



# County of El Dorado

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## Legislation Text

File #: 13-0444, Version: 1

Agriculture Department recommending the Board authorize the Chair to sign Cooperative Service Agreement No. 13-73-06-6574-RA/ 008-S1411 with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Wildlife Services (USDA APHIS-WS) and County of El Dorado, for the term July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014 for the maintenance of an Integrated Wildlife Damage Management (IWDM) program to protect residents, property, livestock, crops, and natural resources from damage caused by predators and other nuisance wildlife.

**FUNDING:** General Fund and Unclaimed Gas Tax.

<b>BUDGET SUMMARY:</b>	
Total Estimated Cost.....	\$34,130.52
Budgeted FY 13/14.....	\$34,130.52
New Funding.....	
Savings.....	
Other.....	
Total Funding Available.....	
Change To Net County Cost.....	\$34,130.52

### **Fiscal Impact/Change to Net County Cost :**

Funding has been included in the Department's FY 13/14 requested budget.

### **Background**

The Wildlife Services program is a cooperative venture between El Dorado/Alpine County and the United States Department of Agriculture. In the past, the USDA was providing one full time employee at no county cost as a 50/50 match for the county's one full time Wildlife Services employee. El Dorado and Siskiyou Counties were the last two counties in the state that held this agreement with USDA. Through budget reductions at the Federal level, the USDA APHIS-WS program has renegotiated contracts with all counties throughout the state for wildlife services. The USDA is unable to continue to provide these services at no charge to the County.

There are two types of protection offered under this program with the main goal to control only the animals that are causing damage or injury, and providing technical assistance in wildlife damage prevention:

1. Urban animal damage. These calls involve home owners who have skunks, raccoons, or other wildlife that have taken up residence in the vicinity of their home, and are causing property damage

or are a threat to either pets or human health and safety.

2. Farmers and ranchers with livestock, crop and/or property loss. Typically, these calls involve both domestic and wild animal attacks on agricultural land.

### **Reason for Recommendation**

The Agriculture Department recommends approval of this Cooperative Service Agreement to ensure the continued assistance in resolving wildlife damage problems and protect public health and safety in El Dorado County. This Agreement also allows for cooperation with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife Services (formerly Department of Fish and Game). APHIS will bill quarterly for actual cost incurred, not to exceed the annually approved amount specified in the Work and Financial plan. This Cooperative Service Agreement includes a provision for any party to terminate the Cooperative Service Agreement, without cause, upon sixty (60) days written notice.

### **Action(s) to be taken following Board approval**

1. Chair to sign four 2) original Cooperative Service Agreements.
2. Board Clerk's Office to return three (2) original Cooperative Service Agreements to the Department of Agriculture.
3. Agriculture Department to distribute as appropriate.

### **Contact**

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### **Concurrences**

County Counsel and Risk Management