

Kathy Downey

What is your gender?

Female

Age?

57

County (or Counties) of Primary Residence?

Fairfield County, Connecticut

Residential setting:

Suburban

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-livestock conflicts

Wolf hunting

Land management

Information and education

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

I'd like to expand on my selections for Question 6.

Wolf conservation and monitoring - Conservation of Washington's wolves is of the utmost importance, as a healthy wolf population will result in healthy ecosystems.

Wolf-livestock conflicts - One of the main reasons certain interest groups oppose wolf conservation is because of their interaction with livestock. Better outreach and expansion of non-lethal deterrents should be implemented in the northeast corner of WA.

Land management - I believe public lands should be used for the enjoyment and betterment of all citizens, not just ranchers. Rather than killing wolves to benefit private business owners that are relying on public grazing allotments to make a living, WDFW should either move livestock off of public lands or halt the killing of wolves in response to depredations.

Information and education - WDFW should offer more information sessions and should update their website with the best peer-reviewed science to better inform the public about the wolves in their state.

Wolf hunting - I believe wolf hunting is an important topic because it should NOT happen. There is no scientific reason to hunt wolves and the rationale should be explained thoroughly in the plan. Hunting wolves does not increase social tolerance nor does it impact the ungulate population. Hunting wolves is pure trophy hunting and should not be allowed in a state that prides itself on its wildlife.