



ALBERTA

Forestry and Parks

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*Office of the Minister  
MLA, Central Peace - Notley*

AR-18966

**MAR 28 2024**

Brenda Knight  
Chair  
Provincial ASB Committee  
c/o Stephen Bevans, Secretary,  
Provincial ASB Committee  
Box 580  
Cardston AB T0K 0K0

Dear Brenda Knight:

Thank you for your emails to my government colleagues and me regarding Resolution 4-24, supporting a Compensation Multiplier. As Minister of Forestry and Parks, I appreciate the opportunity to respond.

The Wildlife Predator Compensation Program is a long-standing program which, in 2024, will have successfully delivered a safety net for livestock producers for 50 years. The fundamental purpose of the program is to enhance the relationship between livestock producers and wildlife, who share the same land base. Alberta's government remains committed to supporting livestock producers, which includes exploring opportunities for program improvement while considering damage prevention and mitigation partnerships.

Several program changes have occurred in recent years, including:

- Maintaining the available compensation for confirmed losses at 100 per cent of the commercial livestock market values.
- Adding deferred payment options for calves, lambs, and piglets provides compensation for market-aged animals when they are lost as small, young animals.
- Adjusting sheep and hog pricing formulas to better match cattle formulas.
- Increasing the minimum payment for cattle to \$400.
- Addition of a multiplier for bred cows (1.75) and bulls (1.5) to reflect their value as breeding stock and the potential loss of the unborn calf.
- Maintenance of excellent investigation response protocols. Fish and Wildlife Officers are currently providing 24-hour availability with initial advice, and subsequent completion of field necropsy, compensation claim submission, and wildlife control, if necessary, all at no cost to the producer.

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I recognize and understand that a producer's time is valuable; the time it takes to prepare a compensation claim may not appear to be worthwhile when livestock losses are not discovered in time to investigate or if a producer's decisions does not leave enough time to submit a claim. Please know that the program is intended to act as a partnership and both parties are required to contribute to be successful.

In 2023-24, payments from the Wildlife Predator Compensation Program reached an all-time high. My department is exploring how additional changes can reduce the frequency and severity of predator losses.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Kim Morton, Manager, Game and Trapping at 403-381-5120 or [kim.morton@gov.ab.ca](mailto:kim.morton@gov.ab.ca).

Thank you for taking the time to write. I hope the information provided has been helpful. As Minister of Forestry and Parks, I am committed to ongoing engagement with dialogue with our key partners, including the Agricultural Service Board.

Sincerely,



Todd Loewen  
Minister

cc: Honourable Rebecca Schulz  
Minister of Environment and Protected Areas

Honourable RJ Sigurdson  
Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation