

Resolution to Protect Profanity Peak Wolf Pack

Whereas wildlife conservation has long been a value shared by members of the Democratic Party in Washington and throughout the United States; and

Whereas the Democratic Party and its elected representatives in Washington State have been instrumental in protecting gray wolf populations in Washington; and

Whereas gray wolves in Eastern WA, including the Profanity Peak Wolf Pack, were only recently delisted as an Endangered Species; and

Whereas the wolf is a sacred animal to Washington State tribes; and

Whereas the Profanity Peak wolf pack's den is on public lands; and

Whereas the producers Diamond M Ranch, historically, repeatedly, and intentionally, put their own livestock in harm's way by neglecting to properly look after them [1][2]; and

Whereas the producers Diamond M Ranch refuse to follow established, agreed-upon methods and rules for tracking and protecting their own livestock[2]; and

Whereas livestock producers are already generously compensated by taxpayers for any losses due to predation; and

Whereas the Ferry County Commission has illegally committed their Sheriff to killing these wolves if WDFW does not [3]; and

Now therefore, be it Resolved that the 36th District Democrats strongly urges Governor Inslee to:

1. Immediately direct the Washington State Department of Fish & Wildlife (WDFW) leadership to take all measures necessary to prevent the killing of any individual member(s) of the Profanity Peak Wolf Pack or any other wolf pack in Washington without further review of the Wolf Conservation and Management Plan; and
2. Establish a task force to reevaluate the Wolf Conservation and Management Plan in advance of the 2017 legislative session, to review all aspects of lethal removal resulting from livestock predation. Such a task force should be composed primarily of individuals with scientific expertise in wolf conservation and management; and
3. Request said task force to develop a clear set of disincentives and direct ramifications for law enforcement and other public or elected officials, and for private individuals or entities, that take any action to eliminate a wolf without direct authorization from WDFW; and

2. Direct WDFW to take immediate and effective action to prevent further harm to any individual member(s) of the Profanity Peak Wolf Pack, or any other wolf pack in Washington State, by any individual or local agency, including law enforcement, if not specifically authorized within the past 15 days by WDFW ; and

3. Compel all producers to abide by the Wolf Advisory Group's [3] Wolf Conservation and Management Plan with proactive, preventative measures to decrease the risk of loss. [4]; and

4. Post all evidence of alleged livestock kills in the public domain as part of a comprehensive effort to confirm claims of predations prior to taking action against any individual member(s) of a wolf pack in Washington State; and

5. Solicit public comments for 15 days before any WDFW decision to eliminate any wolf in Washington State; and

Be it further resolved, that the 36th District Democrats leadership will send copies of this resolution to Governor Inslee, to our 36th district legislative delegation, to the King County Democrats, to the Washington State Democrats, and to relevant organizations and elected officials working to conserve Gray Wolf populations in Washington State, including, but not limited to, Conservation Northwest and State Senator Kevin Ranker; and

Be it further resolved, that the 36th District Democrats leadership will send copies of this resolution to the Seattle-based legislative district chairs, with encouragement to share the resolution with their membership.

[1] *Bill McIrvine, Rancher Blamed For Wolf Pack Death, Cites 'Radical Environmental Agenda' For Losses* 2012/09/26
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/09/26/bill-mcirvine-rancher-wedge-wolf-pack-video_n_1914123.html

[2] *Profanity Peak wolf pack in state's gun sights after rancher turns out cattle on den* 2016/08/25 <http://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/environment/profanity-peak-wolf-pack-in-states-gun-sights-after-rancher-turns-out-cattle-on-den/>

[3] *Wolf Advisory Group*
<http://wdfw.wa.gov/about/advisory/wag/>

[4] *Wolf Conservation Management Plan*
http://wdfw.wa.gov/conservation/gray_wolf/mgmt_plan.html

August 31th, 2016 (rev 3)

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