

Citizen Resolution # 210322

(For Hearing Officer completion)



Funding for WI Farmers for Non-Lethal Predator Prevention Programs

It is not uncommon for lethal methods to be used in predator livestock conflicts especially towards predators. Unfortunately, the state of Wisconsin does not provide a non-lethal depredation prevention program to promote a viable alternative in preventing livestock conflicts. Research has shown that livestock attacks actually increased when lethal methods were used⁵. It has been noted, killing predators especially wolves and coyotes are often counterproductive as the pack will fragment, increasing the chances predators may target easier to catch prey such as livestock.¹ In fact, research has shown non-lethal methods are more effective than lethal methods in preventing carnivore depredation.^{1, 2} Sadly, however, Federal programs to promote non-lethal methods are lacking. For example, neither the Farm Service Agency³ nor the proposed Recovering America's Wildlife Act⁴ include funds for non-lethal predator prevention measures to supports farmers. On the positive side, at the state level, Minnesota has a non-lethal depredation prevention program in place with grant money to purchase guard animals, pens, fladry, fencing, lights, alarms, calving or lambing shelters on an 80:20 matching cost share.⁶ Therefore, with the lack of federal programs and clear evidence showing the success of non-lethal predator depredation prevention programs, the state of Wisconsin is obligated to provide mentoring and funding to Wisconsin farmers to offset costs for safeguarding livestock and poultry from Wisconsin's native predators using improved and innovative methods through non-lethal depredation prevention programs⁷.

The WCC, WI DNR and legislature need to act to secure funding for long-term solutions for Wisconsin's farmers. Do you support funding for farmers for non-lethal preventative measures to mitigate livestock and poultry depredation?

Additional Information provided by author:

4. <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/these-non-lethal-methods-encouraged-science-can-keep-wolves-killing-livestock-180976505/> 1. http://faculty.nelson.wisc.edu/treves/pubs/Treves_Krofel_McManus.pdf

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Please print typed resolution on 8 ½ X 11 white paper (one-sided) and provide the WCC County Chair with TWO COPIES at the spring hearing. Only the individual author or designated representative may present the resolution. The author or designated representative must be present at the time the resolution is introduced. No more than two resolutions may be introduced by any person during the Congress portion of the spring hearings.

Contact one of your [local WCC delegates](#) with questions or for assistance with writing your resolution.