Teanaway Community Forest – Seasonal Wildlife Concentrations and Sensitive Sites

Seasonal Wildlife Concentration Areas

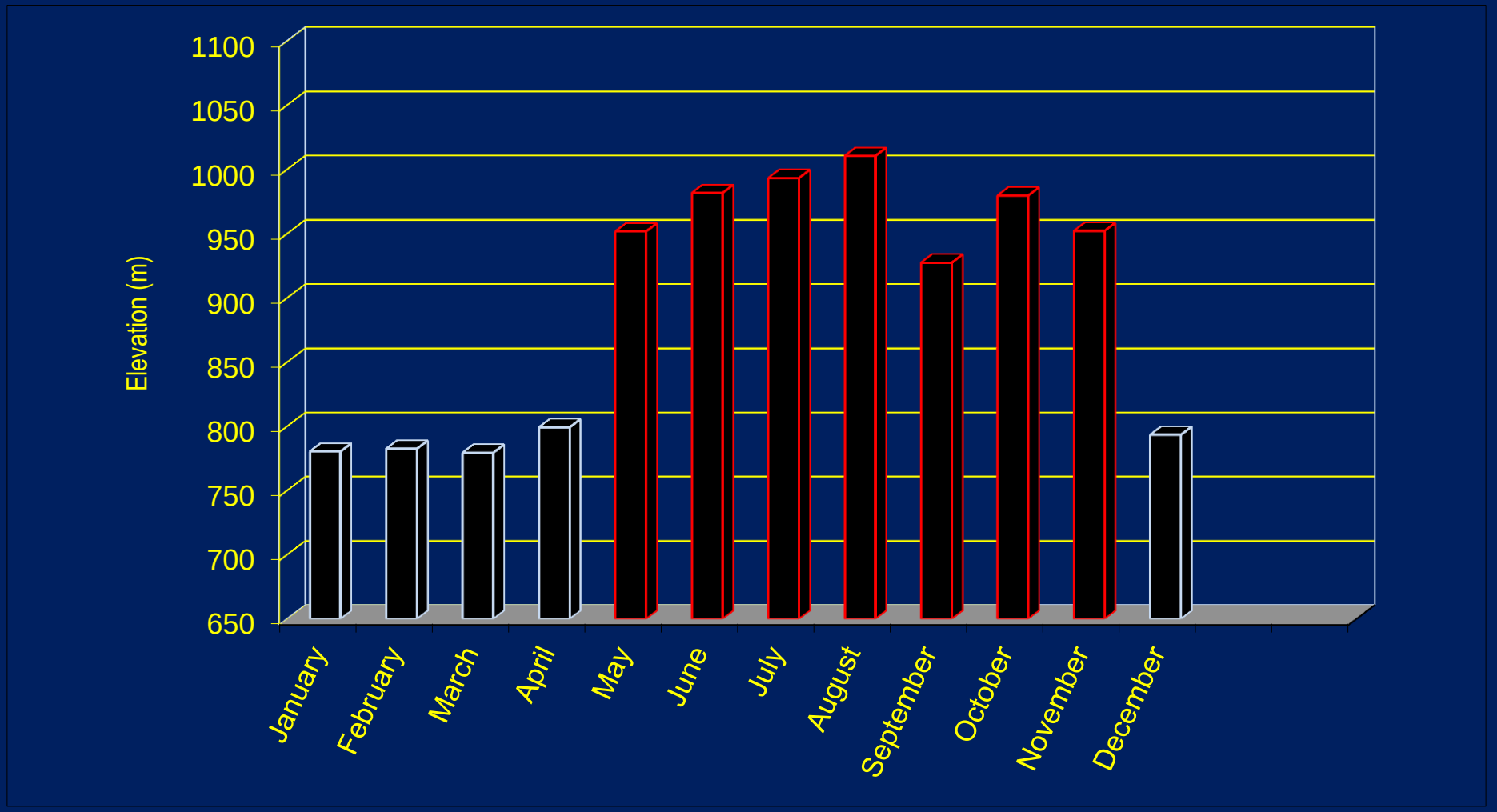
Ungulate distribution

- Aerial surveys
