

2013 DRAFT

Comment [SSL(1): Note: Review has been requested from wolf managers and scientist from the Rocky Mtn states, MI and WI. We are awaiting replies.

Operational Details for Lethal Removal of Gray Wolves in Washington During Recovery

The primary purpose of this document is to ~~clearly~~ outline a process and provide guidance that supports the Wolf Conservation and Management Plan (Plan) and other actions (e.g. Livestock-Wolf Mitigation Checklist) implemented through Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) when lethal removal of wolves may be necessary. This document is intended as advisement to WDFW. As stated in the Plan (p. 85), non-lethal management techniques will be emphasized throughout the recovery period and beyond. Wolf-livestock conflicts will be managed using a range of options to prevent depredations as presented in the Wolf Conservation Management Plan (pgs. 85-87). The Operational Detail assumes non-lethal measures have been implemented where feasible before having to implement lethal measures. As a result of different geographic recovery areas and a variety of potential scenarios surrounding depredation events, the WDFW may apply different lethal and non-lethal strategies to deal with wolves that engage in depredation events. This document is intended solely as guidance and does not establish any mandatory requirements except where items may be referenced in statute or administrative code. These guidelines may be ~~updated annually~~ reviewed and revised or on an as-needed basis by WDFW with partner scientists, researchers, and stakeholders.

Definitions and background information:

Per the Wolf Conservation and Management Plan (~~page p.~~ 88) lethal removal may be used to stop repeated depredation when it is documented that livestock have been killed by wolves, non-lethal methods have been tried but failed to resolve conflict, depredations are likely to continue, and there is no evidence of intentional feeding or unnatural attraction of wolves by the livestock owner. Lethal control will be used only as needed after case-specific evaluations are made, with use becoming less restrictive as wolves progress toward delisting (Wolf Conservation and Management Plan pg. 88). Situations will be evaluated on a case-specific basis, with management decisions based on pack history and size, pattern of depredations, conflict history, number of livestock killed, state listed status of wolves, extent of proactive management measures being used on the property, and other considerations.

Per the Wolf Conservation and Management Plan (pg.80) lethal control may be necessary to resolve repeated wolf-livestock conflicts and is performed to remove problem animals that jeopardize public tolerance for overall recovery. Both the northern Rocky Mountain states and

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Great Lake states have used lethal control actions during wolf recovery (Wolf Conservation and Management Plan; pg. 80).

Problem-Offending wolves and repeated depredations, as stated within this document, means as at least 1 confirmed livestock kill plus 1 or more livestock injuries/kills by a pack of wolves or a lone wolf within the same calendar year. (59 FR 60252, November 22, 1994).

Therefore, on property leased or controlled by the livestock owner where livestock are managed to avoid and reduce conflict, wolves or other members of a group or pack of wolves (including adults, young, and young-of-the-year) that have depredated on domestic livestock; on property leased or controlled by the livestock owner and are managed to avoid and reduce conflict; or other members of a group or pack of wolves including adults, young, and young-of-the-year that were directly involved in the depredations; or fed upon the livestock remains that were a result of wolf depredation; or were fed by or are dependent upon adults involved with depredations (because before these young animals mature to where they can survive on their own, they will travel with the pack and learn the pack's depredation habits) may be candidates for removal. (59 FR 60252, November 22, 1994).

Caught-in-the-act (CIA) permit to lethally removal a specified number of wolves

Western Washington: where wolves are under Federal jurisdiction

Currently, WDFW has no authority to issue a CIA caught-in-the-act permit or take lethal action in the western two-thirds of Washington. However, should the USFWS grant authority to WDFW a CIA caught-in-the-act permit to lethally remove a specified number of wolves may be issued after a documented wolf depredation (injury or kill) on livestock in the area and efforts to avoid and resolve the problem through conflict avoidance measures identified in the Livestock-Wolf Mitigation Checklist have been deemed ineffective by WDFW staff.

Conditions to issue a CIA caught-in-the-act permit will be considered on a case specific -by case basis, as identified by responding WDFW staff (using tools such as the Livestock-Wolf Mitigation Checklist).

The Director makes the decision to issue a CIA caught-in-the-act permit.

