

Project Questionnaire

1. How many conflicts/losses have occurred in the past three years? _____
2. What is the perimeter of the enclosure?

3. Is the project a retrofit or new build?

4. How long will the enclosure be in use (months per year and total lifetime)?

5. What is the post spacing of the enclosure?

6. How many gates will be needed?

7. Will the livestock enclosed change? If so, what will be in the enclosure in the future?

8. Will posts need to be replaced? If so, how many?

9. Is there an available power source nearby? If so, how far from the enclosure?

10. What steps are currently being taken to protect resources?

Call your specialist to get the ball rolling!

Adam Baca
(406)-360-1476

Eligibility

- Producer must be under 18 years of age and possess livestock to be shown as a part of a 4H, or other, agricultural event.
- Producer must assist specialist with installation and any future enclosure maintenance.
- Proof of value of protected livestock must be documented, otherwise national average is applied.
- A legal guardian must agree to have work performed on the specified property/site and be present on the project build date.

Privacy

Personally identifiable information collected is solely for the use of Wildlife Services for the completion and maintenance of the project.

Contact

Conflict Prevention Specialist
Adam Baca
(406)-360-1476

4H Carnivore Conflict Reduction Program



Providing Predator Deterrent Electric Fencing to Montana's Youth Producers

United States Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Wildlife Services-Montana

What Is It?

Wildlife Services works with landowners and producers to protect livestock by retrofitting and electrifying existing enclosures or constructing new electrified enclosures. The purpose of the 4H/Youth Carnivore Conflict Reduction Program is to allocate additional time and resources to engaging with youth (outreach/education, program assistance, and monitoring) to reduce conflicts with large carnivores (bears and wolves). These additional resources are meant **to fully fund 4H/youth conflict prevention projects** in high conflict areas and reduce financial burden on youth producers.



The Numbers

Average cost of fence \$580*

**Covered if eligible*

Maximum life of enclosure -7 years



Participant Expectations

All items (**energizers, electric netting, ground rods, trail cameras, etc.**) are considered to be on “long term loan” and **must be returned when the enclosure is no longer in use.**

Participant or legal guardian **must** inform specialist of any major technical problems or electrical shorts in the enclosure or if additional modifications have been made. Limit of 3 yearly specialist “tune up” visits.

Participant is responsible for regular maintenance of the enclosure (weeding, debris/snow clearing, etc.).

Participant **must** properly use enclosure by ensuring gates/energizers are turned on and functional when livestock are brought in.

How Sites Are Prioritized

Electric fencing is not a viable solution to every conflict depending on size, however, there are criteria used to prioritize where and when projects take place:

- **Location (high vs low risk of loss)**
- **Retrofit vs New Construction**
- **Producer Use**
 - How long will enclosure be used.
- **Collaborators/Partner contributions**
 - Who producer is willing to allow on property

Process

Projects vary from chicken coops to pig enclosures, to night pens, and small pastures. The process is as follows

1. **Site Visit/Phone call-** measurements are taken for blueprints.
2. **Planning-**Blueprints are made along with cost estimate for each exclusion design.
3. **Negotiation-** Producer picks design, and amount contributed.
4. **Timeline-** Set a construction date and get supplies.
5. **Construction-** Build/retrofit exclusionary boundary.

Follow Ups

A specialist will contact the participant or legal guardian on an annual or biannual basis to see if there are issues/how things are going.

Fill out the project questionnaire and contact your Specialist to get started!