



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

June 26, 2026

Via Electronic Mail Only

Director Meghan Hertel
California Department of Fish and Wildlife
715 P Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
Meghan.Hertel@wildlife.ca.gov

RE: Siskiyou County Request for CDFW Support

Dear Director Hertel,

The Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors appreciates your June 15, 2026 letter and your continued engagement regarding gray wolf impacts in Siskiyou County.

Agreements

The data sharing agreement has been executed. We value the Department's support in providing training for designated County staff on using the wolf location tracking system. Access to this information will assist in the timely identification and investigation of depredations.

Regarding the less-than-lethal hazing agreement for County law enforcement, we acknowledge that CDFW has filed a CEQA Notice of Exemption and we are currently discussing next steps with County Counsel. We support efforts to expand access to less-than-lethal hazing tools for trained producers. Given their proximity to livestock and ability to respond quickly, producers are often in the best position to implement these measures when needed.

Deterrent Equipment

Thank you for offering to loan non-lethal deterrent equipment to livestock producers. We request a virtual or in-person meeting with Pete Figura and appropriate Department staff within the next two weeks to discuss available deterrent equipment and how equipment loan programs can best support producers. A timely discussion will help ensure producers have access to these tools before the upcoming winter season.

Funding

The Department's reported \$2.2 million investment in Siskiyou County over the past four years is significant. To better understand how those resources have supported local efforts, we request a breakdown of funding allocations, including direct loss compensation, deterrence tools, staffing, and other uses.

Jess Harris
District 1

Ed Valenzuela
District 2

Michael N. Kobseff
District 3

Nancy Ogren
District 4

Ray Haupt
District 5



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We also request clarification regarding the statement that additional funding for staff capacity and carcass removal was offered and declined. The Board is not aware of any such funding offer. If this refers to the April 2, 2026 survey sent to Chair Haupt, Sheriff LaRue, and Commissioner Smith, the County understood that request to be informational rather than a formal funding opportunity.

At that time, the County was consulting with the newly formed producer coalition while evaluating potential staffing and program needs. County staff responded that the proposed tools and approaches were under review and that a response would follow.

To avoid future misunderstandings, we respectfully request that funding opportunities be clearly identified, including available funding amounts, eligible uses, application requirements, and deadlines. Given the severity of wolf impacts in Siskiyou County, timely notification of future funding opportunities available to the County, local Resource Conservation Districts, or other partners supporting producers is essential to ensuring these resources can be pursued and deployed effectively.

Collars and Data Collection

Thank you for evaluating producer requests regarding collar programming. The County understands the Department's concerns regarding battery life and firmware limitations and recognizes that the Department is working to balance producer use needs with collar lifespan considerations. We also acknowledge the Department's efforts to work with the manufacturer to assess adjustments to download schedules and to modify one Whaleback collar to provide two-hour evening location intervals. We support continued collaring efforts and request that newly deployed collars be configured to provide two-hour evening location intervals.

We recognize the Department's decision to adjust all Siskiyou-related collars to transmit VHF signals 24 hours per day. While we understand the limitations on sharing frequencies, Department-supplied RAG boxes may provide a practical way to support producers while maintaining those restrictions, and we look forward to discussing this option further.

Conclusion

We recognize that the Department receives many wolf-related requests from other counties and producer groups throughout Northern California. To ensure our requests reflect the most pressing needs, the Board has worked closely with producers to develop recommendations that are practical, targeted, and informed by producer experience.

Siskiyou County continues to experience more confirmed livestock losses attributed to wolves than any other county in California. The situation remains urgent and continues to evolve. We value the Department's willingness to work collaboratively with the County and producers, and we request continued communication and support as we work together to reduce conflicts and protect the viability of our agricultural community.

Jess Harris
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District 5



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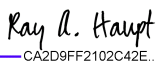
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Sincerely,

Signed by:


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Ray A. Haupt
Chair, Board of Supervisors

CC: Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors
Assemblymember Heather Hadwick
Senator Megan Dahle
Dean Morgan, County of Siskiyou
Natalie Reed, County of Siskiyou
Jeremiah LaRue, Siskiyou County Sheriff
Tim Nielsen, Siskiyou County Cattlemen's Association
Chad Dibble, CDFW
Jason Roberts, CDFW
Pete Figura, CDFW

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