

## ASI'S PRIORITY POLICY ISSUES

ASI is the national organization representing the interests of the 100,000 sheep producers located throughout the United States. From East to West, farm flocks to range operations, ASI works to represent the interests of all producers.

### **MINOR USE MINOR SPECIES ANIMAL PHARMACEUTICALS**

- U.S. sheep producers have limited means to protect and prevent disease in their animals which is critical for ensuring a socially responsible and sustainable U.S. sheep industry and the safety of the national food supply.
- The current Food and Drug Administration (FDA) animal drug-approval process in its current form is unworkable for the sheep industry. It is prohibitively expensive, discouraging research, development, and data submission that could lead to new products for the prevention and treatment of sheep diseases.
- ASI requests a study by the General Accountability Office (GAO) to evaluate the effectiveness of The Minor Use and Minor Species Animal Health Act of 2004 (MUMS Act) for the U.S. sheep industry.

### **H2-A TEMPORARY AGRICULTURAL WORKERS**

- Sheep farmers and ranchers depend on a workable temporary foreign labor program to help care for more than one-third of the ewes and lambs in the U.S. and, for over 50 years, have used and helped craft the current provisions of the H2A program.
- Any guest worker program MUST maintain special procedures for sheep producers and give our members a fighting chance to compete in an increasingly difficult financial environment, while protecting both domestic and foreign ag workers.
- The “Limited Allocation for Certain Special Procedures Industries” in any final legislation must include not less than 2,500 annual visas and a codification of key special procedures.

### **MANDATORY PRICE REPORTING**

- The reauthorization of the Livestock Mandatory Reporting Act of 1999 must be accomplished to avoid a break in data. While supportive of the program, we ask USDA and the U.S. Congress to address our disappointments due to the implementation of current confidentiality rules and its chilling effect on price reporting.
- ASI urges USDA to continue working with the industry to ensure access to vital price reports, despite continued market consolidation.
- The 3/70/20 guideline to protect confidentiality hinders the price reporting available to sheep producers and should be reviewed to ensure consistent reporting of market data.

### **BLACK VULTURE RELIEF**

- Strongly support approval of H.R.1437 - To authorize livestock producers and their employees to take black vultures to prevent death, injury, or destruction to livestock, and for other purposes.
- Introduced by U.S. Rep. John Rose (R-TN), Rep. Darren Soto (D-FL), introduced the [Black Vulture Relief Act of 2023](#). The bipartisan bill allows livestock producers to take black vultures without a permit if they believe the vulture will cause death or injury to their livestock.
- Vultures are increasingly depredating on lambs across regions of the country further adding to the predator losses and costs sheep producers are already incurring.

### **DEATH TAX REPEAL ACT**

- Nearly 99% of the country's two million farms and ranches are owned and operated by individuals, family partnerships and family corporations, and the sheep industry is a prime example of traditionally being run by generational family farmers and ranchers.
- Multigenerational operations tend to be disproportionately impacted by the death tax and repealing the current estate tax code helps protect the integrity and extend the life of family-owned farms and ranches in this country that are relied upon to grow America's food and fiber.
- ASI supports the [Death Tax Repeal Act](#) and tax policy that works to support family farmers and ranchers.

For more information, please visit the ASI website at [www.sheepusa.org](http://www.sheepusa.org).  
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## FARM BILL

ASI strongly supports reauthorization (or extension if needed) of the Agricultural Improvement Act of 2018 (2018 Farm Bill). A Farm Bill should provide producers a reasonable safety net, encourage rural growth, and support the production of U.S. food and fiber. The 2018 Farm Bill safety net should be improved to address current market conditions including inflation and supply chain disruptions.

