

AGENDA



Washington Department
of Fish and Wildlife

**Blue sheet briefing and discussion:
WDFW's nonlethal wolf management program**

Saturday, March 18, 2023

In person: Wenatchee, Washington

Virtual link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81077498109>

10:15 AM – 2:45 PM

Briefing requested by: Commissioner Lorna Smith

Please read: [Original blue sheet request](#)
[Wolf-livestock interaction protocol](#)
[Areas of chronic conflict and conflict mitigation plans – background](#)

Please note: We envision this workshop as a roundtable discussion, an open Q and A, back and forth conversation rather than formal presentations followed by questions.

10:15 AM – 10:30 AM

Introduction

Introduce and explain purpose of blue sheet | *Lorna Smith, WDFW Commissioner*

Speaker introductions | *All*

10:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Range riding coordination

Speakers will address the following topics as they pertain to each entity providing range riding services:

- (i) how programs offering range riding differ in administration, goals, training, accountability, funding, and relationship with WDFW;
- (ii) the extent to which these programs have agreed to the range riding standards in the wolf-livestock interaction protocol;
- (iii) the number of range riders WDFW directly employs and whether that number is limited by funding or other constraints;
- (iv) gaps and problems WDFW sees in the provision of range riding services, including whether any livestock owners and potential conflict areas are currently underserved.

Northeast Washington Wolf-Cattle Collaborative | *Jay Shepherd, Administrator*

Cattle Producers of Washington | *Scott Nielsen*

WDFW range riding coordination in the office | *Jim Brown, Conflict Section Manager and Kyla West, Human-Wildlife Conflict Analyst, WDFW*

WDFW range riding coordination in the field | *Joey McCanna, Region 1 Wildlife Conflict Supervisor, WDFW*

11:30 AM – 12:15 PM

Range riding funding

Speakers will address the following topics as they pertain to each entity providing range riding funding:

- (i) the source(s) of funds;
- (ii) who distributes them and the process used to select who receives those funds;
- (iii) which entities received what percentage of funds over the past two years (including WDFW, Cattle Producers of Washington and the Northeast Washington Wolf Cattle Collaborative); and
- (iv) how we expect that process to work in the coming biennium.

Range rider funding process from WA Dept. of Agriculture | *Leisa Schumaker, Program Manager, Lindsey Moore, Grant Specialist, and Laura Butler, Director's Office, WA State Department of Agriculture*

WDFW's role in WA Dept. of Agriculture funding process | *Joey McCanna, Region 1 Wildlife Conflict Supervisor, WDFW*

Funding of WDFW's contracted range riders and range rider cost-sharing | *Jim Brown, Conflict Section Manager and Kyla West, Human-Wildlife Conflict Analyst, WDFW*

12:15 PM – 12:45 PM

Lunch break

12:45 PM – 1:30 PM

Other nonlethal tools, effectiveness, and adaptive management

Presentation | *Joey McCanna, Region 1 Wildlife Conflict Supervisor, WDFW*

1:30 PM – 2:00 PM

Areas of chronic conflict and Conflict Mitigation Planning

Presentation | *Julia Smith, Wolf Policy Lead, WDFW*

2:00 PM – 2:45 PM

Investigations of wolf caught-in-the-act incidents and poaching in 2022

Presentation | *Mike Sprecher, Region 1 Captain, WDFW*