

**MONTANA FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS**  
**PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR THE 2021 WOLF SEASON**  
**COMMENTS PROCESSED AS OF JULY 20, 2021**

1. Wolves are highly social and family-oriented—they pair for life and raise their pups using extended family groups. I oppose night hunting and baiting, an extended wolf trapping season, and an increased limit on how many wolves can be killed by an individual. I am pro treating these animals with the respect they deserve and treating all life the way I want to be treated. Thank you.

***Rebecca Sanne Great Falls , MT***

2. Apart from the sound management of wildlife, this is probably the only hunt that would make me enter draws and spend a stupid amount of money for a guided hunt. Thank you.

***Daniel J Seibel Newton, KS***

3. Please support HB's 224 and 225 and SB 314 allowing more wolves to be removed in accordance with previously established goals. Bill Boehme

***William Boehme Kalispell, MT***

4. Are wolf populations are over the quota and the deer and elk populations have been pushed onto public lands and in town other Us forest populations are depleted. Wolves haras deer elk and moose all winter long causing the abortion rate to sky rocket they can not sustain there fetus if being chase all winter when there struggling anyways.

***Todd Utz Anaconda , MT***

5. Wolf Hunts passed into law should be allowed to move forward without any changes or restrictions. Wolves are a menace to the elk & deer population they kill without needing the meat and leave a uneaten animal behind

***GUSTAVO A LEON JR Livingston, MT***

6. As a long time sportsman, I believe the use of hunting as part of wildlife management for species such as the wolf is a logical and cost efficient method to protect other species such as deer and elk. The wolf as an apex predator should be thoughtfully managed not only for its survival but for the protection of the multiple species on which it preys.

***Gordon Crowder Wilton, CA***

7. This is a much needed means of wolf management and the limits should even be higher. There is no risk of wolves being extirpated again and seasons need to be longer as well as increasing methods.

***Thomas Bishop Victor, MT***

8. While I do agree we need a better wolf management program, most of the proposed new “tools” merely add to the unconscionable slaughter of these animals. Sadly, the wolf reintroduction team should be the ones faced with this challenge! The time, money and resources spent handling the wolf population is a joke! Stop the madness! Is there a birth control option?

***Cindy Conley Miles City, MT***

9. This is wildlife management pure and simple, and if not implemented These wolves will destroy elk, deer, and moose populations

**Frederick Beville San Jose , CA**

10. It should be a privilege to manage wildlife, but under these bills the state of Montana is destroying Gray Wolf recovery. I strongly opposed bills 224, 225 and 314. Nothing but an excuse to kill at least 85% of Montana's wolves. Our taxpayers money covered funding for Gray Wolf recovery. Now watching as it is destroyed. Accountability is very needed. Jane Collins

**Jane Collins Amenia, NY**

11. You are KILLING too many Wolves! This is beyond REASONABLE. There has been tons of scientific data released to corroborate this. This is simply a war on wolves for selfish reasons. Thousands of people agree these killings are wrong. Hundreds of Organizations agree this is wrong. Hunters/Trappers/Ranchers want the Wolves land for their cattle..to make money. But, I think you all know this. STOP THE KILLINGS!

**Kathy simonik Jessup, PA**

12. **Pedro EUA, AL**

13. At this time I do not concur with any of the hunting proposals. I believe wolf hunting should not be allowed in this state. I'm tired of the ranchers complaining about the loss of their livestock on federal land. This is a risk they should accept when using free range land that ALL taxpayers are paying for...in fact, I think the ranchers should pay to use the land that their livestock graze on! V/R The Mayer's

**Robert Mayer Big Sky, MT**

14. Please allow the proposed hunting and trapping season to continue as approved by the Commission.

**Bill Knott Hollister, CA**

15. I oppose night hunting and baiting, an extended wolf trapping season and an increased limit on how many wolves can be killed by an individual.

**Karen Mattox Hamilton, MT**

16. Night Hunting: It has never been illegal to hunt at night in Montana that I am aware of. I have personally night hunted for coyotes for years and never had something go wrong. Lots of people used to shoot jack rabbits at night. Very few if any accidents are reported. It sure has been safer than dog bites in the US. We don't need more restrictions.

