

WOLF DEPREDATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Dan K. Cummings, Chairman (541) 889-5411 Toby McBride, Vice Chairman (541) 473-3500 Dave Wenger, Member (541) 212-0116 Don Hodge, Member (541) 473-3575 Larry Hinton, Member (541) 473-2432 Mark Mackenzie, Member (541) 339-4449 Shad Harrison, Member (541) 473-4263

February 4, 2019

VIA EMAIL ONLY jwmnr.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov Senator Kathleen Taylor, Co-Chair Representative Jeff Reardon, Co-Chair Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Natural Resources

RE: Letter of Support for ODA's Wolf Program

Dear Oregon Senators and Representatives:

The Malheur County Wolf Depredation Advisory Committee supports ODA's Wolf Program. The Program is important for Eastern Oregon as our ranching livelihoods continue to be at risk. Although Malheur County has not paid out any compensation to livestock producers, the Program directly impacts Malheur County in several ways:

- Our wolf depredation advisory committee is active and regularly meets.
- Education on how to prevent conflicts with wolves is shared, taken seriously and implemented.
- One mile of fladry was purchased, which was used (as recent as last year) by our ranching community.
- Program activity in our adjoining county of Baker is advantageous to Malheur County.
- Program participation fosters local communications with county officials from neighboring Idaho, where wolf livestock depredation is at a record level for 2018.

Please continue your assistance.

Sincerely,

Don Hodge Malheur County Commissioner

