

# COUNTY OF TEHAMA

## Department of Agriculture

1834 Walnut Street • P.O. Box 38 • Red Bluff, CA 96080

PHONE: (530) 527-4504 • FAX: (530) 529-1049

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April 21, 2026

Coral Ferrin  
Personnel Director, Tehama County  
727 Oak Street  
Red Bluff, CA 96080

Dear Coral,

This is a request to address the Board of Supervisors to create the Class Specifications for the Wildlife Specialist/Liaison position within the Department of Agriculture. This request is to add a newly created class specification within the Position Allocation List.

This memo contains the justification for the implementation of this class specification, and the budgetary implications.

I am submitting this request to formally recommend the allocation of a Wildlife Specialist/Liaison within the Department of Agriculture. Our department has been without a dedicated wildlife professional for several years, and the addition of this class specification would assist in public safety, livestock protection, and regulatory compliance.

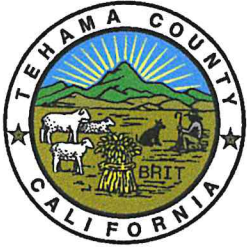
In recent years, we have experienced an increase in predatory wildlife activity, resulting in potential elevated risks to human health and welfare, higher levels of livestock depredation, and a substantial rise in public inquiries and complaints. These issues require specialized expertise, rapid response capability, and consistent coordination with federal, state, and local agencies—functions that fall squarely within the responsibilities of a Wildlife Specialist/Liaison.

The lack of this position directly limits our ability to:

- Enforce applicable federal, state, and local wildlife laws and regulations.
- Investigate and respond to predatory incidents affecting residents and agricultural operations.
- Provide technical guidance to producers experiencing livestock losses.
- Address public safety concerns with timely, science-based recommendations.
- Coordinate with wildlife management partners on prevention, mitigation, and control strategies.
- Offer community education on coexistence, reporting procedures, and risk reduction.

Given the increase of wildlife-related incidents, and the increase of public concerns, the implementation of a Wildlife Specialist/Liaison is essential to fulfilling our legal obligations and maintaining the safety and stability of our agricultural community. This position would restore our capacity to manage predatory concerns proactively, respond effectively to incidents, and uphold the regulatory standards expected of our department.

For these reasons, I strongly recommend that this position be added as soon as possible.



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Budgetary implications: This request, if granted, would increase the department's Salary and Benefits accounts (51010-51050) by approximately \$109,149.90 annually. The department will use Unclaimed Gas Tax (UGT) funds to support the position. If additional or alternate funding sources become available, we will adjust the budget accordingly during the Adopted or Mid-Year budget review.

Sincerely,

Thomas A. Moss