

**COOPERATIVE SERVICE AGREEMENT (CSA)**  
**between**  
**HUMBOLDT COUNTY (COOPERATOR)**  
**and**  
**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)**  
**ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE (APHIS)**  
**WILDLIFE SERVICES (WS)**

**ARTICLE 1 – PURPOSE**

The purpose of this agreement is to maintain an USDA-APHIS-WS Integrated Wildlife Damage Management (IWDM) program in Humboldt County. USDA-APHIS-WS will assist business/property owners, private citizens, and governmental agencies in protecting human resources, which include, but are not limited to, residents, property, livestock, crops, and natural resources from damage caused by predators, wild and feral animals, and other nuisance wildlife.

**ARTICLE 2 – AUTHORITY**

USDA-APHIS-WS has statutory authority under the Acts of March 2, 1931, 46 Stat. 1468-69, 7 U.S.C. §§ 8351-8352, as amended, and December 22, 1987, Public Law No. 100-202, § 101(k), 101 Stat. 1329-331, 7 U.S.C. § 8353, to cooperate with States, local jurisdictions, individuals, public and private agencies, organizations, and institutions while conducting a program of wildlife services involving mammal and bird species that are reservoirs for zoonotic diseases, or animal species that are injurious and/or a nuisance to, among other things, agriculture, horticulture, forestry, animal husbandry, wildlife, and human health and safety.

**ARTICLE 3 - MUTUAL RESPONSIBILITIES**

The cooperating parties mutually understand and agree to/that:

1. USDA-APHIS-WS shall perform services set forth in this Cooperative Service Agreement that constitutes an IWDM program that addresses the need for managing conflicts caused by predators and other nuisance wildlife in Humboldt County.
2. USDA-APHIS-WS will provide to the Cooperator a Financial Plan annually for approval. It is understood and agreed that any monies allocated for the purpose of the Agreement shall be expended only towards the activities and related expenses outlined herein.
3. Cooperate with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, County, city governments, and other entities to ensure compliance with applicable Federal, State, and local laws and regulations.
4. The parties may mutually agree in writing, at any time during the term of this agreement, to amend, modify, add, or delete services from the CSA and/or Financial Plan.

[optional] Cooperator PO: \_\_\_\_\_

5. The Cooperator certifies that USDA-APHIS-WS has advised the Cooperator there may be private sector service providers available to provide IWDM services that the Cooperator is seeking from USDA-APHIS-WS.
6. Protect sensitive information exchanged or generated during this process. For public requests of such information, under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. §552) and/or the California Public Records Act (California Government Code §6250-6276.48) or Information Privacy Act of 1977 (Cal. Civ. Code §§ 1798 et seq.), the releasing Agency will notify the other Agency and provide an opportunity to comment on whether the information is privileged, or otherwise prohibited from disclosure by applicable law.
7. USDA-APHIS-WS has advised the Cooperator that other private sector service providers may be available to provide wildlife management services and notwithstanding these other options, Cooperator requests that USDA-APHIS-WS provide wildlife management services as stated under the terms of this Agreement.
8. There will be no equipment with a procurement price of \$5,000 or more per unit purchased directly with funds from the cooperator for use on this project. All other equipment purchased for the program is and will remain the property of USDA-APHIS-WS.
9. USDA-APHIS-WS will provide overall direction and control of the program.
10. The cooperating parties agree to coordinate with each other before responding to media requests on work associated with this project.

#### **ARTICLE 4 - COOPERATOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

Cooperator agrees:

1. To designate the following as the authorized representative who shall be responsible for collaboratively administering the activities conducted in this agreement:

Cooperator Name, Address, Phone Number, Email

Weylan Shaw, Agricultural Commissioner (Acting)

5630 S Broadway

Eureka, CA 95503-6905

(707) 441-5260

WShaw@co.humboldt.ca.us

2. To authorize USDA-APHIS-WS to wildlife damage management activities for Humboldt County.
3. To reimburse USDA-APHIS-WS for costs, not to exceed the annually approved amount specified in the Financial Plan. If costs are projected to exceed the amount reflected in the Financial Plan, the Financial Plan shall be formally revised and signed by both parties before services resulting in additional costs are performed. The Cooperator agrees to pay all costs of services submitted via an invoice from USDA-APHIS-WS within 30 days of the date of the submitted invoice(s). Late payments are subject to interest, penalties, and administrative charges and costs as set forth under the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996.
4. To provide a Tax Identification Number or Social Security Number in compliance with the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996.
5. As a condition of this agreement, the Cooperator ensures and certifies that it is not currently debarred or suspended and is free of delinquent Federal debt.
6. To notify USDA-APHIS-WS verbally or in writing as far in advance as practical of the date and time of any proposed meeting related to the program.
7. The Cooperator acknowledges that USDA-APHIS-WS shall be responsible for administration of USDA-APHIS-WS activities and supervision of APHIS-WS personnel.
8. The Cooperator will not be connected to the USDA-APHIS computer network(s).

#### **ARTICLE 5 – USDA-APHIS-WS RESPONSIBILITIES**

USDA-APHIS-WS Agrees:

1. To designate the following as the USDA-APHIS-WS authorized representative who shall be responsible for collaboratively administering the activities conducted in this agreement.

