



For Immediate Release
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Governor Signs Bill to Protect Ranching and Farming Families

BOISE, Idaho – Today (February 27, 2019) Governor Brad Little signed SB1039 into law. Rep. Laurie Lickley sponsored the bill on the House floor. It makes the Idaho Wolf Depredation Control Board permanent. The Board directs and manages funds for wolf depredation control in Idaho and was originally scheduled to sunset in June of 2020.

“This law protects Idaho’s rural communities, ranchers, farmers, and sportsmen,” said Rep. Lickley, “and is a long-term solution with a three-way partnership between livestock owners, sportsmen, and the Idaho legislature. Idaho is further ahead than our neighboring states but still has a lot of work to do.”

Wildlife Services has conducted 207 depredation investigations for 115 ranchers in 16 counties in this fiscal year. The take on Idaho wolves by hunters and trappers has leveled out in recent years to about 300 annually. Idaho’s Fish and Game issued over 40,000 permits and extended the season last year.

The bill sailed through the House on a vote of 51-19 last week. It passed the Senate two weeks before that.

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