



## Support HB 2631: Protecting Oregon Livestock, Protecting Oregon Wolves

HB 2631 allocates much-needed resources to Oregon’s Wolf Management Compensation program. The program fosters co-existence. When wolves move into range and pastures, cows, sheep, llamas and alpacas grow anxious and stressed, lose weight and slow milk production for their young. Keeping animals separate means constant vigilance, creativity as well as equipment and range riders. The presence of wolves in proximity to livestock causes stress, impedes growth of animals, results in low birth weight and other health issues for our cows, sheep and their calves and lambs. Finally, when a wolf or pack preys on cows or sheep, even the loss of a single grown animal can cost a producer over \$1000.

The Wolf Management Compensation program provides funding through grants to Oregon counties. Counties employ various tools to reduce wolf-livestock conflict, including range riders who can deter wolves roaming near cattle and sheep. Counties have varying costs due to geography and needs. In the 2021 Annual Wolf Report, released by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) in spring of 2022, ODFW confirmed 49 instances, with another 16 “probable/possible” killing or injuring of cows, calves, ewes, lambs, goats, and dogs across Oregon. This is a statewide confirmed **depredation event increase of 58%** from 2020 to 2021. These numbers do not include unconfirmed kills or loss of animals without explanation, which are substantial. The burden of permissive management of wolves on Oregon ranchers has never been higher.

**HB 2631 updates the fund to align with other states with more established wolf populations providing seven times the value of an animal for confirmed depredation.** This approach more accurately reflects the true cost for ranchers dealing with loss in areas of known wolf activity, and eliminates the impossible challenge of proving a predation event without any remains or evidence.

### Current Program

Overall, 73% of the funds allocated out of the program were spent on deterring conflict. Only 12% was spent to directly on compensation for killed/injured livestock, 14% for claims for missing animals, and 1% to county administrative requests.

	Requested	Awarded
Prevention and deterrence	\$286,663	\$286,663
Compensation for loss	\$46,206	\$46,206
Missing animals	\$113,736	\$56,868
Administrative Requests	\$3,945	\$3,945
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$450,550</b>	<b>\$393,682</b>

**Get the FACTS:** NONE of the funding is used for lethal take of wolves. Opposing this program serves NO scientific or conservation goals.

**Wolf Conservation and Management go Hand-in-Hand.**  
**Support farmers and ranchers. Support Wolves.**  
**Support HB 2631**

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