**TOM FIEBER Polson, MT**

17. SNARING: Please note the use of snares for wolves has been used in Idaho since wolf trapping was allowed there. There were some issues with by-catches at the start but experience and education has had a positive effect. They are safer for people and most all domestic dogs will

not fight a snare. People that are not using snares are the ones that claim the danger is high are not experienced. Strick regulations and education will prevent issues.

***TOM FIEBER Polson, MT***

18. Montana has a Governor that is all about destruction of beautiful wildlife & no care for climate change. The wildlife, wolves and other animals have no voice. They received a death sentence by way of a signature. & the rich moving in.... How will FWP monitor what's taking place on everybody's land. Some people are worst of the worst.. cowards. Killing for no purpose but to kill a wolf. Along with FWP monitoring how snares are even set up. The Governor is not from this State. Also, The richest Governor in the US. The wolves he signed to the death are born and raised in our amazing State.

***Gina Evans Butte, MT***

19. Wolves as beautiful as they are, are 24/7 eating machines! They devastate new borns in the spring, winter months are easy for the packs to systematically kill and injure countless numbers! Montana needs ABUNDANT wildlife not wolves!

***Ron Albrecht Kalispell, MT***

20. I strongly oppose night hunting and baiting wolves, an extended wolf trapping season, and an increased limit on how many wolves can be killed by an individual. These new regulations are egregiously cruel. They put wolf mothers and pups, as well as many other animals, at high risk of unintended harm. Since wolves also help maintain healthy herd populations, drastically expanding wolf hunting and trapping could lead to the slaughter of more than 85% of the state's wolves, which in turn detrimentally impacts the crucial areas bordering Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks.

***Devon Gainer Bozeman, MT***

21. I support Option 1 which would leave the season as is. Snaring and trapping a cruel and indiscriminate. No living creature should be subjected to that pain.

***Gerry Stearns Whitefish, MT***

22. The proposed changes to Montana's wolf hunting and trapping regulations are sensible and appropriate. With Montana's wolf population having grown so far beyond the original population goal and with the consquential negative effects the large wolf population has had on ungulate (moose and elk in particular) populations in many areas of the State, a more aggressive managment regime is badly needed in order to begin to recover these ungulate herds. Moreover, the idea that trapping wolves on private land will some how endanger grizzly and lynx populations, when there have be zero reported cases of either being caught in a wolf trap, is flatly wrong and should not be a consideration in this matter. Thanks You

***Steve Meadows Jackson, WY***

23. Please stop this cruel assault on wolves in Montana...

***Brenda Lynch Missoula, MT***

24. Please, no wolf hunting by any means!! Thank you

**Marlene Miller Butte, MT**

25. I'm a fourth generation an Montanan a current resident business owner and parent. These recent loss go against the majority of what Montana has historically stood for and currently does. Fair chase, balanced ecosystems, and respect are our history. Please protect it since our legislature has chosen not to. it is only by sheer responsibility that they've been allowed to move forward and placed into law. Do not let them expand at this final front with Fish wildlife and parks. Please be the protectors of our resources and wildlife that we trust you to be. Please do not expand any more of the hunting and snaring and trapping opportunities

**Julie Gandulla Bozeman, MT**

26. I am against all hunting of wolves in montana. The cowardly extermination of Yellowstone national park area wolves unbalances nature. Stop letting montana stock growers dictate policy

**Tom Wilde Bozeman, MT**

27. Snare traps are not good they are lethal to pets and other wildlife and even livestock. Wolves mate for life. We need them in our environment. Please be human and make snares and other traps illegal. Please don't be shooting the wolves.

**Misty Hammerbacker Jefferson Island, MT**

28. The wolf population needs to be managed plan and simple. They will decimate game populations and start to target people when game becomes scarce. The odds of catching a grizzly in a wolf trap are almost zero and the odds of catching lynx in wolf trap are very low.

**MICHAEL E DOLAN Three Oaks, MI**

29. Montana needs to keep a FIRM position on controlling their Wolf population, I believe your quotas are too light !! This devastating predator has taken over the Nw part of the US !! Our Deer Elk and Moose populations are suffering because of it!! Hunters Dollars for Big Game generate much more \$\$\$ Than the piddly contribution you get from the Anti hunting groups. Please put Business and Common Sense before the Bleeding hearts of the Antis....

