

1. Does your agency give landowners big game permits or vouchers that they can use or sell to compensate landowners or offset crop damage? If so, are the permits for antlerless animals, bucks/bulls, or both? Please explain the details of these permits or vouchers?

- No, Arizona does not offer any type of landowner permit for big game .

2. Are landowners allowed to remove big game animals depredating on private lands in an effort to protect their agricultural resources? If so, under what circumstances?

- (Arizona) No, except for black bear and mountain lions depredating on livestock - <https://www.azleg.gov/ars/17/00302.htm>

3. Does your agency call depredation hunts to target populations on private lands?

- (Arizona) Yes, Population Management Hunts - Commission Rule R12-4-115 Take of wildlife under a population management hunt if the Commission has prescribed nonpermit-tags by Commission Order for the purpose of meeting management objectives because regular seasons are not, have not been, or will not be sufficient or effective to achieve management objectives.

https://apps.azsos.gov/public_services/Title_12/12-04.pdf page 23

4. Does your agency have “private lands only” permits that are issued to the public, or a similar program that promotes hunting on private property?

- No

5. What type of landowner incentive programs does your agency have that promotes wildlife and allows public hunters on private property (e.g., ranching for wildlife in CO or CWMU’s in UT - programs where landowners financially benefit from big game)?

- For Arizona see <https://www.azgfd.com/wildlife/landowners/> Habitat Partnership Committee and Habitat Enhancement Program fund projects that are often mutually beneficial to livestock operators and wildlife. Adopt-A-Ranch and Landowner Respect programs help mitigate the impacts of public recreation on private and public land livestock operations. The Landowner Relations program funds both habitat projects that mutually benefit wildlife and livestock and provides financial incentives for public recreational access to and through private lands.

6. Does your agency provide damage payments or fencing for big game on private lands? If so, how much per year is paid and how is it funded?

- Arizona does not fund big game exclusion fencing projects with private landowners.
- The Landowner Relations and Habitat Enhancement Program can provide funding for conversion to or installation of wildlife friendly fencing if the current fencing is not conducive to wildlife movement. Projects are funded opportunistically with no set dollar amount per year.

7. What mitigation measures does your agency employ to reduce big game damage (e.g., provide temporary fencing, hazing animals, agency removals of big game)?

- In Arizona, on occasion we use hazing but it has had limited effectiveness. We use our population management hunts to address specific issues then adapt those hunts into our permitted draw cycle if appropriate.

8. Does your agency have an urban deer program? If so, what does that entail?

- Arizona does not.

9. What other programs does your agency have in place to promote tolerance of big game on private lands?

- N/A for Arizona.

10. Does your agency respond to all wildlife conflict calls or is it limited to specific species or guilds of species?

- Yes, in Arizona, we respond to all calls that involve protected wildlife. We have permitted wildlife services agents we refer property owners to for species other than big game.

11. What program(s) in your agency provide response to negative wildlife interaction (wildlife conflict) complaints and depredation. If the responsibility is split or shared between programs (i.e. Wildlife Program/Enforcement Program) or contracted or referred to another agency or private party, please describe how the work is assigned or shared. (e.g. by species, commercial agriculture versus residential, public safety versus property damage, etc.)

- The State of Arizona Livestock Loss Board was established to address the economic impacts of wolves on individual producers by reimbursing confirmed and probable wolf caused losses, help to reduce their losses by approving projects and funding programs that will discourage and prevent wolves from killing livestock, provide funding for Pay for Presence, and seek appropriate levels of secure funding to support the actions of the Board.

- Human Wildlife Interactions are responded to by Wildlife Managers as part of their normal duties. This includes issues of public safety as well as public nuisance. Depending on the scope of the issue (ie coyotes in urban areas) this may be referred to Wildlife Services. Ungulate depredation issues may also be investigated by Wildlife Managers. This can result in the initiation of PMH hunts or changes to our annual hunt structure.

12. Please describe what funding sources support wildlife conflict response and depredation payments if applicable in your agency. Please include specifics regarding where the funding comes from for expenses such as staff and equipment, commercial crop loss compensation, livestock predation compensation, non-lethal deterrent programs, outreach and education, or any other services or materials provided in response to wildlife conflict issues.

- In Arizona, wildlife conflict responses are completed by Commissioned officers (wildlife managers) in our Field Operations Division. These positions are funded with stage game and fish funds generated from the sales of hunting and fishing licenses. Arizona receives no state tax dollars.