USDA-APHIS-WS State Director: Name/Title, Address,

Phone Number, Email

Dennis L. Orthmeyer/California State Director

3419A Arden Way

Sacramento, CA 95825

(916) 979-2675

Dennis.L.Orthmeyer@USDA.GOV

2. To conduct activities at sites designated by Cooperator as described in this CSA and Financial Plans. USDA-APHIS-WS will provide qualified personnel and other resources necessary to implement the approved IWDM activities delineated in the CSA and Financial Plan of this agreement.

3. The performance of IWDM actions by USDA-APHIS-WS under this agreement is contingent upon a determination by USDA-APHIS-WS that such actions are in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act, Endangered Species Act, and any other applicable environmental statutes. USDA-APHIS-WS will not make a final decision to conduct requested IWDM actions until it has made the determination of such compliance.
4. To provide qualified personnel and other resources necessary to implement the approved IWDM activities delineated in this agreement and the Financial Plan referenced in Article 3.b. of this Agreement.
  - a. Conduct all control activities with trained USDA-APHIS-WS employees and volunteers.
  - b. Provide technical assistance which includes demonstrations on the proper use of management devices (i.e., propane exploders, exclusionary devices, cage traps, etc.) and information on animal husbandry, habitat management, and animal behavior modification that could reduce damage. Official USDA pamphlets may be used to convey this information to the public.
  - c. Provide predator/nuisance wildlife identification and removal when livestock, crop property, natural resource damage; or wildlife displaying aggressive behavior causing actual injury to county residents is verified.
  - d. Provide operational assistance when the problem cannot effectively be resolved through technical assistance, when resource owner implemented nonlethal actions have failed, or concurrently when technical assistance is delivered. Field assistance would mostly be provided for situations that require the use of methods and techniques that are challenging or unsuitable for the public to implement on their own. Resource owners that are provided operational assistance are also encouraged to use additional management strategies and sound husbandry practices, when and where appropriate, that could potentially further reduce damage. Field operations may include but are not limited to the monitoring, trapping, dispersal, and removal of wildlife causing damage to property, livestock, crops, and natural resources.
  - e. Procure and maintain a vehicle, tools, supplies, and other specialized equipment as deemed necessary by the State Director to accomplish the objectives identified in this agreement. All expenditures will be processed through USDA-APHIS Financial Management Modernization Initiative (FMMI) system.
5. To invoice Cooperator quarterly for actual costs incurred by USDA-APHIS-WS during the performance of services agreed upon and specified in this CSA and the Financial Plan. Authorized auditing representatives of the Cooperator shall be accorded reasonable opportunity to inspect the accounts and records of USDA-APHIS-WS pertaining to such claims for reimbursement to the extent permitted by Federal law and regulations.

## **ARTICLE 6 – CONTINGENCY STATEMENT**

This agreement is contingent upon the passage by Congress of an appropriation from which expenditures may be legally met and shall not obligate USDA-APHIS-WS upon failure of Congress to so appropriate. This agreement may also be reduced or terminated if Congress only provides USDA-APHIS-WS funds for a finite period under a Continuing Resolution.

## **ARTICLE 7 – NON-EXCLUSIVE SERVICE CLAUSE**

Nothing in this agreement shall prevent USDA-APHIS-WS from entering into separate agreements with any other organization or individual for the purpose of providing wildlife damage management services exclusive of those provided for under this agreement.

## **ARTICLE 8 – CONGRESSIONAL RESTRICTIONS**

Pursuant to Section 22, Title 41, United States Code, no member of or delegate to Congress shall be admitted to any share or part of this agreement or to any benefit to arise therefrom.

## **ARTICLE 9 – LAWS AND REGULATIONS**

This agreement is not a procurement contract (31 U.S.C. 6303), nor is it considered a grant (31 U.S.C. 6304). In this agreement, APHIS-WS provides goods or services on a cost recovery basis to nonfederal recipients, in accordance with all applicable laws, regulations and policies.

## **ARTICLE 10 – LIABILITY**

USDA-APHIS-WS assumes no liability for any actions or activities conducted under this agreement except to the extent that recourse or remedies are provided by Congress under the Federal Tort Claims Act (28 U.S.C. 1346(b), 2401(b), and 2671-2680).

## **ARTICLE 11 – NON-DISCRIMINATION CLAUSE**

The United States Department of Agriculture prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.

## **ARTICLE 12 - DURATION, REVISIONS, EXTENSIONS, AND TERMINATIONS**

This agreement shall become effective on 1 July 2023 and shall continue through 30 June 2028, not to exceed five years. This Cooperative Service Agreement may be amended by mutual agreement of the parties in writing. The Cooperator must submit a written request to extend the end date at least 10 days prior to expiration of the agreement. Also, this agreement may be terminated at any time by mutual agreement of the parties in writing, or by one party provided that party notifies the other in writing at least 60 days prior to effecting such action.

[optional] Cooperator PO: \_\_\_\_\_

Further, in the event the Cooperator does not provide necessary funds, USDA-APHIS-WS is relieved of the obligation to provide services under this agreement.

In accordance with the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996, the Department of Treasury requires a Taxpayer Identification Number for individuals or businesses conducting business with the agency.

Cooperator's Tax ID No.: 94-6000513  
APHIS-WS's Tax ID: 41-0696271

Cooperator:  
**Humboldt County**  
**5630 S Broadway**  
**Eureka, CA 95503-6905**

\_\_\_\_\_  
County Representative/Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
**ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE**  
**WILDLIFE SERVICES**  
**3419A Arden Way**  
**Sacramento, CA 95825**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dennis L. Orthmeyer, California State Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Keith P. Wehner, Western Regional Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date