



**OREGON  
DEPARTMENT OF  
AGRICULTURE**

**Wolf Depredation Compensation  
and  
Financial Assistance  
County Block Grant Program  
2019-2023 Report**

# 1. Executive Summary

The ranching and farming industries are vital to Oregon's economy. However, with the return of gray wolves to Oregon, conflicts with livestock and working dogs have arisen, leading to financial losses for some livestock producers due to wolf depredations. This report to the Oregon Legislature outlines the expenditure of the Wolf Depredation Compensation and Financial Assistance (WDCFA) County Block Grant Program funds for the 2019-2021 and 2021-2023 biennia.

The program aims to support Oregon's economy by minimizing wolf-livestock conflicts and assisting producers affected by wolf-related losses, in alignment with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's (ODFW) Wolf Conservation and Management Plan.

Below is a breakdown of the desired outcomes:

- *Reduced wolf-livestock conflicts:* Decrease wolf depredation on livestock, reducing economic losses and human-wolf conflicts.
- *Improved livestock management techniques:* Adopt and implement effective livestock management techniques and nonlethal wolf deterrence strategies. Mitigates the risk of wolf-livestock conflicts and promotes better coexistence practices.
- *Enhanced trust and partnerships:* Build strong trust and partnerships between ODA, ODFW, local communities, and livestock producers. This collaborative approach facilitates communication, coordination, and support for addressing wolf-livestock conflicts.
- *Sustainable coexistence:* Balance responsible wolf population management with adequate support for livestock producers and empower local communities to coexist with wolves.
- *Effective use of funding:* Use state general funds and federal grant funds are used to provide timely and effective assistance to livestock producers in participating counties, ensuring resources are allocated to the most pressing wolf-livestock conflicts.

Since its inception in August 2011, the WDCFA Grant Program has expanded from eight (8) to 18 counties, using both state and federal funds, to provide annual block grants. Proper use of the grants for depredation compensation and preventative measures increases confidence in viable wolf populations, positive economic outcomes, and collaborative conservation efforts.

## 2. Grant Overview

Realizing that the ranching and farming industry are important components of Oregon's economy, House Bill (HB) 3560 was signed into effect on August 2, 2011, directing ODA to establish and implement the Wolf Depredation Compensation and Financial Assistance County Block Grant Program. Grants are awarded to County Wolf Advisory Committees/Programs for:

- Compensating individuals who experience loss or harm to livestock or working dogs because of wolf depredation.
- Reimbursing individuals for livestock or working dogs that are confirmed missing due to wolf depredation.
- Financial assistance to individuals for livestock management or nonlethal wolf deterrent techniques aimed at preventing wolf depredation on livestock.
- Compensating counties for eligible expenses related to establishing and administering county wolf advisory committees and grant programs.

(Note: Federal wolf grant funds may only be used for direct compensation and prevention, not for missing livestock or county administrative expenses.)

The structure of ODA's WDCFA Grant Program is specifically designed to place a large portion of decision-making, administration, and control at the county level with the goal of enhancing public involvement and participation. Local county wolf advisory committees/programs convey the needs and challenges of their respective local producers into an annual WDCFA grant application to the ODA. To be eligible for the grants, counties must meet certain statutory requirements:

- Have a county advisory committee overseeing the wolf depredation compensation program. Committees are required to include a county commissioner, livestock owners/managers, supporters of wolf conservation, and two business representatives chosen by the committee.
- Set eligibility criteria for compensation, ensuring that livestock owners did not attract wolves on purpose, implemented best practices to deter wolves, and eliminated other reasons for missing livestock.
- Prioritize funds for livestock owners facing high losses and set compensation rates based on market value.
- At least 30% of the grant funds must go towards techniques to discourage wolf attacks on livestock.
- Contribute 10% of the expenses needed to administer the program each year.

ODA reviews grant applications for completeness, accuracy and consistency with applicable statutes and rules. Each County Wolf Compensation Program participating in the ODA's WDCFA Grant Program is responsible for establishing fair market compensation rates for death or injury to livestock attributable to wolf depredation.