### **WOOL APPAREL MANUFACTURERS TRUST FUND, U.S. WOOL RESEARCH, AND U.S. PIMA COTTON**

- Over the past few decades our trade laws have had a devastating impact on the tailored clothing and textile industries in the United States.
  - Tariffs on imported fabrics used in tailored clothing (25% on worsted fabrics; 11% on cotton fabrics) far exceed the duty rates imposed on imported tailored clothing. This “tariff inversion” operates as a “Made in America” tax.
  - A special rule in several trade agreements grants tailored clothing made in numerous countries duty-free entry, further compounding the negative impact of the underlying “tariff inversion.”
- These programs are consistent with recent Congressional efforts to strengthen American manufacturing and reduce the offshoring of jobs. Many of the programs’ beneficiaries are spinners, fabric makers, and cut-and-sew operators who pivoted to become part of a vital PPE supply chain during the initial COVID outbreak. Many are also the companies and growers that produce the fiber, fabric, and apparel for military uniforms.
- For more than two decades these programs have been successful in maintaining domestic factories, saving American jobs, and increasing markets for domestic wool and cotton.
- Collectively, these programs’ beneficiaries still pay more in tariffs than they collect back in payments. However, the programs’ designs fairly balance the interests of each stakeholder in the production chain and creates a more level playing field against foreign competitors.
- **ASI supports an extension of sections 12602, 12603, and 12604 of the 2018 Farm Bill or the extension of this orphan program in any short-term extension.**

### **WOOL MARKETING ASSISTANCE LOAN AND LOAN DEFICIENCY PAYMENT**

- The 2018 Farm Bill authorizes nonrecourse marketing assistance loans (MALs) and loan deficiency payments (LDPs) for wool to eligible producers who grow and shear wool.
- The national loan rate for graded wool established in 2002 is \$1.15/pound. The nongraded wool rate established in 2002 is \$0.40 per pound. These rates have not kept pace with markets and producer costs, which has been further exacerbated by inflation.
- **With the recent low levels of producer income, ASI supports a re-examination of the wool loan rate and requests an update that provides an effective risk management tool for sheep producers.**

### **SHEEP PRODUCTION AND MARKETING GRANT PROGRAM (SPMGP)**

- The Sheep Production and Marketing Grant Program (section 209 of the AMA of 1946 as amended by section 12102 of the 2018 farm bill) is intimately connected to the National Sheep Industry Improvement Center (NSIIC).

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- The SPMGP provides funds on a competitive basis to national organizations whose mission is to strengthen and enhance the production and marketing of sheep and sheep products in the United States, including the improvement of infrastructure business, resource development, and the development of innovative approaches to solve long-term needs.
- **ASI strongly supports an extension and funding of the SPMGP in the next farm bill or as an orphan program in any short-term extension.**

#### **ANIMAL DISEASE PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT**

- National Animal Vaccine and Veterinary Countermeasures Bank (NAVVCB) – Established in the 2018 Farm Bill, is the U.S.-only vaccine bank allows USDA to stockpile animal vaccines and related products to use in the event of an outbreak of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD) or other high-impact foreign animal diseases
- National Animal Disease Preparedness and Response Program (NADPRP) - This program allows APHIS to collaborate with animal health partners throughout the nation.
- National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN) – The NAHLN is a laboratory network that collaborates with the National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL) on disease monitoring.
- The National Veterinary Stockpile (NVS) – The NVS provides the veterinary countermeasures that states, tribes, and territories need to respond to animal disease outbreaks.
- **ASI strongly supports continued funding of these programs as established in the 2018 Farm Bill under Title 7, Chapter 109, Section 8308a.**

#### **MINOR USES, MINOR SPECIES ANIMAL PHARMACEUTICALS**

- U.S. sheep producers have limited means to protect and prevent disease in their animals as animal health and welfare are critical aspects in ensuring a socially responsible and sustainable U.S. sheep industry and the safety of the national food supply.
- The cost to bring a new animal drug to market is rising and many pharmaceutical companies are not investing in bringing new drugs for sheep or other minor species to the U.S. market.
- **ASI requests a study by the General Accountability Office (GAO) to evaluate the effectiveness of The Minor Use and Minor Species Animal Health Act of 2004 (MUMS Act) for the U.S. sheep industry.**

#### **EXPORT PROGRAMS OF THE USDA / FOREIGN AGRICULTURE SERVICE (FAS)**

- With approximately 60% of all U.S. wool exported, access to foreign markets is critical for the sheep industry.
- **ASI supports increased funding for FAS programs including the Market Access Program (MAP), the Foreign Market Development Program (FMD) and the Quality Samples Program, QSP. These are critical to the export of American wool.**



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## BIGHORN SHEEP IN DOMESTIC SHEEP GRAZING ALLOTMENTS

In the Payette National Forest in Idaho, the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) prohibited 13,000 sheep from grazing on their historic grazing allotments, driving one ranch out of business entirely and drastically reducing the operations of three others. The declared reason for this reduction was an obscure regulation of the National Forest Management Act allegedly requiring each national forest to maintain “minimum viable” populations of all vertebrate species found there.

