

**Development of wolf population models for RAMAS© analysis by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.**

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**Abstract**

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife contracted with Washington State University to create a wolf population model derived from vital rates based on empirical data from other states in the Northwestern United States. We applied an existing habitat model for Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming to the Washington landscape to determine extent of probable recolonization. Wolf territory size was determined by data from Northwest Montana, Central Idaho, and an average of the two areas. We created three metapopulation landscapes based on pack territories evenly distributed across the state where average probability of recolonization for individual pack territories exceeded 15% and 50%. Using RAMAS GIS, we created a female only, stage matrix model with dispersal based on population metrics from Idaho and Northwest Montana. This model is intended to be a versatile and adaptive tool for managers to project potential recovery and extirpation probabilities for different management regimes and can be easily modified with empirical data as wolves recolonize Washington.

Scenario (100 simulations, 50 years)	Parameter	Result	Conclusion/Notes
<b>Evaluations of persistence of 15 successful breeding pairs for 50 years</b>			
1. Statewide population growth to 73 possible territories, starting with 2 occupied territories, assume immigration	Ave number of packs	58.3	With immigration, wolves would maintain about 58 packs, with no risk (0%) of the population declining to extinction.
	Probability of falling below recovery objective	0	
	Probability of extinction	0	
<b>Evaluations of management scenarios after recovery objectives met within a recovery region</b>			
6. Start with recovery objective (5 breeding pairs) met in the Eastern WA recovery region, but not in the other two recovery regions; assume immigration, conduct management <sup>a</sup>	Ave number of packs	58	Conducting wolf management in the Eastern WA recovery region after recovery objectives are met there, but before regional objectives are met in the other two regions, will not inhibit the ability to achieve recovery in all three regions over time; model assumed 1 of 5 pairs established in Blue Mountains.
	Probability of falling below recovery objective	<0.01	
	Probability of extinction	<0.01	
7. Start with recovery objective (5 breeding pairs) met in the Eastern WA recovery region, but not in the other two recovery regions; assume immigration, conduct management <sup>a</sup>	Ave number of packs	9	Conducting wolf management in the Eastern WA recovery region after recovery objectives are met there, but before regional objectives are met in the other two regions and with continued immigration, results in a 7% risk of falling below the recovery objective for Eastern WA; model assumed 1 of 5 pairs established in Blue Mountains.
	Probability of falling below recovery objective	<0.07	
	Probability of extinction	<0.01	

<sup>a</sup>Management scenario = 0.3 of all disperser and adult age class removed every 4 years after the delisting goal is met.

Here are some examples from other states and the definitions for in the act of attacking that the Federal Government used:

## **Michigan**

### Guidelines for Lethal Control of Wolves by Livestock and Dog Owners in Michigan

The Michigan Legislature passed two laws in 2008 (Public Act 290 and Public Act 318) to allow livestock or dog owners, or their designated agents, to remove, capture, or, if deemed necessary, use lethal means to destroy a wolf that is "in the act of preying upon" (attempting to kill or injure) the owner's livestock\* or dog(s)\*\*.

These state laws went into effect upon removal of wolves from the federal endangered species list on Friday, Jan. 27, 2012.

\*Livestock are defined by the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (Animal Industry Act, Public Act 466 of 1988) and include, but are not limited to: cattle, sheep, new world camelids, goats, bison, privately owned cervids, ratites, swine, equine, poultry, aquaculture and rabbits.

\*\*Dog includes any domesticated dog.

Livestock owners who use lethal means to destroy a wolf or wolves in the act of preying upon their livestock must observe the following guidelines: A person who violates these subsections is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of not less than \$100 or more than \$1,000, or both, and the costs of prosecution.

1. The owner of livestock or his/her designated agent may use lethal means to destroy a wolf that is in the act of preying upon (killing/injuring) the owner's livestock.
2. The owner of the livestock or his/her designated agent shall report the taking of a wolf to a department official as soon as practical, but not later than 12 hours after the taking.
3. Except as otherwise provided in section (4), the owner of the livestock or his/her designated agent shall retain possession of a lethally taken wolf until a department official is available to take possession of the wolf.
4. If lethal means are used to destroy a wolf, the DNR prefers that the dead wolf is not moved or disturbed. If normal farming practices would be impeded by leaving the carcass, a person may move the carcass to a secure location after photographs are taken of the dead wolf and of the immediate area of the kill. Copies of the photographs may be requested by the department for examination.

5. A department official shall respond to the scene where lethal means were used to destroy a wolf not later than 12 hours after notification.

6. The owner of the livestock or his/her designated agent may report the taking of a wolf by utilizing the department's Report All Poaching (RAP) hotline 24 hours a day, seven days a week at 800-292-7800.

## **Montana State Law and Administrative Rules for Gray Wolves**

As a Species in Need of Management Statewide

Private Citizens and Livestock

Montana law and administrative rules (MCA 87-3-130; ARM 12.9.1301-1305) allow a person to kill a wolf that is seen in the act of attacking, killing, or threatening to kill livestock:

- no permit is required and FWP must be notified within 72 hours of take or attempt to take,
- preserve the scene and leave the carcass where it was killed; carcass is surrendered to FWP,
- physical evidence of the wolf attack or that an attack was imminent is required (injured or dead livestock, broken fences, trampled vegetation and wolf sign) that would lead a reasonable person to conclude the attack was imminent,
- wolves cannot be intentionally baited, fed, or deliberately attracted.

Wolves may be opportunistically hazed or harassed in a non-injurious manner anytime. Reporting to FWP within 72 hours is encouraged.

Livestock means cattle, calf, hog, pig, horse, mule, sheep, lamb, llama, goat, herding or guarding animals, rhea, emu, ostrich, donkey, and certain breeds of dogs commonly used for herding or guarding livestock.

Threatening to kill means the actual chasing, testing, molesting, harassing livestock or livestock herding or guarding animals that would indicate to a reasonable person that an attack was imminent.

Attacking or killing means the actual biting, wounding, or grasping of livestock or domestic dogs.

Private Citizens and Domestic Dogs

Montana law and administrative rules (MCA 87-3-130; ARM 12.9.1301-1305) allow a person to kill a wolf that is seen in the act of attacking or killing a domestic dog not used for herding or guarding livestock. No permit is required, and FWP must be notified within 72 hours of take or attempt to take. The carcass is surrendered to FWP. Physical evidence of the wolf attack is required that would lead a reasonable person to conclude the attack was ongoing. A person may not intentionally bait a wolf with domestic dogs or livestock for the purpose of killing the wolf. Wolves may be opportunistically hazed or harassed in a non-injurious manner. Reporting to FWP within 72 hours is encouraged.

