

Submitter: Larry Nicholson

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources

Measure: SB471

I fully support SB 471, however I question whether it's near enough. Our ranch located in the center of the Wood River valley, a few miles south of Crater Lake National Park. We had 5 confirmed wolf depredations on our ranch with similar losses on ranches around us. In years past, wolves killed cattle mostly in the spring and fall. In 2022, wolves took up residence in the area for the entire summer. Wolves were extremely active in the Wood River valley in 2022,

Wildlife services had at least 3 people hired to spend several nights a week roaming the fields trying to deter wolf attacks. We let them park their ATV's on our ranch throughout the summer for their work at night. It seemed that wolves knew where these folks were located and still emerged from the forest during the night and killed cattle right under their noses. The use of drones with speakers seemed to deter wolves but more testing needs to be done. Please keep in mind that during all this activity, cattle are up and running around all during the night. This significantly impacts their health and weight gain.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony.