

Incident Report #250226



CATRON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
100 MAIN STREET
PO BOX 467
RESERVE, NM 87830
(575) 533-6222

Event Info

Date Reported 07/27/2025	Time Reported 12:01	Time Dispatched 12:03	Time Arrived 00:00	Time Completed 12:04
Addr. of Occ. McCarty Ranch	City CATRON COUNTY	District CATRON COUNTY	Grid CATRON COUNTY	
How Reported OFFICER OBSERVATION		Dispatch Disposition RPT		

Dispatch Notes

CALL TYPE: WOLF ISSUE
Open cad add case give to C2 Hays 7/27/2025 12:03:45 PM
Case number 250226 7/27/2025 12:03:59 PM

Agency 1 CATRON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE	Initial Investigator HAYS, RONNY
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Classification Completed

Class ANIMAL PROBLEM	Subclass Dead Animal
Hate/Bias Motivation NONE	Auto Weapon Indicator No

Rptg party

Name Type RPTG PARTY	Name NELSON, BILLY
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Business

Name Type Business	Name CATRON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE		Alias CATRON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE	
Address PO BOX 467	City RESERVE	State NM	Zip 87830	Main (575) 533-6222

Narrative

Written By HAYS, RONNY	Date Written 07/27/2025
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On Tuesday, July 22, 2025, Sheriff Hughes dispatched Catron County Sheriff's Office Public Safety and Depredation Control Officer Bill Nelson to the McCarty Ranch north of Reserve to look into a report of a possible wolf sighting at the McCarty ranch house. Billy McCarty had taken a photograph of the animal he thought was a Mexican Gray Wolf in his yard. (See attached photo) The photograph was of a large coyote. Bill Nelson deployed some traps in the area in an attempt to catch the coyote.

On July 27, 2025, at approximately 0814 hours, I received notification from Catron County Sheriff's Office Public Safety and Depredation Control Officer Bill Nelson that he caught a Mexican Gray Wolf on the McCarty Ranch just north of Reserve, New Mexico. Nelson sent me a photograph of the wolf in the trap. (See attached photo of live

wolf) Nelson stated that he was waiting for Billy McCarty to come to the trap location and assist him in releasing the wolf.

At approximately 0826 hours Nelson called me on the phone and stated that while they were releasing the wolf the wolf died. Nelson stated that he attempted to contact four members of the USFW Wolf Program to report the fatality, he stated that he was unable to reach anyone but that he left messages. I responded to the McCarty Ranch and met with Nelson and documented the location where the wolf was caught. While en-route to Reserve I attempted to contact USFW Agent Mike Snodgrass by phone and via text message.

ON X maps application was used to obtain a GPS location, ON X MAPS plotted the location at coordinates 33 degrees 44.171N, 108 degrees 45.630W.

Nelson set a blind set in a trail that contained coyote tracks, equine tracks. There was a pair of wolf tracks that were on top of the coyote and equine tracks. The larger of the two wolf tracks appeared to be consistent with the paw size of the deceased wolf.

I photographed the area of the set, the trail and the tracks in the area. (see attached photos)

I was unable to contact USFW Agent Mike Snodgrass, so I contacted New Mexico Game and Fish Sergeant Adan Jacquez. Sergeant Jacquez advised he would send NMGF Officer Joshua Wright to meet with us and take custody of the carcass.

Nelson and I met with New Mexico Game and Fish Officer Wright at the Sheriff's Office in Reserve, New Mexico. Officer Wright interviewed Nelson and took possession of the wolf carcass and placed it in cold storage.

Case Management

Initial Investigator
HAYS, RONNY

Graphics



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