

Ward Larsen

Wolves- The wolf population from your facts with the increase of 28 per cent increase will bring their population to 300. You have 160-200 too many wolves right now if the wrong species. BC right now is reducing their wolf population to help their caribou populations. When these wolves start packing they will kill anything they encounter. The packs need to be under 6 animals or there will be depletion of their food supply and they will start taking domestic stock. If you see wolves pushing elk out from the woods where it's warmer down into the sagebrush you need to full the wolves.

Right now you have 3000 cougar in our state by your numbers. They could be cut back to 1500. When there was a bounty on cougar there were 500-800 in Washington. Right now you have 83 cougar per county. That's way too many. To cull the cougar you need to take some females and kittens and a few big Tom's. The Tom's cull their own population and keep their numbers down. Right now you have 24,000 bear in Washington. You need to take 2000 large bear out of the fawning and calving grounds. You could also bait the big bear away from those fawning and calving grounds.

By reducing predator numbers it will increase the prey numbers and that would decrease domestic predication.