

Rabies in Coconino County

Coconino County
Health Department
Marlene Gaither



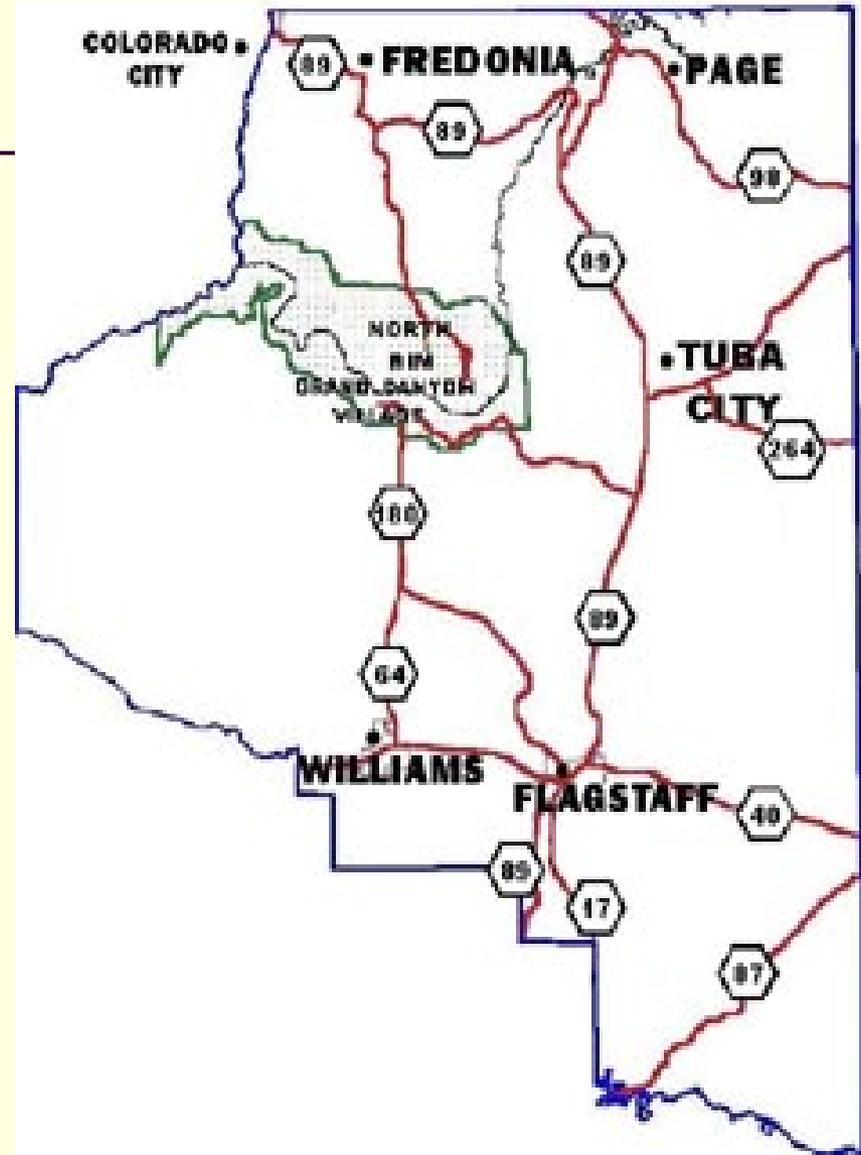
Sabrina Ferrat Animal Management Supervisor



Coconino County Animal Management

- Sabrina Ferrat, Supervisor
- Gail Cook, AM Officer
- Jack Roberts, AM Officer
- Plaz Alderette, AM Officer
- Shannon Young, AM Officer

2nd Largest County in US
18,652 square miles



Rabies in Coconino County

Confirmed Rabid Animals from October 2008 to April 2009 most in the City of Flagstaff:

- **17** Gray foxes
- **6** Stripe skunks
- **1** Ringtail cat
 - Total of **24** animals have tested positive

(Pending test results - 4 gray foxes)

- 2008 – **7** animals tested +
- 2007 – **7** animals tested +

Exposures

- 1 human was attacked by a fox and exposed
 - 8 people were “chased” by 7 foxes and 1 skunk
- 7 dogs (vaccinated) exposed to animals that tested + and are going through 45 day quarantines

Location of Exposures

- Urban trail system around Flagstaff



Residential Areas & a City Park



Testing

- Human and pet exposures: suspect animals are tested at State Lab using Direct Fluorescent Ab (DFA)
- Non-exposures: suspect animals are tested by USDA using direct rapid immunohistochemical test (dRIT)

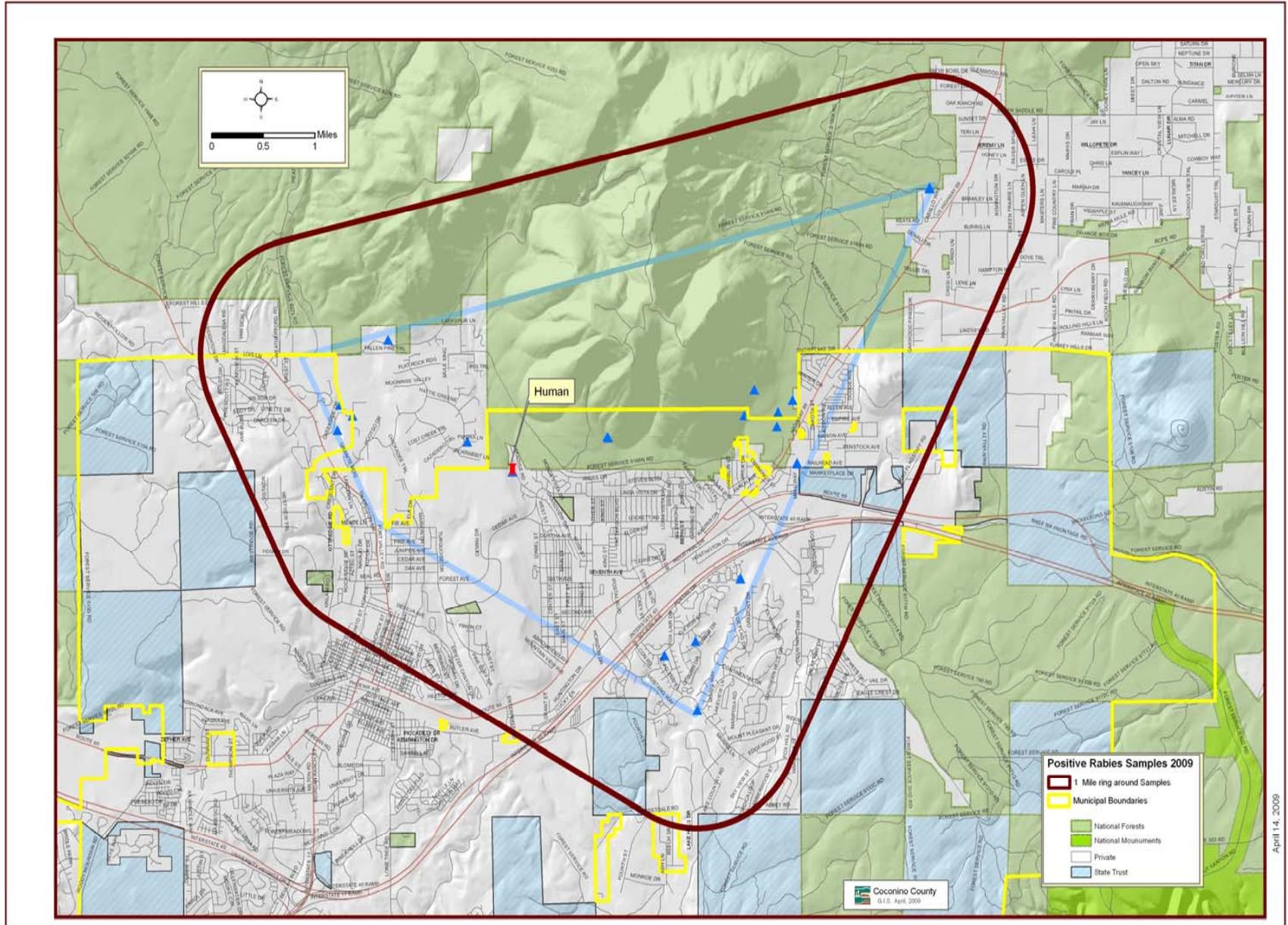
County Response to Rabies Epizootic

- Activated Health Department Incident Command System (ICS)
- Provided media outreach
- Health Director sent declaration for 90 day quarantine to Board of Supervisors (BOS)
- Quarantine went into effect on April 8, 2009

Quarantine was Initiated

- Why?
 - People and pets had been attacked by rabid animals on popular hiking trails around Flagstaff, in a city park, and in front of their homes
 - Currently, allowing licensed pest control companies trap foxes & skunks that are taken to Humane Association for euthanasia and possible testing

Quarantine Area: 1 mile around + sites



Last Quarantine in 2001

- Rabies epizootic in Flagstaff concentrated in Foxglenn residential area
 - 19 skunks tested +
- Action Taken:
- Trapped-vaccinated-released skunks



2009 Oral Rabies Vaccine (ORV) Project Proposal

- Request for emergency funding sent to USDA for ORV – still waiting
- Must compete with other states
- Hopefully will receive before 90 day quarantine is up – Why? Keep pets from eating ORV
- If we do not receive funding, then will try using county funds

(Note: 2006 USDA study in Flagstaff showed that ORV does not work on skunks – insufficient Ab development)

ORV Proposed Dispersal

- Flagstaff area – by hand
- National Forest Service - aerial

County Partners

- Special thanks to:
 - ADHS
 - USDA
 - AZ Game & Fish
 - City of Flagstaff
 - Humane Association

Questions?
sferrat@coconino.az.gov

