

Predators use linear features as highways, resulting in **unnaturally high predation rates** on central mountain caribou.



We tracked where caribou were killed by predators to see which linear features are riskiest, and therefore most important to restore.



GPS collars to track caribou locations

Killsite investigations



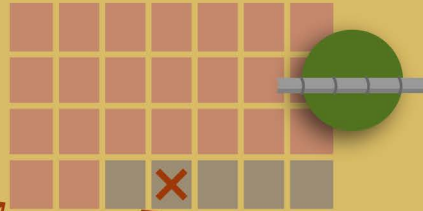
Analysis of locations prior to death



The caribou that were killed spent more time near pipelines, seismic lines, and streams in the weeks prior to their deaths compared to those that survived.

Pipelines

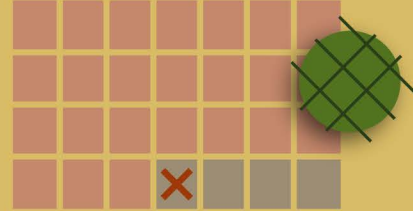
M T W T F S S



Death date
Increased risk of death

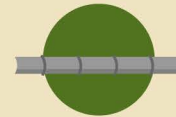
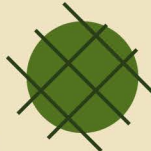
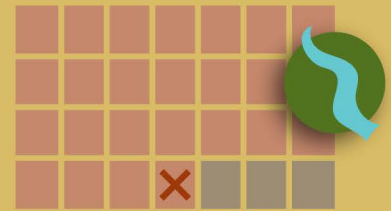
Seismic lines

M T W T F S S



Streams

M T W T F S S



Growing vegetation on linear features could stop predators from overusing them.

To reduce predation risk for caribou, land managers could focus their restoration efforts on pipelines and seismic lines.

McKay et al. (2021) *Ecology and Evolution* 11: 2234-2248.

Infographic by Wapiti Studios



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