

## Contraception Use and Guidelines for Wolverines

**Date:** October 2019

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The EAZA RMG are data deficient for this species. As such, we would request that all institutions using contraception in their wolverines submit their data to the Contraception Database, either via our online survey ([egzac.org](http://egzac.org)) or by submitting the relevant information to [contraception@chesterzoo.org](mailto:contraception@chesterzoo.org).

We would highly encourage that any institutions using contraception in their animals assess the safety and efficacy of the product with behavioural, hormonal, and reproductive tract monitoring. For more information, please do not hesitate to contact the EAZA RMG ([contraception@chesterzoo.org](mailto:contraception@chesterzoo.org)).

Product information sheets with additional information on each of the recommended products below are available on the EAZA RMG website ([egzac.org](http://egzac.org)).

### Females:

**Deslorelin acetate (Suprelorin) Subcutaneous implant-** 1-2x 4.7mg implants depending on size and weight for a minimum duration of 6 months and 1-2x 9.4mg for a minimum duration of 12 months. Duration of efficacy can show individual variation. To suppress the initial stimulation phase supplement the first bout with additional contraception such as oral megestrol acetate pills (Ovarid/Megace) daily, 7 days before and 8 days after implantation. In seasonal breeders, treatment should be given more than 2 months prior to the expected breeding season. In wolverine, we would recommend placing the implants in early spring. Deslorelin is designed to be fully reversible; however, there are no records of reversal in our database. Removal of implant to aid reversibility is recommended. General side effects include increased appetite and weight gain.

**Leuprolide acetate (Lupron®): Subcutaneous or intramuscular injection** – Although it is believed that Lupron should work in Bush Dogs, there are no cases of Lupron being used in this species in the database therefore efficacy, dose and reversibility have not been established. Therefore, the EAZA RMG is in no position to recommend or discourage its use. Available in various formulations lasting from 1 to 6 months, duration of efficacy can show individual variation. In seasonal breeders, treatment should be given more than 2 months prior to the expected breeding season. Males can remain fertile for two or more month following first being injected and the initial stimulation phase may come with an increase in aggression or sexual interest, it is therefore recommended that the sexes are separated for this period. A side effect of using Lupron is suppression of secondary sexual characteristics.

### Males:

**Deslorelin (Suprelorin): Subcutaneous implant-** 1-2x 4.7mg implants depending on size and weight for a **minimum** duration of 6 months and 1-2x 9.4mg implants for a **minimum** duration of 12 months. Duration of efficacy can show individual variation. There is an initial stimulation phase after treatment, which unfortunately cannot be suppressed in males. In seasonal breeders, treatment should be given more than 2 months prior to the expected breeding

season. Deslorelin is designed to be fully reversible, but there are no cases of this available on the database. Removal of implant to aid reversibility is recommended. General side effects include feminisation of males. Males may lose muscle and overall weight, becoming the size (weight) of females.

**Leuprolide acetate (Lupron®): Subcutaneous or intramuscular injection** – Although it is believed that Lupron should work in Bush Dogs, there are no cases of Lupron being used in this species in the database therefore efficacy, dose and reversibility have not been established. Therefore, the EAZA RMG is in no position to recommend or discourage its use. Available in various formulations lasting from 1 to 6 months, duration of efficacy can show individual variation. In seasonal breeders, treatment should be given more than 2 months prior to the expected breeding season. Males can remain fertile for two or more months following first being injected and the initial stimulation phase may come with an increase in aggression or sexual interest, it is therefore recommended that the sexes are separated for this period. A side effect of using Lupron is suppression of secondary sexual characteristics.

This work is supported by the European Union LIFE NGO funding programme. The European Union is not responsible for the views displayed in publications and/or in conjunction with the activities for which the grant is used.

