

## Matt Cornwall

Wolf populations, just like many other predator populations need to be managed in the state. I have only been a Washington hunter for a handful of years (about 5), and have seen a large reduction in game and increase in wolf sign, and wolf sightings during deer and elk season. The ungulates populations have taken a large hit as you know, heavily visible by the reduction in special permits. Personally, I just finished my 5th elk season, camping on the 1701 bald mountain rd and four the 5th year have harvested no elk or deer. I also know 3 people who drew cow tags that also were unable to harvest an elk after camping the entire season. Tags were drawn in little naches and the umtaneum sides and neither were able to harvest an animal. From memory, these cow tags were very few in number, and those few likely were unsuccessful. This is very sad due to hunters being the primary supporters of wildlife conservation in the state. Many hunters are now commuting out of state which is a massive loss in conservation revenue for the state as well. The state of Idaho made a similar mistake allowing reintroduction of the wolves in to the state, which also caused massive loss to elk and deer populations. Let us learn from the lessons of our neighbors and take action before too much damage has been done.