

Randolph Gromlich

What is your gender?

Male

Age?

61

County (or Counties) of Primary Residence?

Spokane

Residential setting:

Rural

Do you identify yourself as any of the following?

Hunter

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 management areas

Wolf-livestock conflicts

Wolf-ungulate interactions

Wolf hunting

Information and education

Goals objectives strategies and tasks

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

About 2 years ago I had a great chat with the Conflict Specialist in the WDFW Spokane Office. He explained to me the goals for wolf population in the various portions of the state. As a result of that conversation, I realized that the goal for the wolf population in eastern Washington had already been met. I understand that no real action towards wolf management was being taken because the goal was not met in western Washington. A short time later I learned about the DFW ordered killing of a wolf pack in eastern Washington, which cost the WA taxpayers in excess of \$100,000.

I don't know how to express my outrage in a way that will still be taken seriously as a comment. I strongly suggest that eastern Washington is past due for a wolf hunting season! We already have the precedent of separate elk seasons for east and west WA, we need to do the same for wolves. Making eastern Washington residents wait until there are more wolves in western Washington is an unjust burden for the east side folks, hunters, ranchers, and other outdoors enthusiasts.

Consider the need and costs to exterminate, now, 2 packs of wolves. I don't know the exact cost, but estimate it is probably close to 1/4 million dollars. Instead WDFW could have been selling at least 100 wolf tags per year at \$100+ per tag. Consider a 10% hunter success rate, and the same number of wolves would have been harvested without cost to the state.

For the good of all... hunters, ranchers, private individuals, wolf activists, etc. we need a controlled wolf hunting season in eastern Washington IMMEDIATELY. Please don't wait until there are more wolves on the west side to manage them on the east side.