Forest Service officials continue to make decisions on the future use of “*high risk*” allotments grazed by domestic sheep using the Payette decision, even though only 3 percent of federal sheep allotments overlap with occupied bighorn habitat. At a minimum 400,000 domestic sheep, and the families who raise and care for them, may be affected. The impacts are serious, affecting not only sheep operators and their employees, but meat packing plants, woolen mills, and even the military, which purchases twenty percent of the nation’s wool production to help equip America’s service men and women.

- Domestic sheep and bighorns have co-existed in many of the same areas for decades without, apparently, decimating bighorn herds.
- While *M. ovipneumoniae* (Movi) is often identified as the pathogen that causes respiratory disease in bighorns, there is no single pathogen responsible for causing the most common respiratory diseases in bighorn sheep clearly tied to domestic sheep contact on the open range. In fact, there are documented die-offs of bighorns in areas far removed from any domestic sheep, not to mention healthy bighorn populations that carry Movi.
- *M. ovipneumoniae* has been confirmed present in moose, caribou, mule and white-tailed deer, bison and other species. In many cases Movi has shown to be endemic if several species.
- USDA is heavily involved in research to identify the causes of bighorn diseases and transmission vectors and the sheep industry strongly supports this research. Yet, research conducted by USDA’s intramural science agency, the Agricultural Research Service, has specifically being *ignored* by USFS. In abject contravention to previous congressional direction.

ASI recognizes the legal obligations of the Forest Service and BLM to analyze all threats to the viability of bighorn sheep. However, ASI does not recognize “single species viability” as trumping all legal obligations for multiple use of federal lands, including grazing. Calls for closing various allotments and removing domestic sheep despite clear scientific cause and effect, have already occurred. Given this, ASI requests a simple, equitable exchange: provide suitable alternative allotments for those sheep operators whose permits in bighorn habitat have been reduced as a result of arbitrarily applied “science”.

This exchange represents more than just good intentions—making alternative allotments available will require completion of an environmental analysis and other clearances, and this can take some time. Therefore, translocations of domestic sheep to alternative allotments should not be mandated until NEPA is complete and all challenges to the use of those allotments by domestic sheep are resolved. ASI strongly supports this equitable approach allowing for the survival of the domestic sheep industry in the face of mounting challenges related to bighorn habitat.

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## **FY2025 Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Appropriations Request**

### **Proposed FY2025 Report Language:**

*Bighorn Sheep Conservation.*—The Committee directs the BLM and the Forest Service to complete Risk of Contact analyses using the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies' occupied bighorn habitat maps, telemetry data, and recent bighorn observations. The Service is further directed to transparently and promptly share findings with other federal land management agencies, state and local governments, state wildlife agencies, and state and federal animal health professionals, including the Agricultural Research Service, permittees, and stakeholders. The Committee directs the Forest Service to engage the Agricultural Research Service and the aforementioned cooperating agencies and participants to ensure the best professional scientific understanding of where and if disease transmission occurs, and the degree of that risk, before making further management decisions that impact permittees. In direct acknowledgment of the fact that the presence of the pathogen most commonly blamed for causing respiratory disease in bighorn sheep, *M. ovipneumoniae*, has been confirmed as endemic in other wildlife species, the Committee directs the Service to sample other wildlife in occupied bighorn habitat for the presence of *M. ovipneumoniae*. The Forest Service is further directed, if warranted, to use this base of information to identify and implement actions to resolve high-risk of disease transmission allotments, including if agreeable to the permittee, the relocation of domestic sheep to lower-risk allotments, with minimal disruption and displacement of permittees. However, translocation of a permittee cannot be ordered until a proper analysis, in direct coordination with the Agricultural Research Service, of the risk of pathogen conveyance from species other than domestic sheep has been conducted. The Forest Service is directed to provide quarterly briefings to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, both in writing and in person, on its progress and adherence to the directives contained herein.

