

---

*(Canis lupus)*

\*

( / / : / / : )

(SE= / ) /  
(F( , )= / P= / )

(t = / df= P= / )

*Canis lupus* :

...

Okarma )

.(*et al.*, 1998

.(Mech & Boitani, 2003)

Fuller *et al.*, )

*Canin lupus* (Sykes, 1831)

1992; Fuller, 1989; Messier, 1985; Fritts & Mech, 1981; Mech, 1970; Theuerkauf *et al.*, 2003; (Okarma *et al.*, 1998; Thurber & Peterson, 1993

(Etemad, 1985)

*pallipes*

Geffen Hefner

Ziaie, )

(1999)

(2008) Boitani Mech (2008

%

" "

Etemad (1976) Dareshuri Harrington

(2008) Ziaie (1985)

.(Mech, 1970, 1974, 2000)

Forbes, 2004; Bath & Enck, 2003; Glenz *et al.*, )

.(2001; Bath, 1998

" "

.(Ziaie, 2008)

.(Hefner & Geffen, 1999)

.(Mech, 1974)

" "

Mech & Boitani, )

(2003; Fuller, 1989; Peterson, 1977; Zimen, 1976

.(Mech & Boitani, 2003)

(Hosseini-Zavarei *et al.*, 2010)

( :

.(Theuerkauf *et al.*, 2003; Mech, 1974)

(

(

Sidorovich *et al.*, 2007; Thurber & )

.(Peterson, 1993

<sup>1</sup> Pack

<sup>2</sup> Foraging group

---

(Whittington, 2002; Thurber *et al.*, 1993)

(Whittington, 2002)

( × )

( < )

/ /

(Darvishsefat, 2006)

( )

*Astragalus* ) (*Artemisia sp.*)

Pouyesh Jameh Consultant, ) (sp.  
(2002)

*Ovis orientalis* )

(*isphahanica*

(*Capra* (*Gazella subgutturosa*)

(*Vulpes* (*Canis aureus*) *aegagrus*)

(*Hyaena hyeana*) *vulpes*)

(Okarma *et al.*, 1998; Thurber & Peterson, 1993)

(*Panthera pardus*)

Pouyesh Jameh )

(Busch, 1995)

(Consultant, 2002)

---

<sup>1</sup> Nikon

<sup>2</sup> EOS Canon

<sup>3</sup> Snow-tracking

...

/

(% )

df= , P= / )

(t= / ,

/

(n= )% / . (SE= / )

/

/

(SE= / )

/

(SE= / )

(t= / , df= , P= / )

Theuerkauf *et al.*, )  
2003; Okarma *et al.*, 1998; Thurber & Peterson,  
(1993

P= / )

SPSS ver.17

(F( , )= /

( ) (P> / )

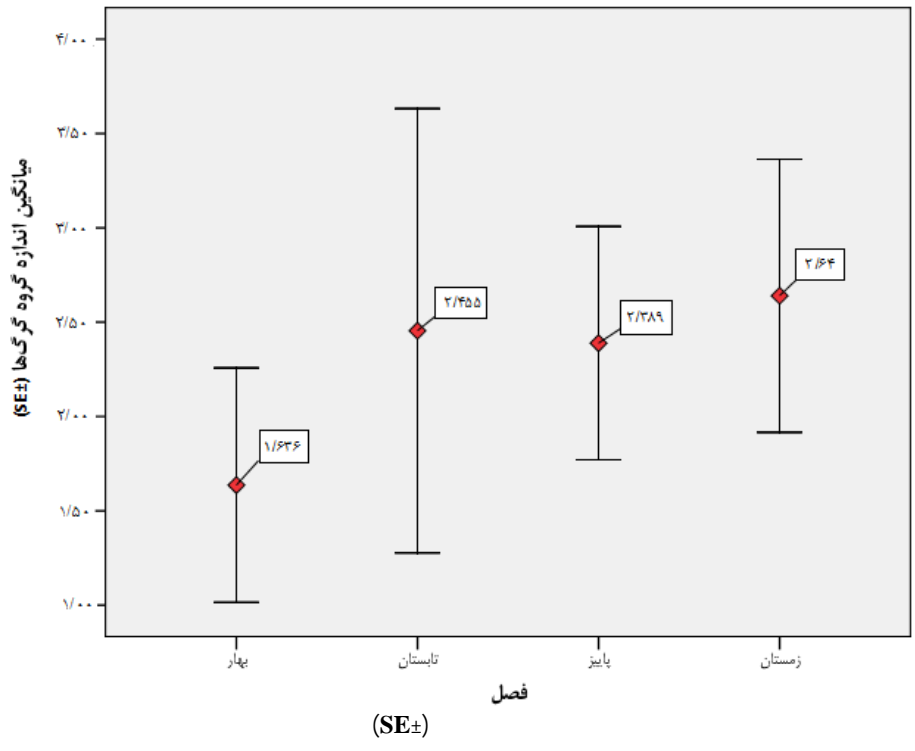
(T-Test )

