

Agenda Item 13

Wildlife Conflict Rules Chapter 232-36 Briefing and Hearing

Wildlife Conflict Rules

- Rule Modifications:
 - Definitions
 - Killing wildlife causing damage
 - Payment for crop damage
 - Payment for livestock damage
 - Dispute resolution



Wildlife Conflict Rules

- New Rules:
 - Payment for non-commercial livestock losses
 - Application for compensation for non-commercial livestock losses



Wildlife Conflict Rules

- Purpose: To amend the conflict rules to make them more consistent with the Wolf Conservation and Management Plan



Wildlife Conflict Rules

- Recommendations address:
 - Compensate non-commercial operators
 - Expand the types of domestic animals covered
 - Encourage producers to enter into agreements to cover losses beyond “confirmed” losses

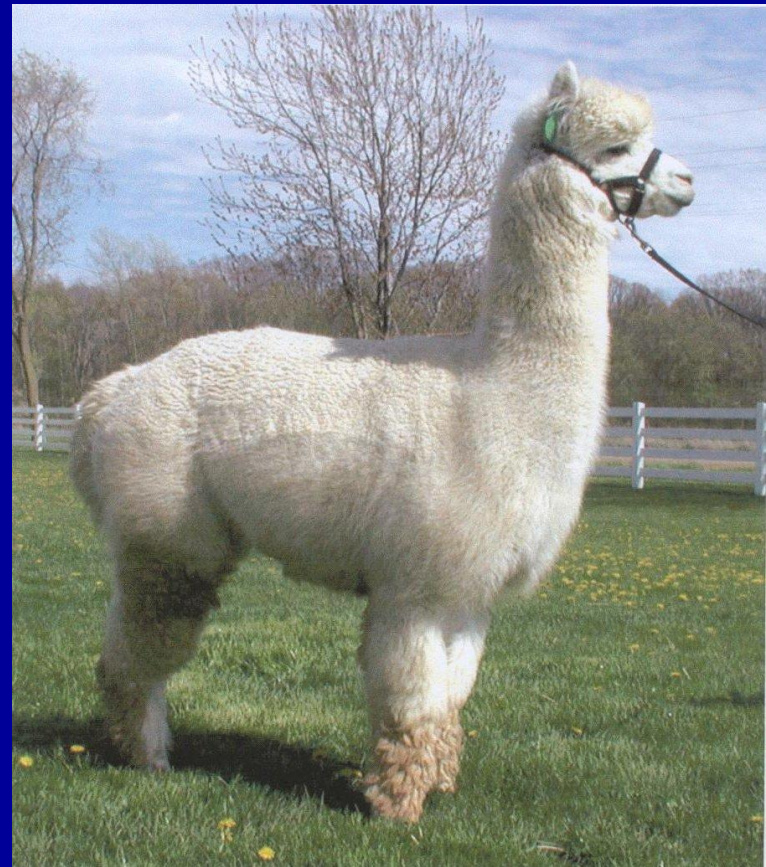
Public Involvement

- We have been working closely with several organizations in developing the proposals
- As a result, very few written comments were received
- However, there will be at least one floor amendment today

Definitions

WAC 232-36-030

- Creates a definition for livestock beyond “commercial”
- Adds goats, swine, donkeys, mules, llamas, and alpacas
- Adds guard dogs, which includes herding dogs



Killing Wildlife Causing Damage

WAC 232-36-051

- Adds a clarification that big game animals may be killed when attacking livestock or pets to protect property regardless of whether the property is used for commercial purposes
- In the case of wolves, an owner would still need a permit from the department because they are classified by the Commission as endangered

Payment for Commercial Crop Damage WAC 232-36-100

- This is just clarification that if a landowner refuses to use fencing offered by the department, their claim can be denied

Payment for Commercial Livestock Damage WAC 232-36-200

- This amendment encourages producers to enter into agreements with the department because they can be compensated for losses consistent with their agreement

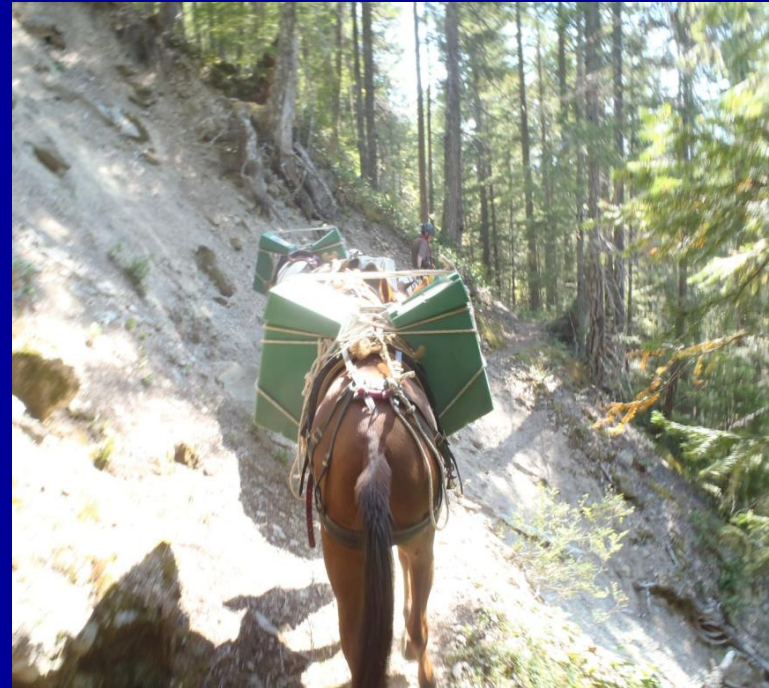


Payment for Non-Commercial Livestock Damage WAC 232-36-250

- This new rule facilitates most of the changes associated with the Wolf Mgmt Plan
- Allows payment to all producers regardless of Commercial status
- Covers goats, swine, donkeys, mules, llamas, alpacas, and guard dogs
- And again encourages producers to get into agreements with the department to cover losses beyond those that can be confirmed

Payment for Non-Commercial Livestock Damage WAC 232-36-250

- Floor Change:
 - Page 15:
 - Strike the word mule from the last complete sentence where the \$500 limitation is stipulated and add the word mule after horse where the \$1500 limitation is stipulated
 - The new sentence would read:



Payment for Non-Commercial Livestock Damage WAC 232-36-250

- “The department is authorized to pay for the replacement cost of the animal up to two hundred dollars per sheep or goat; five hundred dollars per swine or donkey; and one thousand five hundred dollars per head of cattle or per horse, mule, llama, alpaca, or guard dog and no more than ten thousand dollars to the livestock owner per claim.”

Application and Payment for Non-Commercial Damage WAC 232-36-260

- This new rule is consistent with the payment criteria for commercial producer losses
- In addition:
 - Stipulates how values for losses will be compensated (subsection 11)
 - Prioritizes payments to producers under agreement with the department
 - And allows payment of claims to cross biennial lines

Dispute Resolution for Claims

WAC 232-36-400

The recommended amendments to this rule creates a livestock appeals committee in addition to other resolution options that a producer could choose to settle disputes

The other changes are intended for clarification and to ensure that the standards in this rule and are consistent with the Administrative Procedures Act

Questions???



- RCW 77.36.100
- Payment of claims for damage to commercial crops or commercial livestock — Noncash compensation — Offer of materials or services to offset or prevent wildlife interactions — Appeal of decisions.
- (2)(b) The commission shall adopt and maintain by rule criteria for damage to property other than a commercial crop or commercial livestock that is damaged by wildlife and may be eligible for compensation under this subsection, including criteria for filing a claim for compensation under this subsection.