MN Wolf Livestock Depredation Grants

Fiscal Year 2027 Grant Request for Proposal (RFP)

Applications due by 4 p.m. Central Time (CT) on Friday, December 18, 2026
09/29/2026 (RFP release date)
Minnesota Department of Agriculture
625 Robert Street N
St. Paul, MN 55155
mda.state.mn.us

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Grant Summary

Overview

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) is now accepting applications for Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 Wolf Livestock Depredation grant program.

The Wolf Livestock Depredation Grant is offered by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture to help producers protect livestock depredation by wolves. Funding for this program is made available from the United States Fish and Wildlife Services awarded to the MDA under assistance listing number 15.666 – Endangered Species Conservation-Wolf Livestock Loss Compensation and Prevention.

Eligible applicants include: livestock producers within Minnesota's wolf range (available from MN DNR website) or on property otherwise determined by the Commissioner to be affected by wolf depredation of livestock.

Applications must reduce the likelihood of wolf depredation. Eligible projects may include:

- Purchase of guard animals
- Veterinary costs for guard animals
- Fencing or other barriers
- Wolf-deterring lights and/or alarms
- Animal shelters

Applications will be accepted until 4 p.m. Central Time (CT) on Friday, December 18, 2026. Information about the program is available on the Wolf Livestock Depredation Grant program webpage.

Funding availability

We will award $25,000 using a competitive review process. The maximum award to a project is $10,000 and the minimum is $500.

We anticipate awarding between 5 to 10 funded projects, but the final number depends on the size of awards and will be determined through the proposal review process.

We expect most grant contract agreements to start by April 2027. Applicants should anticipate that grant contracts will have an end date in October, 2027.

Match requirement

A 20% cost-share will be required. For example, for a $5,000 project, only $4,000 will be reimbursable from grant funds.

Priorities

It is the policy of the State of Minnesota to ensure fairness, precision, equity, and consistency in competitive grant awards. This includes implementing diversity and inclusion in grant-making. The Department of Administration Office of Grants Management (OGM) establishes the expectation that grant programs intentionally show how the grant serves diverse populations, especially populations experiencing inequities or disparities (OGM Policy 08-02: Rating Criteria for Competitive Grant Review (PDF)). Applicants conducting projects that are led by, impact or serve Native American Tribal Communities are encouraged to apply.

This grant program will prioritize livestock producers with recent, documented wolf depredation.

This priority and the desired impacts/outcomes of grant projects are reflected in the Project Evaluation Profile, which describes the scoring criteria and weight that will be used by reviewers to evaluate your application.

How to apply

Applications must be received no later than **4 p.m.** CT on Friday, December 18, 2026**.** Late applications will not be accepted.

Apply using our online application system. If you're a new user, you need to create an account first. Use this how-to guide (PDF) to help set up your account.

Once logged in, select "Wolf Livestock Depredation Grant 2027." After you have submitted your application, you will receive a confirmation email. Contact mn_mda_elkandwolf@state.mn.us if you do not receive this email.

Apply early so there is enough time to get help with the online application system if needed. It's best practice to submit your application at least 24 hours in advance.

For help using the online application system:

- Call 651-201-6400
- Email mn_mda_elkandwolf@state.mn.us with "Wolf Livestock Depredation Grants Online Application Help" in the subject line. We encourage reaching out for help early as we may not be able to assist with last-minute requests.

We are not responsible for any technical or logistical problems that result in a late submission. It is your responsibility as the applicant to ensure we receive your application before the deadline.

Incomplete applications will be rejected and not evaluated. Do not provide any materials that are not requested in this RFP; these materials will not be considered nor evaluated. The MDA reserves the right to reject any application that does not meet the requirements of this RFP.

By applying, each applicant warrants that the information provided is true, correct, and reliable for purposes of evaluation for potential grant award. The submission of inaccurate or misleading information may be grounds for disqualification from the award, as well as subject the applicant to suspension or debarment proceedings and other remedies available to the State by law.

The applicant is responsible for all costs associated with submitting a response to this RFP.