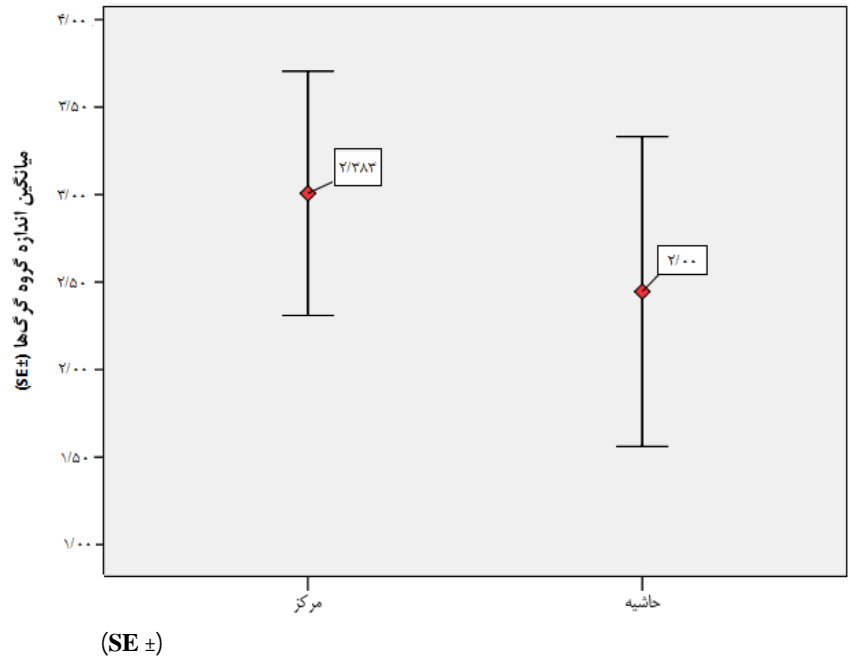
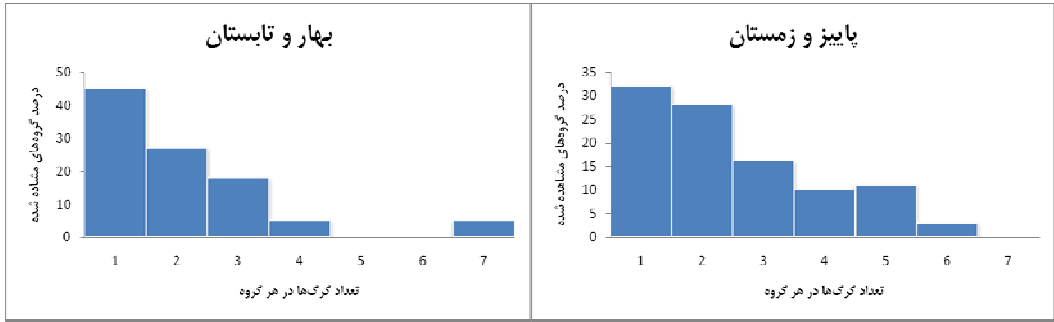
( )

