

The Honourable Christy Clark
BC Premier
PO Box 9041, Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9E1
Premier@gov.bc.ca

The Honourable Steve Thomson
Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
PO Box 9049, Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2
FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca

cc:
NDP Environment Critic and MLA Norm Macdonald
norm.macdonald.mla@leg.bc.ca

Green Party Leader Andrew Weaver
andrew.weaver.mla@leg.bc.ca

Re: BC Wolf Management Plan Released April 17, 2014

Dear Honourable Government Representatives,

I am writing to express my deep concerns with the BC Wolf Management Plan released by the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations on April 17, 2014. I urge that this plan be revoked and amended to represent a more appropriate plan to support British Columbia's gray wolf (*Canis lupus*) population, and that current policies be immediately updated to correspond with the best available science, as the document claims but continues to present flawed science.

As the management plan admits, wolf population estimates (5,300 - 11,600) are extremely uncertain, with the last Large Carnivore Review for BC occurring in 2007. Yet since record-keeping began in 1976, more wolves are being killed through hunting and trapping than ever before. This is not an acceptable way to treat to an apex predator and keystone species.

Not only do wolves demonstrate a very high value to society and the planet, but they are also highly intelligent and sensitive. Their intrinsic value and ecological role are worthy of preservation.

In a global biodiversity crisis and with predator-prey systems becoming more rare around the planet, we are ALL shareholders in the future of wolves in British Columbia. I urge you to immediately amend the management plan for wolves in BC and change management practices to align with the following:

- Include designated areas for real and permanent protection for multiple wolf packs to ensure future social stability and unique genetic identity.
- Recognize the importance of the family unit to wolf conservation and the intrinsic value of wolves.
- Return to former requirements of species licences, bag limits, quotas, shorter restricted seasons so wolves cannot be killed during pup-rearing, and mandatory reporting of wolves killed.
- Ban the use of bait, neck snares and mechanized vehicles to align with fair chase and ethics.
- Stop killing and sterilizing wolves in the name of caribou conservation. Where wolf-killing and sterilization has occurred for this purpose there have been no increases in caribou populations. Wolves are being scapegoated as habitat alterations and human influences continue.
- Commit to reduce conflicts with livestock producers through prevention measures including education initiatives and incentives for responsible husbandry practices such as fencing, guard dogs, shepherds, etc. Use only accurate and accountable information regarding the impact wolves have on the livestock industry, which is less than 3% of total losses.
- Evaluate and respond to cumulative impacts/threats on wolves.

This is important to me because:

Please include these comments in the official record of public consultation and provide me with *read receipt*. I ask that you respond to my comments in a timely manner and let me know how these concerns will be addressed.

Sincerely, _____

Address: _____

Email: _____