



# Elk Damage Payments

## Elk Damage Payments Made by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture FY 2019-2020

### **Whitney Place**

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Pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 3.197, the cost of preparing this report was approximately \$500

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## Background

Wild elk are found in northwest Minnesota and can sometimes cause considerable damage to crops, fencing, and stored forage in this area. To help reduce the impact on area farmers, the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) manages the Animal Damage Compensation Program which provides up to 100% compensation with a minimum claim amount of \$100 and a maximum claim amount of \$20,000 per producer, per year for crop damage and a maximum claim amount of \$1,800 for fence damage.

This report is submitted in accordance with Minnesota Statute 3.7371 Subd. 8:

*The commissioner must submit a report to the chairs of the house of representatives and senate committees and divisions with jurisdiction over agriculture and environment and natural resources by December 15 each year that details the total amount of damages paid, by elk herd in the previous two fiscal years.*

## Elk Damage Payments

Below are the payments made by the MDA for fiscal years 2019 and 2020 based upon the date damages occurred as reported by the producers.

The herd determinations are estimates made by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and are based upon location of the claims that were made.

Fiscal Year	Kittson Northeast herd, Number Claims Paid	Caribou-Vita Herd, Claim Amount Paid	Kittson Central Herd, Number Claims Paid	Kittson Central Herd, Claim Amount Paid	Grygla Herd, Number Claims Paid	Grygla Herd, Claim Amount Paid	Total Number Claims Paid	Total Claim Amount Paid
2019	4	\$9,293.40	18	\$57,201.68	0	\$0	23*	\$67,919.08
2020	5	\$25,676.50	16	\$72,786.36	0	\$0	23**	\$112,824.96
Total	9	\$34,969.9	34	\$129,988.04	0	\$0	46	\$180,744.04

**\*One claim for damage by wild elk to fence was verified in Hubbard County outside the known elk herd area in 2019.**

**\*\*Two claims for damage by wild elk occurred outside known elk herd area in 2020. One in Stearns County and one in Pennington County.**