---

$(SE = / ) /$   $( / )$   
 $(SE = / )$   $(SE = / )$   
 $(SE = / ) /$   $(t = / \quad df = \quad P = / )$   
 $(t = / \quad , df = \quad , P = / )$   $(P < / )$

/	/		
/	/		
/	/		
/	/		





Theuerkauf *et al.*, ) ( ) (n= ) %  
(2003; Glenz *et al.*, 2001; Okarma *et al.*, 1998 ( )  
Fuller, ) (Cayuela, 2004)  
(1989)

---

%

Hefner & Geffen, )

(1999

(Shalmon, 1986) (1970) Mech

Hefner & ) ( )

(Mech & Boitani, 2004)

(Geffen, 1999) / ± /

(Hefner & Geffen, 1999)

((SE= / ) / )

(1992) Boitani

Hefner & )

(Geffen, 1999

)

(

(Theuerkauf *et al.*, 2003)

(Okarma *et al.*, 1998) /

Busch, 1995; )

(Mech, 1970) Mech & )

(n> ) (Boitani, 2003; Fuller, 1989

(Abdoli *et al.*, 2009)

*Cervus elaphus*

(Nowak, 2005; Okarma, 1995)

...

---

% ( ) (Busch, 1995)  
(Jedrzejewska *et al.*, 1996)

(Abdoli *et al.*, 2009)  
)

/ (

)

(

Singh & Kumara, 2006; )  
(Theuerkauf *et al.*,2003; Hefner & Geffen, 1999

/

Ballard *et al.*, 1987; Mech,)

(1970

( )

(Sidorovich *et al.*, 2007)  
(Mech, 1974)

(Mech & Boitani, 2003)

( // )



---

## References

- Abdoli, A., M.S. Farhadinia, F. Hosseini-Zavarei, A. Sadeghi and M. Beheshti-Zavareh. 2009. Ecological Investigation on Gray Wolf and its Interaction with Wild and Domestic Ungulates in Ghamishlou Wildlife Refuge and National park. Department of the Environment, Isfahan, Iran, 180p. (in Persian)
- Ballard, W.B., J.S. Withman and C.L. Gardner. 1987. Ecology of an Exploited Wolf Population in South Central Alaska. Wildlife Monographs, 98p.
- Bath, A.J. 1998. The Role of Human Dimensions in Wildlife Resource Research in Wildlife Management. *Ursus*, 10: 349-355.
- Bath, J.B. and J.W. Enck. 2003. Wildlife-human Interactions in National Parks in Canada and the USA. *Social Science Research Review*, 4(1): 1-32.
- Boitani, L. 1992. Wolf Research and Conservation in Italy. *Biological Conservation*, 61:125-132.
- Busch, R.H. 1995. The Wolf Almanac. University Press, Guilford, 226p.
- Cayuela, L. 2004. Habitat Evaluation for the Iberian Wolf, *Canis lupus*, in Picos de Europa National Park, Spain. *Applied Geography*, 24: 199–215.
- Darvishsefat, A.A. 2006. Atlas of Protected Areas of Iran. Department of the Environment Press, Tehran, Iran, 157p. (in Persian)
- Etemad, E. 1985. Mammals of Iran. Vol. 2, Department of the Environment Press, Tehran, Iran, 293p. (in Persian)
- Forbes, G. 2004. Managing for Wildlife in Canada. In: Mitchell, B. (Eds.), Resources and Environmental Management in Canada: Addressing conflict and uncertainty (3rd Eds.), Don Mills, Ontario, Oxford University Press, UK: 287-313.
- Fritts, S.H. and L.D. Mech. 1981. Dynamics, Movements and Feeding Ecology of a Newly Protected Wolf Population in Northwestern Minnesota. *Wildlife Monographs*, 80: 1-79.
- Fuller, T.K. 1989. Population Dynamic of Wolf in North-central Minnesota. *Wildlife Monographs*, 105p.
- Fuller, T.K., W.E. Berg, G.L. Radde, M.S. Lenarz and G.B. Joselyn. 1992. A History and Current Estimate of Wolf Distribution and Numbers in Minnesota. *Wildlife Society Bulletin* 20: 42-55.
- Glenz, C., A. Massolo, D. Kuonen and R. Schlaepfer. 2001. A Wolf Habitat Suitability Prediction Study in Valais (Switzerland). *Landscape and Urban Planning*, 55: 55-65.
- Harrington, F.A. and B.F. Dareshuri. 1976. A Guide to the Mammals of Iran. Department of the Environment Press, Tehran, Iran, , 93p. (in Persian)
- Hefner R. and E. Geffen. 1999. Group Size and Home Range of the Arabian Wolf (*Canis lupus*). *Journal of Mammalogy*, 80(2): 611-619.
- Hosseini-Zavarei f., Farhadinia M.S., Hemami M. R., Karami M., Daniali R. and Omidi M. 2010. Sex-age structure of bovids in Ghamishlou, Central Iran. *Zoology in the Middle East*, 48: 25–34
- Jędrzejewska, B., W. Jędrzejewski, A.N. Bunevich, L. Milkowski and H. Okarma. 1996. Population Dynamics of Wolves, *Canis lupus*, in Białowieża Primeval Forest (Poland & Belarus) in Relation to Hunting by Humans, 1847-1993. *Mammal review*, 26: 103-126.
- Mech, L.D. 1970. The Wolf, the Ecology & Behavior of an Endangered Species, Minnesota. University Press, Minnesota, 384p.
- Mech, L.D. 1974. *Canis lupus*, Mammalian Species. 37: 1-6. The American Society of Mammalogists. Available at: [www.mammalsociety.org].