Eastern Washington: where wolves are not under federal jurisdiction

The WDFW emergency rule below allows farmers, ranchers and other domestic animal owners, including their employees or agents, to kill one wolf if it is attacking their animals. Attacking is defined by the Wolf Conservation and Management Plan (p. 88) as biting, wounding, or killing. In further defining attack; means that there is evidence to support the fact that animal to

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Comment [SSL(2)]: Note: Requests for peer review have been made with managers and scientists outside of WA. We are awaiting replies.

Additional note: Wisconsin currently permits control after one significant loss during the calendar year except where wolves have killed free roaming dogs on public land.

Wisconsin further defines chronic areas as areas with verified wolf depredation in 2 or more years in the past 5 year-period within the same pack area. Verified Depredation is defined by WI as confirmed or probable wolf caused.

History of wolf status in WI:
Federal Endangered 1974
State Endangered 1975
State Threatened 1999
Federal Threatened 2003
State removed threatened status 2004
Federal relisted as endangered 2005
Removed from Federal Threatened and Endangered 2007

animal contact has occurred or is imminent and the wolf is in an attack posture or mode; (draft Washington Administrative Code). The goal of the emergency rule is to allow landowners to defend their domestic animals on their property at the time of a wolf attack. The WDFW emergency rule applies under the following conditions:

- The rule applies only in areas of Eastern Washington where the gray wolf is not listed as threatened or endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act. The gray wolf is not federally listed in the eastern third of the state, designated in the state Wolf Conservation and Management Plan as the Eastern Washington Recovery Region.
- The rule allows the owner of a domestic animal to kill only one wolf, for the duration of the regulation. If the owner can make the case that subsequent attacks are likely, he or she will need a permit from the WDFW director to kill an additional wolf during an attack.
- The lethal removal must be reported to WDFW within 24 hours, and the wolf carcass must be provided turned over to the department.
- The owner of the domestic animal that was attacked must grant access or help the department gain access to the property where the wolf was killed to enable investigation and data collection.
- Anyone who kills a wolf that was not attacking a domestic animal as spelled out in the rule will be subject to criminal prosecution for the illegal taking of endangered wildlife.

Stipulations for lethal removal of wolves

Depending on the status of wolves within a recovery zones , the Department will consider lethally removing wolves when there has been at least 2 separate (different days) depredations including at least 1 confirmed kill, and essential non-lethal measures (consistent with the Livestock-Wolf Mitigation Checklist and the Wolf Conservation and Management Plan (p. 88)) have been tried but failed to resolve the conflict, depredations are likely to continue, and there is no other evidence of intentional feeding or unnatural attraction of wolves by the livestock producer (not associated with carcass and bone yard removal as identified in the Livestock-Wolf Mitigation Checklist). The objective for lethal removal is to quickly respond to repeated depredation events soon after they occur to attempt to target specific wolves that have engaged in livestock depredation behavior. Stipulations will be evaluated on a case-specific basis, with management decisions based on pack history and size, pattern of depredations, number of livestock killed, state-listed status of wolves, extent of proactive management measures being used on the property, and other considerations.

Strategy Actions for lethal removal of wolves by WDFW

The number of wolves targeted for lethal removal depends, in part, on the specific circumstance in the local area, and the foraging behavior of wolves and escalating dependency on livestock. In general, the approach for lethal removal will be to target wolves involved in depredations-problem wolves if known, no special age and sex consideration will be made except on a case by case basis and could include the following actions:

- Remove specific problem wolves – The removal of specific problem wolves may be used to *keep repeated depredations from ~~developing~~—continuing beyond 2* by removing the wolf or wolves that have been attacking livestock. This approach would likely be used at the time of the first confirmed livestock kill when there is significant wolf-livestock spatial overlap and depredation history in the area. For example, if a dead calf is found that is partially consumed and it's a confirmed wolf kill, and it's an area with high wolf use and active livestock grazing, then the Department may set a trap to capture and kill the offending - wolf or wolves.
- Remove multiple problem wolves – If *repeated wolf depredations have developed*, the removal of multiple pack members involved in depredation may be used when the removal of a single wolf has not deterred the depredations or there is evidence to suggest multiple wolves are involved in depredations.
- Remove all problem wolves or entire pack – Removal of all problem wolves or an entire pack may be used when depredation events continue despite previous non-lethal measures used or lethal removals or attempts.

