HB 4107- Wolf Depredation Compensation

In HB 4107, residing in an area of known wolf activity (See fig. 5 below) as designated by ODFW, the bill explicitly states that compensation for a depredation is contingent upon the confirmation of a **probable** or **confirmed** depredated animal (as defined by the Oregon Wolf Plan). The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) conducts an investigation, relying on **evidence** to ascertain that the cause of death was indeed attributed to a wolf. Additionally, the producer seeking compensation **must have actively employed non-lethal wolf deterrence techniques and methods** (See fig. 3 and 4 below, producers are utilizing non-lethal measures abundantly). Compensation is granted **only** when producers can demonstrate the implementation of best management practices aimed at deterring wolves. However, outside of known wolf activity, the compensation is provided regardless of the preexistence of wolf deterrence techniques. (See below the most current map of Area of Known Wolf Activity in Oregon)

Any compensation is based upon a finding by the local advisory committee that the person did not unreasonably or purposefully create circumstances that attract wolves or encourage conflict between wolves and livestock or working dogs.

Each biennium, the State Department of Agriculture shall: prepare a report that specifies, for the wolf depredation compensation and financial assistance grant program: the actions taken by counties; compensation and financial assistance that is provided by counties; financial assistance that is provided to counties; submit the report to committees of the Legislative Assembly related to natural resources; and post the report on the department's website for public access. The department shall use moneys in the Wolf Management Compensation and Proactive Trust Fund to pay expenses incurred in administering the wolf depredation compensation and financial assistance grant program.

Furthermore, there are well-defined criteria that producers must meet to qualify for compensation. Simply put, a producer cannot seek compensation without first navigating the required procedures and demonstrating adherence to necessary protocols.

The multiplier is determined by considering the entire process of acquiring and/or raising the animal, including the added factor of the productive capacity inherent in that specific animal. **There will no longer be a provision for paying for missing livestock.**

There is a cap on the compensation at \$15,000 per livestock animal or working dog.

The multipliers are outlined as follows: (See fig. 1)

7x fair market value for cow calves, sheep, and goats.

3x for cows not described.

Fair market value for horses, other livestock not specified and working and guardian dogs.

In Oregon, the average size of a cattle ranch is 42 head.

Fig. 1

Animal	Avg. Market Value	Multiplier	Total Compensation
Cows			
Calves (under 12 months old)	\$1,500	7	\$10,500
Yearlings (12 months to less than 24	\$1,900	7	\$13,300
Adult Cows (over 24 months)	\$2,200	3	\$6,600
Sheep			
Fats	\$1.85 per lb (avg. weight=165lb)=\$305.25	7	\$2,136.75
Feeders	\$2.10 per lb (avg weight=110lb)=\$231	7	\$1,617
Goats	\$per lb (avg. weight=120lb)=\$	7	\$1,957.20
Working Dogs	Up to \$5,000	Fair market value	Fair market value
Horses	Up to \$15,000	Fair market value	Fair market value up to \$15,000

Fig. 2

Listed below are the confirmed and probable wolf depredations from 2022-2023 as provided by ODFW.

Confirmed Wolf Depredations in Oregon													
	Killed							Injured					
Year	Cattle - Calves	Cattle - Yearl	Cattle - Adults	Sheep	Goats	Livestock Working	Cattle - Calves	Cattle - Yearli	Cattle - Adults	Sheep	Livestock Working Dogs		
2022	45	7	2	20	3	3	18	2	0	0	0		
2023	40	11	5	8	0	2	17	3	5	2	0		
Total	85	18	7	28	3	5	35	5	5	2	0		
Probable Wolf Depreda	Probable Wolf Depredations in Oregon												
			Killed		Injured								
Year	Cattle - Calves	Cattle - Yearl	Cattle - Adults	Sheep	Goats	Livestock Working	Cattle - Calves	Cattle - Yearli	Cattle - Adults	Sheep	Livestock Working Dogs		
2022	2	. 0	0	1	4	0	1	0	0	0	0		
2023	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Total	5	1	0	1	4	0	1	0	0	0	0		

Fig. 3

Listed below are the total payouts per county for 2022 and 2023 as provided by ODFW.

