

Chronology of Elk Management in JNP

- 1890's - elk extirpated from the Jasper area
- 1907 - Jasper National Park (JNP) established
- 1920 - 88 elk reintroduced to JNP from Yellowstone
- 1945 - 3000 elk in JNP due to predator control
- 1945 to 1970 - 2100 to 2500 elk culled to address hyper-abundance and large scale vegetation change
- 1959 - wolf control ceases
- 1969 - 2500 elk in JNP
- 1970 - public pressure halts elk cull
- 1972 to 1974 - 208 elk translocated from JNP
- 1973 - Wolves begin denning in the Athabasca river valley again. The start of higher wolf #'s and lower elk #'s
- 1980's - 600 to 800 elk in JNP
- Mid 80's - elk begin living in town year round
- 1990 to 1995 - JNP elk population around 1000 animals
- 1992 - elk strategy developed to address conflicts
- 1995 to present - the beginning of a steady decline in the elk population - due to predation, road & rail strikes and translocations
- 1998 - ongoing elk conflicts result in extensive community consultations and an updated elk management strategy
- 1999 to 2000 - translocate 220 and destroy 25 habituated elk; fence parks, schools and JPL golf course, formalize daily townsite elk hazing routine
- 2000 to 2005 - elk conflicts are below the 1998 goal of 24 or less/yr
- 2006 - elk conflicts again exceed the 1998 goal of 24 or less/yr and rise annually on an upward trajectory
- 2010 to 2012 - draft options analysis for elk management prepared. Did not move forward for a variety of reasons.
- 2008 to 2015 - 14 elk destroyed for aggression or extreme habituation
- 2013 - total elk population for Jasper National Park is 350 to 400
- 2015 - elk conflicts (129) exceed the total number of townsite elk (84)
- 1980 to 2015 - 1629 elk killed by road and rail

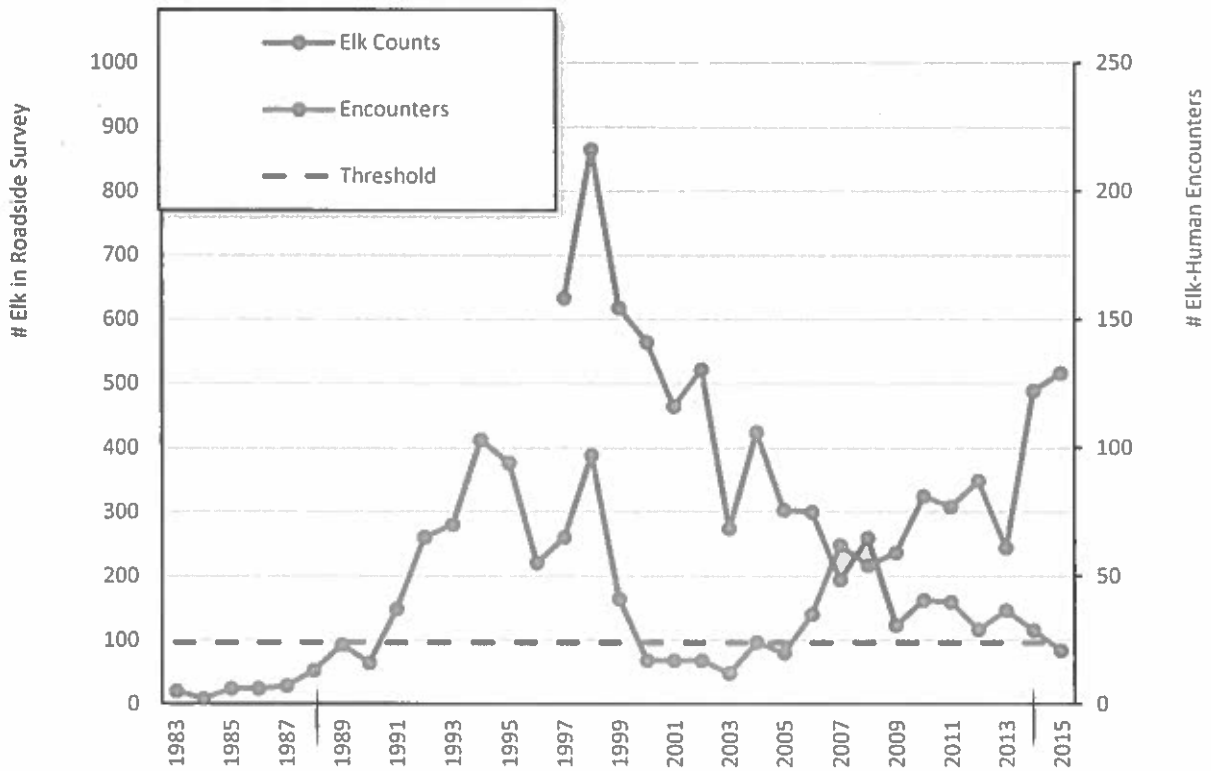


Figure 1. Elk Count vs. Encounters

- In 1999 & 2000, 25 elk were destroyed and 220 relocated
- Maximum threshold for elk-human encounters = 24