement also authorizes Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks to be a 'designated agent' of the Service for purposes of wolf management in the nonessential experimental population areas of Montana according to the 2005 10j experimental population rule. This agreement also, in conjunction with appropriate federal permits, authorizes Montana to conduct traditional wolf management such as population monitoring, direct problem wolf control, coordinate and authorize research, and coordinate and lead wolf information and education programs for endangered wolves in northern Montana.

#### IV. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARTIES:

##### A. The Service shall:

1. Conduct all Endangered Species Act Section 7 consultation throughout Montana.
2. Issue written authorization for wolf take by private citizens on tribal reservations.
3. Coordinate with tribal authorities for non-lethal and lethal wolf control, population monitoring, and wolf management on tribal reservations.
4. Provide all appropriate and necessary federal permits to MTFWP to carry out wolf management in Montana.
5. Loan existing Service-owned wolf-related field equipment already being used in Montana to assist MTFWP to carry out wolf management and the duties and responsibilities identified in this Agreement.
6. Provide annual funding to MTFWP to assist the state to carry out wolf management and the duties and responsibilities identified in this Agreement.
7. Lead law enforcement efforts involving the Endangered Species Act and other federal laws regarding wolves in Montana while cooperating and coordinating with MTFWP and other agencies as appropriate.
8. Assist MTFWP, as requested and as resources allow, for overall program administration and assist in coordination on wolf issues involving adjacent states.

##### B. MTFWP shall:

1. Implement the Montana Wolf Conservation and Management Plan to the extent permitted by federal regulations and policy on all lands within Montana outside of tribal reservation boundaries, national parks and national wildlife refuges.