

Ilene Le Vee

As a rancher I am accustomed to living with/enjoying predator wildlife. I think the WA/OR/Idaho wolf population will continue growing/moving. It's my hope/recommendation that the WA population be allowed to move/populate areas naturally without WDFW manipulation. As I noted in a previous WDFW Commission meeting, my Klickitat/Clark County properties have a sizable predator population with occasional wolf pass-through visitors. I have always been assiduous in requiring that our livestock, when out for days/weeks grazing, have constant human supervision. It's been 15 years since we lost a grazing animal and that was due to an accident. Predators do not like humans "hanging around" and they will always move on. The northeast WA ranchers who graze their livestock are allowed too much leeway with their herds, ie., calves are too small or freshening cows are left unsupervised while birthing on public/private lands. In my opinion, the Range Rider program is an expensive and not particularly successful program. We must take full responsibility for the well-being of our livestock.

Thank you for considering my comments/recommendation.

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