How to submit questions

For questions about the grant program or application:
Submit your question in writing before by **4 p.m.** CT on **December 11, 2026**.
Email mn_mda_elkandwolf@state.mn.us with "grant question" in the subject line.
The MDA will post responses to program questions on the Questions and Answers (Q&A) section of the Wolf Livestock Depredation webpage as we receive them.

MDA employees are not authorized to give applicants advice on their applications. Applicants who solicit or receive advice from unauthorized MDA employees may be disqualified from eligibility for a grant award.

Application guidelines

- Use plain, easily understood language. Write for reviewers who have general knowledge but may not have a thorough or deep understanding of your project, organization, or industry.
- Answer all questions completely within the character limits specified in the grant application.
- Although some questions are labeled as optional, we strongly recommend responding to those questions or uploading the appropriate documents.
- Ensure your application is your own, unique proposal designed to respond to the RFP.
- Make your budget realistic, include only eligible items, and clearly explain how the money will be spent.
- Review the Project Evaluation Profile included in this RFP, as it is used to score and compare grant applications.

Timeline and deadlines

September 29, 2026	RFP posted on the MDA website.
December 11, 2026 at 4 p.m. CT	Deadline to ask grant program questions.
December 18, 2026 at 4 p.m. CT	Applications due.
January 2026 – February 2026	Phase one review.
March 2027	Phase two review (pre-award risk assessments).
April 2027	Applicants notified of award decisions.
April 2027	Earliest expected project start date.

We anticipate grant contract agreements to start by April 2027 and end no later than October 2027. Grant contract agreements will not be extended.

If selected, grantees may only incur eligible expenditures when the grant contract agreement is fully executed (signed by all parties), the grant agreement has reached its effective date, and the grantee has been notified that they may begin work.

Eligibility

Eligible applicants

Applicants must meet the minimum requirements to be considered for this grant opportunity.

Applicants must:

- Be livestock producers in Minnesota,
- Be located on Minnesota's wolf range or on property determined by the commissioner to be affected by wolf-livestock conflicts. The Minnesota wolf range can be found on the DNR website, and
- Meet the requirements of the Pre-award Risk Assessment.

MDA employees, their spouses/domestic partners, or nonprofit organizations principally operated by them or their spouses/domestic partners are not eligible applicants and are not eligible to receive funds from this grant program. In the application, applicants must also disclose the names and roles of any MDA employees or their spouses/domestic partners who are part of their organization's leadership, board of directors, or governing body.

Eligible projects

Eligible projects will:

- Not affect eligibility for depredation compensation payments under Minnesota Statute 3.737 and Minnesota Rule 1515.
- Be completed in 6 months or less. Contracts cannot be extended beyond October 2027.
- Be conducted in Minnesota.
- Not start until the grant contract is signed by all parties and has reached its start date whichever is later.

Project examples include but are not limited to projects that:

- The purchase of guard animals
- Veterinary costs for guard animals
- Fencing or other barriers to exclude wolves

- Fladry, lights or alarms or other proven wolf deterrents
- Animal shelters for calving, lambing, etc.

Eligible expenses

Examples of eligible expenses for this grant program include but are not limited to:

- The purchase of guard animals
- Veterinary costs for guard animals
- Fencing or other barriers to exclude wolves
- Fladry, lights or alarms or other proven wolf deterrents
- Animal shelters for calving, lambing, etc.

All costs must be reasonable, necessary, justifiable, and directly tied to the proposed project.

If the MDA accepts your proposal, the MDA will reimburse eligible costs included in the MDA-approved project budget. You must be invoiced and pay for all items and services between the contract start and end date listed in your grant contract agreement. All requests for reimbursement must be documented and submitted to the MDA no later than thirty calendar days after the grant end date. Any expenses incurred outside of this timeframe are not eligible for reimbursement.

If the MDA accepts your proposal, the MDA will reimburse eligible costs included in the MDA-approved project budget. All work must be completed during the effective dates of the contract; invoices must clearly indicate when the item was purchased or when the service was performed. All requests for reimbursement must be documented and submitted to the MDA no later than thirty calendar days after the grant end date.

All costs must be reasonable, necessary, justifiable, and directly tied to your project as outlined in the US Fish and Wildlife Services General Terms and Conditions (PDF). You can also contact us with questions about eligible expenses.