**Ray L Bunney LIBERTY LAKE, WA**

30. I think we should harvest animals too keep their numbers balanced.

**Jon Kenny Graham , TX**

31. Please proceed with the approved legislation for wolf management in Montana .... an unchecked population will cause much more harm than good ....keeping a well managed wolf population is the sensible course of action .. Thank you Bill Boyle

**Bill Boyle Leawood , KS**

32. As an avid hunter and former resident of Montana I 100% support the increased harvest of wolves in the state. While living in Montana I saw an enormous decrease in elk and deer numbers in the Bitterroot Valley area where I did most of my hunting. Friends that I still have

there don't even bother to buy elk tags anymore due to the low numbers and not being able to find animals. All of the proposals made to increase the harvest and management of the wolves is very appropriate and I would insist that it may not be enough to properly manage them. I still have many friends in the state and try to get up there to hunt as often as I can. I would love to see the amount of animals I did when I lived up there. Thanks

**Brian Gilson Blanding, UT**

33. Wolves are a vital part of Montana's eco system, the hunting of them needs to stop.

**Curt Johnson Kalispell, MT**

34. Of the three proposals being considered for the 2021 wolf hunting season, I would prefer that the least number of new tools be utilized. As a hunter myself, I am absolutely opposed to the use of bait stations, night hunting and the use of snares. These proposals are cruel and unethical and many unintended animals will be killed by the wide spread use of snares. I also believe that only 1 wolf should be the limit for any one hunter or trapper in any given season. As far as elk populations are concerned, in most areas of Montana, they are above target numbers. All animals have their place on the landscape, including predators like wolves. Thank you for considering my comments.

**ronald D Wilkinson Bozeman, MT**

35. I support the proposed 2021 wolf regulations. Wolves have decimated wildlife herds and livestock across the western states. They need to be aggressively managed to ensure sustainability for hunting and ranching.

**Steve Gabrielsen North Pole, AK**

36. I do not follow legislative actions closely, but I was horrified to read in the newspaper of the Gianforte administration's desire to include and/or expand trapping of wolves. This is objectionable on so many levels. I would like to see the practice of trapping eliminated from the state of Montana. Non-target wildlife species are often inadvertently caught in traps, as are domestic animals. I personally have experienced my dog being caught in a coyote trap two separate times, and I am only one person. How many more beloved dogs have been trapped, to the horror of their owners? Even if wolves were the only species that were caught in traps or snares (which is virtually impossible), no sentient being should have to suffer to the death, or worse yet, maiming. If we would not tolerate the 24-hour span of a human suffering in a trap, neither should we tolerate a potential 24-hour span of suffering for non-human mammals. It's a savage and archaic practice which should no longer be tolerated in a civilized society. Thank you for your considered attention to my comments. I appreciate the opportunity of putting forth my perspective. I know your job is difficult and I realize many perspectives must be considered; however, I hope we can transition towards better stewardship of the land and its inhabitants, rather away from that stewardship, which seems to be happening under the present state administration.

**Debbie Mueller Butte, MT**

37. I am for the maximum new tools option. Wolf have been very destructive on big game populations in my opinion. I have seen a significant decrease in elk, deer, and moose populations in the plains montana area. I believe that this is in large part due to Wolf predation on the animals. My good friends who have lived there all their lives say it is a very sad situation. I have been up to hunt deer and elk and I am surprised to see all of the amazing habitat and conversely the very low low numbers of big game animals. It's a shame a frankly sickening. Certainly we can do better. They absolutely need to be managed more effectively. It will take years and years to get big game populations back up. Wolves are a very cunning predator and difficult to hunt. We need very liberal restrictions, seasons and bag limits to even begin to manage. Please protect and promote heathy and abundant big game populations. I love seeing an abundance of these animals and it saddens me that they are uncontrollably torn to pieces by wolves. We need less restrictions and more opportunities to manage wolves and protect our elk, deer, moose, sheep and other big game populations. Thanks for your consideration

***Rich Coles Saratoga Springs , UT***

38. Dear FWS members of Montana, Please do not approve the new wolves hunting regulations! Please be reasonable, even if it is Covid time and some Montana residents desperately need more bloody entertainment. The new horrible proposals like snare trapping of wolves, night hunting, use of baits are all symptoms of the bad wildlife management, especially if it comes to the key animals like wolves. Who wants to visit Montana if you get rid of wolves? Montana needs the tourists to heal the state economy. Also wolves help with sick and weak deer and elk populations. Sincerely, Joan Kayser

