

# OFFICE OF SPECIES CONSERVATION

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## **H592 (2024) Conflict Prevention Program FY25/FY26 Program Update**

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The Idaho Governor's Office of Species Conservation (OSC) has been working with the Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) and the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) to create and implement the Wolf and Grizzly Bear Conflict Prevention Program, which was funded by House Bill 592 (2024). The State of Idaho works with livestock producers, local organizations, and youth who participate in 4-H or FFA to implement the conflict prevention program. The Idaho Legislature authorized \$75,000 for FY25 and an additional \$75,000 for FY26, which signifies a large investment by the state in reducing livestock conflicts with these predators and ultimately assisting in keeping wolves off the endangered species list and working toward the delisting of grizzly bears.

For FY25 and FY26, the team chose to have a year-round application period to allow for the continued marketing of the program and to gain more interest. Due to the rulemaking process, projects for FY25 were not able to begin until spring of 2025. For FY25 funding, there are currently 8 projects that have either been completed or are in the implementation phase. These projects include 10,802 linear feet of 5-strand electric fence, the purchase of two guard dogs, and assistance with electric fencing labor and energizers. 7 of the 8 projects are in Bonner or Boundary County where OSC has a full-time staff position. The total money allocated towards these projects for FY25 is \$31,093.72.

Some project funding has also been held for FY26 in other parts of the state. To assist livestock producers in high conflict areas near the Greater Yellowstone Grizzly Bear Ecosystem during the 2025 grazing season, \$52,000 has been set aside for potential projects. Another \$48,177.36 has been allocated from combined FY25 and FY26 funds to assist 8 livestock producers with range riding efforts to minimize conflicts with wolves across the state.

There is currently an estimated \$15,085.40 remaining from H592 funds for FY25 and FY26. OSC has also maintained a solid relationship with Safari Club International Foundation (SCIF), who have assisted with funding for grizzly bear education and conflict prevention in the last two years. They are again planning to provide \$30,000 in non-federal grant money to OSC to supplement the H592 funding for FY26. This will give OSC an estimated balance of \$45,085.40 for FY26.

**FY 25/FY26 Projects**

<b>PRODUCER</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>Prevention Conflict From</b>	<b>PROJECT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>COST</b>	<b>MATCH</b>
Producer 1	Priest River	Wolves/Grizzly	Labor for fencing, fence energizers	\$3,205.53	\$50,738.20
Producer 2	Bonnors Ferry	Grizzly	600 feet of electric fence	\$1,601.85	\$2,763.76
Producer 3	Bonnors Ferry	Grizzly	1,400 feet of electric fence	\$2,942.72	\$2,942.72
Producer 4	Bonnors Ferry	Grizzly	3,100 feet of electric fence	\$6,018.45	\$7,432.32
Producer 5	Bonnors Ferry	Grizzly	2,116 feet of electric fence	\$5,968.33	\$12,517.51
Producer 6	Weiser	Wolves	Two livestock guard dogs	\$4,400.00	\$79,851.24
Producer 7	Priest River	Wolves/Grizzly	1,008 feet of electric fence	\$1,955.52	\$2,293.24
Producer 8	Bonnors Ferry	Grizzly	2,578 feet of electric fence	\$5,001.32	\$13,378.80
Producer 9	Carmen	Wolves	260 hr of range riding	\$6,500.00	\$14,803.20
Producer 10	Carey	Wolves	Garmin InReach and 249 hr of range riding	\$6,500.00	\$39,996.00
Producer 11	Cottonwood	Wolves	260 hr of range riding	\$6,500.00	\$15,109.40
Producer 12	Lucile	Wolves	Game cameras and 218 hr of range riding	\$6,500.00	\$11,777.40
Producer 13	May	Wolves	260 hr of range riding	\$6,500.00	\$8,082.00
Producer 14	Cascade	Wolves	Game cameras and 140 hr of range riding	\$3,500.00	\$15,458.40
Producer 15	Weiser	Wolves	260 hr of range riding	\$6,500.00	\$11,998.00
Producer 16	Ellis	Wolves	260 hr of range riding	\$6,500.00	\$9,798.00
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>\$80,093.72</b>	<b>\$298,940.19</b>

***Table 1:*** Wolf and/or grizzly bear conflict prevention projects funded in FY25 and upcoming projects for FY26.

*Map 1: Project Map for FY25/FY26.*

