

**Department of Livestock
2025 Biennium Goals and Objectives**

Here to serve the people of Montana and its livestock industry.

Mission:

To control and eradicate animal diseases, prevent the transmission of animal diseases to humans and to protect the livestock industry from theft and predatory animals.

Goal:

Serve Montana's Livestock Producers and livestock related businesses by fostering, growing, promoting, and protecting the livestock industry.

Objectives:

- Support Value Added Processing in state.
 - Promote CIS opportunity to state inspected facilities and those considering USDA
 - Achieve full (90%) staffing for the Food Safety program
 - Maintain Progress on new VDL Construction
 - Complete red tape review and regulatory changes to enhance commerce
 - Develop Inspection Scheduling request and routing using technology
 - Effectively monitor milk pricing and promote stability among dairy producers and processors

- Effectively Monitor Animal Health Disease Prevalence in Montana.
 - Tracking DSA Compliance Consistently
 - Tracking Lab testing for federally reportable disease
 - Complete Exercise of Response to Foreign Animal Disease
 - Improve in state compliance and interstate export perceptions on brucellosis
 - Increase and improve services offered by MVDL to achieve industry standard full service
 - Improve electronic capture of animal identification and movement data for efficient animal tracing during disease investigations

- Maintain Integrity in Livestock Identification, Marketing and Movement.
 - Implement new livestock brand policy; prepare for increased workload
 - Conduct targeted truck stop and enforcement activity across the state
 - Develop process for tracking and reconciling online and paper market permits to destination market for better compliance
 - Conduct compliance audit on livestock markets and dealers
 - Target enforcement of brand lien requirement to protect banks and prevent disruption in market competition

- Improve Online and Digital Services for Real Time Data and Improve Speed of Commerce.
 - Integrate Brand Enforcement application to automate inspection, markets, compliance, audit, and enforcement
 - Upgrade Animal Health Division's last major legacy software application increasing customer support, security, and reporting capabilities

- Implement Google AI and Snowflake data capture and reporting applications
- Complete 100% Departmental process automation

- Provide for control of predatory animals and reimbursement of qualifying livestock losses due to predation.
 - To provide financial reimbursements to producers for losses caused by wolves, grizzly bears, or mountain lions based upon program criteria
 - To proactively apply prevention tools and incentives to decrease the risk of wolf, grizzly bear or mountain lion caused losses
 - Develop an incentive program that integrates with the overall Montana wolf, grizzly bear, or mountain lion programs
 - Work with federal and state agencies to develop a broad spectrum of options to reduce conflicts and potential depredations
 - Increase individual pilots participating in Department's aerial hunting program for coyotes and red fox
 - Increase financial and material support for USDA Wildlife Services in Montana providing control activities for coyotes, wolves, and grizzly bears