Ineligible expenses

- Expenditures, including pre-ordering, incurred before the grant contract agreement is signed by all parties and reached its start date, whichever occurs later, or those incurred after the grant contract agreement expires. Examples of obligations include purchase orders, retainer agreements, sales orders and any transaction creating and invoice.
    - Obtaining bids and quotes is allowed before the grant contract agreement is executed; however, accepting these bids/quotes before execution of the grant contract agreement is not allowed.
- Expenses paid for with cash.
- Gift cards or vouchers; gas cards; and other forms of pre-paid cards, vouchers, or compensation.
- General operating costs, overhead, or indirect costs (expenses of doing business that are not readily identified with the project).
- Donations and in-kind contributions, including property and services, made by the applicant (regardless of the recipient).

- Taxes, except sales tax on goods and services and payroll taxes.
- Fines, penalties, and other settlement expenses resulting from failure of the applicant to follow federal, state, local, or Tribal nation laws and regulations, including parking and traffic violations.
- Fundraising.
- Lobbyists and political contributions.
- Late payment fees, finance charges, bad debts, fees for legal services, or contingency funds.
- Out-of-state shipping, transportation and travel expenses. Minnesota will be considered the home state for determining whether travel is out of state. Contact the grant administrator for research-specific exceptions.
- Construction and renovation of buildings and structures.
- Purchasing items and services where there is a conflict of interest.
    - Any equipment or services purchased from a family member as defined in the Internal Revenue Code, Section 267(c)(4), including siblings, parents, grandchildren, and spouses.
    - Any equipment or services purchased from a business or other entity with which you or your spouse own an interest, or an entity of which you are an employee.
    - Purchases of items and services from staff, board members, farms owned/operated by staff or board members, or other individuals with whom they have an actual, potential, or perceived conflict of interest. (See Conflicts of Interest section for more information).
    - Purchases of items or services from MDA employees, their spouses/domestic partners, or any farms or businesses owned or principally operated by them or their spouses/domestic partners.
- Expenses that have been or will be reimbursed under any federal, state, or local government funding or other grants (e.g., no “double dipping”).
- Advertising, public relations, entertainment, alcohol, and amusement costs.
- Work completed outside of the state of Minnesota, unless receiving prior approval from the MDA
- Equipment purchases such as ATV’s
- Leasing of equipment.
- Costs for the conversion or retrofitting of equipment.
- Purchase of drones.

The purchases listed above are not an exhaustive list. Other purchases not explicitly listed here may be deemed ineligible by MDA staff or Commissioner.

Application Review Process

Review process

Funding will be awarded through a competitive process. The MDA reserves the right to offer partial awards based on an assessment of the proposal, the pool of applicants, funding availability, or overall objectives of the grant program.

There will be two phases of the review process.

Phase One: Initial Review

During the first phase of the review process, MDA staff and external reviewers will evaluate all eligible applications based on the criteria and weight in the Project Evaluation Profile. Grant reviewers will be members of MDA, DNR, USDA, Farm Bureau, Farmers Union, MN Cattlemen and MN Lamb & Wool Producers. Reviewers and staff will meet and discuss the proposals and then recommend projects for whole or partial funding to the Commissioner of Agriculture, who reviews the recommendations and makes the award decisions.
In addition to the Project Evaluation Profile, reviewers, staff, and the Commissioner may consider:

- Geographic distribution of projects
- Delivery of services to prioritized areas or stakeholders
- An applicant's history as a state grantee, including performance on previous grants, compliance with state rules and regulations, and capacity to perform the work.

The timeline for the review process is listed in the Timeline and Deadlines section.

Phase two: SWIFT vendor verification and pre-award risk assessment

SWIFT vendor verification

All applicants that advance to phase two of the review process will also need to register as an individual payee or supplier with Minnesota's SWIFT system, if they do not already have an account. Those that already have SWIFT account will need to verify that the information in their account is accurate. Applicants will be asked to provide their SWIFT vendor ID number and SWIFT vendor name (the name you are doing business under) during this phase.