### **Proposed FY2025 Bill Language:**

SEC. XXX. The Secretary of the Interior, with respect to public lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management, and the Secretary of Agriculture, with respect to National Forest System lands, shall make vacant grazing allotments available to a holder of a grazing permit or lease issued by either Secretary if the lands covered by the permit or lease are unusable because of drought, wildfire, or conflict with wildlife, as determined by the Secretary concerned. *Provided*, That the terms and conditions contained in a permit or lease made available pursuant to this section shall be the same as the terms and conditions of the most recent permit or lease that was applicable to the vacant grazing allotment made available. *Provided further*, That Section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4332) shall not apply with respect to any Federal agency action under this section.



## SCRAPIE ERADICATION

Scrapie is a transmissible spongiform encephalopathy (TSE) affecting sheep and goats. The presence of classical scrapie in the U.S. sheep and goat population affects industry economically through production losses, lost exports, and increased production and disposal costs. Public health concerns related to the transmission of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) to humans have resulted in efforts to eradicate all TSEs in food-producing animals.

- Scrapie is a degenerative and eventually fatal brain disease of sheep and goats. It is in the same class of diseases as BSE in cattle and Chronic Wasting Disease in elk and deer.
- Since its discovery in 1947, scrapie has been diagnosed in more than 1,000 flocks throughout the United States.
- No breed of sheep is known to be immune, though the disease does have a higher occurrence in certain breeds, such as the Suffolk.
- The U.S. sheep industry, working collaboratively with USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) and state partners through the National Scrapie Eradication Program, has nearly eliminated scrapie. In fact, the program has directly led to a reduced prevalence rate of 99%.
- USDA's mandated identification, surveillance, and traceability of both sheep and goats is critical to continuing and maintaining Scrapie elimination efforts in order to preserve and enhance current and future export markets.
- In late 2015 USDA/APHIS proposed to amend the scrapie eradication regulations, which when published will accelerate the Scrapie Eradication program to identify any remaining pockets of the disease in the U.S. Sheep and Goat populations. USDA published the final rule in April 2019.
- In order to implement the amendment to the scrapie eradication rule and to be able to claim that the U.S. has eradicated scrapie from U.S. sheep and goats in a timely and cost-effective manner, the current amount of federal spending on scrapie eradication within the Equine, Cervid and Small Ruminant Health Line will need to increase by at least \$6 million over the next two years. **Accordingly, ASI urges Congress to fund the National Scrapie Eradication Program (NSEP) at \$19 million in FY2025 within APHIS' Equine, Cervid and Small Ruminant Health Line.**

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## **Appropriations Bill**

Agriculture

### **Agency**

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

### **Account**

Salaries and Expenses

### **Program**

Equine, Cervid, and Small Ruminant Health Program

### **FY2025 Requested Amount and Language**

The Committee directs that not less than \$19 million shall be reserved for the **National Scrapie Eradication Program**.

### **Description**

Scrapie is a transmissible spongiform encephalopathy (TSE) affecting sheep and goats. The presence of classical scrapie in the U.S. sheep and goat population affects industry economically through production losses, lost exports, and increased production and disposal costs. Public health concerns related to the transmission of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) to humans have resulted in efforts to eradicate all TSEs in food-producing animals.

Surveillance for scrapie in the United States is conducted through the National Scrapie Eradication Program (NSEP), a cooperative State-Federal-industry program. The surveillance components of the NSEP include:

1. Regulatory Scrapie Slaughter Surveillance;
2. Non-slaughter surveillance (e.g., trace investigations, on-farm testing); and
3. The Scrapie Free Flock Certification Program.

The program's goals are to eradicate classical scrapie from the United States and to meet World Organization for Animal Health criteria for disease freedom. Since 2002, the prevalence of scrapie has decreased significantly through existing eradication efforts, largely a result of effective slaughter surveillance.

Since slaughter surveillance started in FY 2003, the percent of cull sheep found positive at slaughter (once adjusted for face color) has decreased 99 percent. However, in order to declare the U.S. "scrapie free", we must be able to prove to the world that we have conducted testing in all sheep and goat populations. This is why your submission of samples from sheep/goats over 18 months of age found dead or euthanized on your farm is extremely important. Without your help, we will not be able to declare the US free of scrapie, costing the sheep and goat industries approximately \$10 to \$20 million, annually.