Attacking or killing means the actual biting, wounding, or grasping of livestock or domestic dogs.

**2005 Final Federal Rule:**

In the act of attacking—The actual biting, wounding, grasping, or killing of livestock or dogs, or chasing, molesting, or harassing by wolves that would indicate to a reasonable person that such biting, wounding, grasping, or killing of livestock or dogs is likely to occur at any moment.

**In the 1994 Federal EIS, definition pages:**

In the Act of Wounding or Killing Livestock – To be engaged in the pursuit and grasping, biting, attacking, wounding, or feeding upon livestock that are alive. If wolves are observed feeding on livestock carcasses it cannot be assumed that wolves killed the livestock until investigation by proper authorities has confirmed that wolves were responsible for that or other livestock losses in the immediate area (one mile radius).

## 2013 DRAFT

# Operational Details for Lethal Removal of Gray Wolves in Washington During Recovery

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The primary purpose of this document is to clearly outline a process and provide guidance that supports the Wolf Conservation and Management Plan (Plan) and other actions (e.g. Livestock-Wolf Mitigation Checklist) implemented through Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) when lethal removal of wolves may be necessary. As stated in the Plan (p. 85), non-lethal management techniques will be emphasized throughout the recovery period and beyond. The Operational Detail assumes non-lethal measures have been implemented where feasible. As a result of different geographic recovery areas and a variety of potential scenarios surrounding depredation events, the WDFW may apply different lethal and non-lethal strategies to deal with wolves that engage in depredation events. These guidelines may be updated annually or on an as-needed basis.

### **Definitions:**

Per the Wolf Conservation and Management Plan (page 88) lethal removal may be used to stop repeated depredation when it is documented that livestock have been killed by wolves, non-lethal methods have been tried but failed to resolve conflict, depredations are likely to continue, and there is no evidence of intentional feeding or unnatural attraction of wolves by the livestock owner. Situations will be evaluated on a case-specific basis, with management decisions based on pack history and size, pattern of depredations, number of livestock killed, state listed status of wolves, extent of proactive management measures being used on the property, and other considerations.

Problem wolves and repeated depredations, as stated within this document, means as at least 1 confirmed livestock kill plus 1 or more livestock injuries/kills by a pack of wolves or a lone wolf within the same calendar year (59 FR 60252, November 22, 1994).

Therefore, wolves that have depredated on domestic livestock on property leased or controlled by the livestock owner and are managed to avoid and reduce conflict or other members of a group or pack of wolves including adults, young, and young-of-the-year that were directly involved in the depredations; or fed upon the livestock remains that were a result of wolf depredation; or were fed by or are dependent upon adults involved with depredations (because before these young animals mature to where they can survive on their own, they will travel with the pack and learn the pack's depredation habits) may be candidates for removal.

## **Caught-in-the-act (CIA) permit to lethally removal a specified number of wolves**

### **Western Washington: where wolves are under Federal jurisdiction**

Currently, WDFW has no authority to issue a CIA permit or take lethal action in the western two-thirds of Washington. However, should the USFWS grant authority to WDFW a CIA permit to lethally remove a specified number of wolves may be issued after a documented wolf depredation (injury or kill) on livestock in the area and efforts to avoid and resolve the problem through conflict avoidance measures identified in the Livestock-Wolf Mitigation Checklist have been deemed ineffective by WDFW staff.

Conditions to issue a CIA permit will be considered on a case-by-case basis, as identified by responding WDFW staff (using tools such as the Livestock-Wolf Mitigation Checklist).

The Director makes the decision to issue a CIA permit.

### **Eastern Washington: where wolves are not under federal jurisdiction**

The WDFW emergency rule below allows farmers, ranchers and other domestic animal owners, including their employees or agents, to kill one wolf if it is attacking their animals. Attacking is defined by the Wolf Conservation and Management Plan (p. 88) as biting, wounding, or killing. In further defining attack; means that there is evidence to support the fact that animal to animal contact has occurred or is imminent and the wolf is in an attack posture or mode; (draft Washington Administrative Code). The WDFW emergency rule applies under the following conditions:

- The rule applies only in areas of Eastern Washington where the gray wolf is not listed as threatened or endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act. The gray wolf is not federally listed in the eastern third of the state, designated in the state Wolf Conservation and Management Plan as the Eastern Washington Recovery Region.
- The rule allows the owner of a domestic animal to kill only one wolf, for the duration of the regulation. If the owner can make the case that subsequent attacks are likely, he or she will need a permit from the WDFW director to kill an additional wolf during an attack.
- The lethal removal must be reported to WDFW within 24 hours, and the carcass must be provided to the department.
- The owner of the domestic animal that was attacked must grant access or help the department gain access to the property where the wolf was killed to enable investigation and data collection.

- Anyone who kills a wolf that was not attacking a domestic animal as spelled out in the rule will be subject to criminal prosecution for the illegal taking of endangered wildlife.

### **Stipulations for lethal removal of wolves**

Depending on the status of wolves within a recovery zones , the Department will consider lethally removing wolves when there has been at least 2 separate (different days) depredations including at least 1 confirmed kill, and essential non-lethal measures (consistent with the Livestock-Wolf Mitigation Checklist) have been tried but failed to resolve the conflict, depredations are likely to continue, and there is no other evidence of intentional feeding or unnatural attraction of wolves by the livestock producer (not associated with carcass and bone yard removal as identified in the Livestock-Wolf Mitigation Checklist). Stipulations will be evaluated on a case-specific basis, with management decisions based on pack history and size, pattern of depredations, number of livestock killed, state-listed status of wolves, extent of proactive management measures being used on the property, and other considerations.

### **Strategy Actions for lethal removal of wolves by WDFW**

The number of wolves targeted for lethal removal depends, in part, on the specific circumstance in the local area, and the foraging behavior of wolves and escalating dependency on livestock. In general, the approach for lethal removal will be to target wolves involved in depredations if known and could include the following actions:

- **Remove specific problem wolves** – The removal of specific problem wolves may be used to *keep repeated depredations from developing* by removing the wolf or wolves that have been attacking livestock. This approach would likely be used at the time of the first confirmed livestock kill when there is significant wolf-livestock spatial overlap and depredation history in the area. For example, if a dead calf is found that is partially consumed and it's a confirmed wolf kill, and it's an area with high wolf use and active livestock grazing, then the Department may set a trap to capture and kill the offending - wolf or wolves.
- **Remove multiple problem wolves** – If *repeated wolf depredations have developed*, the removal of multiple pack members involved in depredation may be used when the removal of a single wolf has not deterred the depredations or there is evidence to suggest multiple wolves are involved in depredations.

- Remove all problem wolves or entire pack – Removal of all problem wolves or an entire pack may be used when depredation events continue despite previous non-lethal measures used or lethal removals or attempts.

Lethal removals will likely be incremental, meaning the process includes removing or attempting to remove offending wolves and/or multiple pack members prior to pack removal.

### **Lethal removal process**

1. Decision process – Regional Wildlife Program Managers and/or the Conflict Section Manager are jointly responsible for notifying senior staff when a depredation situation may warrant lethal removal of wolves. The recommendation shall include documentation (such as prevention measures checklist) demonstrating that all of the stipulations required to justify lethal action have been met, a recommendation for the number of wolves to remove, the start date, methods, staffing, geographical area, and other operational details. The situation will be discussed with senior staff. The Director makes the decision to lethally remove wolves.
2. Communication on lethal decision notice
  - a. Follow supervisor-employee “chain of command” for communicating on decisions for lethal removals.
  - b. Decisions for lethal removals will also be discussed during Wildlife Program senior staff weekly meetings and Olympia-Regional bi-weekly conference calls.
3. Methods – The preferred option is to complete the removal from the ground or air using marksmen, or by trapping or killing. Other humane options may be considered on a case-by-case basis.
4. Staffing – Once the determination for lethal removal is made by The Director, Senior Staff will decide if WDFW or USDA Wildlife Services will implement a removal. For removals implemented by WDFW, the core team to carry out the removal includes regional wildlife biologists and enforcement staff, conflict specialists, and carnivore biologists.
  - a. Each region has a list of staff available for control operations
  - b. A Team Leader will be identified (by the Regional Wildlife Program Manager) and supervise day-to-day field activities



5. Field oversight – For removals implemented by WDFW staff or USDA Wildlife Services, oversight for field operations will be through the Regional Wildlife Program Manager and Enforcement Captain, in coordination with Game Division.
6. Duration – The objective for any removal process (conducted by WDFW or Wildlife Services) is to have the removal completed within 7 days. Because the removal process can be incremental, there may be multiple strategies or incremental events employed in the identified geographic area depending upon the response of wolves remaining in an area after the initial strategy action is implemented. The objective for each strategy or incremental event is to have the removal completed within 7 days.
7. Media – Updates will be provided to the public. WDFW does not intend to place news releases for every action or depredation.

DRAFT

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 13-05-003, filed 2/6/13, effective 3/9/13)

**WAC 232-36-030 Definitions.** Definitions used in rules of the fish and wildlife commission are defined in RCW 77.08.010, and the definitions for wildlife interactions are defined in RCW 77.36.010. In addition, unless otherwise provided, the following definitions are applicable to this chapter:

"Act of damaging" means that private property is in the process of being damaged by wildlife (~~(, and the wildlife are on the private property, which contains commercial crops, pasture, or livestock)~~).

"Attack" means that there is evidence to support the fact that animal to animal contact has occurred or is ~~immediately~~ imminent and the animal is in the attack posture or mode.

"Big game" means those animals listed in RCW 77.08.030.

"Claim" means an application to the department for compensation under this chapter.

"Claimant" means owner of commercial crop, ~~or of~~ livestock, or other property who has filed a wildlife damage claim for cash compensation.

"Commercial crop" means a commercially raised horticultural and/or agricultural product and includes the growing or harvested product, but does not include livestock, forest land, or rangeland. For the purposes of this chapter, Christmas trees and managed pasture grown using agricultural methods including one or more of the following: Seeding, planting, fertilizing, irrigating, and all parts of horticultural trees, are considered a commercial crop and are eligible for cash compensation.

~~(("Commercial livestock" means cattle, sheep, and horses held or raised by a person for sale.))~~

"Compensation" means a cash payment, materials, or service.

"Completed written claim" means that all of the information required on a department ~~crop or livestock~~ property damage claim form is supplied and complete, including all supplemental information and certifications required to process the claim.

"Damage" means economic losses caused by wildlife interactions.

"Damage claim assessment" means department approved methods to evaluate crop loss and value caused by deer or elk damage to commercial crops, ~~or~~ livestock losses and value caused by bear, cougar, or wolves, or damages to other property.

"Domestic animal" means any animal that is lawfully possessed and controlled by a person.

"Eligible farmer" means an owner who satisfies the definition of eligible farmer pursuant to RCW 82.08.855 (4)(b)(i) through (iv).

"Emergent" means an unforeseen circumstance beyond the control of the landowner or tenant, that presents a real and immediate threat to crops, domestic animals, or fowl.

"Game animal" means wild animals that shall not be hunted except as authorized by the commission.

"Guard dog" means dogs trained for the purpose of protecting livestock from attack by wildlife or for herding livestock.

"Immediate family member" means spouse, state registered domestic partner, brother, sister, grandparent, parent, child, or grandchild.

"Immediate threat of physical harm" means that animal-to-human bodily contact is imminent; and the animal is in attack posture/mode.

"Livestock" means horses, cattle, sheep, goats, swine, donkeys, mules, llamas, and alpacas.

"Owner" means a person who has a legal right to commercial crops, ~~commercial~~-livestock, or other private property that was damaged during a wildlife interaction.

"Physical act of attacking" means actual or imminent animal-to-human or animal to animal physical contact.

"Public hunting" means an owner satisfies the "public hunting" requirement for his or her land, as defined in WAC 232-36-300.

"Wild animal" means those species of the class Mammalia whose members exist in Washington in a wild state.

"Wildlife control operator" means a person who has successfully completed the training and obtained one or more levels of certification from the department to assist landowners to prevent or control problems caused by wildlife.

"Wildlife interaction" means the negative interaction and the resultant damage between wildlife and commercial crops, ~~commercial~~-livestock, or other property.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.020, 77.04.055, and 77.36.120. WSR 13-05-003 (Order 13-19), § 232-36-030, filed 2/6/13, effective 3/9/13. Statutory Authority: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.020, and 77.04.055. WSR 10-13-182 (Order 10-156), § 232-36-030, filed 6/23/10, effective 7/24/10.]

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 10-13-182, filed 6/23/10, effective 7/24/10)

**WAC 232-36-040 Wildlife/human interaction and conflict resolution for private property damage.** The department is the primary source for property owners seeking to determine legal and effective remedies for addressing wildlife interactions. Protection of property using nonlethal techniques is the primary response encouraged by the department. Harassment and/or lethal removal may also be important techniques to protect human safety or to protect property. The following criteria describe the compensation available to protect property ~~that does not qualify under commercial crop or livestock damage:~~

(1) (~~Unless specifically appropriated by the legislature,~~) Cash compensation will ((not)) only be provided to property owners by the department if the funds are appropriated by the legislature or provided through local or federal grants or contracts.

(2) Compensation will be prioritized in the following order:

(a) As conditioned by the legislature or granting entity.

(b) Property prioritization:

(i) Private property that is primarily designed for public use, where there is a human safety risk not addressed by other entities.

(ii) Private property that directly contributes to commercial crop or livestock production.

(iii) Private property used for other business purposes.

(iv) Public property.

(v) Residential property.

(vi) Recreational property.

~~((b))~~ (c) Species prioritization:

(i) Damages caused by wildlife listed as endangered, threatened, sensitive, or categories of concern by the state or federal government.

(ii) Damages caused by big game animals.

(iii) Other federal and state protected species.

(iv) Other wildlife species except unclassified species and predatory birds.

(3) The department may make agreements with private landowners to prevent property damage. These agreements may include the use of:

(a) Best management practices to reduce risk of private property damage;

(b) Scaring or hazing materials;

(c) Fencing materials;

(d) Volunteers referred by the department for hazing, fence repair, etc; and

(e) Lethal removal options.

(4) Private property owners must utilize nonlethal abatement techniques prior to requesting other compensation from the department or before utilizing lethal techniques (~~as outlined in WAC 232-36-050~~)).

(a) Use of nonlethal techniques must be documented and consistent with procedures and requirements established by the department.

(b) Evidence of damage (e.g., photographs) must be provided by the property owner.

(c) Property owner must comply with reporting requirements of the department.

(5) Wildlife may not be captured and transported or relocated off the owner's property (parcel where damage occurred) unless:

(a) Authorized by rule of the commission; or

(b) By written permit from the department; and

(c) Owner is in compliance with department rules, permits, and reporting requirements.

(6) The department will establish written procedures for assisting private property owners, using the criteria and priorities provid-



ed in this rule. The procedures will include enlistment of partners and volunteers through agreements, permits, and incentives to help mitigate wildlife interactions.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.020, and 77.04.055. WSR 10-13-182 (Order 10-156), § 232-36-040, filed 6/23/10, effective 7/24/10.]

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 13-05-003, filed 2/6/13, effective 3/9/13)

**WAC 232-36-051 Killing wildlife causing private property damage.**

The fish and wildlife commission is authorized to classify wildlife as game, and/or as endangered or protected species, and/or as a predatory bird consistent with RCW 77.08.010 and 77.12.020. The commission is also authorized, pursuant to RCW 77.36.030, to establish the limitations and conditions on killing or trapping wildlife that is causing ~~((property))~~ damage on private property. The department may authorize, pursuant to RCW 77.12.240 the killing of wildlife destroying or injuring property.

The conditions for killing wildlife vary, based primarily on the classification of the wildlife species, the imminent nature of the

threat to damage private property, the type of private property damage, and the preventive and nonlethal methods employed by the person prior to the damage event. Additional conditions defined by the department may also be important, depending on individual situations. Killing wildlife to address private property damage is subject to all other state and federal laws including, but not limited to, Titles 77 RCW and 232 WAC.

(1) It is unlawful to kill protected species (as defined in WAC 232-12-011) or endangered species (as defined in WAC 232-12-014) unless authorized by commission rule or with a permit from the department, with the following additional requirements:

(a) Federally listed threatened or endangered species will require federal permits or federal authority, in addition to a state permit.

(b) All migratory birds are federally protected and may require a federal permit or federal authority, in addition to a state permit.

(2) Killing wildlife causing damage to a commercial crop or ~~((commercial))~~ to livestock.

~~((a))~~ It is permissible to kill unclassified wildlife, predatory birds, and ~~((big))~~ game animals that are in the act of damaging

commercial crops or attacking livestock, under the following conditions:

~~((i))~~ (a) Predatory birds (defined in RCW 77.08.010(39)) and unclassified wildlife that are in the act of damaging commercial crops or attacking livestock or other domestic animals may be killed with the express permission of the owner at any time on private property, to protect commercial crops or livestock.

~~((ii))~~ (b) An owner with a valid, written damage prevention agreement with the department may kill an individual (one) ~~big~~-game animal while it is in the act of damaging commercial crops; a permit will be provided if authorized in the agreement.

~~((iii))~~ (c) An individual (one) (~~big~~) game animal may be killed during the physical act of attacking livestock or domestic animals.

~~((iv))~~ (d) Multiple ~~big~~-game animals may be killed while they are in the act of damaging commercial crops or attacking livestock if the owner is issued a kill permit by the department.

~~((v))~~ (e) A damage prevention agreement or kill permit must include: An approved checklist of the reasonable preventative and nonlethal means that must be employed prior to lethal removal; a description of the properties where lethal removal is allowed; the species

and sex of the animal that may be killed; the terms of the agreement/permit; the dates when lethal removal is authorized; who may kill the animal(s); and other conditions developed within department procedural documents.

~~((b) It is unlawful to kill protected species (as defined in WAC 232-12-011) or endangered species (as defined in WAC 232-12-014) unless authorized by commission rule or with a permit from the department, with the following additional requirements:~~

~~(i) Federally listed threatened or endangered species will require federal permits or federal authority, in addition to a state permit.~~

~~(ii) All migratory birds are federally protected and may require a federal permit or federal authority, in addition to a state permit.~~

~~(2)) (3) Killing wildlife causing damage or killing wildlife to prevent private property damage.~~

(a) An individual (one) ~~((big))~~ game animal may be killed during the physical act of attacking ~~((livestock or pets))~~ domestic animals.

(b) Predatory birds (as defined in RCW 77.08.010(39)), unclassified wildlife, and eastern gray squirrels may be killed with the express permission of the property owner at any time, to prevent private property damage on private real property.

(c) Subject to subsection (~~(6)~~) (7) of this section, the following list of wildlife species may be killed with the express permission of the owner, when causing damage to private property: Raccoon, fox, bobcat, beaver, muskrat, mink, river otter, weasel, hare, and cottontail rabbits.

(d) The department may make agreements with landowners to prevent private property damage by wildlife. The agreements may include special hunting season permits such as: Landowner damage prevention permits, spring black bear hunting permits, permits issued through the landowner hunting permit program, kill permits, and Master Hunter permits.

(e) Landowners are encouraged to allow general season hunters during established hunting seasons on their property to help minimize damage potential and concerns.

~~(3)~~ (4) Wildlife control operators may assist property owners under the conditions of their permit, as established in WAC 232-36-060 and 232-36-065.

~~(4)~~ (5) Tribal members may assist property owners under the conditions of valid comanagement agreements between tribes and the department. Tribes must be in compliance with the agreements including,

but not limited to, adhering to reporting requirements and harvest restrictions.

~~((5))~~ (6) Hunting licenses and tags are not required to kill wildlife under this section, unless the killing is pursuant to subsections ~~((2))~~ (3)(c) and (d) of this section. Tribal members operating under subsection ~~((4))~~ (5) of this section are required to meet tribal hunting license, tag, and permit requirements.

~~((6))~~ (7) Except as specifically provided in a permit from the department or a rule of the commission, people taking wildlife under this rule are subject to the laws and rules of the state including, but not limited to, those found in Titles 77 RCW and 220 and 232 WAC.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.020, 77.04.055, and 77.36.120. WSR 13-05-003 (Order 13-19), § 232-36-051, filed 2/6/13, effective 3/9/13. Statutory Authority: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.055, 77.12.047, and 77.36.030. WSR 10-23-026 (Order 10-291), § 232-36-051, filed 11/8/10, effective 12/9/10. Statutory Authority: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.020, and 77.04.055. WSR 10-13-182 (Order 10-156), § 232-36-051, filed 6/23/10, effective 7/24/10.]

NEW SECTION

**WAC 232-36-052 Killing wolves attacking domestic animals.** The commission is authorized, pursuant to RCW 77.36.030, to establish the limitations and conditions on killing or trapping wildlife that is causing damage on private property. The department may authorize, pursuant to RCW 77.12.240 the killing of wildlife destroying or injuring property. Killing wildlife to address private property damage is subject to all other state and federal laws including, but not limited to, Titles 77 RCW and 232 WAC.

(1) An owner of domestic animals, the owner's immediate family member, the agent of an owner, or the owner's documented employee may kill one gray wolf (*Canis lupus*) without a permit issued by the director, regardless of its state classification, if the wolf is attacking their domestic animals.

(a) This section applies to ~~the eastern Washington recovery region and~~ those areas of the state that meet or exceed four breeding pairs per recovery region as identified in the state wolf conservation and management plan and does not apply to any area of the state where the gray wolf is listed as endangered or threatened under the federal endangered species act.

(b) Any wolf killed under this authority must be reported to the department within twenty-four hours.

(c) The wolf carcass must be surrendered to the department.

(d) The owner of the domestic animal must grant or assist the department in gaining access to the property where the wolf was killed for the purposes of data collection or incident investigation.

(2) If the department finds that a private citizen killed a gray wolf that was not attacking a domestic animal, or that the killing was not consistent with this rule, then that person may be prosecuted for unlawful taking of endangered wildlife under RCW 77.15.120.

(3) In addition to the provisions of subsection (1) of this section, the director may authorize additional removals by permit under the authority of RCW 77.12.240.

(4) The Director may terminate the authority of this rule by emergency action if two or more wolves are killed in a year, while wolves are classified as endangered or protected.

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AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 10-13-182, filed 6/23/10, effective 7/24/10)

**WAC 232-36-060 Director or his/her designee is empowered to grant wildlife control operator certifications.** For purposes of training individuals to assist landowners with employing nonlethal management techniques, or to harass, kill, trap, release, and dispatch animals that are causing damage to private property, the director or his/her designee may issue wildlife control operator (WCO) certifications.

(1) To qualify for WCO certification, applicants must:

(a) Be at least eighteen years of age;

(b) Take and complete the department's WCO certifications course;

(c) Be certified by the department and have the equipment, knowledge, and ability to control the wildlife species causing conflict or property damage;

(d) Be legally eligible to possess a firearm and without a felony or domestic violence conviction including, but not limited to, convictions under chapter 9.41 RCW, unless firearm possession rights have been restored;

(e) Not have a gross misdemeanor fish and wildlife conviction within the last five years; and

(f) Pay the enrollment fee for each certification training/education. After July 1, 2010, this fee shall be fifty dollars (RCW 77.12.184) per certification.

(2) Once a person is granted WCO certification, he or she must apply for a permit pursuant to WAC 232-36-065 in order to harass, kill, trap, release, or dispatch animals causing damage to private property.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.020, and 77.04.055. WSR 10-13-182 (Order 10-156), § 232-36-060, filed 6/23/10, effective 7/24/10.]

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 10-13-182, filed 6/23/10, effective 7/24/10)

**WAC 232-36-110 Application for cash compensation for commercial crop damage—Procedure.** Pursuant to this section, the department may distribute money appropriated by the legislature to pay commercial crop damage caused by wild deer or elk in the amount of up to ten thousand dollars per claim, unless following an appeal the department is ordered to pay more (see RCW 77.36.130(2)). The department shall develop claim procedures and application forms consistent with this

section for cash compensation of commercial crop damage. Partnerships with other public and private organizations to assist with completion of applications, assessment of damage, and to provide funding for compensation are encouraged.

Filing a claim:

(1) Owners who have worked with the department to prevent deer or elk damage, yet who still experience loss and meet eligibility requirements, may file a claim for cash compensation.

(2) The claimant must notify the department within seventy-two hours of discovery of crop damage and at least seventy-two hours prior to harvest of the claimed crop.

(3) A complete, written claim must be submitted to the department within sixty days of when the damage stops.

(4) Owners may only file one claim per year. Multiple partners in a farming operation are considered one owner. Operations involving multiple partners must designate a "primary grower" to receive payment from the department.

(5) The claim form declaration must be signed, affirming that the information provided is factual and truthful per the certification set out in RCW 9A.72.085, before the department will process the claim.

(6) In addition to a completed claim form, an applicant must provide:

(a) A copy of applicant's Schedule F of Form 1040, Form 1120, or other applicable forms filed with the Internal Revenue Service indicating the applicant's gross sales or harvested value of commercial crops for the previous tax year.

(b) The assessment method used consistent with WAC 232-36-120, valuation of property damage.

(c) Applicant must provide proof of ownership of claimed commercial crops or contractual lease of claimed commercial crops consistent with department procedural requirements for submission of documents.

(d) Written documentation of approved methodology used to assess and determine final crop loss and value.

(e) Applicant must provide records documenting average yield on claimed crop and parcel, certified yield reports, production reports and weight certificates completed at the time weighed for claimed year, and other applicable documents that support yield loss and current market price. Current market price will be determined less transportation and cleaning costs when applicable.

(f) Declaration signed under penalty of perjury as provided in RCW 9A.72.085, indicating that the applicant is eligible for the

claim, meets eligibility requirements listed under this section, and that all claim evaluation and assessment information in the claim application is to the best knowledge of the claimant true and accurate.

(g) Copy of the insurance policy and payment on the commercial crop where loss is claimed.

