

Oleg Varanitsa

What is your gender?

Male

Age?

34

County (or Counties) of Primary Residence?

USA

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-ungulate interactions

Wolf interactions with other species

Wolf-human interactions

Wolf hunting

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

I am concerned by the state's rush to delist wolves and develop a "post-recovery" wolf plan, especially in light of the WA Department of Fish and Wildlife's pattern of wolf killing in the same area of prime wolf habitat in the Kettle Range.

I recommend that the state not rush to delist, focusing instead on restoring public trust, relying on the best available science and implementing effective non-lethal alternatives to alleviate wolf-livestock conflicts. The state should also work with federal land management agencies like the US Forest Service to reevaluate grazing allotments in prime wolf habitat – a crucial way to reduce a pattern of ongoing conflicts and wolf killings.