

Reducing Conflict with Wolves in Colorado

As wolves grow their presence in Colorado, Colorado State University (CSU) is partnering with ranchers in rural communities to develop sustainable, non-lethal approaches that help livestock producers reduce conflict with wolves.

As part of those efforts, CSU has launched a fundraising campaign for the Wolf Conflict Reduction Fund (WCRF). Donations to the WCRF will be used by CSU and partners to help livestock producers and local communities implement non-lethal tools and peer-to-peer learning experiences to support ranching livelihoods in areas with wolves.

Native to the state, wolves were eliminated from Colorado in the mid-1940s via government-sponsored eradication programs. Wolves are now returning to Colorado, both through migration into northern Colorado and as a result of the 2020 passage of Proposition 114, which mandates the reintroduction of gray wolves by the end of 2023. As wolves return, approaches that reduce conflict between wolves and people, including predation on livestock, are becoming more important.

Investment in the innovation and implementation of proactive conflict reduction methods can help protect both human livelihoods and wolves in Colorado and beyond. Contributing to the WCRF supports development and implementation of tools, programs, and information to help reduce impacts to both wolves and people.









WOLF CONFLICT REDUCTION FUND

The WCRF is led by a team of experts at CSU, including at the Center for Human-Carnivore Coexistence (CHCC) and CSU Extension, who have been actively involved in working with local communities to reduce conflict with wolves in Colorado. The CHCC is an academic center that focuses on integrating science, education, and outreach to minimize conflict and facilitate coexistence between humans and carnivores. CSU Extension, with offices throughout Colorado, provides trusted, practical education to help local communities solve problems, develop skills, and build a better future.

Once sufficient funds are raised through the WCRF, CSU will offer a series of grants to assist local communities and livestock producers to implement non-lethal tools to reduce conflict with wolves. The award amount will be flexible and based on available funding.

The grants will be distributed through a competitive application process and selected by a committee of CSU scientists, CSU Extension staff, federal and state wildlife agencies, non-governmental organizations, and livestock producers.

PROACTIVE, NON-LETHAL APPROACHES

The Wolf Conflict Reduction Fund will support a variety of proactive non-lethal approaches, as well as education and outreach efforts, to help ranchers prevent conflict with wolves.

Barriers

- · Electric and/or wire mesh fencing
- Fladry (flagging)

Deterrents

- Livestock guardian dogs
- Range riders
- Scare devices (lights, sounds)

Reducing attractants

- · Livestock carcass removal
- Segregating sick animals

Livestock management

- Protecting calving and lambing areas
- Avoiding wolf dens
- Night penning

Surveillance and monitoring

- Trail cameras
- Human observers

Education and Outreach

- Training workshops
- Peer-to-peer learning

Local communities can apply combinations of strategies and tools to reduce conflict with wolves. However, such approaches take considerable time, resources, and training to implement effectively.

Your contributions are therefore critical to this endeavor!





Join us in building a new era in Colorado, ensuring that humans and wolves can live together with fewer impacts to people and wolves.

Your contributions to the Wolf Conflict Reduction Fund are critical for:

- · Protecting wolves
- · Protecting human livelihoods and well-being
- · Positioning Colorado as a model for coexisting with wolves in the American West
- Fostering relationships among people with different perspectives, thereby reducing polarization and conflict around wolf reintroduction.



advancing.colostate.edu/WOLFCONFLICTREDUCTION

Donations are tax-deductible through the CSU Foundation, the 501(c)(3) partner of Colorado State University

LEARN MORE

For more information on the Wolf Conflict Reduction Fund, visit: sites.warnercnr.colostate.edu/centerforhumancarnivorecoexistence/wolf-conflict-reduction-fund



CONTACT

