

DEPARTMENT: Agricultural Commissioner

BY: Cathi Boze
PHONE: 966-2075

RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Resolution Seeking an Increased Continuous Appropriation to the USDA/APHIS/WILDLIFE SERVICES Budget to Support California's Cooperative Wildlife Services Program

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

The original agreement with USDA/APHIS/WS for work performed in Mariposa County by the Federal Wildlife Services Specialists was entered into on January 1, 1989. Since that time the County's share of the total cost has increased while that of the other cost share partners has decreased. The program was originally funded 1/3 Federal funds, 1/3 State funds, and 1/3 County funds. As the State has pulled back their funding, the County share has gradually increased to a high of 70% of the total cost, with the Federal government funding the remaining 30%.

This resolution asks that the California congressional delegation support an increase in the share of federal USDA/APHIS/WS funding which goes to California to an equitable amount with other states in the Western Region through an increased continuous appropriation of \$1,200,000. Currently only \$0.04/capita of 23% of the program cost goes to California in comparison to 67% or \$2.50/capita that goes to Wyoming and an average of 40.7% or \$0.197/capita for the states in the Western Region.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

None

Financial Impact? () Yes (x) No	Current FY Cost:	Annual Recurring Cost: \$
Budgeted In Current FY? () Yes () No () Partially Funded		
Amount in Budget: \$ _____		List Attachments, number pages consecutively
Additional Funding Needed: \$ _____		Calaveras County Resolution
Source:		Wildlife Services FY 2001 Funding Actuals
Internal Transfer _____		Proposed Mariposa County Resolution
Unanticipated Revenue _____ 4/5's vote		
Transfer Between Funds _____ 4/5's vote		
Contingency _____ 4/5's vote		
() General () Other		

CLERK'S USE ONLY:

Res. No.: 03-239 Ord. No. _____
 Vote - Ayes: 5 Noes: _____
 Absent: _____
 Approved
 Minute Order Attached No Action Necessary

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER:

Requested Action Recommended
 No Opinion
 Comments: _____

The foregoing instrument is a correct copy of the original on file in this office.

Date: _____
Attest: MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board
County of Mariposa, State of California

By: _____
Deputy

CAO: [Signature]

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF MARIPOSA
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
JUNE 24, 2003

Resolution No. 03-239

A RESOLUTION SEEKING AN INCREASED CONTINUOUS APPROPRIATION TO THE USDA/APHIS/WILDLIFE SERVICES BUDGET TO SUPPORT CALIFORNIA'S COOPERATIVE WILDLIFE SERVICES PROGRAM

WHEREAS, California's share of federal funding for USDA/APHIS/WILDLIFE SERVICES programs accounted for only 25.3% of the total program cost in Fiscal Year 2001 (\$0.043 per capita) as compared to 67.5% for Wyoming (\$2.508 per capita) and an average of 40.7% for the Western Region (\$0.197 per capita) for the same period, and

WHEREAS, California has led the nation in agricultural production for over 50 consecutive years and according to the 1997 U.S. Census of Agriculture ranks third in the nation in livestock and poultry production and is the most populous state in the nation with more than 34,000,000 residents, and

WHEREAS, despite the foregoing national rankings, its vast geographical size, diversity of terrain, habitat, wildlife species, and the fact that California has historically maintained the second largest Cooperative Wildlife Services program in the Western Region, California currently ranks seventeenth in federal funding on a percentage basis out of the nineteen states in the Western Region, and

WHEREAS, the cooperating counties receive professional Wildlife Specialists who provide: public education on coexistence with wildlife in the urban/rural interface; technical assistance on non-lethal methods of addressing conflicts between native wildlife and the human population; protection of public health and safety from attacks by predatory animals; rabies, distemper, encephalitis, and other disease prevention activities; protection against wildlife borne diseases such as rabies, bovine tuberculosis, West Nile Virus, bubonic plague, and Exotic Newcastle Disease; protection of the aviation industry from collisions with birds and other wildlife on and around airports; protection of numerous threatened and endangered wildlife species; removal of feral

pigs and other wildlife which impact both agricultural and urban areas; and protection of livestock, fruit, nut, field, and row crops from depredating wildlife, and

WHEREAS, due to the disproportionately low level of federal funding for the statewide Cooperative Wildlife Services Program in conjunction with California's unprecedented budget deficit, many counties are contemplating drastic reductions to, and/or elimination of these invaluable cooperative federal programs because of the level of county contribution required, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Mariposa hereby requests that all counties with Cooperative Wildlife Services programs unite in calling for support from the California congressional delegation for an increased ongoing appropriation in the USDA/APHIS/WILDLIFE SERVICES Budget of \$1,200,000 for the California Wildlife Services Program to be more reflective of California's size, diversity, and agricultural production, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Mariposa County's representatives to the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) and the Regional Council of Rural Counties (RCRC) are hereby authorized to seek the support of these county organizations and request that they take a lead role in a united effort for securing said increased appropriation.

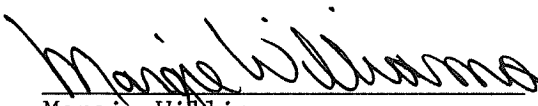
PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Mariposa, State of California June 24, 2003, by the following vote:

AYES:	Stetson, Balmain, Bibby, Parker, Pickard
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	None
ABSTAINED:	None



Bob Pickard, Chair
Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:



Margie Williams
Clerk of the Board