	2022												
Requested							Awarded						
County	Death/Injury	Missing	Prevent	Admin	Total	County	Death/Injury	Missing	Prevent	Admin	Total		
Baker	\$8,490	\$26,470	\$50,680	\$495	\$86,135	Baker	\$8,490	\$13,235	\$50,680	\$495	\$72,900		
Crook	\$0	\$0	\$12,000	\$0	\$12,000	Crook	\$0	\$0	\$12,000	\$0	\$12,000		
Douglas	\$0	\$0	\$8,000	\$0	\$8,000	Douglas	\$0	\$0	\$8,000	\$0	\$8,000		
Grant	\$0	\$0	\$40,000	\$2,000	\$42,000	Grant	\$0	\$0	\$40,000	\$2,000	\$42,000		
Jackson	\$9,000	\$0	\$47,153	\$0	\$56,153	Jackson	\$9,000	\$0	\$47,153	\$0	\$56,153		
Klamath	\$4,632	\$0	\$8,700	\$0	\$13,332	Klamath	\$4,632	\$0	\$8,700	\$0	\$13,332		
Lake	\$0	\$0	\$1,500	\$0	\$1,500	Lake	\$0	\$0	\$1,500	\$0	\$1,500		
Morrow	\$0	\$0	\$11,000	\$0	\$11,000	Morrow	\$0	\$0	\$11,000	\$0	\$11,000		
Umatilla	\$8,026	\$34,053	\$50,000	\$750	\$92,829	Umatilla	\$8,026	\$17,027	\$50,000	\$750	\$75,803		
Union	\$9,308	\$22,613	\$21,000	\$0	\$52,921	Union	\$9,308	\$11,307	\$21,000	\$0	\$41,615		
Wallowa	\$6,750	\$30,600	\$33,880	\$700	\$71,930	Wallowa	\$6,750	\$15,300	\$33,880	\$700	\$56,630		
Wheeler	\$0	\$0	\$2,750	\$0	\$2,750	Wheeler	\$0	\$0	\$2,750	\$0	\$2,750		
Totals	\$46,206	\$113,736	\$286,663	\$3,945	\$450,550	Totals	\$46,206	\$56,868	\$286,663	\$3,945	\$393,682		

Fig. 4

	2023												
		Awarded											
County	Death/Injury	Missing	Prevent	Admin	Total	County	Death/Injury	Missing	Prevent	Admin	Total		
Baker	\$5 <i>,</i> 835	\$5,775	\$60,000	\$495	\$72,105	Baker	\$5,835	\$0	\$40,920	\$495	\$47,250		
Grant	\$0	\$0	\$40,000	\$2,000	\$42,000	Grant	\$0	\$0	\$19,280	\$2,000	\$21,280		
Harney	\$0	\$0	\$60,000	\$700	\$60,700	Harney	\$0	\$0	\$28,920	\$700	\$29,620		
Jackson	\$0	\$0	\$100,000	\$0	\$100,000	Jackson	\$0	\$0	\$48,200	\$0	\$48,200		
Klamath	\$25,750	\$0	\$80,000	\$0	\$105,750	Klamath	\$25,750	\$0	\$54,560	\$0	\$80,310		
Lake	\$3,272	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	\$4,272	Lake	\$3,272	\$0	\$482	\$0	\$3,754		
Morrow	\$0	\$2,200	\$17,000	\$1,728	\$20,928	Morrow	\$0	\$0	\$8,194	\$1,728	\$9,922		
Umatilla	\$7,045	\$21,367	\$100,000	\$750	\$129,163	Umatilla	\$7,045	\$0	\$68,200	\$750	\$75,995		
Union	\$12,900	\$18,810	\$100,000	\$0	\$131,710	Union	\$12,900	\$0	\$68,200	\$0	\$81,100		
Wallowa	\$15,463	\$30,710	\$90,000	\$700	\$136,873	Wallowa	\$15,463	\$0	\$61,380	\$700	\$77,543		
Wheeler	\$0	\$0	\$5,575	\$0	\$5,575	Wheeler	\$0	\$0	\$2,687	\$0	\$2,687		
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Totals	\$70,264	\$78,862	\$653,575	\$6,373	\$809,075	Totals	\$70,264	\$0	\$401,023	\$6,373	\$477,661		

Fig. 5

Map of known wolf activity, as designated by ODFW.

