

Sharon Jeffcott

Wolves are keystone species. They help regulate and balance sick or weakening ecosystems. The same also applies to other large predators.

Wolves are not a threat to humans. Wolves keep herbivores in check from eating all the foliage from the ground to head high, which dominoes into other habitats that also share said area. They also keep disease and overpopulation in check. Without the proper balance, all ecosystems are subject to localized extinction. However, each ecosystem is interlaced into all others, as there are none that are closed.

Humans have done nothing but demonize wolves. Why are not other large predators demonized? Is it because of Little Red Riding Hood? If the children's story been about a cougar , would we be having the same conversation? It is sickening to me to know I belong to the same species that continues to kill for sick and unnecessary reasons, often inhumanly. We do not eat wolf meat. We have no reason to kill an apex predator that turn around and complain about overpopulation of herbivores. Surely, there are plenty of deer or elk to fill the needs of legal hunters trying to fill a tag. Look at the problems other areas are having with chronic wasting disease. Hunters are asked to have their kill checked before consuming. Is this not a waste for legal hunters who have spent the money on a tag? I would be furious. Wolves would've helped this issue. Keep herds and other species in check!

I leave you with a quote by Anton Chekhov,

" Man has been endowed with reason, with the power to create, so that he can add to what he's been given. But up to now he hasn't been a creator, only a destroyer. Forests keep disappearing, rivers dry up, wild life's become extinct, and the climate's ruined and the land grows poorer and uglier every day."

Let the wolf live!

Sincerely,

Sharon Jeffcott