

Preventing predation: Predator-friendly ranching techniques

1. Relocate often

Wolves like to eat without a lot of hassle, so move your herd/flock around often.

2. Group animals

Predators are less likely to attack a large group than an individual prey, so try to keep the herd clustered.

3. Confine animals

Driving animals into confined areas or smaller pastures closer to the farmhouse at night and during calving/lambing season will help deter predators and will make fencing or perimeter deterrents more feasible.

4. Maintain a human presence

Check the herd or flock often, and spend time with your animals. Also, check animals at a different time each day so predators studying the flock will not know when you are coming.

5. Monitor and maintain the health of the flock

Predators typically prey on the old, weak, sick, and injured, so keep track of which animals are experiencing health problems and treat/corral them accordingly.

6. Dispose of deadstock properly

Leaving a carcass in or near a pasture will invite in scavengers such as wolves, coyotes, or bears and help them develop a taste for that kind of meat.

7. Consider traditional farming techniques

Farmers have relied on non-lethal predator deterrents, such as livestock guarding, for thousands of years.

