



**Few places remain on this planet where wolves can live as nature intended. BC is still one of them....but it's up to YOU to make sure that it stays this way!**

## **BC Action Alert!**

The BC government released a draft management plan for wolves on November 14th, 2012 that is heavy on management but lacking conservation, ecology, and ethics. The proposed plan supports the:

- Elimination of wolves where they overlap with ranchers
- Aerial gunning of wolves where caribou herds are in severe decline
- Continued sterilization of wolves when a decade of this has not increased caribou numbers
- Ongoing slaughter of wolves through lax hunting and trapping regulations (no bag limits, no specific tag required, year-round killing in some regions).

The new Wolf Management Plan for BC needs to be changed! Your voice is NEEDED. Current wolf management in BC is extremely outdated. What's missing from the plan? The incredible social nature and family bonds shared among this intelligent species. **Although the public comment period has ended and 1,400 comments were received in 3 weeks AGAINST the plan, these concerns have been ignored.**

**PLEASE CONTINUE to write the ministers and premier about this! AND URGE THAT A SCIENTIFIC PEER REVIEW PROCESS MUST OCCUR!**

Many wolf biologists argue that allowing wolves to express their natural social behaviour benefits the wider ecosystem as well as wolves. The BC government wants to kill wolves for sport, to appease ranchers, and to help save endangered species. The number of wolves being killed across the province is at an all-time high since recording began.

Wolf biologist Dr. Linda Rutledge states:

*"We have no idea the extent of the impact that repeatedly killing over 25% of a wolf population has on their evolutionary trajectory. But it's dangerous to think that you can manipulate them so intensively and have negligible consequences."*

Top predators are among the most outstanding achievements of wilderness, evolving over hundreds of centuries. The social structure of wolf packs has evolved with this. It is the wolf pack that is the top predator, not the individual wolf. Wolves are more than mere numbers.



Their social bonds and kin-based families define what it means to be a wolf. Management plans need to take this into account!

The BC governments' plan brings us back to a time of fear-mongering. Wolves are being killed through hunting, trapping, livestock concerns, failing caribou herds, and on transportation routes across the majority of the province. Extended family members of wolf packs are often butchered in a human-dominated landscape. We can do better this! Do not allow our ecosystems to become impoverished due to fear and mismanagement. Speak against this bloodshed.

Although wolves require an adequate prey base, the defining factor in wolf persistence is protection from humans. Aldo Leopold learned long ago that "Only the mountain has lived long enough to listen objectively to the howl of a wolf". None is so hated; none so misunderstood.

Conservation groups and animal rights organizations across the province have a vision for a better BC for wolves, wildlife & people.