### **Authorization**

U.S.C. 8301-8317; 7 CFR 2.22, 2.80, and 371.4

### **FY 2024**

\$35,000,000

### **President's FY 2025 Budget Request**

TBD

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## U.S. SHEEP EXPERIMENT STATION (USSES)

In FY 2025 Congressional recognition of USSES' unique role in ensuring valuable livestock, rangeland and wildlife research efforts and an irreplaceable field laboratory continue is appreciated.

This 100-year-old research station has long resulted in beneficial results, particularly for the nation's sheep industry. ZUSSES' 48,000 acres of land provides a unique and exclusive site for collaborative large-scale integrated livestock, wildlife, and rangeland research.

### **USSES unique mission and justification for additional investment:**

A \$1,000,000 increase for new research and collaborative efforts. This research would lead collaborative science-based efforts that will ultimately allow domestic and wild sheep sharing common landscapes while preserving domestic sheep-ranching livelihoods and enhancing wild sheep population viability.

With the support of both the sheep ranching and the wild sheep conservation communities, this USSES-led research program will widely applied solutions impacting the Intermountain West. The research would:

- focus on elucidating domestic sheep phenotypes and genotypes with reduced to no shedding of *M. ovipneumoniae*, and
- test landscape-scale remote herding technologies/strategies for reducing wildlife-domestic sheep interaction on shared landscapes.

Headquartered at the USSES in Dubois, USSES researchers would design the research in collaboration with the University of Idaho and consider input from sheep-ranching and wild-sheep stakeholders.

Problems associated with *M. ovipneumoniae* have often put wild sheep conservationists and domestic sheep producers at odds, resulting in the closure of domestic sheep grazing allotments on public lands. Currently, the only management tactic employed to prevent potential pathogen transmission between the sheep and other species with endemic *M. ovipneumoniae* is geographical and/or temporal separation, which has led to conflicts over public land use and the loss of grazing opportunities for domestic sheep producers. Better long-term solutions are needed to allow for both species to share the landscape.

The research enabled by the proposed increase would ultimately reduce and possibly eliminate conflicts between the agriculture and conservation communities. Such an accomplishment would benefit both the livelihoods of sheep ranchers and enhance wild sheep conservation, benefiting rural communities and their continued viability.



## **Appropriations Bill**

Agriculture

### **Agency**

Agricultural Research Service

### **Account**

Salaries and Expenses

### **FY2025 Requested Amount**

\$5.141 million

### **Description**

ARS is the principal in house research agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). Congress first authorized federally supported agricultural research in the Organic Act of 1862, which established what is now USDA. That statute directed the Commissioner of Agriculture “to acquire and preserve in his department all information he can obtain by means of books and correspondence, and by practical and scientific experiments.” The scope of USDA’s agricultural research programs has been expanded and extended more than 60 times since the Department was created.

The 100-year-old research station has demonstrated an impact on all of agriculture, especially the nation’s sheep industry. Its 48,000 acres of land provides a unique location and is exclusively positioned for collaborative large-scale integrated livestock, wildlife and rangeland research.

The mission of the USDA, ARS, Range Sheep Production Efficiency Research Unit, U.S. Sheep Experiment Station is to develop integrated methods for increasing production efficiency of sheep and to simultaneously improve the sustainability of rangeland ecosystems.

### **Proposed FY2025 Report Language**

The Committee recognizes that the U.S. Sheep Experiment Station is a valuable asset for grazing lands and sheep industry genetic research, and the repository of over five decades of sage grouse research and data. The station is not only valuable for the domestic livestock industry, but also the Western region’s wildlife interface. The Committee provides an additional \$1 million to enhance the viability and multi-species health resulting from wildlife and domestic sheep interaction on shared landscapes and urges ARS to continue engaging collaborators to ensure the station functions as an agricultural research facility while also evaluating opportunities through a domestic livestock / wildlife collaboration.

### **Authorization**

The Agricultural Research Service (ARS) was established on November 2, 1953, pursuant to authority vested in the Secretary of Agriculture by 5 U.S.C. 301 and Reorganization Plan No. 2 of 1953, and other authorities.

