



# GLOBAL WILDLIFE RESOURCES INC.

MARK R. JOHNSON DVM, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## **Wolf Capture and Handling Workshop Minnesota Zoo April 1-2, 2009**

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **A. Instructor:**

Mark R. Johnson DVM  
Executive Director  
Global Wildlife Resources, Inc.  
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Website: [www.wildliferesources.org](http://www.wildliferesources.org)  
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#### **B. Participants**

#### **C. Workshop Objectives**

1. Bring to the zoo techniques, equipment and perspectives from many captive wolf facilities from around the country.
2. Create opportunity among zoo staff to practice & discuss animal handling and related topics.

### **CAPTURE METHODS**

#### **A. Using the Facilities**

1. Holding pens
2. Security boxes
3. Portable barriers

#### **B. Netting**

1. Types
2. Strategies for placing netters and staff
3. The Y pole and towel added to improve netting
4. Teaching wolves to choose the Y pole

#### **C. Y Pole**

1. Lower energy than net
2. Dominance with compassion
3. Utilizing the canid submissive "trance"
4. Proper use and technique

## **PHYSICAL RESTRAINT**

### **A. Y Pole – the first to touch the canid**

Heart of the Earth Animal Equipment; [www.animal-traps.com](http://www.animal-traps.com)

1. Construction
2. Strategy and technique: Combining dominance with compassion
3. Adding the towel and other tools

### **B. Scruff**

### **C. Headcover**

*Four Flags Over Aspen, St. Claire, MN; [www.fourflags.com](http://www.fourflags.com)*

### **D. Grouncloth**

### **E. Hobbles**

*NRS, [www.nrsweb.com](http://www.nrsweb.com)*

### **F. Lateral restraint**

### **G. Crating a wolf**

## **HOW DO WE HANDLE OURSELVES?**

### **A. Care, Honor, And Respect For Every Animal (And Colleague)**

### **B. Stay Connected**

### **C. Learn From Every Animal**

### **D. The Energy of Conflict**

### **E. Ebb and Flow for Handling Canids**

### **F. Team Dynamics**

## **CHEMICAL IMMOBILIZATION**

### **A. Principles Of Immobilization**

1. Ketamine and xylazine effects
2. Ketamine and xylazine interactions
- 3.. Options when anesthetized animal begins to respond
  - a. Continue working
    - 1) Extend anesthesia (redosing)
    - 2) Work without more anesthetic
  - b. Release animal
    - 1) Antagonize drug
    - 2) Allow animal to awake slowly without an antagonist

## **B. Drug Delivery Systems**

1. Syringe Pole  
Ag-Tek syringe Pole, 10cc Model S100  
*Kane Enterprises, [www.ag-tek.co](http://www.ag-tek.co)*
2. DanInject pistol  
*See <http://www.dan-inject-northamerica.com/> for dart care and maintenance*

## **C. Addressing Animal Health**

1. Vital Signs
2. Body Position

## **TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION**

### **A. Marking Animals**

1. Ear tagging
2. Tattoos
3. Microchips

### **B. Weighing**

### **C. Pen Design**

### **D. Planning Capture Events**

### **E. Preparing for Disasters**