Idaho Wolf Depredation Control Board

Regular Meeting
ISDA Lower 1 & 2
June 9, 2026
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. MT

Agenda

1:00 p.m.	Convene meeting
	Introductions
	Approval of minutes from prior meeting (Action Item)
	Public Comment (15 minutes)
	Reports • Financial updates – Kelly Nielsen • Wildlife Services – Jared Hedelius • IDFG updates – IDFG Staff • Agreement updates – ISDA • Budget review – ISDA
	Action Items • FY2027 Budget decisions • Producer agreements • Other agreements
	Other Business • Board member feedback • New business • Schedule next meeting date
	Wrap-up and Adjourn

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
2270 Old Penitentiary Road
PO Box 7249
Boise, ID 83707

IDAHO WOLF DEPREDATION CONTROL BOARD
Minutes of April 9, 2026, Meeting
Meeting was live streamed via Teams

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Chanel Tewalt, ISDA (Co-chair)
Jim Fredericks, Idaho Fish and Game – IDFG (Co-chair)
Richard Savage
Jon Goode

DEPARTMENT STAFF: Lloyd Knight – ISDA
Cory Mosby – IDFG
Tricia Hebdon - IDFG
Kelly Nielsen – ISDA
Dallas Burkhalter, Office of Attorney General – ISDA
Michele Costello – ISDA
Tonya March – ISDA
Marshall Toryanski, Office of Attorney General – ISDA
Jon Rachael - IDFG

OTHERS PRESENT: Jared Hedelius – USDA Wildlife Services, Idaho Office
Justin Webb - F4WM
Butch Suor
Greg LeDonne
Teresa Stevens – F4WM
Pat Kelly – Environmental Action
Jeff Abrams - ICL
Pamela Williams
Megan Smith
Lane Justus – WLA
Sydney Steel
Garrick Dutcher
Alma Sanchez

The meeting was called to order by Co-chair Tewalt at 10:03 a.m. MT.

INTRODUCTIONS

Board members and support staff introduced themselves.

DRAFT

APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES (ACTION ITEM)

Public comment attachment needed on June 27, 2025 meeting minutes. Jon Goode, board member, motioned for meeting minutes to be approved. Co-chair Jim Fredericks seconded the motion. None opposed. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Pamela Williams – citizen advocate, minutes are over a year old

Jeff Abrams (ICL) – lots of sampling on the west side, can anyone characterize the nature of the depredations around Davis (Valley County)? Is he just a squeaky wheel getting the grease?

Pamela Williams – If the purpose of the board is to provide transparency make documents available, etc.

REPORTS

Kelly Nielsen gave a verbal update on the financial report. GF holdbacks 4% ongoing for FY26, 5% for FY27 ongoing. From the original appropriation of $380,000, we have $253,970 remaining for FY26. (GF) Kelly Nielsen also provided balances for the Livestock and FG Funds.

Jared Hedelius gave a verbal update on 3rd Quarter report. One possible in Nez Pierce County, one unknown in Bear Lake County, and one confirmed in Adams County. 32 control actions across the state, where 100% of time and efforts are concentrated. Removed 11 wolves, wolf collar put on one in GMU 1/23. They have 15 different employees that include trappers, pilots, and gunners.

Question from Jon Goode – Myopathy and DNA. Answer -Since July 1 we have taken DNA samples from 13 different cases (depredations). All of those were taken after instructions from the lab on how to collect and preserve the DNA, and then sent to the Wildlife Forensic Lab in Florida. 12 of the 13 came back showing no wolf DNA detected, while 1 came back “possible” but results were leaning more towards coyote than wolf DNA. $6500 in expenses that will be sent to the board for reimbursement.

Question from Jon Goode- Where were those 13 spread geographically? Answer- they were fairly localized in Western Idaho. They came from a handful of different GMUs, probably 8-9 different livestock producers. We took more than one sample from a couple of different livestock producers.

There were 5 different cases of Myopathy. These samples were submitted following the instructions from Washington State Lab. Some samples will not be good after a certain amount of time; most samples were taken within the 24–36-hour period. In all cases there was no myopathy was detected. No bill was generated for these, most likely no funds will be expended. As far as locations for these samples 100% of them were taken in western Idaho.

Question from Richard Savage – Is there a process for deciding where the samples are taken from? Are all of them from western Idaho? Answer- more an issue of where there was a potential of disagreement on the field investigation, where the producer is not confident in the investigations. Time and weather degrade samples and the carcass quickly and samples can’t be taken if time and weather are a factor in getting good samples.

Jim Fredericks – It is fair to say that these studies were initiated to address the concerns of producers in a particular area. These studies weren’t intended to be a statewide study, not to say that we couldn’t but they were pushed in a certain area by producers.

DRAFT

Chanel Tewalt – As we look forward to the likely scenarios where samples might be sent on, we should think about how and where we look for good myopathy data. Something to think about before the next meeting.

Richard Savage – What kind of DNA does the wolf leave on a carcass? What are they leaving that we are looking for? Answer – the primary source of DNA left on a carcass is saliva from the wolf. We are looking for bite marks on areas to pull the hide back and look for evidence and potential samples.

Tricia Hebdon – If you are swabbing for saliva and it was after it had been scavenged on, the testing can pick up different species as well as the original predator, such as coyotes.

Richard Savage – Does DNA degrade? Answer – DNA lasts a long time, but it can be "washed off" from weather that also degrades the carcass.

Cory Mosby gave update on 2025 harvest season. For harvest season 2025 to date, we are at a total of 265 wolf mortalities. Of the 265 mortalities approximately 50% were by hunting, 40% by trapping, and 10% from depredation work conducted by Wildlife Services or IDFG for Selective Removal. Approximately 84% of these harvests occurred on public land, the rest on private land. The current harvest of 2025 is tracking very closely to the 2024 season, but these years are down significantly from previous seasons before the federal injunction on wolf trapping, which would have been around 380 at this time.

APPLICATIONS

Davis application – Jon Rachael had a conversation with Davis about wolves and the proximity to private land.

AGREEMENT ACTIVITY UPDATES

Jared Hedelius (WS)- It took a bit longer to work through the signing process, so billing purposes were delayed. We have had to go back and do some work to clean things up and catch up for Quarter 1 and Quarter 2.

Justin Webb (F4WM)- In Feb/March there were 24 wolves removed under the WDCB contract.

ACTION ITEMS

No action items discussed

OTHER BUSINESS

Discussed possible end of May or beginning of June dates for Fiscal Year End meeting.

CONCLUSION

Co-chair Tewalt thanked the public for their attendance.

ADJOURNMENT

11:02 a.m. by Co-chair Tewalt – No definitive next meeting set.

DRAFT

Tracking of Wolf Control Funds FY 2026

Livestock and Sheep

16301	Beg. Balance	Transfers	Livestock	Sheep	Interest	Expenses	Ending Balance
July	446,922.34		17,201.72		1,521.09		465,645.15
August	465,645.15		9,438.28		1,621.48		476,704.91
September	476,704.91		4,075.00		1,663.12		482,443.03
October	482,443.03		2,500.00		1,621.37		486,564.40
November	486,564.40		1,620.00		1,663.23		489,847.63
December	489,847.63		2,115.00		1,598.33		493,560.96
January	493,560.96		2,205.00		1,652.34		497,418.30
February	497,418.30		1,370.00	18,892.26	1,642.72		519,323.28
March	519,323.28		1,155.00		1,571.76		522,050.04
April	522,050.04		14,760.00		1,634.55		538,444.59
May	538,444.59		11,555.00		1,576.11		551,575.70
June	551,575.70		6,075.00				557,650.70
Total			74,070.00	18,892.26		-	

Beginning Cash	1,043,427.48
Revenue	92,962.26
Interest	48,418.54
Transfer	300,000.00
General	380,000.00
Total	821,380.80
Expenses	(67,706.78)
Gain/(Loss)	753,674.02
Current Cash	1,797,101.50

Fish and Game 92,962.26

16302	Beg. Balance	Transfers	Livestock	Sheep	Interest	Expenses	Ending Balance
July	342,474.75	300,000.00			1,478.20		643,952.95
August	643,952.95				1,507.25		645,460.20
September	645,460.20				2,231.77		647,691.97
October	647,691.97				2,163.42		649,855.39
November	649,855.39				2,211.47		652,066.86
December	652,066.86				2,115.92		654,182.78
January	654,182.78				2,179.47		656,362.25
February	656,362.25				2156.43	(67,706.78)	590,811.90
March	590,811.90				1821.33		592,633.23
April	592,633.23				1,832.17		594,465.40
May	594,465.40				1,709.75		596,175.15
June	596,175.15					(232,293.22)	363,881.93
						(300,000.00)	

150,600.00

State Match

16303	Beg. Balance	Transfers	Livestock	Sheep	Interest	Expenses	Ending Balance
July	253,726.60				845.87		254,572.47
August	254,572.47				870.56		255,443.03
September	255,443.03				883.27		256,326.30
October	256,326.30				856.25		257,182.55
November	257,182.55				875.08		258,057.63
December	258,057.63				837.45		258,895.08
January	258,895.08				862.49		259,757.57
February	259,757.57				853.50		260,611.07
March	260,611.07				787.29		261,398.36
April	261,398.36				808.24		262,206.60
May	262,206.60				754.08		262,960.68
June	262,960.68						262,960.68
					48,407.36	-	48,407.36

