

Sharon Guerra

What is your gender?

Female

Age?

58

County (or Counties) of Primary Residence?

Cowlitz

Residential setting:

Suburban

Do you identify yourself as any of the following?

Environmentalist

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 classification/status

Wolf hunting

Information and education

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

I am concerned about removing their protected status, because healthy systems need diversity, which includes large predators.

I am concerned about the inability of the current system to protect wild animals; if the restrictions are loosened, how on earth is the department going to enforce anything?

I live in town now, but grew up in a nearby rural area where poaching is a huge issue. Much of an animal's protection is due to concerned, law-abiding citizens reporting illegal activity, and using non-lethal methods of protecting their herds, flocks and pets. If the law diminishes protections, it removes the incentives for even law-abiding citizens to attempt non-lethal protection, such as dogs. Many people in the rural areas where I grew up already simply shoot anything which disturbs their property, without regard to seasons or protections. "Deer ate my garden? Shoot it. Raccoon killed my cat? Shoot it. Protected birds eating my berries/damaging my trees? Shoot them."

If nothing else, protections remind people that there could be consequences for their actions, or at least make them think twice before casually destroying an animal.