Lethal removals will likely be incremental, meaning the process includes removing or attempting to remove offending wolves and/or multiple pack members prior to pack removal.

Lethal removal process

1. Decision process – Regional Wildlife Program Managers and/or the Conflict Section Manager are jointly responsible for notifying ~~senior staff~~Regional Director when a depredation situation may warrant lethal removal of wolves. The recommendation shall include documentation (such as ~~prevention measures~~Livestock-Wolf Mitigation Checklist) demonstrating that all of the stipulations required to justify lethal action have been met, a recommendation for the number of wolves to remove, the start date, methods, staffing, geographical area, and other operational details. The situation will be discussed with senior staff including the Regional Director, Wildlife Program Assistant Director, Enforcement Program Assistant Director, and Game Division Manager (

including the Carnivore Section Manager and Conflict Section Manager . The Director makes the decision to lethally remove wolves.

2. Communication on lethal decision notice

- a. Follow supervisor-employee “chain of command” for communicating on decisions for lethal removals.
- b. Decisions for lethal removals will also be discussed during Wildlife Program senior staff weekly meetings and Olympia-Regional bi-weekly conference calls.

3. Methods – The preferred option is to complete the removal from the ground or air using marksmen, or by trapping ~~or killing~~. Other humane options may be considered on a case-by-case basis.

4. Staffing – Once the determination for lethal removal is made by The Director, Senior Staff will decide if WDFW or USDA Wildlife Services will implement a removal. For removals implemented by WDFW, the core team to carry out the removal includes regional wildlife biologists and enforcement staff, conflict specialists, and carnivore biologists.

- a. Each region has a list of staff available for control operations
- b. A Team Leader will be identified (by the Regional Wildlife Program Manager) and supervise day-to-day field activities

5. Field oversight – For removals implemented by WDFW staff or USDA Wildlife Services, oversight for field operations will be through the Regional Wildlife Program Manager and Enforcement Captain, in coordination with Game Division.

6. Duration – The objective for any removal process (conducted by WDFW or Wildlife Services) is to have the removal completed within ~~7 days~~ a short time period. Because the removal process can be incremental, there may be multiple strategies or incremental events employed in the identified geographic area depending upon the response of wolves remaining in an area after the initial strategy action is implemented.

WDFW will use its discretion to determine the duration of time needed to effectively resolve depredation problems. Generally, the objective for each strategy or incremental event is to have the removal completed within 7-15 days for first time depredation areas; 7 days; efforts may extend beyond 15 days if necessary depending upon effectiveness of initial actions.

7. Media – Updates will be provided to the public. WDFW does not intend to place news releases for every action or depredation.

Kill Permit

Kill permits may be issued to landowners on a case by case basis when department lethal removal strategies have not reached the target objective. The goal of issuing a kill permit would be to reduce the risk of depredation in areas where previous depredations have been verified. A few example scenarios include: 1) unsuccessful department trapping attempts lasting beyond a reasonable time frame, 2) one or more wolves have been removed but some remain that are identified for removal, 3) one or more wolves have been removed but it is unknown if others remain in the area therefore a landowner is issued a kill permit in the event a wolf returns and the landowner has livestock at risk of depredation, 4) depredation history within the area indicates proactive control would reduce the risk of depredations by lowering the abundance of wolves involved in these depredations.

A kill permit can only be issued with prior Director approval. The following stipulations will be outlined on a case by case basis for each permit; duration of permit, number of wolves, and method of take. All wolves killed or injured under the kill permit must be reported to WDFW within 24 hours of incident. No wolves may be transported dead or alive to other locations. All wolves killed under the permit shall be turned over to WDFW. WDFW may add additional conditions to permits as necessary.



Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Staff Guidelines: LIVESTOCK-WOLF MITIGATION MEASURES

This checklist contains examples of proactive measures that are recommended for use by livestock operators to help avoid or reduce conflicts between livestock and wolves when practical and applicable. Identified within the checklist are measures that can be implemented to meet the requirements to enact non-lethal measures provided by state law (chapter 77) and WDFW regulations (WAC 232-36). The measures identified as essential are the minimum baseline measures that should be implemented if feasible prior to consideration for compensation or lethal management options. Identification of such measures through this checklist does not guarantee either compensation claims or that requests for lethal control measures will be granted. Effective implementation at the time of the conflict must be verified by WDFW.

SANITATION		Compensation for loss	Agency authorized lethal removal
<input type="checkbox"/>	Remove or manage livestock carcasses from lambing or calving areas and from cooperators' lands when they are discovered (includes burying, burning, or composting consistent with state law and county or city ordinances).	Essential action	Essential action
<input type="checkbox"/>	Install predator-proof fencing around a bone yard.	Essential action	Essential action
<input type="checkbox"/>	In areas where available, contact WDFW when livestock carcasses are discovered so that they can be removed or protected from wolves.	Essential action	Essential action
Rationale: <i>It is important to include rationale outlining the action the landowner will take and any limitations to their effort.</i>			
SICK AND INJURED LIVESTOCK		Compensation for loss	Agency authorized lethal removal
<input type="checkbox"/>	Remove sick or injured non-ambulatory livestock from unsafe pastures in areas where wolves are present (when feasible).	Essential action	Essential action
Rationale: <i>It is important to include rationale outlining the action the landowner will take and any limitations to their effort.</i>			

CALVING AND LAMBING AREAS		Compensation for loss	Agency authorized lethal removal
<input type="checkbox"/>	Traditional calving or lambing areas are away from areas occupied by wolves (if known at the time this checklist is dated). (if this box is checked the next two boxes are not applicable)	Essential	Essential
<input type="checkbox"/>	In the event that there is known wolf activity in a producer's calving or lambing areas then use protective fencing or fladry around calving or lambing areas when deemed necessary by the department.	1 or more action(s) is Essential	1 or more action(s) is Essential
<input type="checkbox"/>	Use lambing sheds during and immediately after lambing.	1 or more action(s) is Essential	1 or more action(s) is Essential
Rationale: <i>It is important to include rationale outlining the action the landowner will take and any limitations to their effort.</i>			
TURNOUT		Compensation for loss	Agency authorized lethal removal
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other technique for managing risks of wolves being attracted to young calves on private lands (explain in Rationale box below).	1 or more action(s) is Essential	1 or more action(s) is Essential
<input type="checkbox"/>	Turnout of calves onto forested/upland grazing allotments until calving is finished.	1 or more action(s) is Essential	1 or more action(s) is Essential
<input type="checkbox"/>	Turnout of calves onto forested/upland grazing pastures or allotments once calves are larger (e.g., 200 lbs).	1 or more action(s) is Essential	1 or more action(s) is Essential
<input type="checkbox"/>	Delay the turnout of livestock onto forested/upland grazing pastures or allotments until June 10th when wild ungulates are born.	1 or more action(s) is Essential	1 or more action(s) is Essential
Rationale: <i>It is important to include rationale outlining the action the landowner will take and any limitations to their effort.</i>			
RANGE RIDERS AND SHEPHERDS		Compensation for loss	Agency authorized lethal removal
<input type="checkbox"/>	Use herders with dogs at night to protect sheep.	Recommended	Recommended