(h) Copy of application for other sources of loss compensation and any payment or denial documentation.

Damage claim assessment:

(7) Damage claim assessment of amount and value of commercial crop loss is the primary responsibility of the claimant. A crop damage evaluation and assessment must be conducted by a licensed crop insurance adjustor:

(a) The owner must submit a damage claim assessment prepared by a crop insurance adjustor licensed by the state of Washington and certified by the federal crop insurance service.

(b) The department will provide the claimant with a list of approved adjustors. The owner must select an adjustor from the approved list and arrange for the completion of a crop damage assessment. Adjustor fees will be the ((~~shared~~)) responsibility of the ((~~owner and the~~)) department.

(c) The department or the owner may accept the damage claim assessment provided by the licensed adjuster or may hire a state licensed adjuster of their choosing and conduct a separate assessment or evaluation of the crop loss amount and value. The party hiring an adjuster to conduct a separate assessment or evaluation is responsible for payment of all fees.

(8) Disagreement between the claimant and the department over the crop loss value may be settled through an adjudicative proceeding.

Settlement of claims:

(9) (~~Subject to money appropriated to pay commercial crop damage, undisputed claims will be paid, less one-half of the crop adjuster's fee or a maximum of six hundred dollars for the owner's share of the crop adjuster's fee.~~) The crop adjuster's fee is not subject to the ten thousand dollar payment limit per owner.

(10) Compensation paid by the department, in addition to any other compensation received by the claimant, may not exceed the total value of the assessed crop loss.

(11) The owner will be notified by the department upon completion of the evaluation and has sixty days to accept or appeal the department's offer for settlement of the claim, or the claim is considered satisfied and not subject to appeal.

(12) The department shall prioritize payment for commercial crop damage in the order the claims were received or upon final adjudication of an appeal. If the department is unable to make a payment for commercial crop damage during the ~~((first))~~ current fiscal year ~~((of a biennium))~~, the claim shall be held over until the following fiscal year when funds become available. Claims that are carried over will take first priority and receive payment before any new claims are paid. ~~((Claims will not be carried from one biennium to the next.))~~

[Statutory Authority: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.020, and 77.04.055. WSR 10-13-182 (Order 10-156), § 232-36-110, filed 6/23/10, effective 7/24/10.]

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 13-05-003, filed 2/6/13, effective 3/9/13)

**WAC 232-36-200 Payment for ~~((commercial))~~ livestock damage and other domestic animals-Limitations.** Owners who have worked with the department to prevent depredation but continue to experience losses, or who experience unforeseen losses, may be eligible to file a damage claim and receive cash compensation. Cash compensation will only be provided to livestock owners by the department when specifically ap-

appropriated by the legislature or other funding entity. Damages payable under this section are limited to the lost or diminished value of ~~commercial~~ livestock caused by wild bears, cougars, or wolves and shall be paid only to the owner of the livestock, without assignment. Cash compensation for livestock losses from bears, cougars, and wolves shall not include damage to other real or personal property, including other vegetation or animals, consequential damages, or any other damages ((including)) except veterinarian services may be eligible. However, livestock owners under written agreement with the department will be compensated consistent with their agreement which may extend beyond the limitations in this section. The department is authorized to pay ((up to two hundred dollars per sheep and one thousand five hundred dollars per head of cattle or per horse)) the market value for the ~~domestic animal~~ livestock lost, the market value of reduced weight gains, and no more than ten thousand dollars to the ~~commercial~~ livestock owner per claim.

Claims for cash compensation will be denied when:

(1) Funds for livestock compensation have not been specifically appropriated by the legislature or other funding entity;



(2) The claim is for livestock other than sheep, cattle, or horses, when only state funds are available; or any domestic animals not allowed by the funding entity;

(3) ~~((The owner of the commercial livestock does not meet the definition of "eligible farmer" in RCW 82.08.855 (4) (b) (i) through (iv);~~

~~(4) The loss estimate is less than five hundred dollars;~~

~~(5))~~ The owner fails to provide the department with an approved checklist of the preventative and nonlethal means that have been employed, or the owner failed to comply with the terms and conditions of his or her agreement(s) with the department;

~~((6))~~ (4) The owner has accepted noncash compensation to offset livestock losses in lieu of cash. Acceptance of noncash compensation will constitute full and final payment for livestock losses within a fiscal year;

~~((7))~~ (5) Damages to the ~~((commercial))~~ livestock or other domestic animals claimed are covered by insurance or are eligible for payment from other entities. However, any portion of the damage not covered by others is eligible for filing a claim with the department;

~~((8))~~ (6) The owner fails to provide on-site access to the department or designee for inspection and investigation of alleged attack or to verify eligibility for claim;

~~((9))~~ (7) The owner has not provided a completed written claim form and all other required information, or met required timelines prescribed within this chapter;

~~((10))~~ (8) No claim will be processed if the owner fails to sign a statement affirming that the facts and supporting documents are truthful to the best of the owner's knowledge;

~~((11))~~ (9) The owner or designee has salvaged or rendered the carcass or allowed it to be scavenged without an investigation completed under the direction of the department; or

~~((12))~~ (10) ~~The department has expended all funds appropriated for payment of such claims for the current fiscal year.~~

[Statutory Authority: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.020, 77.04.055, and 77.36.120. WSR 13-05-003 (Order 13-19), § 232-36-200, filed 2/6/13, effective 3/9/13. Statutory Authority: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.020, and 77.04.055. WSR 10-13-182 (Order 10-156), § 232-36-200, filed 6/23/10, effective 7/24/10.]

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 10-13-182, filed 6/23/10, effective 7/24/10)

**WAC 232-36-210 Application for cash compensation for ((~~commercial~~)) livestock damage or other domestic animal-Procedure.** Pursuant to this section, the department may distribute money specifically appropriated by the legislature or other funding entity to pay ~~commercial~~ ~~livestock~~ losses caused by wild bear, cougar, or wolves in the amount of up to ten thousand dollars per claim unless, following an appeal, the department is ordered to pay more (see RCW 77.36.130(2)). The department will develop claim procedures and application forms consistent with this section for cash compensation of ((~~commercial~~)) livestock or other domestic animal losses. Partnerships with other public and private organizations to assist with completion of applications, assessment of losses, and to provide funding for compensation are encouraged.

Filing a claim:

(1) Owners who have worked with the department to prevent livestock depredation, yet who still experience loss or losses that occur under emergent situations, may file a claim for cash compensation if they meet eligibility requirements.

(2) Claimant must notify the department within twenty-four hours of discovery of livestock or other domestic animal attack.

