



Mexican Wolf / Livestock Council

JUL 16 2020

DOKG



Chair - Sisto Hernandez
Vice-Chair - Wink Crigler

2105 Osuna Blvd NE
Albuquerque, NM 87113

State of Arizona Livestock Loss Board
5000 W. Carefree Highway
Phoenix, AZ 85086-5000

Chairman Van De Graaff,

The Mexican Wolf/Livestock Council (Council) received your July 30, 2019, letter regarding the Pay for Presence program, and the Arizona Livestock Loss Board's (ALLB) vote to transfer \$60,000 from the Arizona Game and Fish Department's (Department) Conflict Prevention grant to the Council to fund the 2018 Pay for Presence applications in Arizona.

In your letter, you also stated that for the 2018 Pay for Presence funding, the Council will need to identify and provide the ALLB independent sources of the required non-federal match, and that your currently available non-federal match sources were being directed to support depredation compensation payments in Arizona. The Council suggests that the ALLB and/or the grant recipient commit to providing match for the Pay for Presence program through the existing match funds that Council members provide, which is more than needed \$60,000 in match funding. The Council – via members the Mexican Wolf Fund and Defenders of Wildlife – contribute significantly in providing non-Federal match for these grant awards. Additionally, Council members that are Arizona livestock producers have also provided non-Federal match. These are considerable contributions by the Council and we feel the remaining portion of the match is the grant recipient's responsibility to identify.

In your letter, you identified funding from the Groves Estate as a potential source of non-Federal match funds. To consider this, the Groves Estate needs to fund conflict prevention projects occurring in Arizona during the grant open period. These projects were not applied for in 2018 and thus would not provide match for the 2018 Pay for Presence applications. The Department is aware of \$10,200 of Groves Estate funds that meet this requirement and are available for 2018 match. In order to utilize additional Groves Estate funds as non-Federal match, please identify Arizona-based conflict prevention projects and forward them to the Council for consideration and approval. Given the limited remaining funds in the Groves Estate (less than \$90,000), we also encourage the ALLB and Department to seek match funds from Arizona livestock producers participating in ALLB funding programs, as identified in their Conflict Prevention grant application.

We appreciate this contribution and your continued support of this program and livestock producers.

Sincerely,



Sisto Hernandez