...

- 
- Mech, L.D. and L. Boitani (Eds). 2003. *Wolves: Behavior, Ecology & Conservation*. University Press, Chicago & London, 448P.
  - Mech, L.D. and L. Boitani. 2004. *Canis lupus*. (In: Sillero-Zubiri, C., Hoffmann, M. and Macdonald, D.W. (Eds.), *Canids: Foxes, Wolves, Jackals and Dogs. Part 5: Europe and North and Central Asia (Palearctic)*. (pp. 124-129). Global Survey and Regional Action Plans. IUCN/SSC Canid Specialist Group. IUCN, Gland, Switzerland and Cambridge, UK).
  - Mech, L.D. and L. Boitani (Eds). 2008. *Canis lupus*. In: IUCN, 2010. *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species*. Version 2010.2. available at: [<http://www.iucnredlist.org/>]. Accessed: 13 August 2010.
  - Mech L.D. 2000. Leadership in Wolf, *Canis lupus* Packs. *Canadian Field Naturalist*, 114: 259-63.
  - Messier, F. 1985. Social Organization, Spatial Distribution and Population Density of Wolves in Relation to Moose Density. *Canadian Journal of Zoology*, 63: 1068-1077.
  - Nowak, S., R.W. Myslajek and B. Jedrzejewska. 2005. Patterns of Wolf, *Canis lupus*, Predation on Wild and Domestic Ungulates in the Western Carpathian Mountains (S Poland). *Acta theriologica*, 50 (2): 263-276.
  - Okarma, H., W. Jedrzejewski, K. Schmidt, S. Sniezko, A.N. Bunevich and B. Jedrzejewska. 1998. Home Ranges of Wolves in Bialowieza Primeval Forest, Poland, compared with other Eurasian population. *Journal of Mammalogy*, 79(3): 842-852.
  - Peterson, R.O. 1977. *Wolf Ecology and Prey Relationship on Isle Royale, United States National Park*. Service Scientific Monograph Series, 11:1-210.
  - Pouyesh Jameh Consultant. 2002. *Mass Plan of Ghamishlou Wildlife Refuge and National park*. Department of the Environment, Isfahan, Iran, , 254p. (in Persian)
  - Shalmon, B. 1986. Wolves in the Southern Arava. *Re'em*, 5: 60-74. (in Hebrew)
  - Sidorovich, V.E., V.P. Stolyarov, N. Vorobei, N.V. Ivanova and B. Jedrzejewska. 2007. Litter Size, Sex Ratio & Age Structure of Gray Wolves, *Canis lupus*, in Relation to Population Fluctuations in Northern Belarus. *Canadian journal of zoology*, 85: 295.
  - Singh, M. and H.N. Kumara. 2006. Distribution, Status and Conservation of Indian Grey Wolf *Canis lupus pallipes* in Karnataka, India. *Journal of Zoology*, 270: 164-169.
  - Theuerkauf, J., W. Jedrzejewski, K. Schmidt, H. Okarma, I. Ruczynsk, S. Sniezko and R. Gula. 2003. Daily Patterns & Duration of Wolf Activity in the Bialowieza Forest, Poland. *Journal of Mammalogy*, 84(1): 243-253.
  - Thurber, J.M. and R.O. Peterson. 1993. Effect of Population Density and Pack Size on the Foraging Ecology of Gray wolves. *Journal of Mammalogy*, 74(4): 879-889.
  - Thurber, J.M., R.O. Peterson, T.R. Drummer and S.A. Thomasma. 1994. Gray Wolf Response to Refuge Boundaries & Roads in Alaska. *Wildlife Society Bulletin*, 22: 61-68.
  - Whittington, j. 2002. *Movement of Wolves, Canis lupus, in Response to Human Development in Jasper National Park, Alberta*. M.Sc. Thesis, Department of Biological Sciences, University of Alberta, 93p.
  - Ziaie, H. 2008. *A Field Guide to the Mammals of Iran*. Department of the Environment Press, Tehran, Iran, , 419p. (in Persian)
  - Zimen, E. 1976. On the Regulation of Pack Size in Wolves. *Ztg. Tierpsychol*, 40: 300-341

