



COUNTY OF SISKIYOU

Board of Supervisors

1312 Fairlane Rd, Suite 1
Yreka, California 96097
www.co.siskiyou.ca.us

(530) 842-8005
FAX (530) 842-8013
Toll Free: 1-888-854-2000, ext. 8005

May 29, 2026

Director Meghan Hertel
California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)
715 P Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Siskiyou County Urgent Request for CDFW Support

Dear Director Hertel,

Welcome back, and thank you for your continued engagement with Siskiyou County. This engagement is increasingly critical, as gray wolf impacts in Siskiyou County have continued to worsen, and ranchers in Butte Valley have experienced record-high depredation numbers over the past few months.

We understand that CDFW has prioritized data sharing agreements and less-than-lethal hazing agreements with counties and county sheriffs. As our County Counsel continues working with CDFW on these agreements, local producers require immediate assistance ahead of the summer grazing season. Ranchers are entering a period of heightened risk and are urgently requesting operational support from CDFW to help prevent livestock losses and other wolf-related impacts. While Siskiyou County representatives have previously discussed several of these items with you, we are providing this list of the most urgent requests and key actions for CDFW to support Siskiyou County ranchers during the 2026 grazing season.

1. **Deploy the CDFW strike team** on public lands and on private lands with landowner authorization to help prevent and document depredations.
2. **Increase GPS collar position reporting intervals** to one hour and adjust the daily download time to 6:00 a.m. to support timely carcass discovery.
3. **Maintain telemetry frequencies on high full-time** and immediately provide frequencies to County staff for distribution to ranchers operating in affected areas.

We recognize that increased collar reporting intervals and telemetry use will reduce collar battery life. To ensure that an adequate number of wolves remain collared, we would like to discuss CDFW's collaring plan and schedule.

As wolf-livestock conflicts continue to escalate alongside growing wolf populations, conditions on the ground are evolving rapidly. For this reason, sustained engagement and ongoing coordination between CDFW, Siskiyou County, and the producer coalition are critical moving forward. We also request timely communication and responses throughout agreement negotiations.

Please direct Siskiyou County communication to Dean Morgan at fdmorgan@co.siskiyou.ca.us and producer coalition communication to Tim Nielsen at timwn6@gmail.com.



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Sincerely,

Signed by:

Ray A. Haupt

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Ray A. Haupt

Chair, Board of Supervisors

CC: Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors
Assemblymember Heather Hadwick
Senator Megan Dahle
Secretary Wade Crowfoot
Tim Nielsen, President, Siskiyou County Cattlemen's Association

Jess Harris
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