

WORK AND FINANCIAL PLAN
between
COUNTY OF COCHISE
and
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE
WILDLIFE SERVICES

Pursuant to Cooperative Service Agreement No. 23-73-04-0228-RA between County of Cochise (Cooperator) and the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Wildlife Services (APHIS-WS), this Work Plan defines the objectives, plan of action, resources and budget for the Wildlife Damage Management program to be conducted from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

I. OBJECTIVES/GOALS

During the term of this Plan, WS will direct its efforts toward managing damage caused by wild and feral animals to livestock, other agriculture commodities, the public health and other property within the limitation of the funds provided by the Cooperator, the Arizona Department of Agriculture, and those allocated by WS to the program within Arizona.

According to Arizona Revised Statutes (ARS) § 3-2401 and § 3-2405, and in cooperation with APHIS-WS and other government agencies, the objectives of the work to be performed by the Wildlife Specialist(s) assigned to the Cooperator are listed below in order of priority:

- a. Direct efforts will be made to reduce the probability of transmission of zoonotic diseases to livestock, poultry, wildlife, and human populations through collection of diagnostic samples, and management of wildlife and feral animal populations that are vectors of zoonotic diseases.
- b. Direct efforts will be made to manage losses to livestock, poultry, and crops from damage and predation caused by wild and feral animals.
- c. Direct efforts will be made for the protection of residential areas and property, other industries, and wildlife from damage and predation by wild and feral animals.

II. PLAN OF ACTION

The funds provided by the Cooperator will pay for approximately one staff year (FTE) of effort by WS employees toward these objectives.

As identified in ARS § 3-2401 and § 3-2405, WS and the Cooperator shall cooperate in the damage management or relocation of predatory wildlife, noxious rodents and related animals that are injurious to livestock, poultry, game, agriculture, other industries and the public health in accordance with organized and systematic work plans.

In addition to above, WS will conduct feral, free-ranging and hybrid dog management to protect agriculture and animal Husbandry (e.g. Livestock, poultry) and natural resources in both rural and urban settings. Where applicable; WS will coordinate dog management with the Sheriff's office.

Protection of wildlife (i.e., game) will be in cooperation with the US Fish and Wildlife Service (migratory birds and threatened and endangered species) and/or Arizona Game and Fish Department. Annual work plans

are developed through consultations with the US Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and Arizona State Land Department with participation by the Arizona Game and Fish Department, and Arizona Department of Agriculture. Wildlife Services is also an active participant in the Arizona Livestock Incident Response Team.

Efforts will be made to increase cooperative funding by entering into Cooperative Service Agreements with additional interested counties (ARS § 3-2401) and by entering into cost share agreements with organizations and individuals within the State who require intensive and/or specialized wildlife damage management that is beyond the capability of the existing funding.

III. REPORTS

APHIS-WS will provide a quarterly report of activities to the Cooperator.

IV. COST ESTIMATE FOR SERVICES

The cooperator will reimburse APHIS-WS for expenses incurred, not to exceed **\$49,850**. WS shall submit quarterly bills for actual costs incurred to WS for performance of work as delineated in the Work Plan. Such costs may include, but are not limited to, salary/benefits, vehicle use, supplies/equipment, APHIS overhead and pooled cost. An estimated itemization of expenses is listed below; however funds may be distributed between itemized categories as needed.

Cochise Estimated Costs	
Salary/Benefits	\$41,205
Dept. of Ag	\$-3,000
Total	\$39,205
APHIS Overhead (16.15%)	\$6,332
Pooled Cost (11.0%)	\$4,313
Total	\$49,850

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.

V. AUTHORIZATION

Pursuant to A.R.S. 38-511, the provisions of which are incorporated herein by reference, all parties are hereby put on notice that this Agreement is subject to cancellation by Cochise County or its departments or agencies, if any person significantly involved in initiating, negotiating, securing, drafting, or creating the contract on behalf of the County or its departments or agencies is, at any time while the contract or any extension of the contract is in effect, an employee or agent of any other party to the contract in any capacity or a consultant to any other party of the contract with respect to the subject matter of the contract.

Changes to this Annual Work/Financial Plan will be accomplished through a written amendment, agreed to by the parties.

APHIS-WS has advised the Cooperator that other private sector service providers may be available to provide wildlife management services and notwithstanding these other options, the Cooperator requests that APHIS-WS provide wildlife management services as stated under the terms of this agreement.

COUNTY OF COCHISE
COCHISE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
205 N. JUDD DRIVE
BISBEE, AZ 85603
520-432-9200
Tax Identification Number: 86-6000398 B

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Cochise County Attorney Date

Chairman, Cochise County Board of Supervisors

Date

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE
WILDLIFE SERVICES
Tax Identification Number: 41-0696271

David Bergman, State Director, Arizona

Date

Keith Wehner, Director, Western Region

Date