Livestock Excess

16304	Beg. Balance	Transfers	Livestock	Sheep	Interest	Expenses	Ending Balance
July	303.79				1.09		304.88
August	304.88				1.13		306.01
September	306.01				0.99		307.00
October	307.00				1.03		308.03
November	308.03				1.08		309.11
December	309.11				0.97		310.08
January	310.08				1.00		311.08
February	311.08				1.07		312.15
March	312.15				0.94		313.09
April	313.09				1.00		314.09
May	314.09				0.88		314.97
June	314.97						314.97
					11.18		

Total Budgeted for 2026	**1,735,427.48**
Total Expenses for 2026	**(67,706.78)**
Remaining Balance for 2026	**1,667,720.70**
Revenues for FY 2026	**141,380.80**
Revenues Less Interest	**92,962.26**
Cash Balance as of 6/30/2025	1,043,427.48 x check

Tracking of Wolf Control Funds

FY 2026

State General Fund

10000	**Beg. Balance**	**Expenses**	**Ending Balance**
July	380,000.00		380,000.00
August	380,000.00		380,000.00
September	380,000.00		380,000.00
October	380,000.00		380,000.00
November	380,000.00		380,000.00
December	364,800.00	(7,343.00)	357,457.00
January	357,457.00	(13,481.20)	343,975.80
February	343,975.80	(9,990.17)	333,985.63
March	333,985.63		333,985.63
April	333,985.63	(66,719.73)	267,265.90
May	267,265.90	(36,000.00)	231,265.90
June	231,265.90	***(161,352.69)***	69,913.21
Total		-	

(294,886.79)

(294,886.79)

Holdback 15,200.00

WORK/FINANCIAL PLAN
between
State of Idaho Wolf Depredation Control Board
and
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT of AGRICULTURE
ANIMAL and PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE
WILDLIFE SERVICES (APHIS-WS)

PROJECT IDENTIFIER/NAME	State of Idaho Wolf Depredation Control Board
LOCAL COOPERATIVE CONTACT	State of Idaho Wolf Depredation Control Board P.O. Box 790 Boise, ID 83701 (208) 332-8500
COOPERATIVE SERVICE AGREEMENT NUMBER	26-73-16-6686-RA
ACCOUNT NUMBER	AP.RA.RX16.73.0030
FINANCIAL PLAN TOTAL	$250,000.00
LOCATION	Idaho
PERFORMANCE PERIOD	07/01/2026 – 06/30/2027

Pursuant to Cooperative Service Agreement number 26-73-16-6686-RA between APHIS-WS and the State of Idaho Wolf Depredation Control Board, this Work/Financial Plan defines the objectives, plan of action, and budget for the WS program to be conducted during the performance period identified above.

OBJECTIVES/GOALS:

To conduct a program for the protection of livestock from gray wolf predation utilizing integrated wildlife damage management (WDM) methodologies.

PLAN OF ACTION:

APHIS-WS will:

- Provide WDM services to protect livestock from predation caused by gray wolves;
- Implement integrated WDM methodologies by using effective control strategies and tools to resolve the wildlife conflict;
- Utilize legal and approved methods. Approval of methods is provided through WS Form 12A (Work Initiation Document for Wildlife Damage Management), which will be completed by APHIS-WS and approved by landowners (cooperators) before services are conducted on private lands. Any work conducted on public lands will be in accordance with established Annual Work Plans for the specific land management agency.

STIPULATIONS and RESTRICTIONS:

- All WDM operations and activities shall have the joint concurrence of APHIS-WS and Idaho State Wolf Depredation Control Board and shall be under the direct supervision of APHIS-WS.

- Only costs related to controlling depredations by gray wolves will be reimbursed under this agreement.
- The IDFG portion of the Board's resources will be used consistent with the direction of the IDFG Commission.

COST ESTIMATE for SERVICES:
The State of Idaho Wolf Depredation Control Board has authorized reimbursement of costs incurred by APHIS-WS for the services agreed upon above. Such costs shall include, but not be limited to, salaries and benefits, fixed-wing and helicopter aerial shooting, travel/per diem expenses, supplies and equipment, vehicle use, and administrative overhead and program support. An estimated itemization of expenses is provided below; however, funds may be distributed between itemized categories at the discretion of APHIS-WS as required to accomplish the Objectives/Goals identified above. The 11% Pooled Job Costs and 5.15% administrative overhead fees are fixed and will not change during the term of this Plan.

NOTE: In accordance with the Debt Collection Improvement Act (DCIA) of 1996, bills issued by WS are due and payable within 30 days of receipt. The DCIA requires that all debts older than 120 days be forwarded to debt collection centers or commercial collection agencies for more aggressive action. Debtors have the option to verify, challenge and compromise claims, and have access to administrative appeals procedures which are both reasonable and protect the interests of the United States.