Pre-award risk assessment

The MDA is required to consider a grant applicant's past performance and financial and operational capacity before awarding grants, in accordance with MINN. STAT. 16B.981, Subd.2-5, OGM Policy 08-02: Policy on Rating Criteria for Competitive Grant Review (PDF) and OGM Policy 08-06: Pre-award Risk Assessment of Potential Grantees (PDF).

During the second phase of the review process, applicants that have been advanced from the first phase of review will be contacted by MDA staff and requested to submit:

- Certification that you or your entity has not been suspended or debarred by the State of Minnesota or with the federal government. See the Suspended and Debarred Vendors, Minnesota Office of State Procurement and System for Award Management (SAM.gov).
- Certification that neither you, your entities nor any key personnel, board members, officers, executives, employees, or agents, and any individual with authority to access, manage or use grant funds has been convicted of a criminal offense relating to a State grant agreement. (Minn. Stat. 16B.991 Subd. 1).

- Documentation that it is in good standing with the Office of the Secretary of State for Limited Liability and Corporate Farms only.

If the MDA determines that the applicant has substantial risks that inhibit its ability to perform the required duties under the grant contract agreement, then the MDA may either request more information for the purpose of satisfying the concerns, develop a risk mitigation plan to protect the interests of the state, or not award the grant.

Award notice

The MDA will notify applicants, both successful and unsuccessful, in writing.

Conflicts of interest

State grant policy requires that steps and procedures are in place to prevent individual and organizational conflicts of interest, both in reference to applicants and reviewers (MINN. STAT. 16B.98, subd. 2-3 and OGM Policy 08-01: Grants Conflict of Interest (PDF)).
Organizational conflicts of interest occur when:

- A grantee or applicant is unable or potentially unable to give impartial assistance or advice to the MDA due to competing duties or loyalties.
- A grantee's or applicant's objectivity in carrying out the grant is or might be otherwise impaired due to competing duties or loyalties.

In cases where a conflict of interest is suspected, disclosed, or discovered, the applicant(s) or grantee(s) will be notified and actions may be pursued, including but not limited to, revising the grant work plan, amending the grantee duties in the grant contract agreement to mitigate the conflict of interest, requesting the grant applicant to submit an conflict of interest mitigation plan for MDA's review, disqualification from eligibility for the grant award, or termination of the grant contract agreement.

Grantees may generally not purchase items and services from staff, board members, farms owned/operated by staff or board members, or other individuals with whom they have an actual, potential, or perceived conflict of interest. If grantees want to consider any of these individuals/organizations when making purchases, they must submit a conflict-of-interest disclosure and mitigation plan to the MDA for pre-approval. The plan must address how any conflicts of interest will be mitigated, including a plan for selecting vendors that includes meaningful involvement from non-board/staff members.

Grantees may not purchase items or services from MDA employees, their spouses/domestic partners, or any farms or businesses owned or principally operated by them or their spouses/domestic partners.

Privacy notice and data classification

The information provided by an applicant will be used to assess the applicant's eligibility to receive a grant under this program. The decision to apply for this grant is voluntary, and applicants are not legally required to provide any of the requested information. Applicants may decline to complete this application without any legal consequence. However, only completed applications will be considered for a grant; incomplete applications will not be considered.

Data provided in this application is initially classified by the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act as private or nonpublic, although some or all of the data will generally become public at various points of the application process unless the data are otherwise classified not public by state or federal law. Access to private or nonpublic data is limited to those authorized by law, including but not necessarily limited to MDA staff and contractors with a valid work assignment to access the data, parties authorized by the applicant, parties identified in a valid court order or federal subpoena, Minnesota Management and Budget, Minnesota Department of Administration, the state auditor, and the legislative auditor. If necessary, the MDA may also share the data with law enforcement or the office of the attorney general. Per Minnesota's statute on grants (MINN. STAT. 13.599):

- Names and addresses of grant applicants, and the grant amount requested, will be public data once application responses are opened.
- All remaining data in proposal responses (except for data otherwise classified by law, including trade secret information as described below) becomes public data after the evaluation process is completed.
- All data created or maintained by the MDA as part of the evaluation process (except trade secret information) will generally be public data after the evaluation process is completed.

