

## Doris Glassberg

I volunteer at a wolf & Wolfdog rescue in California and have learned so much about wolves. I firmly believe that wolves belong on the American landscape. After being driven nearly to extinction wolves deserve a chance to coexist with humans, They should not be destroyed when they have barely recovered even a small percentage of their former range. Wolves are intelligent and have strongly connected, complex social relationships with each other. Stop the killing of Washington 's wolves- There is no justification for killing wolves on Public lands, and wolves should not be killed for any livestock conflicts on public lands either. Non- lethal measures should always be used. Put a stop to all trophy hunting, trapping of wolves and do not classify wolves as game animals. Creating a “post-recovery” plan for wolves at this time is premature, as Washington is still far from meeting the goals set forth in the current plan. Instead of racing to create a post-delisting plan, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife must instead focus its attention on current wolf-management needs. This includes: (1) Resolving, through nonlethal means, conflicts between livestock and wolves, which are taking place in some of the state's best habitat for wolves; and (2) Conducting extensive public education on wolves. This is emphasized in the current plan but has not been done by you, despite the fact that all wolf experts say public education is the single most important action to take for successful wolf conservation. Additionally, under the current wolf plan and any future wolf plan, management guidance, policies and protocols — and especially those which could result in wolves being killed — must be developed through a science-based, public rule-making process that results in transparent, rational and enforceable strategies. Therefore I urge you to: (1) Stop cherry-picking science to justify wolf-killing; (2) Answer the global call by scientists to protect and conserve apex predators; and (3) Use every opportunity to extol the value of top predators in keeping nature healthy, and cease current messaging that prioritizes livestock over wolves. The public will fail to see any reason to coexist with wolves if the department fails to explain that wolves are ecologically important and worth conserving. Thank you for considering my comments.