



September 11, 2023

Tracy Cleveland  
Napa County Ag Commissioner  
Napa, California

Dear Tracy,

I am the general manager of Vineyard Valley, a 55 and over, 218 home retirement community in St. Helena. We and our residents have contacted the County of Napa Wildlife Services to request assistance from the Wildlife Specialist on many occasions to assist with wildlife intrusions into our residents' homes as well as the presence of coyotes on the property. Vineyard Valley is bordered on the east by the Napa River, Sulphur Creek runs through the southern portion of the property, the area to the north of the property is open land. Devon has educated the residents and mitigated the issues they and management have sought assistance with in a highly professional manner.

I am writing this letter to express my appreciation and support for this valuable program which has benefitted over 300 St. Helena senior citizens.

Sincerely,

Shelly DiFede  
General Manager  
Vineyard Valley

Hi Tracy

I am writing to you in support of your Wildlife Services program. I understand that you will be speaking to the Napa County Board of Supervisors in a few weeks on the subject of the Wildlife Services that is provided through your department. I have worked with the federal trappers in your office over the years when we have had wildlife damaging our vineyards. I believe this service is a necessary service for our agricultural industry in Napa County. Having a professional trapper to call on is so much more effective than trying to get the proper permits on one's own (when needed) to deal with a specific wildlife crop damage issue, especially when the land manager does not have any knowledge on how or where to begin to control a specific critter that is causing damage in our agricultural setting. I hope that the Wildlife Services provided through the Napa County Ag Commissioner's office can be continued moving into the future.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Don Munk

Director of Vineyard Operations

HALL | WALT | BACA

401 St. Helena Hwy. S | St. Helena, CA 94574  
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[hallwines.com](http://hallwines.com) | [waltwines.com](http://waltwines.com) | [bacawines.com](http://bacawines.com)

Dear Ms. Cleveland,

Several years ago we sought help with the overpopulation and destruction brought by feral swine on the pastures where our livestock graze. Greg Wamsley, our U.S.D.A. Wild Life Specialist has worked with us to reduce the feral swine population. He is professional, proficient and most certainly an asset to the program.

The feral swine are nonnative, invasive, aggressive and can weigh up to 400 hundred pounds. They have charged at and seriously injured people. They can carry diseases that are communicable to livestock and people. One of their favorite foods is acorns which deprives native animal species of their food source. Pigs root, meaning they dig with their snouts, wallow around which creates pits, tear up the grasses our livestock and wildlife eat, in addition to tearing up the terrain. The rooting dislodges native plants which in turn allows invasive plants a competitive advantage. Feral swine destroy the native habitat and forage of the indigenous wildlife species, which causes significant harm to our ecosystem, and can be a cause for erosion, when the feral swine churn up the soil on side hills with any decline. The rooting is akin to destructive rototilling, and especially harmful to our ecosystem and stability to our hillsides.

If left unchecked, the feral swine population will continue to negatively impact our wildlife and our ability to feed our livestock. We appreciate and strongly support this program, to rid our county of this destructive non naive species.

Sincerely,

Diane Chance

Jeffrey Becker  
1200 Rossi Road  
St. Helena California 94574  
(707) 815-7948  
balingwire@beckerworks.net

Aug 30, 2023

Tracy Cleveland  
Agricultural Commissioner  
1710 Soscol Ave  
Napa, CA, 94558

Dear Ms. Cleveland -

I am a cattle rancher in Napa County, raising beef cattle on both my own property and surrounding leased acreage. Over the years I have suffered severe losses of calves from predation and also fence, water system and pasture losses from wild pigs. USDA wildlife services has always been ready, willing, and capable of helping me solve these problems so I can continue producing healthy food, reducing fire fuel, and, in a good year, make a few bucks. Their services are vital to my continued operation.

Over the years I've had the pleasure of meeting several Wildlife Services Specialists, and they have all been professional, ethical and humane in their work. Greg Walmsley and Deron Gorsuch both exemplify those traits.

This is government functioning at its best. Please keep it funded, for all of our benefit.

Thank You,  
Jeffrey Becker



# TRUCHARD VINEYARDS

EST. 1974

August 30, 2023

Dear Tracy Cleveland,

I have two properties in Napa County where I have brought in goats to clear the extensive undergrowth, Blackberries and poison oak. The properties are located at 1195 Thompson Avenue and 4201 Old Sonoma Road.

There is constant pressure from the coyotes and other predators to harm the goats. Greg at the Wildlife Service has been very helpful in assisting with these problems. Without the help of the Wildlife Service, it would be difficult to maintain a goat herd.