Procedure for claiming protection of trade secrets:

- Trade secret information is classified as not public data. In order to qualify as trade secret information, the data in question must be provided to the MDA by the affected person (i.e., the data must be about the applicant) and otherwise meet the legal definition found in statute (MINN. STAT. 13.37, subd. 1(b)). In order for an applicant to assert trade secret protection for data submitted as part of this application: the applicant must: 1) clearly identify the specific formula, pattern, compilation, program, device, method, technique, or process that the applicant believes to be trade secret information; 2) describe what efforts the applicant takes to maintain the secrecy of the data; and 3) adequately explain how the data derive(s) independent economic value from not being generally known to, and not readily ascertainable by proper means by, other persons. Merely asserting trade secret protection does not, in and of itself, classify the data in question as not public; determining what data meet the definition of trade secret information is ultimately the legal responsibility of the MDA, and the MDA cannot guarantee that data identified as trade secret information by an applicant will be classified as such. If the MDA determines that data do not meet the definition of trade secret information, the data in question will be available to the public unless the applicant secures a court order saying otherwise.

All persons, businesses, and individuals applying for grants in the state of Minnesota must comply with applicable laws. Under the law titled Right of Setoff (MINN. STAT. 270C.65, subd. 3), a grantee consents to disclosure of its social security number, federal employer tax identification number, and/or Minnesota tax identification number, already provided to the State of Minnesota, to federal and state tax agencies, and to state personnel involved in the payment of state obligations. These identification numbers may be used in the enforcement of federal and state tax laws which could result in action requiring a grantee to file state tax returns and pay delinquent state tax liabilities, if any.

Requirements for Grant Recipients

Grant contract agreement

Each grantee must formally enter into a grant contract agreement with the MDA. The grant contract agreement will address the conditions of the award, including implementation for the project. Grant contract agreement templates are available for review on the OGM Forms and FAQs webpage. The MDA reserves the right to adjust these templates.

Upon approval of an application and before beginning work on the grant project and incurring any grant expenses, the applicant selected for a grant award must:

- If required, submit other documentation and certifications within 15 calendar days of award notification.
- Read and sign a grant contract agreement within 30 calendar days of being sent to the grantee. Failure to sign the contract within 30 calendar days may result in the award being rescinded.

You cannot begin work on grant activities -- or incur any grant expenses or incur an obligation to pay on goods or services for the grant project -- until a fully executed grant contract agreement is in place and you have been notified by the State's Authorized Representative that work may start.

- Examples of incurring "obligations to pay" include pre-ordering goods and services, creating a purchase order, sales order, retainer agreement or any other transaction that creates an invoice.
- Obtaining bids and quotes is allowed before the grant contract agreement is executed; however, accepting these bids/quotes before execution of the grant contract agreement is not allowed In other words, you cannot contract with vendors or purchase any equipment before the requirements listed above are met.

A fully executed grant contract agreement is one that has been signed by all parties and reached its start date, whichever is later. You must comply with the conditions and the grant contract agreement, and you will be legally responsible for assuring implementation of the work plan, grantee duties and compliance with all applicable state requirements including worker's compensation insurance, nondiscrimination, data privacy, budget compliance, and reporting.

Project Changes

Some changes may become necessary during your project. Before making any changes to your project, grantees should consult with the State's Authorized Representative listed in their contract about those

changes. Changes that alter the scope, objectives, outcomes, key personnel or staff time devoted to the project, work plan, or budget may require approval from the MDA and may require an amendment to the grant contract agreement.

Accountability and reporting

It is the policy of the State of Minnesota to monitor progress on state grants by requiring grantees to submit written progress reports until all grant funds have been expended and all of the terms in the grant agreement have been met.

Grantees will be required to submit a final report on the completion of the project. Grant payments shall not be made on grants with past due progress reports unless the MDA has given the grantee a written extension.
Applicants should be aware of the following:

- The MDA reserves the right to modify reporting requirements throughout the grant.
- Failure to regularly report, respond to surveys, and promptly respond to information requests may impact the grantee's ability to secure future funding from the MDA or other state agencies.
- Information submitted in any report or survey will be classified as public data. If the grantee considers any information in the report to be trade secret, the grantee may request that the trade secret information be kept confidential and must specifically label that information. The MDA will notify the grantee if a public records request is made for the information claimed as protected by the grantee.

