

Mark Martinez

As a third generation livestock producer and an active user of public lands in our operation I appreciate the opportunity to comment since it plays a huge part in our fourth generation who is beginning to manage our operation.

1. The Washington Department of Wildlife -WDFW should maintain and control wolf populations at a sustaining level that can be properly managed, that also achieves healthy ungulate populations, and does not negatively impact livestock producers

2. Due to lack of trust between WDFW and rural communities, USDA wildlife services (APHIS) should be contracted by the state to provide wolf depredation investigations, lethal control and interstate data sharing

3. APHIS must be given the authority to implement depredation investigations and provide lethal control when 2 depredation events have transpired during a trailing 12 month window with at least 1 depredation resulting in dead livestock. I also support incremental control of problem wolves that could result in pack removal if wolves continue to depredate

4. WDFW must place an emphasis on supplying and deploying to livestock producers any tools that have a negative stimulus on wolves and that prevent wolves from attacking livestock by changing behavior or that prevent habituation

5. WDFW should be required to have at least 2 collared (with best technology available) wolves in each pack. Sensitive collar data in real time must be shared year round with livestock producers who have signed agreements

6. WDFW is required to maintain a healthy and robust ungulate populations that provides abundant prey for wolves and other predators, as well as ample harvest opportunities for hunters. To accomplish this WDFW must adaptively manage using an integrated predator/prey management policy. Predators including wolves cannot be managed successfully in isolation or without consideration of their affect on the prey base

7. Hunting of wolves should be authorized in this SEPA EIS as a tool to control wolf population and as a WDFW revenue source

8. WDFW should contract for and expand scat monitoring to determine prey species being consumed by predators and to better define wolf populations through DNA and that those findings be used as a management tool for WDFW

9. WDFW should provide a permanent funding source and a third party to manage a Livestock Compensation Plan to reimburse profit direct and indirect losses caused by wolves

10. WDFW should educate state residents as to the above management practices that are needed to sustain a wolf population on the landscape

Sincerely

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