(3) Damage claim assessment of amount and value of (~~commercial livestock~~) domestic animal loss is the primary responsibility of the claimant.

(4) (~~Assessment~~) Investigation of the loss and review and approval of the assessment will be conducted by the department:

(a) The owner must provide access to department staff or designees to investigate the cause of death or injury to (~~livestock~~) domestic animals and use reasonable measures to protect evidence at the depredation site.

(b) Federal officials may be responsible for the investigation when it is suspected that the attack was by a federally listed species.

(5) Claimant must request a damage claim application within ten days of a loss.

(6) A complete, written claim must be submitted to the department within sixty days of an attack on (~~commercial livestock~~) domestic animals.

(7) The claim form declaration must be signed, affirming that the information provided is factual and truthful, before the department will process a claim.

(8) In addition to a completed claim form, an applicant must provide:

~~(a) ((A copy of applicant's Schedule F of Form 1040, Form 1120, or other applicable forms filed with the Internal Revenue Service indicating the applicant's gross sales or value of commercial livestock for the previous tax year.~~

~~(b))~~ Claimant must provide proof of legal ownership or contractual lease of claimed livestock.

~~((e))~~ (b) Claimant must provide records documenting ~~((live-~~  
~~stock))~~ the value of the domestic animal based on current market price.

~~((d))~~ (c) Declaration signed under penalty of perjury indicating that the applicant is eligible for the claim, meets eligibility requirements listed under this ~~((section))~~ chapter, and all claim evaluation and assessment information in the claim application is to the best knowledge of the claimant true and accurate.

~~((e))~~ (d) Copy of any insurance policy covering ~~((livestock))~~ loss claimed.

~~((f))~~ (e) Copy of application for other sources of loss compensation and any payment or denial documentation.

Settlement of claims:

(9) Subject to money appropriated to pay for (~~commercial live-stock~~) domestic animal losses, undisputed claims will be paid up to ten thousand dollars.

(10) Valuation of the lost livestock will be determined by the market at the time the animals would normally be sold. Livestock will be valued based on the average weight of herd mates at the time of sale multiplied by the cash market price received; depredated cows or ewes will be replaced based on the value of a bred animal of the same age and type as the one lost, and bulls will be replaced using actual purchase price prorated based on a four-year depreciation cycle minus salvage value. The department may utilize the services of a certified livestock appraiser to assist in the evaluation of livestock claims.

(11) Claims for higher than normal livestock losses, reduced weight gains, or reduced pregnancy rates must include:

(a) At least three years of records prior to the year of the claim;

(b) The losses must occur on large open ~~range~~ pastures where regular monitoring of livestock is impractical (and therefore discovery of carcasses infeasible) as determined by the department;

(c) Verification by the department that wolves are occupying the range;

(d) The losses cannot be reasonably explained by other causes;  
and

(e) Claims will be assessed for losses in excess of the previous three year running average.

(f) Owners must be working with the department and complying with a preventative measures checklist and/or a damage prevention agreement.

(12) Compensation paid by the department, in addition to any other compensation, may not exceed the total value of the assessed ~~((livestock))~~ loss.

~~((11))~~ (13) Upon completion of the evaluation, the department will notify the owner of its decision to either deny the claim or make a settlement offer (order). The owner has sixty days from the date received to accept the department's offer for settlement of the claim or to submit an appeal of the order. The response must be in writing and the signed document may be mailed or submitted by fax or e-mail. If no

written acceptance or request for appeal is received, the offer is considered rejected and not subject to appeal.

(14) If the claimant accepts the department's offer, the department will send payment to the owner within 30 days from receipt of the written acceptance document.

~~((12))~~ (1415) The department will prioritize payment for ~~com-~~  
~~mercial~~-livestock losses in the order the claims were received or upon final adjudication of an appeal. If the department is unable to make a payment for ~~commercial~~-livestock losses during the ~~((first))~~ current fiscal year ~~((of a biennium))~~, the claim shall be held over until the following fiscal year when funds become available. Claims that are carried over will take first priority and receive payment before any new claims are paid. ~~((Claims will not be carried from one biennium to the next.))~~

[Statutory Authority: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.020, and 77.04.055. WSR 10-13-182 (Order 10-156), § 232-36-210, filed 6/23/10, effective 7/24/10.]



AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 13-05-003, filed 2/6/13, effective 3/9/13)

**WAC 232-36-400 Commercial crop or livestock damage claim—Dispute resolution.** For claims where the owner has met all claim eligibility criteria and procedures, but ultimately rejects the written settlement offer (order) for crop or livestock loss and/or value assessment, the provisions of this section shall apply:

Informal resolution:

(1) If the owner rejects the property loss or value assessment and would like to discuss a negotiated settlement, he or she can request a meeting by notifying the department in writing within ten days of receiving the settlement offer or claim denial (order).

(2) A department representative and the owner or designee(s) will meet and attempt to come to mutual resolution.

(3) A livestock appeals committee may be established with a minimum of three citizen members appointed by (~~statewide livestock organization(s)~~) the department, a representative from the department of fish and wildlife, and a representative from the department of agriculture to review and recommend a settlement if requested by the claimant or the department.

(4) Monetary compensation or noncash compensation, mutually agreed upon by both the department and owner, shall be binding and constitute full and final payment for claim.

(5) If parties cannot agree upon damages, or the owner wishes to appeal the claim denial or the department's settlement offer (order), the owner may request an adjudicative proceeding consistent with chapter 34.05 RCW within sixty days of receiving a copy of the department's decision.

(6) The request must comply with the following:

(a) The request must be in writing, and the signed document may be mailed or submitted by fax or e-mail;

(b) It must clearly identify the order being contested (or attach a copy of the order);

(c) It must state the grounds on which the order is being contested and include the specific facts of the order that are relevant to the appeal; and

(d) The request must identify the relief being requested from the proceeding (e.g., modifying specific provisions of the order).

(7) The proceeding may only result in the reversal or modification of an order when the preponderance of evidence shows:

(a) The order was not authorized by law or rule;

(b) A fact stated in the order is not supported by substantial evidence;

(c) The award amount offered is inconsistent with applicable procedures; or

(d) Material evidence was made available by the owner at the time of the damage assessment, but was not considered in the order.

(8) The burden of proof is on the appellant (owner) to show that he or she is eligible for a claim and that the damage assessment is reliable (see RCW 77.36.130(4)).

(9) Findings of the hearings officer are subject to the annual funding limits appropriated by the legislature and payment rules (WAC 232-36-110(12), 232-36-210(9), and 232-36-260) of the commission.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.020, 77.04.055, and 77.36.120. WSR 13-05-003 (Order 13-19), § 232-36-400, filed 2/6/13, effective 3/9/13. Statutory Authority: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.020, and 77.04.055. WSR 10-13-182 (Order 10-156), § 232-36-400, filed 6/23/10, effective 7/24/10.]