AUTHORIZATIONS:
STATE OF IDAHO WOLF DEPREDATION CONTROL BOARD

_____ _____
Jim Fredericks, Idaho Dept. of Fish and Game, Co-Chair Date

STATE OF IDAHO WOLF DEPREDATION CONTROL BOARD

_____ _____
Chanel Tewalt, Idaho Dept. of Agriculture, Co-Chair Date

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT of AGRICULTURE
ANIMAL and PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE
WILDLIFE SERVICES

Jared Hedelius Digitally signed by Jared Hedelius
Date: 2026.06.08 13:38:15 -06'00'
_____ _____
Jared L. Hedelius, State Director, Idaho Wildlife Services Date

_____ _____
Wendy Anderson, Director, Western Region Date

WORK/FINANCIAL PLAN
between
State of Idaho Wolf Depredation Control Board
and
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT of AGRICULTURE
ANIMAL and PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE
WILDLIFE SERVICES (APHIS-WS)

PROJECT IDENTIFIER/NAME	State of Idaho Wolf Depredation Control Board
LOCAL COOPERATIVE CONTACT	State of Idaho Wolf Depredation Control Board P.O. Box 790 Boise, ID 83701 (208) 332-8500
COOPERATIVE SERVICE AGREEMENT NUMBER	26-73-16-6686-RA
ACCOUNT NUMBER	AP.RA.RX16.73.0039
FINANCIAL PLAN TOTAL	$100,000.00
LOCATION	Idaho
PERFORMANCE PERIOD	07/01/2026 – 06/30/2027

Pursuant to Cooperative Service Agreement number 26-73-16-6686-RA between APHIS-WS and the State of Idaho Wolf Depredation Control Board, this Work/Financial Plan defines the objectives, plan of action, and budget for the WS program to be conducted during the performance period identified above.

OBJECTIVES/GOALS:

To conduct a program for the protection of livestock from gray wolf predation utilizing integrated wildlife damage management (WDM) methodologies. This work financial plan covers the collaring of wolves for the protection of livestock.

PLAN OF ACTION:

APHIS-WS will:

- Provide WDM services to protect livestock from predation caused by gray wolves;
- Implement integrated WDM methodologies by using effective control strategies and tools to resolve the wildlife conflict;
- Utilize legal and approved methods. Approval of methods is provided through WS Form 12A (Work Initiation Document for Wildlife Damage Management), which will be completed by APHIS-WS and approved by landowners (cooperators) before services are conducted on private lands. Any work conducted on public lands will be in accordance with established Annual Work Plans for the specific land management agency.

STIPULATIONS and RESTRICTIONS:

- All WDM operations and activities shall have the joint concurrence of APHIS-WS and Idaho State Wolf Depredation Control Board and shall be under the direct supervision of APHIS-WS.

- Only costs related to controlling depredations by gray wolves will be reimbursed under this agreement.
- The IDFG portion of the Board's resources will be used consistent with the direction of the IDFG Commission.

COST ESTIMATE for SERVICES:
The State of Idaho Wolf Depredation Control Board has authorized reimbursement of costs incurred by APHIS-WS for the services agreed upon above. Such costs shall include, but not be limited to, salaries and benefits, fixed-wing and helicopter aerial shooting, travel/per diem expenses, supplies and equipment, vehicle use, and administrative overhead and program support. An estimated itemization of expenses is provided below; however, funds may be distributed between itemized categories at the discretion of APHIS-WS as required to accomplish the Objectives/Goals identified above. The 11% Pooled Job Costs and 5.15% administrative overhead fees are fixed and will not change during the term of this Plan.

NOTE: In accordance with the Debt Collection Improvement Act (DCIA) of 1996, bills issued by WS are due and payable within 30 days of receipt. The DCIA requires that all debts older than 120 days be forwarded to debt collection centers or commercial collection agencies for more aggressive action. Debtors have the option to verify, challenge and compromise claims, and have access to administrative appeals procedures which are both reasonable and protect the interests of the United States.

AUTHORIZATIONS:
STATE OF IDAHO WOLF DEPREDATION CONTROL BOARD

_____ _____
Jim Fredericks, Idaho Dept. of Fish and Game, Co-Chair Date

STATE OF IDAHO WOLF DEPREDATION CONTROL BOARD

_____ _____
Chanel Tewalt, Idaho Dept. of Agriculture, Co-Chair Date

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT of AGRICULTURE
ANIMAL and PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE
WILDLIFE SERVICES

Jared Hedelius Digitally signed by Jared Hedelius
Date: 2026.06.08 13:37:01 -06'00'
_____ _____
Jared L. Hedelius, State Director, Idaho Wildlife Services Date

_____ _____
Wendy Anderson, Director, Western Region Date