



Washington
State Department of
Agriculture

Washington State Department of Agriculture
PO Box 42560
Olympia, WA 98504-2560
(360) 902-1976

NE Washington Wolf-Livestock Management Grant
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

RELEASE DATE: May 22, 2025

PROPOSALS DUE: June 6, 2025

PROJECT PERIOD: July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2027



INTRODUCTION

The Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) is pleased to announce a competitive solicitation process to award NE Washington Wolf-Livestock Management Grant funds. These funds are available to support non-lethal management methods aimed at reducing livestock depredations by wolves. Eligible projects must occur in Washington counties east of the Cascade Mountain crest that share a border with Canada, specifically Okanogan, Ferry, Stevens, and Pend Oreille counties.

FUNDING AND DURATION

The Washington State Legislature has appropriated \$912,000 for the 2025-2027 biennium. After the administrative costs, \$840,000 is available to award. Additional competitive solicitations may be conducted.

Funds must be used exclusively for the deployment of nonlethal deterrence resources, including human presence and locally owned and deliberately located equipment and tools, as outlined in RCW 16.76.020.

New for the 2025–2027 biennium: As enacted during the 2025 legislative session, SB 5343 authorized the use of program funds for wolf-livestock management grants to the sheriffs' offices in Stevens and Ferry counties. These grants support the hiring of a local wildlife specialist to assist the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife in wolf management efforts.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Eligible applicants are nonprofit community-based collaborative organizations with advisory boards that include personnel from relevant agencies, such as the US Forest Service and the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW). Eligibility criteria are based on RCW 16.76.020's intent to fund knowledgeable, experienced stakeholders focused on nonlethal wolf management methods.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- Funds must be used in counties east of the Cascade crest that share a border with Canada.
- Deployment must include proactive, preventative nonlethal deterrence methods proven to be effective.
- Range riders or herd monitors must visit targeted areas with cattle daily or nearly daily.



- All range riders must document activities with GPS tracking logs and submit reports to WDFW on a monthly basis.
- Coordination with other grantees and efforts is required to ensure effective temporal and spatial coverage.

ADVISORY BOARD

A four-member advisory board, established under RCW 16.76.020, will direct WSDA on the expenditure of funds. Members are selected for their expertise in wolf depredation issues and commitment to nonlethal management. Applications will be reviewed and scored based on this board's recommendations.

AWARD MANAGEMENT

WSDA will maintain a public list of grants awarded under this section, including the amount, recipient, and purpose, as required by statute.

INDIRECT COSTS

Indirect costs are not allowed. Indirect costs are defined as expenses that are incurred for common objectives and cannot be specifically identified with a particular project or activity. These typically include administrative expenses such as rent, utilities, general office supplies, and salaries of administrative staff.

Direct charging of administrative or clerical services is permitted only if:

- The services are integral to the project;
- The individuals involved can be specifically identified with the project or activity;
- The costs are explicitly included in the budget or receive prior written approval from WSDA;
- The costs are not also recovered as indirect costs elsewhere.

APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

1. Submit complete applications to WSDA.
2. WSDA checks eligibility and forwards applications to WDFW for review.
3. WDFW provides comments for the board's consideration during application review.
4. Applications and comments are reviewed by the Advisory Board.
5. Final decisions are based on scoring criteria below:

SCORING CRITERIA

- Project Narrative (25 pts): History of success, collaboration, stakeholder involvement.
- Reporting (10 pts): Quality of reporting mechanisms, GPS logs, observations.



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- Work Plan (40 pts): Activities, personnel, timeline, methodology.
- Budget Narrative (25 pts): Cost effectiveness, budget justification.
- Other (10 pts): Geographic impact, vulnerability, number of wolf packs.

HOW TO APPLY

Email: kari.smith@agr.wa.gov to request the application form or find the application form on [WSDA's Grant Opportunities](#) webpage.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Include:

- Cover Page with applicant details and authorizing official
- Project Narrative: History, stakeholder engagement, problems addressed
- Reporting Plan: Details on human presence tracking and WDFW reporting
- Work Plan: Activities, personnel, timeline, methods
- Budget Narrative: Cost categories, justification for each
- New in 2025: Additional Questions requested by the NE Wolf-Livestock Board

New in 2025- Additional Questions requested by the NE Wolf-Livestock Board:

1. The long-term success of this program depends on community buy-in. RCW 16.76.020 states, "Funds may only be distributed to nonprofit community-based collaborative organizations..." Describe how your organization meets the intent of that requirement and how you intend to sustain and grow receptivity to your proposed actions in the affected community. For organizations that this program has previously funded, describe how you have had successes and challenges. For example, how do you engage with industry associations, other NGOs, and the non-producer community?

2. The Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) is developing a practice standard for range riding in Washington. When considering your proposal, what metrics should they consider, and how could they be verified while maintaining the privacy of the producer?

FUND SOURCE

Grants are funded from the Northeast Washington Wolf-Livestock Management Account (RCW 16.76.030), a nonappropriated account managed by the state treasurer.

QUESTIONS?

Contact WSDA at (360) 902-1976 for clarification or assistance.



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This RFP is updated in alignment with RCW 16.76.020 to ensure legal compliance, transparent oversight, and effective wolf-livestock conflict mitigation in northeastern Washington.