Payments

Grant funds are disbursed on a reimbursement basis. All requests for reimbursement must correspond to the approved grant budget and be tied to documented progress on the approved project. The MDA will review each request for reimbursement against the approved grant budget, grant expenditures to-date, and the latest grant progress report before approving payment.

Reimbursement requests will need to include two types of cost documentation for each expense: proof of purchase (e.g., invoices, itemized receipts, payroll reports or timesheets) and proof of payment (e.g., cleared checks, bank and credit card statements, paystubs). Ineligible items and their cost must be clearly delineated in the proof of purchase.

The MDA will review the submitted documents and determine if any additional documentation needs to be submitted by the grantee. Any additional documentation must be submitted by the grantee and reviewed and approved by the grant administrator before the MDA provides the reimbursement. Additional details can be found in the MDA Reimbursement Guide (PDF).
Applicants should be aware of the following:

- Matching contributions will require the same cost documentation as other expenses being reimbursed by grant funds.
- Grant payments will not be made on grants with past-due progress reports or if required documentation related to the invoice or financial reconciliation is missing, unless the MDA has given the grantee a written extension.

- Grantee will submit requests for reimbursement at the completion of the project. Office of Grant Management policy 08-09.]
- All requests for reimbursement must be submitted to the MDA no later than 30 calendar days after the grant end date.
- Grant payments may be used to fulfill federal and state tax liabilities or may be withheld until the grantee has paid any tax liabilities (MINN. STAT. 270C.65, subd. 3 and other applicable laws).
- The MDA retains the option to hold back the final 10 percent of each grant award until the final report is submitted unless otherwise approved by the MDA.
- The MDA may request that grantees who have not completed the project described in their proposal at the completion of the performance period return any grant funds.

Bidding requirements

All grantees must follow the State's bidding requirements when buying supplies or services based on their entity type and the cost of the purchase.

Individuals and nongovernmental entities

Grantees that are nongovernmental entities, including businesses, nonprofits, and individuals, must use these guidelines:

- Any services and/or materials that are expected to cost $100,000 or more must use a formal notice and bidding process.
- Services and/or materials that are expected to cost between $25,000 and $99,999 must be competitively awarded based on a minimum of three verbal quotes or bids or be awarded to a targeted vendor.
- Services and/or materials that are expected to cost between $10,000 and $24,999 must be competitively awarded based on a minimum of two verbal quotes or bids or be awarded to a targeted vendor.
- The grantee must take all necessary affirmative steps to ensure that targeted vendors from businesses with active certifications through these entities are used when possible:
    - Office of State Procurement- Targeted Group, Economically Disadvantaged, and Veteran-Owned Vendor (TG/ED/VO) List
    - Metropolitan Council Underutilized Business (MCUB) Program Directory
    - Central Certification (CERT) Directory
- The grantee must maintain written standards of conduct covering conflicts of interest and governing their actions and the actions of its employees in the selection, award and administration of contracts..
- The grantee must maintain support documentation of the purchasing or bidding process used to contract services in their financial records, including support documentation justifying a single source bid, if applicable.
- Notwithstanding the above, the MDA may waive bidding process requirements when:

    - Vendors included in the response to a competitive grant request for proposal process were approved and incorporated as an approved work plan for the grant; or
    - It is determined there is only one reasonably able and available source for such materials or services and that the grantee has established a fair and reasonable price.
- The grantee and any subrecipients/subcontractors must comply with prevailing wage rules, as applicable (MINN. STAT. 177.41 through MINN. STAT. 177.50).
- The grantee and any subrecipients/subcontractors must not contract with vendors who are suspended or debarred by the State of Minnesota or the federal government. See Suspended and Debarred Vendors, Minnesota Office of State Procurement and System for Award Management (SAM.gov).

