

# Washington State Archery Association

**What is your gender?**

Male

**Age?**

44

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

Skagit

**Residential setting:**

Rural

**Do you identify yourself as any of the following?**

Environmentalist

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 classification/status

Wolf-livestock conflicts

Wolf hunting

Costs and funding priorities

Economic analysis

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

Our membership sees the success and failures of other states wolf management. If the state wants a positive relationship with sportsmen, we feel these points need to be included. The Washington State Archery Association (WSAA) understands that in order to have meaningful recovery Social Tolerance has to be built. Tolerance by sportsmen requires that the state has active management that these points outline.

1. The Department should maintain and control wolf populations at a sustaining level that can be

properly managed, that also achieves healthy ungulate populations, and does not negatively impact livestock producers.

2. Due to lack of trust between the Department and rural communities, USDA Wildlife Services (APHIS) should be contracted by the state to provide wolf depredation investigations, lethal control and interstate data sharing.

3. APHIS must be given the authority to provide depredation investigations and to implement lethal control when two depredation events have occurred during a trailing 12-month window, with at least one depredation resulting in dead livestock. I also support continued incremental control of problem wolves that could result in pack removal if wolves continue to de-predate.

4. The Department must place an emphasis on supplying and deploying to livestock producers any tools that have a negative stimulus on wolves and that prevent wolves from attacking livestock by changing behavior or that prevent habituation.

5. The Department should be required to have at least two collared (with best technology available) wolves in each pack. Sensitive collar data in real time must be shared year-round with livestock producers who have signed agreements.

6. The Department is required to maintain healthy and robust ungulate populations that provides abundant prey for wolves and other predators, as well as ample

harvest opportunities for hunters. To accomplish this the Department must adaptively manage using an integrated

predator/prey management policy. Predators including wolves cannot be managed successfully in isolation or without consideration of their affect on the prey base.

7. Hunting of wolves should be authorized in this SEPA EIS as a tool to control wolf population and as a Department revenue source.

8. The state should contract for and expand scat monitoring to determine prey species being consumed by predators and to better define wolf populations through DNA and that those findings be used as a management tool for the Department.

9. The state should provide a permanent funding source and a third party to manage a Livestock Compensation Plan to reimburse producers for direct and indirect losses caused by wolves.

10. The Department should educate state residents as to the above management practices that are needed to sustain a wolf population on the landscape.

11. All dead wolves and wolf scat needs to be tested for hydatid disease and Chronic Wasting Disease ( CWD) prions.