## DRAFT BYLAWS

### WOLF ADVISORY GROUP

(August 2013)

- Elected officers: Elected officers will include? *Examples: Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary*
- Summary notes: Notes for each meeting will be taken and posted on the web page.  
*Recording?*
- Terms served: Appointed members and elected officers will serve for a one-year term.  
*Others?*
- Re-appointment: After the first year of service, members may be re-appointed for staggered term lengths of one, two, or three-years.
- Alternate members: All Advisory Group members must identify one individual to serve as an alternate when the appointed member cannot attend meetings.
- The *Chair or Dave Ware or his designee*: Determine the order of business at meetings. Shall we use Robert's Rule of Order as a guide or something less formal?
- Advisory Group business: will only be conducted if a quorum of appointed members is present (half of the appointed members plus one member).
- Decision making: input and information provided by appointed members will be taken into consideration as advisement for each subject matter discussed. WDFW will make final decision regarding all products and final outcomes.
- Amendments to the Bylaws and Charter: must be approved by a majority of appointed Advisory Group members.
- Configuration of membership: Membership will include at least one representative or equal representation for each of the following: WDFW, livestock industry, environmental organizations, and hunting; a minimum of 4 and a maximum of 10 members in total.
- Meetings will be open to the general public.
- Committees: Do we want to establish committees?  
Standing Committees:  
Leads for Standing Committees: appointed by XXX and must be members of the Advisory Group.

Temporary Committees: may be established and terminated by XXX, at any time.  
Temporary Committees may be led by a person that is not an appointed member of the Advisory Group?

- Standing Committees and Temporary Committees have no standing or official authority to represent the Advisory Group as a body. All Committee Leads must report back to the full Advisory Group where formal recommendations to the Department are subsequently put forth.
- The Advisory Group, as a body, will not communicate with the Fish and Wildlife Commission, Director, Chief of Enforcement, or elected officials without providing advance notification to the Wolf Advisory Group Liaison? Chair?
- Formal testimony and interviews with the news media: shall not be made on behalf of the Advisory Group, as a body, will not include personal opinions. OR if interviews are made the Chair / Dave Ware must be briefed?
- Meetings: will be held where? One set location or rotate around the state, unless weather conditions or other factors dictate an alternate location or the use of teleconference or phone conference technology.
- Minimum number of meetings: There will be a minimum of four Advisory Group business meetings held annually.
- Agenda and Meeting dates: The Chair will develop each meeting agenda and determine meeting dates. OR meetings will be held third Weds of each month? Or every six weeks?
- Termination before term is served: The Chair may recommend to the Department that appointed members be terminated if they a) are absent without excuse from two or more scheduled meetings in any 12 month period; b) violate the provisions and intent of Bylaws; c) are unable to fulfill their responsibilities as a member; d) have failed to meet obligations to which they have volunteered to perform or to which they have been assigned to perform; or e) have used abusive language and/or shown disrespect for other members, the Department, or the public.
- All scheduled Wolf Advisory Group meetings will be held at locations that provide reasonable accommodations for members of the public and persons-of-disability to attend.

## Wolf Advisory Group Charter

**Introduction:** The Wolf Advisory Group was established to address issues surrounding the recovery of wolves in Washington. These issues may include: compensating for economic loss due to wolf predation, creating programs for producers to take proactive, preventative measures to decrease the risk of loss, assisting sportsmen recreating in wolf habitat, providing materials to inform the general public on wolf recovery in Washington.

**Mission:** The mission of the Wolf Advisory Group is to allow a diverse group of stakeholders to advise Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife in implementation of the Wolf Conservation and Management Plan.

**Team purpose:** As Washington's wolf population continues to grow, interactions between wolves and humans will be more frequent, with a potential increase of conflict with livestock producers. While protection is an important component to ensure species recovery it also creates challenging scenarios for managing and minimizing wolf-livestock conflicts. Therefore the Wolf Advisory Group was created to bring together a broad range of perspectives and values with respect to wolf management and conservation.

The recovery of wolves to Washington is challenged by increasing conflict and decreasing social tolerance. Concerns of negative encounters with wolves extend beyond property damage and financial impacts from livestock losses, to concerns for personal safety. Discussions among members of the Wolf Advisory Group are expected to help frame issues and assist the Department with developing resolutions.

**Duration and time commitment:** This Advisory Group is scheduled to last 12 months, from July 2013 through June 2014. Depending on projects and proposed solutions, the duration of implementing recommendations may require time beyond the team's meeting schedule. The estimated amount of time that will be dedicated weekly or monthly by members will vary with the topic of discussion.

**Scope:** The main objective of the Advisory Group is to foster the development of usable and useful mechanisms for the Department to implement the Wolf Conservation and Management Plan.

**Members:** The Advisory Group is heavily dependent on the participation of its members for its success (see Attachment A for member list). *Discuss how members are selected? How others may be brought in as supporting resources?*

**Desired end result:** *Establish goals for the team to achieve.*

*EXAMPLE Goals & Objectives*

- *Assist in developing a compensation framework for livestock loss that integrates with the overall Wolf Conservation and Management Plan.*

- *Assist in developing a broad range of options to reduce wolf-livestock conflicts and potential depredations.*
- *Recognize the complex interactions between livestock, ungulates, residents, hunters, and wolves and assist WDFW with providing information to identified groups such as hunters, livestock producers, and Washington residents.*
- *Recognize the importance of economic viability and sustainability of individual livestock operators in Washington and assist in disseminating information to residents of Washington.*
- *Seek a broad range of funding sources to meet the needs to provide long-term, viable "compensation" solutions and prevention measures.*

**Supporting resources:** The Advisory Group will utilize other people that were not assigned as team members but still add value toward the overall purpose on an as needed basis. Other resources are dependent on the team activities. Recommendations can be made by members to bring in other resources; however the Department makes the final decision.

**Reporting plan:** The Advisory Group will post the meeting agendas, minutes, member biographies, the by-laws and charter on the Department's web site. The members will communicate primarily through telephone, teleconference, email, and in person meetings.

**Deliverables:** *Are there deliverables that need to be clearly stated?*

**Links:** The web page will provide links to other resources and literature relevant to the Advisory Group's tasks.

**Representing and sharing information from the Advisory Group:** Members shall not present themselves to the media as the Advisory Group representative or speak on behalf of the Advisory group. Members are expected to share information to the organization(s) that they represent.