

Sandra Chiappetta

What is your gender?

Female

Age?

64

County (or Counties) of Primary Residence?

Pinellas County

Residential setting:

Urban

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 interactions with other species

Land management

Habitat connectivity

Research

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

Wolves are one of the most valuable keystone species throughout their historic range. Without them the ecosystems that have evolved to be dependent on their presence fail to thrive. This leads to major losses in biodiversity even in areas set aside as protected wilderness such as in National Parks.

As an avid outdoor enthusiast this biodiversity in intact ecosystems is profoundly valuable to me and the economy I support when visiting our Nation's wilderness areas.

Intact ecosystems are even more valuable in terms of the health of our nations resources for future generations to ensure clean water, clean air and environmental resilience.

Non lethal protections for livestock work as long as ranchers keep their livestock off public lands and on their property.

I am opposed to killing wolves to protect private property (livestock) free ranging on public lands that then creates an imbalance and loss of biodiversity in areas that were supposed to be left pristine for all citizens to enjoy - not just to be exploited by a few for personal profit.

Wolves don't attack and kill people - the problem is the livestock in areas where they don't belong.

- * use non-lethal protocol to prevent and solve wolf-livestock conflicts (lethal control actions are NOT supported)

- * implement new monitoring standards to make sure ranchers are doing everything they should be doing and not publicly promoting anti-wolf sentiments. (I've heard many times from ranchers that wolves don't belong in any areas with ranches but the wolves do belong there - the ranchers displaced them.

- * follow Governor Inslee's directive

- * use updated science for all decision making

- * educate the public about wolves role in keeping ecosystems healthy

- * it's way too early for post-recovery planning as two zones are not even close to "recovered"

Great strides were made after the Endangered Species Act was implemented to save lived species. Since then many of these keystone species recovered and scientists were able to document the recovery of the entire ecosystems the keystone species supported.

The science is there and well documented. It's clearly telling us we must learn to co-exist with wildlife because our future health depends on retaining healthy ecosystems that only remain that way due to complex biodiversity supported by keystone species like the wolf.

Please watch the videos on how the wolves saved Yellowstone National Park and google information on the importance of keystone species. Then hopefully you'll make decisions that helps all of us learn how to live with wildlife.

Sincerely,

Sandra Chiappetta