



HUMAN WILDLIFE CONFLICT WORKING GROUP

116th AFWA Annual Meeting

Lancaster Marriott at Penn Square
Lancaster, Pennsylvania

Chair: Brian Wakeling (Montana)
Vice-Chair: Tricia Hebdon (Idaho)

Wednesday, September 16th, 2026
10:15 AM – 12:15 PM

Agenda

- Call to Order/Review Agenda/Introductions/Approval of Minutes from the previous meeting (Tricia Hebdon)
- USDA-APHIS-Wildlife Services (Jessica Fantinato, Deputy Administrator)
- Berryman Institute: Progress on the update to “Managing Cougars in North America” (Nicki Frey, Utah State University, Berryman Institute)
- Update on AFWA HWC WG Publications: (Bryant White)
 - [Urban Coyotes as a Source of Conflict with Humans: An Evaluation of Common Management Practices](#) (distributed, online)
 - **Best Practices for Managing Human–Beaver Conflicts in North America: Balancing Ecological Benefits and Human Interests** (distributed, online)
 - **“How State Wildlife Agencies Manage Human–Wildlife Conflict: A Nationwide Assessment”** (Julie K. Young (*Utah State University*), Lou Cornicelli (*Southwick Associates*), Bill Moritz (*Wildlife Management Institute*), Bryant White (*Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies*), Brian F. Wakeling (*Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks*))
 - **Methods for Mitigating Wolf Interactions to Reduce Conflict** (draft for approval)
 - Next up: Managing Grizzly Bear-Human Conflicts (Summer, 2027)
 - Other new conflict publications of interest: Mountain Sheep, Wild Turkeys
- Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessment for the Use of Wildlife Damage Management Methods by APHIS-Wildlife Services (Bryant White)
- Wording change to Wildlife Resource Policy Committee charge (Tricia Hebdon)
- Roundtable: State/Federal/Tribal/Provincial/Regional Associations/AFWA Members
- Wrap-up Discussion and Assignments for Next Meeting (Tricia Hebdon)