***Joan Kayser Bronxville, NY***

39. Save the wolves please...

***Nadia Bernard Kew Gardens, NY***

40. wolves are absolutely decimating the elk population. We used to have Over 250 elk winter on our ranch; now we are lucky to have 30. These approximately 30 often end up in our bottomland hayfields which is a problem for us. before the wolves, they were NEVER i our hayfields, the deer come onto our lawn and rub on all our trees. before the wolves we never saw a deer withing a mile of our house. we have lost calves anda couple adilt cows to wolves. They are way too populous and are causing us to lose our elk opulations. I cant even ride my horse alone in the upper pastures as my husband is concerned about the wolves. More leniency must be given to control the wolves before we have no elk at all and they start more seriously on the cattle.

***Darene Kesler Philipsburg, MT***

41. Leg hold traps, snares, baiting were primitive cruel methods as only resorts for clothing and even meat in PRIMATIVE times. We are the smartest creatures on the planet and can co-exist with wolves and other predators, inventing new methods, even just trying to have only two children per family. Cruelty is not acceptable for a humane compassionate human species to develop. I oppose all wolf hunting and culling! Children and adults gradually learn to view it as necessary when it is NOT.

***Victoria Faeo Belfry, MT***

42. Anything but just slaughtering.

***Jennifer hodge Plano, TX***

43. The North American Model of Wildlife Management, a lasting and effective, sustainable-use model for the conservation of our great birds and beast, cultivated by the blood, sweat, and tears of wildlife biologists and sportsmen and women, and touted by the likes of Theodore Roosevelt and Aldo Leopold, relies on the management of game species through regulated hunting. The only two places on Earth where wildlife populations have increased as a whole are North America and Sub-Saharan Africa, which are, incidentally, the only places where the model of conservation is driven through hunting. North America, in particular, has, using this model, managed not to loose a single species of megafauna to extinction since European settlement. If we, as Americans, start thumbing our noses at tried and true practices in favor of ill-informed, emotionally-based litigations, put forth by those groups and ideologues (who have done none of the work to be invited to celebrate in our success) we will lose our hold that was forged by our forefathers, and deny our descendants the grandeur of our game species.

***David Mullan Mount Laurel, NJ***

44. I am writing as a visitor to the beautiful state of Montana who is concerned about the new wolf hunting legislation under review abs what it means for wolf populations. I have been fortunate enough to explore some of Montana's extensive range this summer, including the Snowcrest Range, Yellowstone National park and the Bob Marshall Wilderness, all of which have enthralled me with their unrivaled landscapes and fascinating diversity of species. I have always been drawn to Montana's rugged and substantially undeveloped geography. A significant attractor is the variety of wildlife one can view that is generally unique to Montana. Several years ago, I had the opportunity to observe a wolf pack feeding on a kill, an experience that has stuck with me in the time since. Wolves play a crucial ecological role as a keystone species. The classic example is their reintroduction into Yellowstone and the cascading effects it had on the ecosystem, which although sometimes oversimplified, illustrates the outsized impact they truly possess as an apex predator. Hunting is clearly an important aspect of Montana's culture. Senator Bob Brown claimed that since the elk populations are declining, families are lacking in sustenance that hunting provides. While I understand the proclivity for game hunting, I would disagree with the statement that wolves are the primary reason for elk population declines. Hunters benefit from the presence of apex predators since many ungulate species require natural regulation in order to prevent boom and bust population trends. With regards to the proposed legislation, the changes would alter the practice of hunting entirely and remove the skill and knowledge required to be good at the sport. The use of snares, traps, bait and

spotlights turns hunting into plain killing. It was my perception that Montanans prided themselves on their ability to navigate the wilderness and engage in an actual fair chase of the animal, so I was unfavorably surprised to learn otherwise. Wolves are a flagship species of Montana and crucial with regards to their cultural and ecological value. There will always be conflicting political and economic opinions, but I would request that you consider the benefits that could be derived from a thriving wolf population with regards to tourism and social values.

