



STATE OF ARIZONA LIVESTOCK LOSS BOARD

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Livestock Loss Board Wolf Depredation Interim Policy

BACKGROUND. The Arizona Livestock Loss Board (ALLB) was established by Chapter 172, Article 6, Laws of 2015. It is charged with addressing the depredation of Mexican wolves on livestock operations in Arizona. The program is designed to provide compensation for livestock producers that incur costs to their operations in the process of preventing or reducing interactions with Mexican wolves on the landscape (e.g. depredations, reduction in livestock production, transportation costs, range riders, fencing, etc.). The funding is to reduce the need for management removals of wolves.

POLICY. The ALLB creates the interim policy to provide funding for the loss of commercial cattle caused by Mexican wolf depredation. To receive compensation, a commercial producer/operator (Claimant) shall contact a USDA/APHIS - Wildlife Services Field Representative, or Interagency Field Team representative of a depredation incident. An Arizona Wildlife Service Field Representative shall investigate and provide an opinion confirming a wolf depredation of the cow in Arizona. Upon providing an opinion, the Field Representative shall complete a Depredation Form. The Claimant can submit the Depredation Form to the ALLB for reimbursement in an amount not to exceed \$2500. The Claimant must provide a dollar for dollar match of the reimbursement amount. The match may include Claimant's cash, in-kind contributions or third party contributions on behalf of Claimant. The claim will be presented at a regularly scheduled meeting of the ALLB. Payment will be made upon a majority vote of the ALLB accepting the opinion of the Field Representative. Claimants may pursue a claim for depredations occurring no earlier than September 1, 2015. The ALLB will consider claims in the order received and will award compensation until eligible funds are exhausted. Claims approved after funds have been exhausted will be paid when additional funding is available. The Claimant will be required to sign an affidavit certifying he has not or will not receive any other forms of reimbursement for the lost cattle in addition to the amount received from the ALLB. The ALLB will notify the Claimant if his claim was approved and forward the approved claim to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for payment.

This policy is an interim remedy until the ALLB adopts rules for eligibility and compensation for the loss of livestock due to wolf depredations. Claimant may choose to initiate a claim for compensation under this interim policy or submit their claim after the ALLB adopts rules. Claimant, once rules are adopted, may also seek payment for all costs authorized by law. If Claimant submits a claim pursuant to this interim policy, the ability to seek compensation is waived for the same animal once the Board adopts rules. The decision of the ALLB is not subject to reconsideration and shall be the final administrative decision.