- Minimal telemetry location data

Carnivore distribution

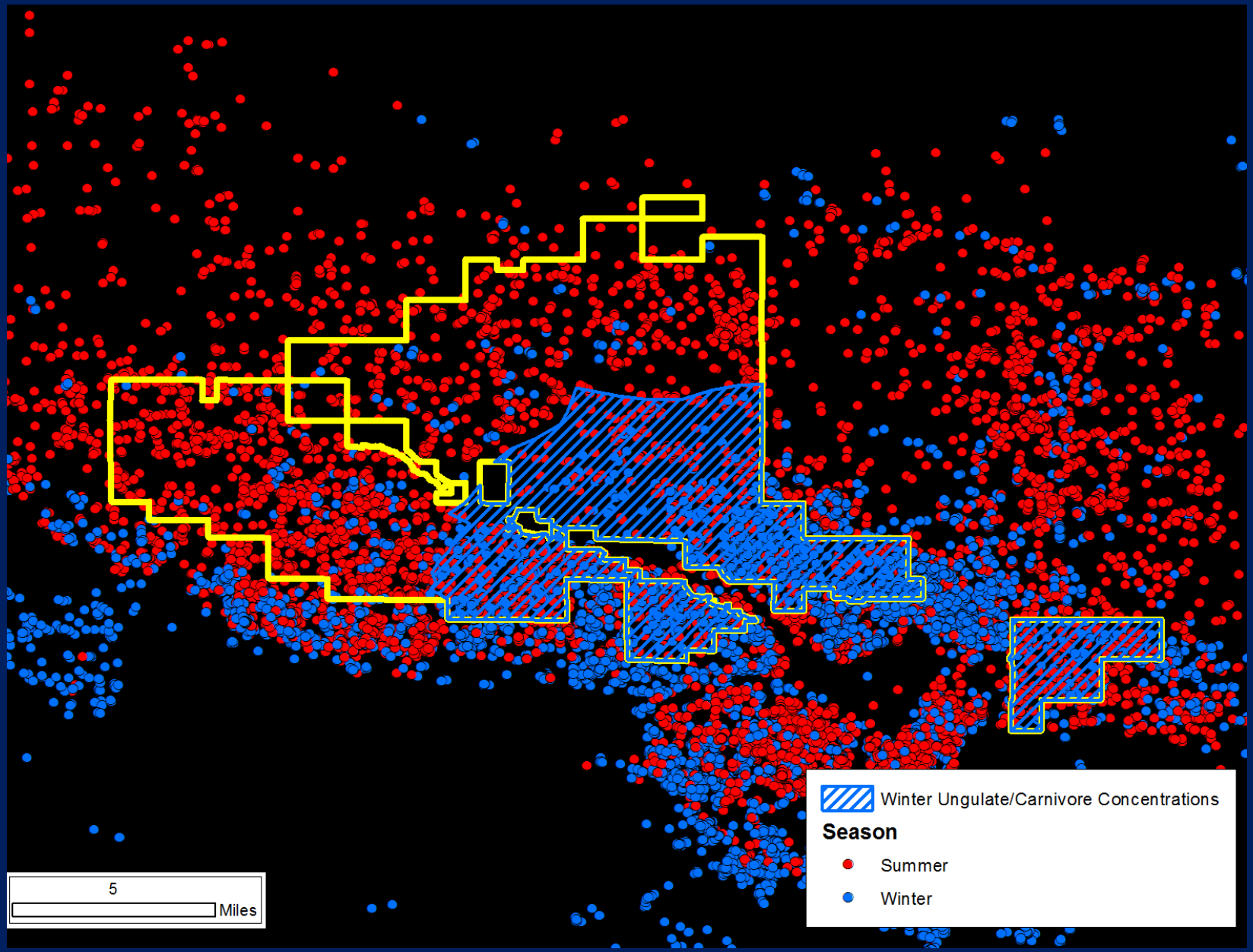
- Project CAT (Cougars and Teaching) 2000 - 2009
- Wolf monitoring data
- Surrogate for winter ungulate concentration areas