**Holly Eberhard Boise, ID**

45. Director and Commissioners, The anti's point out that wolves only, "take the weak and sick", we know that is not true. They think that wolves will control CWD, just the opposite, they pass prions through scat to ungulates many miles away to other herds. They claim Trappers are responsible for exterminating wildlife, not true, wolves have exterminated woodland caribou from Northern Idaho and of the last five caribou documented in Montana, three were killed by wolves. No furbearers or predators have been exterminated by trappers. They claim that tourists come to Montana only to see wolves not deer and elk. I support the house bills but not all of the FWP proposals.

**TOM FIEBER Polson, MT**

46. We need to ethically control and limit the wolf population in Montana before this apex predator becomes an even larger problem. I highly recommend going with the "maximum" option as that is most in keeping with proper wolf population control and is in line with what the people of Montana voted for in last years' election. Please follow the spirit of the laws passed by our legislature.

**Marcus John Esmay Whitefish, MT**

47. I am 100% in favor of the Maximum New Tools for the 2020/2021 Wolf harvests. Thank you

**Richard Egan Jacksonville, FL**

48. **Karen Stammeyer Onondaga, MI**

49. Current management of the wolf population is a success. Hunting and trapping seasons will further that success. Please move forward with the proposed season.

**Kimon Wood San Antonio, TX**

50. Please vote against the new wolf-hunting regulations. The ecosystems cannot thrive without these animals. Imagine your personal pet being hunted down cruelly. Animals are here WITH us, not to be killed for personal entertainment

**Natalie Maxson Dollar Bay, MI**

51. Director and Commissioners, I agree that the number of wolves in Northwest Montana needs to be reduced to get in line with the undulant herds and needs a more aggressive management plan. I also see that each region or wolf management area needs to be managed separately. I support the house bills intent.

**TOM FIEBER Polson, MT**



52. Director and Commissioners, \* The two bills that allows for night hunting and hunting over bait again is not in line with the legislative intent. I support the house bill not the FWP proposal.

***TOM FIEBER Polson, MT***

53. States must be allowed to manage these apex predators to protect targeted wild game populations and the many managed livestock animals on private land and grazing allotments. As a lifelong hunter I personally have witnessed loss of elk numbers in previously healthy herds in the state of Idaho, specifically the Lolo herd. Myself and friends hunted the Lolo area for over twenty-five years historically seeing elk pretty much on a daily basis during a season and on occasion harvesting an animal. Three seasons ago we went back to our old familiar hunt area and spent forty actual "man days" hunting without seeing an elk, cow or bull. We did see wolves and six elk kill sites that appeared to be wolf caused. Let the state game management experts manage the states wildlife!

***John Coppoletti Amity, OR***

54. As a person who came to Yellowstone for the first time this year, I want nothing more than to be able to come back and KNOW that my chances of seeing a beautiful, majestic wolf will be good like they were this year. With the new 2021 Wolf Season options for that have been drawn up, my chances of ever being able to see another wolf are going to greatly decrease. These options are cruel and evil. There is NO science behind the reasoning as to why there have been such harsh extremes taken against the wolf population in and around the Yellowstone areas. Please leave the Canis Lupus species alone! These new Wolf Season Options are going to destroy years of conservation efforts towards restoring the wolf population back to the small number it is today. A wolf is not a trophy! And hunting a wolf because they "are a threat" to the cattle industry is absolutely absurd!! LEAVE. THEM. BE!!!!

***Charlie Daghuer Battle Creek, MI***

55. Maximum New Tools. Wolves have decimated moose population among other issues.

***Victoria Yeager Fort Worth, TX***

56. I support hunting wolves for a number of reason. I plan on hunting elk and deer in Montana in the near future and if the population of wolves is not kept under control the opportunity to come to Montana and hunt elk and deer will not exist. Wolves don't have any natural predators and that is dangerous for the rest of the animals in the area. Much like the issue we are having with coyotes here in Georgia.

***David Erickson Griffin, GA***

57. yes i think that wolves do need to be kept in check by hunters to control the population and protect their livestock why else did we get rid of them many years ago people need to learn from other generations and not have to go thru everything they did again and again people need to understand wisdom is from the wise not the young ignorant. like some in congress today they have no life experiences young people don't need to be making decisions without having any life lessons.

***paul lee eros, LA***

58. As an avid hunter and supporter of local farmers and ranchers I support this wolf season.

***Tina Benton Prineville, OR***

59. The proposed regulations are well thought out by the appropriate officials and experts and they should not be subordinated to outside special interests.

