

House Agriculture Committee

HB 145

EXHIBIT # 13
DATE 01/20/2015
HB 145

Livestock Loss Board consists of five members and one staff person, three ranchers & two biologists

Livestock Loss Board provides payments for verified livestock losses and grants for loss prevention projects due to wolves and grizzly bears based upon available funding.

Difficult to find matching funds for federal grants, Federal grants are sporadic and for wolves only

LLB provided six grants for loss prevention in 2014 (wolf only) using federal funds, LLB could not fund all grant requests. (LLB received \$100k for non-lethal prevention projects)

Indirect effects such as weight loss are a large economic impact to livestock owners which exceeds death losses. Loss prevention has the potential to reduce indirect impacts. (See Bio One handout)

Projects on hold pending LLB having a secure funding source for grants, especially county commissioners

USDA Wildlife Services does all investigation work, LLB does not provide funding for investigations.

2-15-3112 (5) MCA, " final determination lies solely with the U.S. department of agriculture wildlife services and may not be changed by the board"

No funding from FWP, SB 348 from 2011 session requires FWP to use \$900K for wolf management, LLB does not have access to any of these funds.

Possible new legislation: LC 1107, Include mountain lion in livestock loss program by Senator Gene Vuckovich and LC 2134, Include certain birds into the livestock loss program by Representative Gordon Pierson.

Montana loss payments and indirect losses using a Wyoming study published in Bio One handout:

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|---|--------------------|------------------|
| 2008 - \$87,318 X 24 = \$2,095,632 (243) | X 18 = \$1,571,724 | X7 = \$611,226 |
| 2009 - \$144,996 X 24 = \$3,479,904 (370) | X 18 = \$2,609,928 | X7 = \$1,014,972 |
| 2110 - \$99,554 X 24 = \$2,389,296 (175) | X 18 = \$1,791,972 | X7 = \$696,878 |
| 2111 - \$85,855 X 24 = \$2,060,520 (95) | X 18 = \$1,545,390 | X7 = \$600,985 |
| 2112 - \$102,714 X 24 = \$2,465,136 (125) | X 18 = \$1,848,852 | X7 = \$718,998 |
| 2113 - \$96,825 X 24 = \$2,323,800 (102) | X 18 = \$1,742,850 | X7 = \$677,775 |
| 2114 - \$125,619 X 24 = \$3,014,856 (87) | X 18 = \$2,261,142 | X7 = \$879,333 |

Total loss over seven years \$17,829,144 with a 24X multiplier per year average = \$2,547,021

Total loss over seven years \$13,371,858 with a 18X multiplier per year average = \$1,910,265

Total loss over seven years \$5,200,167 with a 7X multiplier per year average = \$742,881

Using Bio One 21X average = \$2,228,643 per year for losses in Montana. Note: Bio One study is just on wolves.

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