<input type="checkbox"/>	Use guarding animals (dogs, llamas, donkeys, etc.) to alert herders and protect livestock.	Recommended	Recommended
<input type="checkbox"/>	Manage grazing livestock near the core areas (dens, rendezvous sites) of wolf territories to minimize wolf-livestock interactions. Tools that may help achieve this include placing watering sites, mineral blocks, and supplemental feed away from wolf core areas. If available, it may also include temporarily switching grazing sites and moving livestock to another location.	Recommended	Recommended
<input type="checkbox"/>	Use Range Riders to Increase the frequency of human presence checking livestock in areas with wolves or when wolves are in the vicinity of livestock pastures. Range riders can be used to keep cattle distributed throughout pastures (as appropriate) and away from wolves while working to distribute grazing and improve forage utilization.	Recommended	Recommended
<input type="checkbox"/>	Increase the frequency of human presence checking livestock in areas with wolves or when wolves are in the vicinity of livestock pastures.	Recommended	Recommended
Rationale: <i>It is important to include rationale outlining the action the landowner will take and any limitations to their effort.</i>			
HAZING PRACTICES conditioned on known wolf packs and presence; pick one		Compensation for loss	Agency authorized lethal removal
<input type="checkbox"/>	Install light and noise scare devices to frighten wolves away from livestock and to alert ranchers or herders to the presence of wolves. These devices include propane cannons, light systems, and radio-activated guard (RAG) systems that emit flashing lights and loud sounds at the approach of radio-collared wolves.	Recommended	Recommended
<input type="checkbox"/>	Haze wolves with non-lethal munitions (screamer rounds, shots from firearms, etc.) if encountered to frighten them away from livestock.	Recommended	Essential
Rationale: <i>It is important to include rationale outlining the action the landowner will take and any limitations to their effort.</i>			

FENCING		Compensation for loss	Agency authorized lethal removal
<input type="checkbox"/>	Use predator-resistant or electric fencing as a permanent barrier to keep wolves away.	Recommended where applicable	Recommended where applicable
<input type="checkbox"/>	Use predator-resistant or electric fencing as a temporary barrier to confine sheep or goats and keep wolves away. Portable fencing can be effective as night pens under open grazing conditions.	Recommended where applicable	Recommended where applicable
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fladry (strips of cloth hung along a fence or rope) or electrified fladry ("turbofladry"; strips of flagging hung from an electrified wire) around livestock can be used as a temporary deterrent to wolves.	Recommended where applicable	Recommended where applicable
<input type="checkbox"/>	Use bio-fencing in coordination with WDFW study or research project.	Recommended where applicable	Recommended where applicable
Rationale: <i>It is important to include rationale outlining the action the landowner will take and any limitations to their effort.</i>			
OTHER TECHNIQUES (as needed)			
<input type="checkbox"/>			
<input type="checkbox"/>			

Use the log below to clearly document the preventative actions the livestock operator has taken to minimize wolf-livestock conflict.

If livestock operator has a Damage Prevention Cooperative Agreement-Livestock then please include their name or the name of the ranch: _____

Log of Site Visits by WDFW		
Date:	Measures Reviewed:	Comments:

DEFINITIONS:

Essential action is considered a required action with greater importance and emphasis than a recommended action. Therefore, essential actions will weigh more heavily by WDFW than recommended actions in the decision process for agency authorized lethal removal. All producers will be eligible for payment regardless of implementation of practices.

September 18, 2013

Petitioners' Outline of Rulemaking Issues for Washington Wolf Advisory Committee

On July 19, 2013, the Center for Biological Diversity, Cascadia Wildlands, Western Environmental Law Center, Gifford Pinchot Task Force, Kettle Range Conservation Group, The Lands Council, the Sierra Club and Wildlands Network (“Petitioners”) petitioned WDFW to codify in rule portions of the Wolf Conservation and Management Plan. Representatives from the Petitioners subsequently met with Dave Ware, Game Division Manager, to discuss the petition. WDFW recognized the need for rule-making not only to remedy various legal problems but the Department felt it could also serve as an opportunity to provide greater clarity and direction to WDFW staff and livestock producers interacting with wolves. Our hope is that agreed upon specific direction and transparency could serve to reduce conflict surrounding wolves. Accordingly, the Department has arranged for the Petitioners to begin a discussion with this Committee to develop rules that would incorporate certain key propositions of the petition.

Petitioners have developed a very general outline of the issues that we would like to see codified in rule and clarified to provide clear guidance to the agency in an attempt to avoid any conflict in the future:

- 1) Define and codify “Caught in the Act” language and definitions;
- 2) Define and codify the point at which the Department can use lethal control on wolves to reduce depredations. This will likely include a specific number of confirmed wolf depredations within a specific time period; non-lethal requirements by landowners experiencing the depredations; and the removal of attractants;
- 3) Codify the Investigation Standards. Petitioners believe no clarification from wolf plan needed, just straight rule codification of wolf plan standards;
- 4) Codify the Translocation Provisions. Petitioners believe no clarification from wolf plan needed, just straight rule codification of wolf plan standards.