***Ralph Kline Las Vegas, NV***

60. ***Joan Fay Burbank, IL***

61. A balanced wolf population is necessary and needed for a healthy ecosystem. We have seen this first hand here in Wisconsin and have a State Constitutional right to harvest them. You have an opportunity to place the wolf in the asset column rather than the liability column. When you look at the positive impact of reestablishing the correct pack population AND the expanded financial impact of allowing ethical hunters the ability to responsibly harvest – wolves become as asset to Montana. Science clearly shows us that an unbalanced wolf population affects the entire ecosystem. The vocal minority believe an increased wolf harvest will harm other species, when in fact it's the exact opposite! The agenda of anti-hunters is theirs and they are entitled to it – Please take into consideration facts and not emotional theories. Hunters provide state and local revenue and responsible, ethical conservation methods for all of Montana to enjoy.

Regards, Chris Vaughan

***Chris Vaughan North Prairie, WI***

62. I want to state up front that I'm not a resident of Montana, but I do travel with my sons from our homes in Georgia to hunt in your beautiful state. We have no desire to hunt wolves ourselves, but we would like to see them professionally managed like all other species, using scientific information and not emotional ones, in order to preserve the wolf population balance, both within all other Montana wildlife species and the wolf herd itself. Wolves essentially have no natural predators, so human hunters and trappers must be used to keep the population in check. I trust you will make the right decision to do that, and all Montana wildlife will benefit from your leadership and guidance.

***Jimmy Harper Hamilton, GA***

63. I'd like to voice my support of Montana 2021 Wolf management regulations. Specifically I support the regulations set in attempt to mitigate non-target species and the rapid response measure to adjust regulations in the unfortunate event non-target species are impacted. The

Constitution of the United States grants wildlife rights to the individual states. I congratulate Montana for implementing a constitutionally protected right.

**Benjamin E. Schoppe Spring City, UT**

64. As a hunter and conservationist, I have observed coyotes which are similar in many ways to wolves. It only makes common sense that if you over populate with any predator species, other species will suffer and I speak for real time observation of this! I think you should consider the source of people against this and I will bet their experience is nill on situations like this, my two cents

**Gary Schaub West Seneca , NY**

65. Please EXPAND the quotas, and lower the cost of tags. Wolves are an invasive species, much like feral hogs, and need more aggressive measures to keep their numbers down. Please ignore the false claims made by eco-terrorists, whose ultimate goal is to end hunting by wiping out all other species. These people don't care one whit about wolves. it is all about the end game

**Lance L Lewistown, MT**

66. I agree with commission

**Andy Nichols Pryor, OK**

67. There is no reason not to have a wolf hunt! We are seeing our wildlife populations plummet here in Wyoming because when these predators are not controlled they destroy our wildlife!

**Robert M LeFavre Rock Springs, WY**

68. I have spent over 60 years hunting and fishing. Elk in early season is my passion. I encourage you to listen to your game managers when it comes to the Wolf population. Do not entertain stupid ideas from big money people who know nothing about sound game management.

**Steve Nicholas Gainesville, GA**

69. Fellow Americans, My name is Eddie Jackson, I live in Texas , but am very concerned that to many things are happening nowadays that infringe on my outdoor lifestyle, not to mention my rights! This wolf situation is just another case where non hunting groups are trying to swing a states vote there way! Please do the right thing and allow hunters and trappers manage this problem. It's conservation in its truest form ! This country must start making good decisions again , like we have in earlier years. Thanks for allowing me to comment on this .

**Eddie Jackson Winters , TX**

70. I oppose the use of snares on dry land for any fur bearing animal, including Wolves whether on private or public ground. I prefer a bag limit of 5 Season dates December 15 - end of February. No hunting or trapping over bait other than what naturally occurs. Although not mentioned this time I absolutely oppose the idea of any poison bait use in the future.

**Stephen Roth Kalispell , MT**

71. Your proposed regulations make a lot of sense and are a great step in the right direction. Wolves need to be managed properly in order to preserve other wildlife and I think your goals and regulations will do that. Please push forward with this common sense regulation.