I donate many of my extra goats to a person who rents the goats for brush clearing and fire prevention. This is a very important endeavor in the event of increasing wildfire potential. The help of the Wildlife Services make it more sustainable.

I strongly urge you to continue to support the Wildlife Service here in Napa County.

Sincerely,

Tony Truchard

Hi Tracy,

My ~~name~~ is Renate Wright  
I live in Yountville and my  
property borders on the creek  
at Heather Str.

A fox had her litter in a culvert  
in that creek, and as soon as  
they were big enough she brought  
them over my fence to play in  
my garden, they destroyed my  
plants and my cushens every  
night, I was beside myself  
until I found Greg Wamsley. He  
was just great! Set 2 traps at  
a time and caught 5 trouble makers.  
Now I can enjoy my garden again  
I just want to let you know how  
important Greg has been!

Foxes don't belong in the  
middle of Yountville

Sincerely,

Renate Wright

Dear Tracy Cleveland, We are writing this letter to let you know how important Wildlife Service is to our property. The hogs have been causing so much damage to our ranch , tearing up springs and pipelines, ruining fences, plowing up acres of pasture making it so ruff that you can't even walk over it and it takes a couple of years to come back ,if that. Creeks on our ranch have been destroyed, due to their wallowing and rooting, and also spread disease (leptospirosis,to cattle and other wildlife). The hogs need constant management to keep their populations in check and Wildlife Service has been doing a great job. This service is important to us in maintaining the balance that is needed between property owners and all detrimental species besides hogs an coyotes. Thankyou for retaining this very important service. Sincerely , Marvin and Cindy Fagundes Fagundes Ranch / Fagundes Livestock Co. 5000 Jameson cyn rd American Cyn CA. 94503



A Tradition of Stewardship  
A Commitment to Service

Department of Public Works  
Napa County Airport

2000 Airport Road  
Napa, CA 94558  
[www.napacountyairport.org](http://www.napacountyairport.org)

Main: (707) 253-4300  
Fax: (707) 299-4482

Steven Lederer  
Director

September 19, 2023

Sent Electronically

Ms. Tracy Cleveland  
Napa County Agricultural Commissioner  
1710 Soscol Avenue  
Napa, CA 94558

Subject: USDA Wildlife Contract

Dear Tracy,

I am writing you today in support of Napa County's contract with USDA / APHIS. The Napa County Airport is situated near federal and state-controlled property that functions as wildlife habitat. Wildlife interfering with airport operations in the form of animal and bird strikes against aircraft is a life-threatening danger that we face every day.

We depend on a functional Wildlife Hazard Management Plan (WHMP) to establish the measures and actions that we can take to chase them off if they persist and to reduce the prevalence of wildlife on the airfield. The biologist with the USDA / APHIS is essential for their expertise in creating our plan and ability to respond if there is a specific problem. They have helped us remove a beaver obstructing our drainage system and rabid animals.

Our good working relationship with the USDA and specifically the local wildlife specialist is integral to airport operations. Thank you for your continued support and collaboration as we both continue to change and grow at Napa County.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Witsoe".

Mark Witsoe, A.A.E./CAE  
Airport Manager

C: Katherine Bales, Asst. Airport Manager  
Leigh Sharp, Dep. Dir. Public Works





## Napa Pasture Protein

1609 Capell Valley Road  
Napa, CA 94558

Tracy Cleveland, Agricultural Commissioner  
1710 Soscol Avenue  
Napa, CA 94559

September 18, 2023

Dear Tracy Cleveland & The Napa County Board of Supervisors,

This letter is to convey my support for the position Greg Wamsley and his counterparts hold as USDA Wildlife Specialists in our County. As a livestock producer and fire mitigation grazer, I have needed his services extensively throughout the county. Greg and his team are instrumental in helping mitigate losses while grazing in heavy predator country. Without his services we would struggle to manage the fire fuels throughout the County. Post-fires, the predator pressure has increased significantly in the more incorporated areas of this valley. His knowledge and expertise are invaluable in protecting our livestock which are working to protect the residents of this valley.

As expressed above, I am requesting your further support for this position in our County. The extent that this position affects is greater than one might imagine. Grazing for fire fuel reduction or as a part of regenerative agricultural practices, has become increasingly prevalent in our County. The Wildlife Specialist position is necessary to continue these efforts and work safely and harmoniously with our four-legged residents. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or would like to discuss further.

Warm Regards,

*Cori Carlson*

**Cori Carlson**

Napa Pasture Protein  
707-287-5717