These are the principle provisions that Petitioners would like to see codified and defined. We are open to other suggestions for portions of the plan that other parties would like to see codified in rule, with the understanding that they are to reflect the understanding and agreement in the Washington Wolf Conservation and Management Plan.

DRAFT MISSION AND BYLAWS

WOLF ADVISORY GROUP

(~~August-September~~ 2013)

Mission: The mission of the Wolf Advisory Group is to allow a diverse group of stakeholders to advise Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife in implementation of the Wolf Conservation and Management Plan.

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• ~~Elected officers: Elected officers will include? Examples: Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary_ WDFW Game Division Manager (Dave Ware) will act as Lead; no officers needed~~

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• Summary notes: ~~Notes_ Recordings of~~ for each meeting will be taken and posted on the web page. ~~Recording?~~

• Terms served: Appointed members ~~and elected officers~~ will serve for a one-year term. ~~Others?~~

• Re-appointment: After the first year of service, members may ~~or may not~~ be re-appointed to the Advisory Group. ~~for s~~ Staggered term lengths of one, two, or three-years ~~may be implemented.~~

• Alternate members: All Advisory Group members must identify one individual to serve as an alternate when the appointed member cannot attend meetings.

• The ~~Chair or Dave Ware or his designee_ Lead:- will D~~ determine the order of business at meetings. ~~Shall we use Robert's Rule of Order as a guide or something less formal?~~

• Advisory Group business: will only be conducted ~~if a quorum of appointed members is present (half of the appointed members plus one member)- regardless of the number of members present.~~

• Decision making: input and information provided by appointed members will be taken into consideration as advisement for each subject matter discussed. WDFW will make final decision regarding all products and final outcomes. ~~Members are expected to express whether or not their represented group can or cannot accept (live with) what is being proposed. Members may explain why they can or cannot accept the proposed action. The Department will provide feedback regarding decisions the Department makes; this feedback shall articulate all views provided and how the Department determined their action, final decision, or outcome.~~

- Amendments to the Bylaws ~~and Charter~~: must be approved by a majority of appointed Advisory Group members.
- Configuration of membership: Membership will include at least one representative or equal representation for each of the following: ~~WDFW~~, livestock industry, environmental organizations, and hunting; ~~a minimum of 4 and a maximum of 10 members in total for a total of 10 members; WDFW is not considered a "member" in this number. WDFW will remain transparent on changes made to the representation and configuration of the Advisory Group.~~
- Meetings will be open to the general public. Members may take time to consult with others they may have in the audience, others members of the Advisory Group
- Committees: May be appointed depending upon the specific items and tasks the Advisory Group is addressing
~~Do we want to establish committees?~~
Standing Committees:
Leads for Standing Committees: appointed by XXX and must be members of the Advisory Group.
Temporary Committees: may be established and terminated by XXX, at any time.
Temporary Committees may be led by a person that is not an appointed member of the Advisory Group?
- ~~Standing Committees and Temporary Committees have no standing or official authority to represent the Advisory Group as a body.~~ All Committee Leads must report back to the full Advisory Group where formal recommendations to the Department are subsequently put forth.
- ~~The Advisory Group, as a body, will not communicate with the Fish and Wildlife Commission, Director, Chief of Enforcement, or elected officials without providing advance notification to the Wolf Advisory Group Liaison? Chair?~~
- Formal testimony and interviews with the news media: shall not be made on behalf of the Advisory Group, as a body, will not include personal opinions. OR if interviews are made the Chair / Dave Ware must be briefed?
- Meetings: ~~will be held where? One set location or~~ Location will rotate around the state, unless weather conditions or other factors dictate an alternate location or the use of teleconference or phone conference technology. All scheduled Advisory Group meetings will be held at locations that provide reasonable accommodations for members of the public and persons-of-disability to attend.
- Minimum number of meetings: There will be a minimum of four Advisory Group business meetings held annually.

