

Virginia Phalen

**What is your gender?**

Female

**Age?**

56

**County (or Counties) of Primary Residence?**

Thurston

**Residential setting:**

Urban

**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 conservation and monitoring

Wolf classification/status

Wolf management areas

Wolf-livestock conflicts

Wolf-human interactions

Wolf hunting

Land management

Habitat connectivity

Information and education

Research

Reporting and evaluation

Goals objectives strategies and tasks

Costs and funding priorities

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

Although Washington's wolves may be on a good path to Recovery and meeting goals of the Recovery plan, I am concerned that there will be strong management in place post recovery. I suggest: 1) no hunting for a time period to demonstrate and document population stability or continued growth, 2) increased education and outreach to live stock producers who are using public land to their benefit and approaches they must use to continue to have the benefit of public land use for their private gain, 3) increased and ongoing discussion about depredation events, proactive non-lethal ways to reduce such events, and buy out of property from willing sellers. WDFW and the USFWS have invested millions of dollars buying conservation property through the Federally funded Grant Program - Cooperative Endangered Species Recovery Fund. Let's keep continued focus on how those properties acquired under this program are supposed to be managed to benefit wolves and other species of concern, and evaluate the opportunity or need to buffer these properties. Let's be creative in Washington to support a functional ecosystem, and opportunities for wildlife watching.