

Juli Morgenstern

What is your gender?

Female

Age?

54

County (or Counties) of Primary Residence?

Lewis

Residential setting:

Rural

Do you identify yourself as any of the following?

Outdoor Recreationist

WDFW has identified a list of impact topics to include in the Plan/EIS. Impact topics are a means of organizing the discussion of issues and analysis of impacts. Impact topics can be thought of as chapter or section headings in the Plan/EIS.

Please review this list and add other topics, or items that fit under these headings.

Please check the topics you view as most important.

Wolf conservation and monitoring

Wolf classification/status

Wolf management areas

Land management

Do you have general comments about the scope of Washington's updated wolf conservation and management plan?

The wolves need to be protected! Destroying packs because of cattle loss must stop. I would like to see packs established in other areas as well. For example, the south cascades near Mt. Saint Helen's to help with the elk population. I believe the wolves can help balance the ecosystem that has bounced back so well after the 1980 eruption.

I think land management needs to be seriously looked at. The cattle ranchers do not need to use public lands for grazing. That practice worked in the old days but not now. Our land needs to be preserved for recreation and all wildlife. I understand that some cattle ranchers have been proactive in helping prevent cattle-wolf interaction. Unfortunately, there are a couple ranchers, and one in particular, that seem to thrive on creating interactions. For example, allowing their cattle to graze near known wolf dens with cubs as documented by WSU researchers.

I camp in an area where the cattle farmer does not follow the established rules and the cattle run in areas they are supposed to be restricted from. They leave their grazing area by walking up a creek and then entering the campground area. They have trampled plants. The creek and restricted areas have cow poop, and there are numerous broken down fences. The fish are rarely seen anymore as the creek has been contaminated and the plants and edges of the creek bed are destroyed. The cattle farmer has been contacted about the problems but he refuses to do anything. The state and county seem to be afraid to enforce the rules. Cattlemen should not run this state.

Wolves may never be appreciated because of all the negative reports and mis-information that people continue to spread. Organizations like Wolf Haven do their best to educate but their non-profit status limits what they can do while still maintaining the outstanding care their wolves receive. Perhaps the state needs to step up and do their part with education.

Lessons were learned in Yellowstone. Follow their lead, bring in their experts, and make decisions that will benefit the wolves, all wildlife, and the recreational users of our lands.