



## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. Comments are requested regarding; whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments regarding this information collection received by [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER] will be considered. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain). Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function. An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

### Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

*Title:* A Survey of Livestock Producer Perceptions of Predators and Predator Damage Management Methods.

*OMB Control Number:* 0579–NEW.

*Summary of Collection:* Under the Act of March 2, 1931 (7 U.S.C. 8351), the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to conduct a program of wildlife services with respect to injurious animal species and take any action the Secretary considers necessary in conducting the program. Additionally, the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to conduct activities to control nuisance mammals and birds (except for urban rodent control) and those mammals and bird species that are reservoirs for zoonotic disease. This authority has been delegated to the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Wildlife Services (WS). Two responsibilities of the Deputy Administrator of WS are to assist Federal, State, local, and foreign agencies and individuals regarding wildlife damage and control and conduct research to develop wildlife damage management methods (7 CFR 371.6).

*Need and Use of the Information:* APHIS plans to conduct a survey of livestock producers who 1) experienced livestock loss from predators, 2) worked with WS to try and mitigate losses through WS Nonlethal Initiative programs, and 3) allowed WS State Directors to share their contact information within APHIS to measure respondents' perceptions of various predator damage management methods and willingness to continue using such methods.

Data collected, analyzed, and interpreted from the Livestock Producer Perceptions of Predators and Predator Damage Management Methods study will be disseminated to a variety of constituents, including within APHIS WS and open access or subscription-based journals. Additionally, all data and metadata collected and used in peer-reviewed publications will be made publicly accessible in a data repository per the USDA Departmental Regulation 1020-006. APHIS will not link survey information with respondent name or contact information.

APHIS will use the data collected to:

- Analyze how producers conceptualize losses from predators (i.e., animals missing vs. animal carcasses found vs. confirmed kills);

- Identify any correlations between frequency of communication, trust, and acceptance of nonlethal predator damage management methods suggested by WS;
- Provide input into the WS Nonlethal Initiative programs and WS' damage management policy and outreach; and
- Help inform policy by providing scientifically accurate data.

*Description of Respondents:* Business; Individual or Household.

*Number of Respondents:* 200.

*Frequency of Responses:* Reporting: On occasion; Annually.

*Total Burden Hours:* 265.

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\*Billing Code 3410-34

[FR Doc. 2025-06674 Filed: 4/17/2025 8:45 am; Publication Date: 4/18/2025]