

PIMA NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Resolution 2014.11.05 Predator Depredation on Domestic Livestock

Whereas, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has determined that the Endangered Species Act requires the Service to expand the current Blue Range 10(J) wolf conservation area in Arizona and New Mexico, that covers most of the land mass of each state, and protect other predators such as bears and jaguars;

Whereas, the Service does not establish a cap on Mexican Wolf numbers even though once wolves reach a critical mass, experience documents that wolf numbers will increase exponentially;

Whereas, ranchers and farmers, forced by the government to accept wolves and other predator species on their ranches, have had and will continue to experience serious depredations;

Whereas, depredations are in fact a taking of private property, both direct and indirect, resulting from the deliberate establishment of predators by the federal government with concomitant prohibition upon effective defense by their owners of victimized privately owned domestic animals, and therefore such directly premeditated damage should, in all fairness, be reimbursed by the federal government.

Whereas, the Fifth Amendment to the United States Constitution in the Bill of Rights states, “... nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation,” and each of the five Supervisors of the Pima NRCD has signed an Oath of Office that states,

“I, [name], do solemnly swear to support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution and laws of the State of Arizona; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same and defend them against all enemies, foreign and domestic...so help me God (or, so I do affirm).”

Be it resolved, that Pima Natural Resource Conservation District ranchers and farmers, and all ranchers and farmers in Arizona, New Mexico and other similarly affected states, should be compensated (at market value) through the U.S. Farm Bill for direct and indirect predator depredations and harassment.

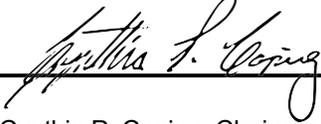
it resolved, that the current 2014 Farm Bill payments under the Livestock Indemnity Program pay nickels on the actual dollars lost, are inefficient and costly for agency verification of eligibility and actually create additional unreimbursed costs for livestock owners beyond the loss of the animal and its future production. Specifically, the Farm Bill should be amended to guarantee ranchers and farmers the difference between a normal calf and lamb crop percentage, a normal loss of adult animals, and the actual depredated adult and offspring crop at weaning time.

Be it further resolved, that agricultural producers engaged in domestic livestock husbandry must be compensated in amounts sufficient, without detailed cumbersome bureaucratic procedures, to ensure they are truly made whole after predator depredation and are fully compensated for predator presence.

Be it further noted, that even the complete implementation of the above would not compensate for the emotional damage resulting from seeing the suffering of those defenseless domestic pets and livestock attacked, ripped open and eaten alive by vicious predators protected by the federal government acting as accessories to the depredations.

Passed this day of November 25, 2014

**by a quorum the Pima NRCD Board of
Supervisors voting 3 AYE and 2 ABSENT.**



Cynthia P. Copping, Chairman