Average Elevation Used by Cougars

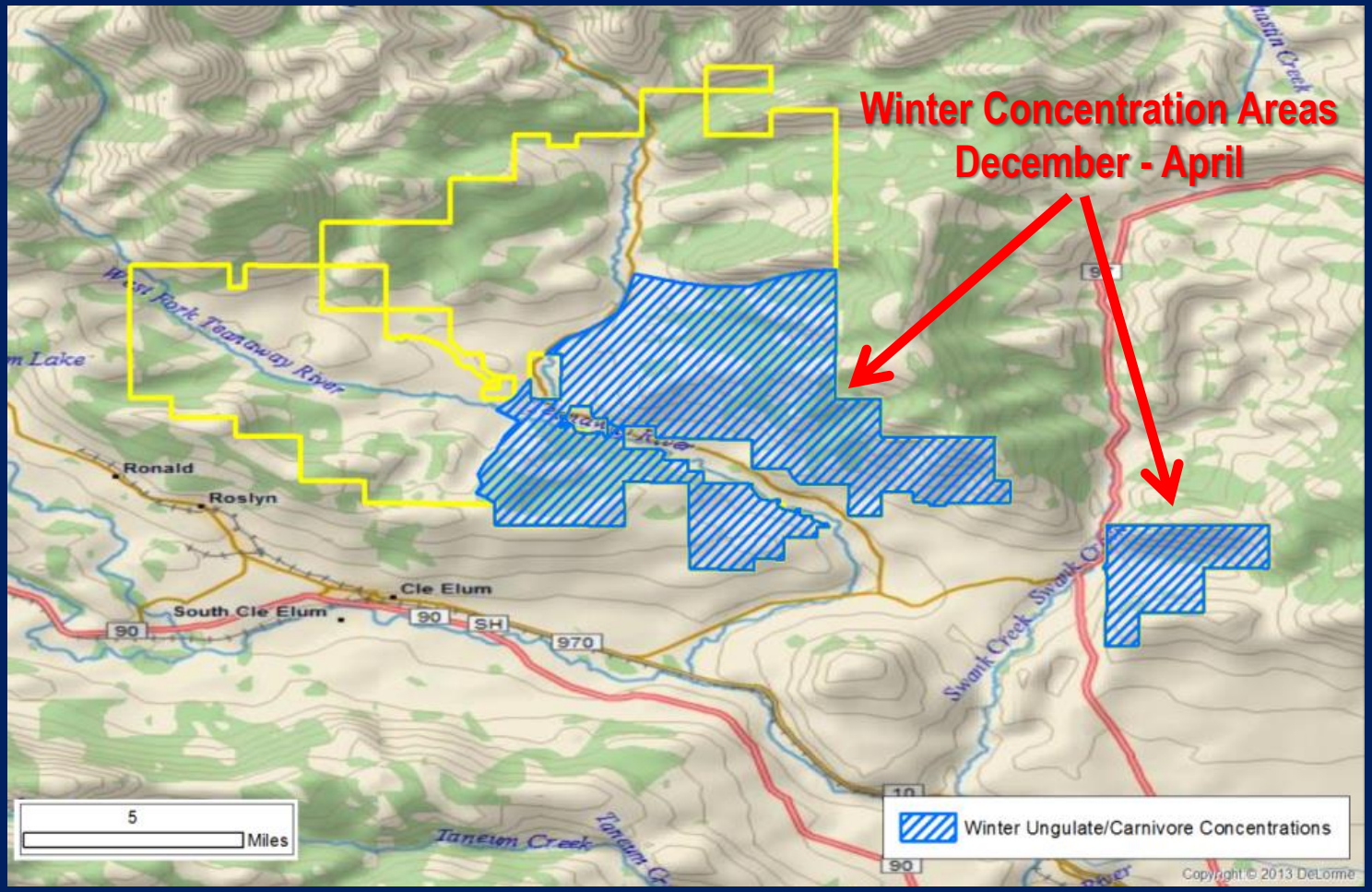


Maletzke, B.T., G.M. Koehler, and W. Meyer. 2005. Identifying I-90 Wildlife Corridors Using GIS & GPS: Spatial-Temporal Model of Landscape Use by GPS Marked Cougars. Washington State Department of Transportation, Olympia, WA

Seasonal Wildlife Concentration Areas



Seasonal Wildlife Concentration Areas



Reduced human activities to minimize

- Stress on ungulates and other wildlife
- Carnivore/human conflict

Seasonal Wildlife Concentration Areas

Strategies:

- Minimize the impact of recreation, grazing, and forest management during these times.
