

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0579-XXXX. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 45 minutes per response, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gather the data needed, and complete and review the information collected. Send comments regarding this burden statement or any other aspect of this information collection, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to APHIS.PRA@usda.gov.

OMB Approved 0579-XXXX EXP: XX/202X



Dear [RECIPIENT NAME],

We are writing you to request your help with a survey study on predators and predator damage management in your state. You are among a select group of livestock producers chosen to participate in our survey study, which largely concerns predator damage management assistance provided to you by USDA/APHIS/Wildlife Services. To evaluate the success of the methods and tools used, and the program, we developed this survey study to understand the perspectives and opinions of individuals like yourself who received these services.

To participate in this research, we ask that you please fill out an online questionnaire. The questionnaire should take about 45 minutes to complete. You must be 18 years or older to participate.

To complete the questionnaire, please go to the website: [SHORTENED SURVEY LINK]

To access the questionnaire, please enter the survey website address in your web browser (for example, Internet Explorer, Mozilla Firefox, Safari, Chrome) exactly as it is spelled out above. To do this, you can type the survey link in the web address bar located in the upper left corner of your browser screen. Please note that you CANNOT get to the survey by typing the survey link in a search engine such as Google or Yahoo. **Detailed instructions are printed on the back of this letter.**

Once you have gotten to the website that hosts our questionnaire, you can begin taking the questionnaire by entering the following code <u>in all caps</u> when prompted: [UNIQUE CODE]

Your participation is voluntary, and you may skip any question you do not wish to answer or withdraw at any time; completing the survey indicates your consent to participate. If you are unable to complete the online questionnaire, we will mail you a paper copy that can be returned via USPS.

We will never reveal your identity or any collected information that could be used to identify you. When we report or share the data with others, we will combine the data from everyone who participated in the survey study. Your data will be kept confidential, and any files that link your questionnaire answers to your name and address will be stored separately from the study data in a secure location accessible only to our research team on our network server. While there are no direct benefits to you, the information you provide us is critically important for understanding the viability of using methods to mitigate predator damage to livestock.

If you have any questions about the study, you may reach out to the following researchers:

Hailey Ellis Social Scientist USDA/APHIS/Wildlife Services

Phone: (970) 266-6148

Email: hailey.e.ellis@usda.gov

Keith Carlisle Supervisory Social Scientist USDA/APHIS/Wildlife Services

Phone: (970) 266-6366

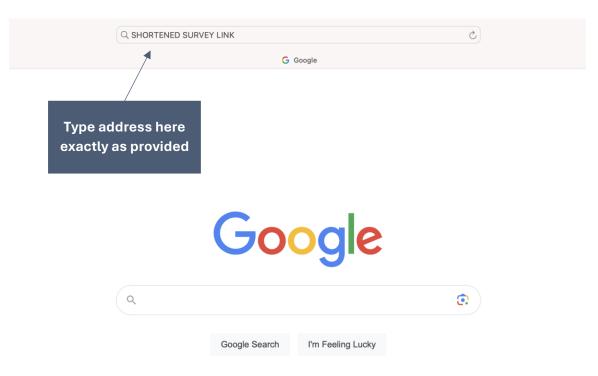
Email: keith.m.carlisle@usda.gov

Hailey Ellis & Keith Carlisle

Type this into the address bar → [SHORTENED SURVEY LINK]
Enter this code → [UNIQUE CODE]

To access the online questionnaire

1. Type the address printed above into your web browser



2. When you get to the survey homepage enter the code printed above in the box at the bottom of the page



Your help on this study is greatly appreciated!

To access this survey, please enter the code below that was provided in the invitation letter you received.