The depredation grant component of the WDCFA Grant operates a year in arrears and reimburses those claims that have a “confirmed” or “probable” investigative finding by ODFW during the previous year, (i.e., confirmed or probable depredation losses occurring in 2023 will be compensated with the 2024 grant award.) The prevention grant component is awarded for the remainder of the current grant cycle. Counties have until January 31 of the following year to expend all WDCFA grant funds, unexpended funds must be returned to ODA and re-deposited back into the Wolf Trust Fund.

Effective proactive non-lethal measures vary by the type of livestock being protected and the size of the area to be protected. Reducing attractants by carcass and bone pile removal may be the single best action to keep from attracting wolves to areas of livestock. Other examples of non-lethal and preventative measures include removal of attractants, hazing/harassment, increased vigilance, increased monitoring of wolf activity, installation of radio activated guard (RAG) devices, loaning of Fox lights, fladry (protective fencing) or electro mesh for installation around livestock, and support of county operated range rider programs.

### 3. Participating Counties

Currently, 18 counties have approved county wolf advisory committees.

- Baker
- Crook
- Deschutes
- Douglas
- Grant
- Harney
- Jackson
- Jefferson
- Klamath
- Lake
- Malheur
- Morrow
- Sherman
- Umatilla
- Union
- Wallowa
- Wasco
- Wheeler

## 4. Grant Money Expenditures by County and Type 2019-2023

### Grant Money Expenditures by County and Type (2019)

Requested					
County	Death/Injury	Missing	Prevent	Admin	Total
Malheur	\$0	\$0	\$1,050	\$450	\$1,500
Umatilla	\$500	\$33,600	\$65,000	\$675	\$99,775
Wheeler	\$0	\$0	\$8,500	\$100	\$8,600
Grant	\$450	\$0	\$19,008	\$500	\$19,958
Union	\$1,303	\$0	\$40,000	\$0	\$41,303
Klamath	\$4,190	\$0	\$7,810	\$0	\$12,000
Jackson	\$6,200	\$0.00	\$31,000	\$0	\$37,200
Morrow	\$0	\$0	\$5,000	\$750	\$5,750
Lake	\$0	\$0	\$2,000	\$0	\$2,000
Wallowa	\$5,760	\$51,460	\$59,994	\$650	\$117,864
Douglas	\$0	\$0	\$63,500	\$900	\$64,400
Baker	\$10,634	\$48,199	\$35,000	\$495	\$94,328
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$29,037</b>	<b>\$133,259</b>	<b>\$337,862</b>	<b>\$4,520</b>	<b>\$504,678</b>
Awarded					
County	Death/Injury	Missing	Prevent	Admin	Total
Malheur	\$0	\$0	\$500	\$400	\$900
Umatilla	\$500	\$4,107	\$31,700	\$600	\$36,907
Wheeler	\$0	\$0	\$3,000	\$100	\$3,100
Grant	\$450	\$0	\$4,000	\$400	\$4,850
Union	\$1,303	\$0	\$5,000	\$0	\$6,303
Klamath	\$4,190	\$0	\$7,800	\$0	\$11,990
Jackson	\$6,200	\$0	\$26,000	\$0	\$32,200
Morrow	\$0	\$0	\$2,000	\$400	\$2,400
Lake	\$0	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000
Wallowa	\$5,760	\$6,889	\$30,000	\$0	\$42,649
Douglas	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Baker	\$10,634	\$5,891	\$19,000	\$495	\$36,020
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$29,037</b>	<b>\$16,887</b>	<b>\$130,000</b>	<b>\$2,395</b>	<b>\$178,319</b>

