



Northeast Washington Wolf-Livestock Grant Awards 2019

The Washington State Department of Agriculture received \$432,000 from the state Legislature to fund non-lethal wolf deterrence projects, with \$80,000 dedicated to the sheriff's departments of Ferry and Stevens counties. Upon the recommendations of the Northeast Washington Wolf-Livestock Grant Advisory Board, the remaining funds have been awarded to the following recipients.

GRANT RECIPIENT: **Cattle Producers of Washington: \$144,908**

This project provides two conflict specialists covering Ferry, Stevens, Pend Oreille and Okanogan counties to contact and respond directly to citizens experiencing wolf issues. It also includes placement of deterrents designed to reduce the potential of conflict and inform ranchers so they can redirect or move livestock to reduce depredation.

Conflict specialists will improve understanding of wolf movements and normal prey consumption and report to the affected ranchers and the grant application subcommittee. They will also coordinate with conflict specialists in other counties, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), and county government agencies. These specialists will identify and monitor problematic wolf behavior including that which causes concern for livestock producers and the general public.

GRANT RECIPIENT: **Northeast Washington Wolf-Cattle Collaborative: \$189,492**

The Northeast Washington Wolf-Cattle Collaborative is a nonprofit group working to reduce conflicts between wolves and cattle producers. The group focuses on learning about and exploring efficient and effective non-lethal wolf deterrence methods, primarily range riding, and adapting them as needed in order to potentially reduce wolf-cattle conflicts.

The project aims to continue a collaborative effort to improve performance and further the use of range riders to deter wolf depredations. In addition to working with cattle producers, it will attempt to inform the non-ranching public about the issue. The organization will collaborate with the WDFW, Conservation Northwest, other wolf managers, the Stevens-Ferry County wildlife specialist deputy, and any known private or non-profit efforts to formulate a strategy, particularly for high risk areas, and to find a path to a sustainable, consistent, efficient, and effective effort.

Administrative Costs: **\$17,600**

WSDA's role is to ensure projects selected to receive funding are in compliance with state law and regulations.