

DPCA – Skagit Valley Elk-Crop Mitigation

The Washington Legislature appropriated funds for WDFW to use in state fiscal years 2020 and 2021 for cooperative elk management in the Skagit Valley to address impacts of elk on agricultural crop production. The Producer and WDFW recognize the need to work cooperatively to prevent, correct, or minimize damage caused by wildlife, including elk in the Skagit Valley.

Mitigation: The purpose of the mitigation available under this agreement is to recognize the valuable contribution private landholders make to big game (specifically elk) in areas where they frequently inhabit fields producing crops. WDFW will reimburse the Producer for commercially purchased fertilizer or grass type seed to offset wildlife forage loss of orchard type grasses that shall not exceed \$2,500 per year.

Mitigation Payments

- 1) WDFW will only pay the Producer up to a maximum of \$2,500 items listed in Section 6a above as described in this agreement. The maximum amount payable to the Producer shall not exceed \$2,500 annually. WDFW will reimburse the Producer not more than the maximum agreement amount listed on Page 1 of this agreement.
- 2) The Producer must submit a signed itemized invoice (Attachment B) and attach receipts detailing seed and/or fertilizer costs claimed for reimbursement; and the specific amount(s) owed by WDFW. This form must be approved by WDFW in order for the Producer to receive reimbursement. The Producer will submit invoices to WDFW not later than 30 days from the expiration date of this agreement.
- 3) Producer is required to be registered in the Statewide Vendor Payment System prior to submitting a request for payment under this agreement. The Producer must ensure that their Statewide Vendor Payment information and the Producer name on this agreement match prior to requesting any reimbursements. The Washington State Department of Enterprise Services (DES) maintains the Statewide Vendor Payment System; to obtain registration materials contact the Statewide Payee Desk at (360) 407-8180; or go to: <https://ofm.wa.gov/it-systems/statewide-vendorpayee-services>.
- 4) WDFW will not pay the Producer in advance of or in anticipation of allowable costs being incurred by the Producer under this agreement.
- 5) This agreement or any claim arising under this agreement cannot be transferred or assigned by the Producer without prior written consent of WDFW.
- 6) WDFW will not reimburse the Producer for any costs the Producer has charged or will charge the State of Washington or any other party under any other contract or agreement, for the same services or expenses.

What you will need to do to receive payment

- Have elk related damage to an eligible farm and work with local WDFW staff to complete a signed Damage Prevention Cooperative Agreement / Skagit Valley Elk-Crop Mitigation.
- Register in the statewide vendor database (See above)
- Purchase, fertilizer, grass type seed, and/or noxious weed treatment and obtain all receipts from the seller.
- Complete the WDFW invoice and sign as the “Vendor Authorized Signature”
- Once you are registered in the statewide vendor database, have completed the WDFW invoice, and have all original receipts, contact Conflict Specialist Scott Witman (360) 929-0158. Scott will take all the paperwork and submit it to WDFW for payment to you.

Q/A

What if I purchase \$6,500 of fertilizer? Can I be reimbursed for the full amount?

No. You would be reimbursed \$2,500, which is the maximum amount of the contract per year. If you purchase less than \$2,500, you would be reimbursed only for the amount purchased.

How can I take full advantage of reimbursement if I have an agreement that expires 6/30/2021?

To take advantage of this contract it would be best to purchase fertilizer, grass type seed, or noxious weed treatment prior to June 30, 2020 and submit to WDFW for reimbursement. To take advantage of the 2nd year option it would be best to purchase eligible products between 1/1/2021 and June 1, 2021.

For general questions, contact Conflict Specialist Scott Witman at (360) 929-0158

For questions on payment and/or vendor registration, contact Ralf Schreiner at (360) 902-2490