



## SUN RANCH, MONTANA

OCTOBER 24-26, 2008

19 UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS, 1 GRADUATE STUDENT MENTOR

**PURPOSE:** to take the students to a place where they could see how people were dealing with human-wildlife conflict issues on the ground. The Sun Ranch has tried many new ways of dealing with wolf-livestock conflict and has tried to minimize the loss of life on both ends of that equation. By getting the students into this environment, we hoped to help them understand the severity of the conflict, and the creativity that can be used in solving it.

**EXPOSURE:** elk-livestock conflicts in disease transmission, grazing and ranch management issues faced by the Sun Ranch

**EXPERIENCES:** Visits to a wolf den and rendezvous site

Range monitoring exercise performed by the students

Ranch tour with discussions about wolf, elk, and other wildlife issues

Evening fireside discussions with ranch manager James Stuart as well as other local ranchers

Discussions and demonstrations of methods used to minimize wildlife-livestock-human conflict



[This trip] really helped me make some decisions about where I want to go with my education and helped me understand the relationships and compromises that different groups are going to have to make. – Chris Jorgensen, Animal Science



Sleeping outside listening to the wolves was a great memory. – Dustin Lamoreaux, Wildlife Science