

Jean Langford

I need your help to save wolves, Grey or red or other! I should mention that the ASU mascot in NE Arkansas is/are the “Red Wolves”; that is 1 of my Alma Maters! Caveat - 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. No de-listing! 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 valued & credible 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 domestic livestock over wolves. There should be more parity!! 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. It is barbaric & inhumane for humans to kill out a species of animals which my Good Lord put on this planet. Thank you for considering my sincere comments. I hope you will help this situation in the ways indicated. I am counting on you; please do not disappoint. JLangford, Attorney (Ret., AR) Huntsville, Alabama, USA