maia jewell

I worry that, with the cattle and lamb industry in Eastern Washington, including Ferry and Pend Oreille counties, wolves in some packs are less able to access natural resources than they are human related, such as cattle. I worry that they are more easily accessible and therefore better prey, and that the state is overlooking this. If proper deterrent measures could be used, is it possible wolves would be more likely to seek out ungulates, such as elk, more than cattle or lamb? A reoccurring trend I have seen, according to the wolf updates provided by WFDW is that wolves are still able to access cattle or lamb, continue to do so, and are killed because of it. Will this continue with the new plan? Or can we safely deter or relocate wolves without harm? Not only would this help ranchers, it could help other unbalanced ecosystems in our state. Relocating could also mean a faster completion of our recovery goal for delisting wolves. I believe something has to change with our relationship with wolves in Washington, as well as ranchers, and the general public to ensure a meeting of the recovery goal.