



*Photos by Mark Gocke, WGFD*

## Shirley Basin, Wyoming Reintroduction Site Profile

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**Date Updated:** February 2010

**Location:** South-central Wyoming

**Species of PD:** White-tailed Prairie Dog      **Acres of PD:** 150,000

**Land ownership:** 37% Public land, 55% Private land, 8% State land

**Years of ferret reintroduction:** 1991-1994 (Shirley Basin), 2005-2006 (Shirley Rim and Arlington Areas)

**Number of ferrets released to date:** 228 (1991-1994), 250 (2005-2006)

**Estimated population size:** 250 (Shirley Basin only)

**Research activities:** Population estimation techniques and black-footed ferret demography (2005-2008)

**Site challenges:** Diseases, very large site which makes surveying difficult,

**Volunteer or visitor opportunities:** Limited opportunities. Some need for volunteers during spotlighting efforts.

**Education staff and activities:** none

**Future plans:** Expand ferret population throughout the existing ferret recovery area. We plan to continue to document abundance, dispersal, and distribution through spotlight surveys.

**Other information:** Largest black-footed ferret recovery area in North America. The black-footed ferret in Shirley Basin, occurs predominantly on private lands. Close cooperation with private landowners is the key to our success.

