

Black Vulture Depredation Sub-Permit Notification, Application and Approval Process

1. Kentucky Farm Bureau has received a limited statewide depredation permit that allows for a limited number of black vulture “takes” where black vultures are depredating on livestock. Livestock producers who are experiencing depredation may apply for a Livestock Protection depredation sub-permit that if approved will allow producers to protect livestock against black vulture attacks.
2. The Kentucky Farm Bureau Commodity Division will manage the statewide depredation permit and sub-permit program. All applications and reports will be made direct to Joe Cain, Director of the Commodity Division.
3. Interested livestock producers may request a sub-permit application by emailing Joe Cain at joe.cain@kyfb.com or calling the Commodity Division at 502-495-7738 and requesting an application. Applications must be fully completed, signed and dated by the livestock producer and returned for consideration by the Commodity Division. Because of the limited number of “takes” Kentucky Farm Bureau will be issued, all applications will be scored based on past livestock losses, number of livestock on the applicant’s farming operation, number of black vulture roosts and birds in the immediate vicinity and the county ranking of livestock within Kentucky. A maximum of 5 takes may be issued to an approved applicant, and will be determined by the application score.
4. ALL applications must be signed and date with the applicant agreeing to the terms and conditions of the original statewide depredation permit.
5. ALL approved applicants are required to report by the end of each month the date and number of birds killed under their approved sub-permit. Applicants are not allowed to kill any birds in excess of the number approved in the sub-permit. Livestock producers may apply to amend their original sub-permit to include additional “takings”, but must first receive official approval before taking additional black vultures. The sub-permit contains an area at the bottom of the page to record approved “takings” of black vultures.
6. Any livestock producer experiencing severe depredation from black vultures is encouraged to apply for an individual migratory bird depredation permit from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and/or work with USDA APHIS Wildlife Services (WS) to address their specific situation. Producers cannot be issued a depredation permit by USFWS **and** apply for and be approved for a KFBF depredation sub-permit. The Kentucky Farm Bureau Commodity Division will assist livestock producers experiencing severe depredation in applying, and receiving approval for a USFWS migratory bird depredation permit.
7. The Migratory Bird Depredation Permit is a Federal permit, and all livestock producers applying for and receiving approval of a KFBF Livestock Protection Depredation Sub-Permit will be required to follow ALL USFWS Migratory Bird Depredation Permit rules and regulations. Failure to do so could result in Federal citations and fines.