## Group Size Variation of Grey Wolf (*Canis lupus*) in Ghamishlou Wildlife Refuge and National Park, Esfahan

F. Hosseini Zavarei\*<sup>1</sup>, M. S. Farhadinia<sup>1</sup>, A. Abdoli<sup>2</sup>, M. Beheshti Zavareh<sup>1</sup> and A. Sadeghi<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Iranian Cheetah Society (ICS), I.R. Iran

<sup>2</sup>Environmental Science Research Institute, Shahid Beheshti University, I.R. Iran

(Received: 26/02/2011 , Accepted: 29/09/2011)

### Abstract

Despite its largest range of distribution in comparison to other large carnivores in Iran, the grey wolf has been the least-studied carnivore in the country with limited available data on its ecology. Its social life and population composition have been investigated across its global range in Europe and North America; however, it has been less explored in arid environments of Asia. Accordingly, the grey wolves normally live in groups which their size is correlated with prey size and availability. Meanwhile, their group structure is affected by human exploitation. Present research was conducted between July 2007 and April 2009 in Ghameshlou Wildlife Refuge and National Park as an arid reserve with high density of domestic and wild ungulates. Transects covering various habitat types were patrolled monthly which as a result, 65 times wolves were encountered. Mean group size was calculated 2.37 (SE=0.19), seasonally around two individuals with no significant seasonal difference ( $P= 0.339$ ,  $df=3$ , ANOVA=1.143) and spatial difference ( $P=0.423$ ,  $df=58$ ,  $t=0.807$ ). Wolf group size in Ghameshlou is one of the smallest ever documented in the world which is maybe related to its prey size. Shooting and road incidents are the main factors of human-caused mortalities in Ghameshlou. Composition of sighted groups generates a hypothesis that the wolf population has a stable situation and is not heavily affected by human exploitation.

**Keywords:** Gray wolf, *Canis lupus*, Group size, Ghameshlou national park, Wildlife refuge