

Sue Parrish

**What is your gender?**

Female

**Age?**

64

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

Walla Walla

**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 conservation and monitoring

Wolf classification/status

Wolf interactions with other species

Habitat connectivity

Information and education

Research

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

I would hope the environmental impact statement WDFW develops regarding wolves fully acknowledges the many positive impacts wolves have on the natural environment. As I'm sure you are aware, they keep elk and deer herds healthy by breaking them into smaller more mobile groups which keeps down their intense browsing on riparian areas. Healthy riparian areas store more water, which will be imperative as climate change effects our area. Their kills feed many other predators and scavengers, and they target the easiest prey...aged or ill animals need to be culled. Keystone predators keep everything in balance. They are a necessity to a balanced ecosystem. Which brings up the livestock issues. Pay the ranchers per livestock kill. This is probably just as economically feasible as sending up helicopters to kill a pack.

Managing, i.e. killing wolves negatively affects everything that is natural in the environment in which they live.

Except the livestock, which are not natural, bringing up the question of why are they allowed to graze indiscriminately in our forests and public lands? I'm sure a sound case could be made that livestock do way more harm to the environment than wolves ever could.

Thanks