

## Linda Pizzolla

Washington is failing in its conservation approach to wolves. It is noted on the internet that a rancher in Washington alone is responsible for the deaths of 80% of the state's wolf population. This is due mostly to the Washington Dept. of Wildlife's lethal approach to handling wolf cattle conflicts. The dept. has been overzealous in its eradication of wolves without implementing non-lethal approaches. This has resulted in Gov. Inslee's letter to the Dept. of Wildlife telling them to ease up on the killings. Of course Gov. inslee was compelled to take this after after many protests from wolf organizations and from the public majority as well!

We must protect wolves. There are many non- lethal ways to achieve this and many ranchers are utilizing this approach successfully.

We cannot let allow misguided hatred of wolves to cause their demise. More must be done to protect them even if it means allocating grazing lands.<sup>9</sup>