- Agenda and Meeting dates: The Lead Chair will develop each meeting agenda and the Advisory Group will determine meeting dates. ~~OR meetings will be held third Weds of each month? Or every six weeks?~~

- Termination before term is served: The Chair may recommend to the Department that appointed members be terminated if they a) are absent without excuse from two or more scheduled meetings in any 12 month period; b) violate the provisions and intent of Bylaws; c) are unable to fulfill their responsibilities as a member; d) have failed to meet obligations to which they have volunteered to perform or to which they have been assigned to perform; or e) have used abusive language and/or shown disrespect for other members, the Department, or the public.

- ~~• All scheduled Wolf Advisory Group meetings will be held at locations that provide reasonable accommodations for members of the public and persons of disability to attend.~~

Wolf Advisory Group Charter

Introduction: The Wolf Advisory Group was established to address issues surrounding the recovery of wolves in Washington. These issues may include: compensating for economic loss due to wolf predation, creating programs for producers to take proactive, preventative measures to decrease the risk of loss, assisting sportsmen recreating in wolf habitat, providing materials to inform the general public on wolf recovery in Washington.

Mission: The mission of the Wolf Advisory Group is to allow a diverse group of stakeholders to advise Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife in implementation of the Wolf Conservation and Management Plan.

Team purpose: As Washington's wolf population continues to grow, interactions between wolves and humans will be more frequent, with a potential increase of conflict with livestock producers. While protection is an important component to ensure species recovery it also creates challenging scenarios for managing and minimizing wolf-livestock conflicts. Therefore the Wolf Advisory Group was created to bring together a broad range of perspectives and values with respect to wolf management and conservation.

The recovery of wolves to Washington is challenged by increasing conflict and decreasing social tolerance. Concerns of negative encounters with wolves extend beyond property damage and financial impacts from livestock losses, to concerns for personal safety. Discussions among

members of the Wolf Advisory Group are expected to help frame issues and assist the Department with developing resolutions.

Duration and time commitment: This Advisory Group is scheduled to last 12 months, from July 2013 through June 2014. Depending on projects and proposed solutions, the duration of implementing recommendations may require time beyond the team's meeting schedule. The estimated amount of time that will be dedicated weekly or monthly by members will vary with the topic of discussion.

Scope: The main objective of the Advisory Group is to foster the development of usable and useful mechanisms for the Department to implement the Wolf Conservation and Management Plan.

Members: The Advisory Group is heavily dependent on the participation of its members for its success (see Attachment A for member list). *Discuss how members are selected? How others may be brought in as supporting resources?*

Desired end result: *Establish goals for the team to achieve.*

-EXAMPLE Goals & Objectives

- *Assist in developing a compensation framework for livestock loss that integrates with the overall Wolf Conservation and Management Plan.*
- *Assist in developing a broad range of options to reduce wolf-livestock conflicts and potential depredations.*
- *Recognize the complex interactions between livestock, ungulates, residents, hunters, and wolves and assist WDFW with providing information to identified groups such as hunters, livestock producers, and Washington residents.*
- *Recognize the importance of economic viability and sustainability of individual livestock operators in Washington and assist in disseminating information to residents of Washington.*
- *Seek a broad range of funding sources to meet the needs to provide long-term, viable "compensation" solutions and prevention measures.*

Supporting resources: The Advisory Group will utilize other people that were not assigned as team members but still add value toward the overall purpose on an as-needed basis. Other resources are dependent on the team activities. Recommendations can be made by members to bring in other resources; however the Department makes the final decision.

Reporting plan: The Advisory Group will post the meeting agendas, minutes, member biographies, the by-laws and charter on the Department's web site. The members will communicate primarily through telephone, teleconference, email, and in-person meetings.

Deliverables: *Are there deliverables that need to be clearly stated?*

Links: The web page will provide links to other resources and literature relevant to the Advisory Group's tasks.

Representing and sharing information from the Advisory Group: Members shall not present themselves to the media as the Advisory Group representative or speak on behalf of the Advisory group. Members are expected to share information to the organization(s) that they represent.

Comment [SSL(1): Note: Delete this information...not needed. Decision by Group: No Charter. However, it was suggested by Group that some of this language may be used for the public to assist them in understanding the Wolf Advisory Group.

DRAFT