Grantee website and publicity

All grant projects must publicly credit the MDA funding in all public communications, presentations, printed materials, and on the grantee's website. Additionally, grantees with a website must clearly post on their website the names and contact information for the grantee's leadership and the employee(s) or other person(s) who directly manages and oversees the grant contract agreement on behalf of the grantee (the authorized representative) Policy 08-04: Rating Criteria for Competitive Grant Review (PDF) and Minn. Stat. 16B.98, subd. 5 (d).

Grantee obligation to inform

Throughout the term of the grant agreement, the grantee has an ongoing responsibility to:

- Immediately notify the State if the grantee, its Authorized Representative, key personnel, board members, officers, executives, employees, agents, or any individual with authority to access, manage, or use grant funds—is suspended or debarred from doing business with the State of Minnesota or the federal government; or is convicted of a criminal offense related to a State grant agreement.
- Obtain prior written approval from the State's Authorized Representative before making any changes to the approved budget or work plan incorporated into the Grant Contract Agreement.

Grantee evaluation

Prior to the closeout of the grant, the MDA will evaluate the performance of all grantees. The evaluation will include the purpose of the grant; the amount provided to the grantee; information about the grantee's timeliness, quality, and overall performance in meeting the terms and objectives of the grant; if the grant was terminated; and any concerns with grantee's use of State funds. Evaluations of grantee performance for grant contract agreements greater than $25,000 must be provided by the MDA to the Minnesota Department of Administration (MINN.STAT. 16B.98, subd. 12). Evaluations are considered public data (MINN. STAT. 13.599).

Audits and record retention

The grantee's books, records, documents, and accounting procedures and practices of the grantee or other party that are relevant to the grant or transaction are subject to examination by the commissioner

of administration, the MDA, the state auditor, the attorney general, and the legislative auditor as appropriate (MINN. STAT. 16B.98, subd. 8). This requirement will last for a minimum of six years from the grant contract agreement end date, approval of all final reports, or the required period of time to satisfy all state and program retention requirements, whichever is later.
Grantees are responsible for the retention of documents and records relevant to their grants. Grantees should maintain a project file containing copies of all invoices, payroll records, receipts, proofs of payment, reimbursement requests, important correspondence with the MDA, progress reports, and any other documents associated with the project. Upon request by the State, the grantee shall produce a legible copy of the records saved in their project file.

Affirmative action and nondiscrimination

The grantee agrees not to discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, gender identity, marital status, status in regard to public assistance, membership or activity in a local commission, disability, sexual orientation, familial status, or age in regard to any position for which the employee or applicant for employment is qualified (MINN. STAT. 363A.02). The grantee agrees to take affirmative steps to employ, advance in employment, upgrade, train, and recruit minority persons, women, and persons with disabilities.
The grantee must not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of physical or mental disability in regard to any position for which the employee or applicant for employment is qualified. The grantee agrees to take affirmative action to employ, advance in employment, and otherwise treat qualified disabled persons without discrimination based upon their physical or mental disability in all employment practices such as the following: employment, upgrading, demotion or transfer, recruitment, advertising, layoff or termination, rates of pay or other forms of compensation, and selection for training, including apprenticeship (Minnesota Rules, part 5000.3500).
The grantee agrees to comply with the rules and relevant orders of the Minnesota Department of Human Rights issued pursuant to the Minnesota Human Rights Act.

Voter registration

The grantee will provide voter registration services for its employees and for the public served by the grantee (MINN. STAT. 201.162).

Right of Cancellation

This RFP does not obligate the MDA to award any grant(s). The State reserves the right to cancel this RFP if it is considered to be in the best interest of the program, agency, or the State of Minnesota. The State also reserves the right to negotiate modifications to the application or to reject any and all applications received as a result of this RFP. The State does not intend to award a grant contract agreement solely on the basis of any response made to this RFP or pay for information solicited or obtained.

Project Evaluation Profile

Evaluation criteria for FY 2026-2027 [Name of Grant Program]	Maximum score
• Documented livestock depredation by wolves	10
• Completeness of application	5
• Demonstrated knowledge to implement project	5
• Effectiveness of tactics at preventing depredation	5
• Cost efficiency of project	5
• Previous wolf depredation grants received (-1 per $1,000 granted in the past)	0
Total	**30**