- Minimize trail systems through ungulate/carnivore winter range
- Consider seasonal road closures if appropriate
- Provide signage to keep users away from these sites

Ex: Suncadia Trails

Sensitive Sites

- Breed – February
- Denning/Birthing – April
- Weaned/Rendezvous – 2 mo
- Travel with adults – 3 mo
- Actively hunt – 7-8 mo
- Full size by 9 mo

Sensitive Sites ~ Wolf Denning Area

- Occurs Apr 15th – July 1st
- Currently these road networks are gated roads
- Grazing allotments overlap this area

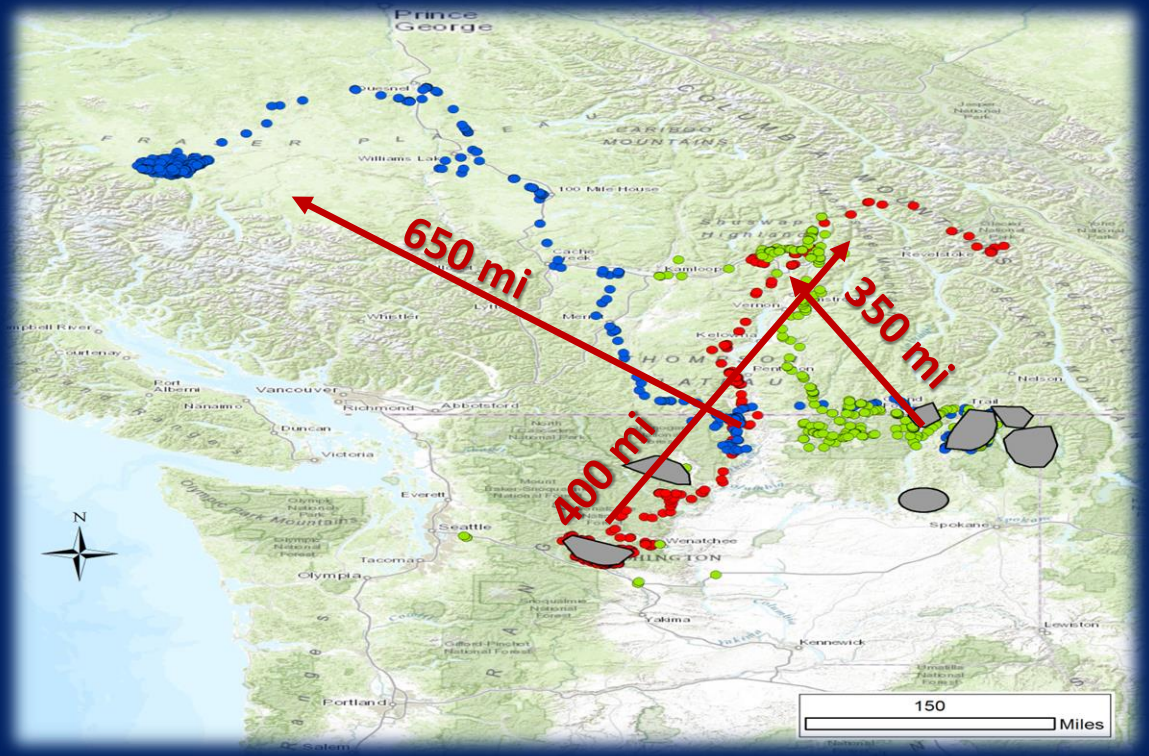
Sensitive Sites ~ Wolves Denning

Strategies:

- Minimize the impact of recreation, grazing, and forest management during these times.
- Minimize trail systems near sensitive sites
- Consider seasonal road closures if appropriate
- Consider timing of year cattle graze these areas

Identify and protect natural corridors and migration routes

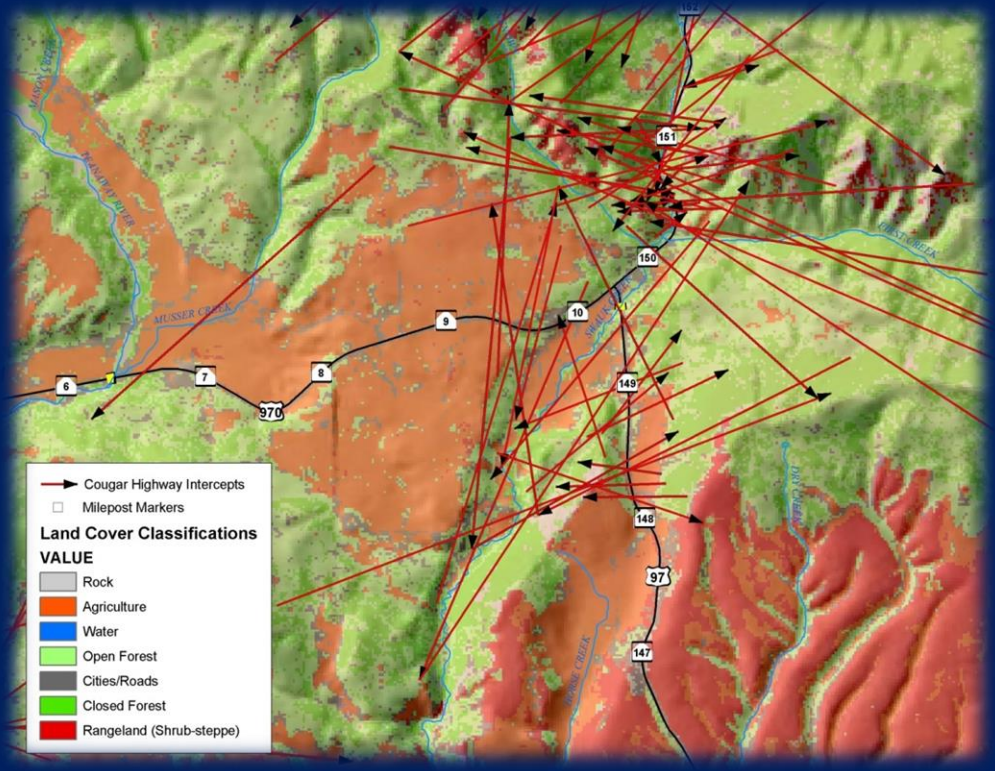
Wolf Movements and Dispersal Ability



Highly mobility…still requires connectivity

Natural corridors and migration routes

Landscape features and configurations can create natural corridors



Cougar crossings along highway 970 and 97

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Natural corridors and migration routes

Strategies:

- Identify locations and actions on the TCF to improve habitat connectivity
  - (+) Ridgelines and riparian areas funnel movements
  - (+) Identify areas with existing spatial data
  - (+) Identify contiguous blocks of habitat (vegetation, topography)
  - (-) Human use (Residential development, campgrounds, trail heads)

- Limit fencing or consider designs more suitable for wildlife travel

- Work with neighboring landowners to improve landscape-scale wildlife connectivity