

DRAFT Guidance and Consideration for Non-lethal Deterrence Planning Process

Non-lethal deterrence plans are recommended for livestock operators ranching and farming in Oregon, to help reduce conflict with Oregon's gray wolf population, and to prevent livestock losses. Recognizing that livestock operators know their operations best, and have local knowledge of the history of depredations in their areas, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) has provided information on non-lethal measures to assist landowners in developing farm or ranch specific non-lethal deterrence plans. An electronic template of a non-lethal deterrence plan is provided at [\(LINK\)](#) and attached to this guidance document.

In the event of a suspected depredation event ODFW biologist will ask if a ranch or farm has a non-lethal deterrence plan. If a plan is in place the biologist conducting the investigation will use it to guide decision making on what steps could be made to eliminate further depredations.

If two or more depredations occur in an area where lethal control is allowed, the non-lethal deterrence plan will help meet the legal requirement to ensure that non-lethals have been deployed in a manner consistent with the requirements in the Oregon Wolf Conservation and Management plan, and that lethal control is justified.

Please develop a non-deterrence plan to:

- Identify and develop non-lethal actions that will result in reduced conflict between your operation and wolves in your area
- Work proactively with your neighbors and community to address conflicts and reduce livestock losses overall
- Educate yourself, business partners and staff on the best alternatives for your operation and implement actions that are most effective for you

Developing Your Plan:

Fill in **Section I** with information on how to contact the ranch, remember this information could be made public as part of a lethal request so only put general information that is normally identifiable through ownership records.

Section II is developed to record the number and type of livestock that you have present for any duration of time during the year as part of your operation. This should be similar information to what you would report to USDA livestock survey requests.

A description of your land use and known predators in the area is requested under **Section III**. This is used to determine the general flexibility your operation has, the remoteness and what other losses you are likely to see related to wildlife. Note there is no difference in the actions under the Oregon Wolf Conservation and Management Plan related to private or public lands, as long as the operator is lawfully occupying that land.

If known please list any wolves or packs in your area under **Section IV**. This information is maintained by ODFW and can be found here [\(ODFW Wolf Page\)](#), or obtained by contacting your local wildlife biologist [\(see ODFW Offices\)](#). Also, include information on interactions you have had with those packs, including previous known or suspected depredations.

Under **Section V**, the action to implement non-lethals should be detailed. This section was developed to assist operators in determining what is available as far as non-lethals and to help them consider what may be more effective for them. ODFW has prepared non-lethal specific recommendations that can be found at [Non-Lethal Measures to Minimize Wolf-Livestock Conflict](#), additionally there may be pack-specific non-lethal recommendations (see [Wolves and Wolf Packs](#)).

Oregon has non-lethal workshops and other community education events. Please consider attending one of these to get assistance in developing this plan.

Last, your plan should be updated regularly; it is recommended that it be reviewed on an annual basis and when any new wolves or wolf packs are identified in your area. ODFW also advises operators to keep a journal. ODFW recommends regularly recording dates and incidence of conflicts with wildlife, actions taken to address those conflicts, and the effectiveness of these actions. It would also be good to note costs associated with implementing those activities.

Ranch/Farm Specific Wolf Deterrence Plan

DATE:				
SECTION I – Contact Information				
Livestock owner(s):		Private/Public Land Acreage:		
Name of Ranch:				
Mailing address:		County:	FAX:	
City:		State:	ZIP Code:	
History of wolf related losses? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes				
SECTION II – Type and Number of Livestock				
Type of Livestock/Number:	Type of Livestock/Number:	Type of Livestock/Number:	Type of Livestock/Number:	Type of Livestock/Number:
SECTION III – Description of Ranch/Farm				
Site description: <input type="checkbox"/> Pasture <input type="checkbox"/> Forested <input type="checkbox"/> Hills/Valleys <input type="checkbox"/> Mountain <input type="checkbox"/> Rolling Sage <input type="checkbox"/> Slopes <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	Seasonal usage by livestock: <input type="checkbox"/> Year round <input type="checkbox"/> Winter <input type="checkbox"/> Spring <input type="checkbox"/> Summer <input type="checkbox"/> Fall	Carnivores present in area: <input type="checkbox"/> Bears <input type="checkbox"/> Cougar <input type="checkbox"/> Coyotes <input type="checkbox"/> Wolves <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	Size/Type of Grazing Operation: <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Allotment (FS) <input type="checkbox"/> Allotment (BLM) <input type="checkbox"/> Allotment (State) <input type="checkbox"/> Tribal Land <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	Other details:
SECTION IV –Wolf Information				

Known Wolves or Pack(s):

History of Wolf Interactions/Conflict:

SECTION V – Deterrents in Use

Reducing Attractants – Bone Piles, Carcass Disposal Sites, or Other Known Carcasses

The physical removal or treatment of dead livestock carcasses (or portions of) which may attract wolves.

Livestock Owner Will:

Uses Barriers – Fladry and Fencing

Fencing used specifically to deter wolves from livestock, may be permanent or temporary, and may be from a variety of fencing materials, depending on each situation.

Livestock Owner Will:

Human Presence

When human presence occurs in an area of simultaneous use by wolves and livestock, it is expected that wolves will move away and depredation will be reduced.

Livestock Owner Will:

Protection for Guard Dogs and other Guarding Animals

Use of specific breeds of guarding dogs or other animals with intent to protect livestock from predators.

Livestock Owner Will:

Alarm or Scare Devices

This includes any combination of alarm system with lights and/or loud sounds which are used for the purpose of scaring wolves from areas of livestock.

Livestock Owner Will:

Hazing or Harassment of Wolves

This is direct harassment of wolves with the intent to use human actions to actively scare wolves away from livestock and may include loud noises (e.g., air horns), firing shots in the air, spotlights or other confrontation with wolves.

Livestock Owner Will:

Livestock Management/Husbandry Changes

These are husbandry actions taken specifically to help avoid wolf-livestock conflicts.

Livestock Owner Will:

Experimental Practices

There may be a number of non-lethal and preventative practices (i.e., bio-fencing, bellling cattle, using wolf-savvy cattle, shock collars, and possibly others) which may reduce depredation risk, but are not yet known to be effective.

Livestock Owner Will:

Prepared by:

Date:

RESOURCES:

Information on Non-Lethal Recommendations:

https://www.dfw.state.or.us/Wolves/non-lethal_methods.asp

Information on Wolf Packs, Ranges and Pack-specific Non-Lethal Recommendations:

<https://dfw.state.or.us/Wolves/>

Contacts for Local Wildlife Staff:

https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/directory/local_offices.asp

For Information on Wolf Compensation Program (ODA):

<https://www.oregon.gov/oda/programs/iscp/pages/wolfdepredation.aspx>

For Further Assistant on Discussing Predator Interactions and Livestock:

Oregon County Contact Information: <http://oregoncounties.org/>

Oregon Farm Bureau: <https://oregonfb.org/>

Oregon Cattleman's Association: <https://orcattle.com/>

Defenders of Wildlife: <https://defenders.org/>

Oregon Wild: <https://oregonwild.org/>

Center for Biological Diversity: <https://www.biologicaldiversity.org/>