

M. K.

**What is your gender?**

Female

**Age?**

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**Residential setting:**

Urban

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

The state's rush to delist wolves and develop a "post-recovery" wolf plan, especially in light of the WA Department of Fish and Wildlife's pattern of wolf killing in the same area of prime wolf habitat in the Kettle Range is extremely wrong. Instead of delisting, we should focus on restoring public trust by implementing the best science based research and non-lethal alternatives to alleviate or stop wolf-livestock conflicts. The state should work with federal land management agencies like the US Forest Service to reevaluate grazing allotments in prime wolf habitat on our public lands, and, we must stop the ongoing conflicts and wolf killings.

Demanding native wildlife be killed is not the solution. Livestock owners should not have the right to use our public lands for grazing cows, sheep, goats and other personal property for their own financial gain, and the likely slaughter of those beings for consumption. Overgrazing by livestock destroys ecosystems, and wolves help keep it healthy and balanced. Farmers and ranchers who fear interactions with wolves should move their animals back to their privately owned land. Why do we the taxpayers have to subsidize an outdated and cruel business model? Let's level the playing field by letting the free markets solve the problem of the increased costs. Let's take away the free grazing rights, and if it makes animal products more expensive, so be it. Plant based meat production companies that don't involve animal cruelty aren't given free government land or subsidies to produce their products, and if we move towards a plant based style of eating, it would be far better for the environment and would help combat climate change.

Thank you for considering my views.