### Grant Money Expenditures by County and Type (2020)

Requested					
County	Death/Injury	Missing	Prevent	Admin	Total
Baker	\$2,213	\$0	\$45,000	\$495	\$47,708
Douglas	\$0	\$0	\$63,500	\$900	\$64,400
Grant	\$0	\$0	\$19,500	\$500	\$20,000
Jackson	\$6,000	\$0	\$42,000	\$0	\$48,000
Klamath	\$876	\$0	\$11,000	\$0	\$11,876
Lake	\$0	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000
Malheur	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$225	\$225
Morrow	\$0	\$0	\$25,000	\$1,000	\$26,000
Umatilla	\$0	\$33,600	\$50,000	\$750	\$84,350
Union	\$1,330	\$0	\$20,000	\$0	\$21,330
Wallowa	\$0	\$45,100	\$47,268	\$650	\$93,018
Wheeler	\$0	\$0	\$8,500	\$100	\$8,600
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$10,419</b>	<b>\$78,700</b>	<b>\$332,768</b>	<b>\$4,620</b>	<b>\$426,507</b>
Awarded					
County	Death/Injury	Missing	Prevent	Admin	Total
Baker	\$2,213	\$0	\$30,000	\$495	\$32,708
Douglas	\$0	\$0	\$16,000	\$650	\$16,650
Grant	\$0	\$0	\$10,000	\$500	\$10,500
Jackson	\$6,000	\$0	\$20,000	\$0	\$26,000
Klamath	\$876	\$0	\$11,000	\$0	\$11,876
Lake	\$0	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000
Malheur	\$0	\$0	\$225	\$0	\$225
Morrow	\$0	\$0	\$16,000	\$650	\$16,650
Umatilla	\$0	\$8,620	\$50,000	\$650	\$59,270
Union	\$1,330	\$0	\$16,000	\$0	\$17,330
Wallowa	\$0	\$0	\$55,220	\$0	\$55,220
Wheeler	\$0	\$0	\$4,000	\$100	\$4,100
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$10,419</b>	<b>\$8,620</b>	<b>\$229,445</b>	<b>\$3,045</b>	<b>\$251,529</b>

### Grant Money Expenditures by County and Type (2021)

Requested					
County	Death/Injury	Missing	Prevent	Admin	Total
Baker	\$1,500	\$0	\$45,000	\$495	\$46,995
Douglas	\$0	\$0	\$8,000	\$0	\$8,000
Jackson	\$1,200	\$0	\$40,521	\$0	\$41,721
Klamath	\$16,296	\$0	\$10,000	\$0	\$26,296
Lake	\$0	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000
Morrow	\$1,260	\$0	\$45,000	\$0	\$46,260
Umatilla	\$0	\$16,218	\$70,000	\$750	\$86,968
Union	\$1,413	\$0	\$20,000	\$0	\$21,413
Wallowa	\$3,150	\$3,600	\$60,000	\$700	\$67,450
Wheeler	\$0	\$0	\$2,350	\$0	\$2,350
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$24,819</b>	<b>\$19,818</b>	<b>\$301,871</b>	<b>\$1,945</b>	<b>\$348,453</b>
Awarded					
County	Death/Injury	Missing	Prevent	Admin	Total
Baker	\$1,500	\$0	\$13,500	\$495	\$15,495
Douglas	\$0	\$0	\$8,000	\$0	\$8,000
Jackson	\$1,200	\$0	\$12,000	\$0	\$13,200
Klamath	\$16,296	\$0	\$10,000	\$0	\$26,296
Lake	\$0	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000
Morrow	\$1,260	\$0	\$13,000	\$650	\$14,910
Umatilla	\$0	\$4,000	\$17,000	\$750	\$21,750
Union	\$1,413	\$0	\$6,000	\$0	\$7,413
Wallowa	\$3,150	\$900	\$17,000	\$700	\$21,750
Wheeler	\$0	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$24,819</b>	<b>\$4,900</b>	<b>\$98,500</b>	<b>\$2,595</b>	<b>\$130,814</b>

### Grant Money Expenditures by County and Type (2022)

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



### Grant Money Expenditures by County and Type (2023)

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