

Siskiyou County Fish and Game Commission

Grant Application

Date: October 24, 2023

To: *Siskiyou County Fish and Game Commission*

From: (Name) Jim Smith
(Address) 525 South Foothill Drive, Yreka, CA 96097
(Telephone) 530-841-4033

Project Title: Predatory Animal Control Support

Brief Project Description:

Help purchase a new pickup, trailer and side x side for Dennis Moyles, long term wildlife specialist. Replace older 90 series flatbed dually, that does not have security available (back seat) for all tools such as weapons. This equipment will also be less traumatic on Dennis while traveling in the back country.

Amount of Funds Requested \$6,000, Six Thousand Dollars

Other Funding Sources and Amounts: County of Siskiyou, \$75,000

Project Start Date: 11-2023

Project Finish Date: No hard date, depends upon securing equipment and the county processes

Number of Progress Reports and Dates: Following procurement, a detailed report will follow.

Brief Personal/Professional Background: BS AG, MS AG and BIO, Agriculture Professional with many years as a agriculture consultant, Agricultural Researcher with Oregon State University, currently Siskiyou County Agricultural Commissioner

Commission Action (for official use only):

Date: Nov 7, 2023 Priority Number: _____

Approval: YES All Year Disapproval: _____

Comments: _____

Board Actions: Approved 5 Disapproved 0 Date 11/7/23

October 24, 2023

Mr. Mike Ford
Siskiyou County Fish and Game Commission

Grant Request Detail

The Department has a predatory program with 2 trappers. Siskiyou County Department of Agriculture had a cooperative agreement with USDA APHIS, Wildlife Services, until about 6 years ago, when the board decided to operate a county program due to lawsuit threats regarding CEQA during a renewal of the WS contract. CDFA and WS are working on a statewide CEQA/NEPA, which should allow Siskiyou County to secure a contract with WS again.

In the interim, which has been going on for longer than expected, our Predatory program has become a county funded and run operation, without assistance from Wildlife Services, who has a mandate to provide such assistance nationwide. Our program had to scramble to adapt while continuing to provide needed services to our constituents. Procuring adequate equipment has been a challenge. As such, Dennis Moyles was given a hand me down, 90's series short wheel based 1 ton flatbed dually. 90's series ford pickups are seriously rough riding (I have one) and are taking a toll on our long term trapper. It is also a single cab, which limits the amount of equipment which can be secured in the cab. Most trappers have an extended cab for that very purpose.

I am seeking assistance in purchasing a new pickup with extended cab and a definitely much smoother riding in rough country vehicle. I have secured \$75,000 for the project which includes pickup, trailer and a side x side four wheeler, but I am approximately \$6,000 short. I am requesting consideration for supporting this program and one of my trappers needs.

The Predatory program, and its two trappers, provide direct assistance to ranchers, farmers, and residents in wildlife incidents. They have increasingly been responding to wolf depredations, being first on scene to determine cause of death or damage. In many cases, since our California Dept of Fish and Wildlife Wolf Specialist has been banned by many ranchers, our trappers are the experts depended upon to provide information that helps our ranchers request damage funds and provide recommendations on non-lethal deterrence methods (as does Wildlife Services, who does help with this without a contract). It is important for protecting ranchers, livestock and the endangered wolves in Siskiyou County, that our trappers have the ability to provide assistance where needed. Adequate equipment is a necessity.

Thank you for your consideration.