### **President’s FY 2025 Budget Request**

TBD



## WILDLIFE SERVICES

The American Sheep Industry Association (ASI) urges Congress to provide sufficient funding to the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Wildlife Services (WS) program. ASI opposes any effort to restrict or eliminate WS funding and strongly urges continued vigilance to stave off any potential WS program attacks during House/Senate consideration of the FY 2025 Agriculture Appropriations Bill.

Wildlife Services (WS) provides Federal leadership and expertise to resolve conflicts between people and wildlife and allow them to coexist by protecting agriculture; natural resources, including threatened and endangered species; property and infrastructure; and public health and safety. Wildlife damages U.S. livestock, aquaculture, small grains, fruits, vegetables, and other agricultural products each year.

Wildlife predators cause more than **\$232 million** in death loss to livestock. WS prevents and reduces livestock predation through technical assistance (education and outreach) to producers and operational management programs.

In FY22, WS provided more than 20,800 technical assistance activities that enabled 6,180 livestock producers to implement improved husbandry and methods such as use of guard animals, exclusion, fencing, and predator dispersal. These activities included 19 predator management workshops attended by more than 3,000 individuals from 14 states.

WS supported USDA's Animal Plant Health Inspection Services' emergency response efforts to animal diseases, natural disasters, and hazardous spills. In FY22, WS deployed 123 personnel on 267 deployments for Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) and African Swine Fever (ASF). WS personnel have physically deployed to assist 18 states in response to HPAI. WS responded to the ASF detection on the island of Hispaniola and have removed 3,754 feral swine and have sampled 2,431 for ASF on Puerto Rico and US Virgin Islands. The National Wildlife Disease Program (NWD) also coordinated sample collection and evaluation or assisted state agencies with many other diseases in wildlife to include SARS-CoV-2, plague, tularemia, leptospirosis, rabies, chronic wasting disease, and rabbit hemorrhagic disease virus.

Wildlife Services has the knowledge and skill, as well as the equipment, to track, capture and remove predators when they cause serious damage. Livestock producers are not the only group to benefit – so does the general public.

**ASI supports an increase of \$2.5 million for Wildlife Damage Management to account for reduced services as a result of NEPA compliance costs.**

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**Appropriations Bill**

Agriculture

**Agency**Animal and Plant Health Inspection  
Service**Account**

Wildlife Services

**Program**

Wildlife Damage Management

**Requested Amount**

\$125,000,000

**Description**

The Wildlife Damage Management (WDM) program resolves human/wildlife conflicts and protects agriculture, human health and safety, personal property, and natural resources from wildlife damage and wildlife-borne diseases in the United States. This program protects agriculture by protecting livestock from predators, managing invasive species such as feral swine and beaver damage, conducting a national rabies management program, and managing wildlife species and diseases.

Livestock losses attributed to predators cost producers more than \$178 million annually, according to the most recent surveys by National Agriculture Statistics Service. Cost-benefit analyses have shown that for each dollar spent on livestock protection, APHIS saves producers between \$2 and \$7 in losses. APHIS prevents and reduces livestock predation through education, technical assistance to producers, and management programs. In FY 2014, APHIS' WDM program helped more than 11,000 producers in the western United States with livestock valued at more than \$2.3 billion.

**Authorization**

7 U.S.C 426-426d (Control of predatory and other wild animals)

**President's FY 2025 Budget Request**

TBD

**FY 2024****\$122,500,000****Appropriations Bill**

Agriculture

**Agency**Animal and Plant Health Inspection  
Service**Account**

Wildlife Services

**Program**

Wildlife Services Methods Development

**Requested Amount**

\$25,500,000

**Description**

The Wildlife Services Methods Development (WSMD) program works with cooperators to conduct research and develop socially responsible methods to prevent and mitigate damage caused by wildlife and invasive species on agricultural productions, and to detect and prevent wildlife diseases that may impact animal health and agricultural biosecurity. This program provides scientific information to support the development and implementation of methods for managing wildlife damage. These methods enable APHIS, cooperators, and individuals to protect crops, livestock, natural resources, property, and public health and safety. The WSMD program serves as an international leader in non-lethal research to reduce wildlife damage.

**Authorization**

7 U.S.C 426-426d (Control of predatory and other wild animals)

**President's FY 2025 Budget Request**

TBD

**FY 2024****\$25,500,000**

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