Krissa Dutton-Schandelmaier

Once again I write to an agency that I believed was created to protect and preserve wildlife and wild habitats to ask you to please protect yet another species that is under threat. To attempt to create a "post-recovery" plan for wolves at this time is irresponsible considering that Washington state is still far from meeting the goals set forth in the current plan. Please find ecologically sound ways to address current wolf-management needs. Wolves should not be arbitrarily slaughtered to satisfy ranchers' wishes. As I understand it, and possibly I'm wrong, your agency is not meant to protect the needs of ranchers or other groups whose interests go against wildlife and natural habitats. You are under no obligation to satisfy their wishes at the expense of wolves or other species. Better public education regarding wolves hasn't been attempted from what I've read. Apparently it was an important part of your current plan, but has been ignored. Again, maybe I'm wrong, but from what I read, I don't think so. I'm surprised that it's not a given that you would ensure that under the current plan for wolves - and any future plan - that all policies, laws and the enforcement of them would be based on scientifically proven information especially if you are considering the killing of wolves. You don't need me to tell you that to wipe out wolves isn't going to be a good thing because it absolutely will have a detrimental effect on the balance of the ecosystem. No species, especially an iconic species such as wolves, deserves to be threatened and purposely allowed to be misunderstood to satisfy special needs interests (such as ranchers). Creating a climate of hate at worst and fear at best is shameful, as is the wholesale selling out of a species in order for some people to make money. I hope you will act quickly and decisively to protect wolves in Washington state. Thank you for considering my comments.