**Steve Widhalm Elkhorn, NE**

72. These animals need to be treated with the same respect as a coyote.

**Mike Cadwell COLSTRIP, MT**

73. I would endorse the use of Maximum tools for the use of limiting the size of the Wolf population.

**Gary Reinikainen Prairie Farm , WI**

74. I support the proposed wolf management season and think the Montana game and fish have a responsibility to uphold these management practices as good stewards of conservation and to better the quality of big ge species in Montana. Ungulates pay the ultimate price in poor predator practices, both in hunter numbers and poor regulation of wolf populations. The number of predators needs to be closely managed and thinned when possible for all animals to thrive! Thanks for allowing me to voice my opinion!

**Lance N Fitzgerald Longmont, CO**

75. Dear DNR of Montana, As a responsible big game hunter, I encourage Montana to increase the harvesting of wolves per population and dangerous wolves. Do not fall for political opposition, use you knowledge and experience to guide you. As hunters across the US we continue to jump thru state by state hoops, pay high fees, yet respect nature and habitat the most. Thank you very much Tim West

**Timothy West Covington, GA, GA**

76. I believe as a responsible hunter that trapping wolves on private Land is a good thing! That way if people are having problems with wolves on their property they can try and correct the problem. I also believe that the conservation in the state think this will help to manage their wolves, they set a law to review this yearly to make sure they don't hurt the population of wolves but to manage them from becoming overpopulated.

**TRAVIS WATKINS Chatham, IL**

77. I've never dealt with wolves before but here in NY we have a coyote problem and a anti hunting problem. I've been hunting for 40 years and I see how the coyote hurt our deer, and turkeys. I can just imagine what a wolf pack could do to an elk herd. Please use some common sense in this case. Thank you.

**Tim West Peasant Valley, NY**

78. I fully support a wolf hunting season in order to reach original goals of wolf population numbers. The decisions surrounding wolf reintroduction and numbers management should be left to those immediately impacted, specifically the ranchers and people living in the area and the hunting community.

**Wade Riniker Steamboat Springs, CO**

79. **Deborah Accos Miami, FL**

80. The law makes sense. Please don't listen to a vocal minority of folks that just don't understand management.

**Tom Wiener Plainview, MN**

81. Wolf populations have exploded nationwide, and with that, we have seen dramatic decreases in the numbers of deer, elk, and moose. Wolves are also responsible for large numbers of livestock kills. The reality is that in many locales, wolf populations are 10x what they were "supposed to be" according to "officials". This is unacceptable. The hunts must be expanded and continued.

**Craig Johnson Grand Rapids, MI**

82. Need to allow Maximum New Tools. The current population is doing nothing but hurting the states economy by killing off the Elk and deer populations. As a hunter I would like to see the deer and elk herds back at sustainable healthy numbers

**Joel Halfmann San Angelo, TX**

83. I am not a wolf hunter, but I know that if you don't manage them, they will manage you and your farms, livestock, pets and eventually your family. Be careful what you wish for. You must weigh the difference between the two sides and see which has more proof and credibility. I will be praying for you all.

**David NeSmith Dublin, GA**

84. This is unacceptable and incredibly damaging for the ecosystem which we rely on to supply us with all natural resources. Find another hobby

**Bob Robson New York, NY**

85. **Michelle Kovarik Leechburg, PA**

86. Dear Commission, It is of utmost importance that you adopt sensible wolf hunting quotas based upon SCIENCE of the experts, conservation officers, Montana's departments concerning wildlife and such, not the extremist and political agenda types activists that truly have NO clue that managing the wolf population is critical to a balanced wildlife environment. People educated in the outdoors know that the best way to ensure the strength and thriving wolf population in Montana is by regulating their numbers. Environmentalists don't truly care about the environment, they care about control and political agendas, nothing more. An uncontrolled wolf population in Montana will no doubt lead to increased predation of livestock, disease

spreading as wolves left unchecked will kill for sport (refer to the devastation wolves left unchecked had in Yellowstone, on the deer herds), and will also inevitably lead to increased unwanted tragic interactions between wolves and humans, which will ultimately result in devastating effects truly, to the wolves. I urge you to resist the knee jerk sensationalism and emotionalism of these so called environmentalist in their attempts to advance their foolish and misguided agendas that historically have proven to cause the exact opposite effect of their stated intentions. Hunters are the first and TRUE conservationists, and if you TRULY desire a healthy wolf population, then controlling their numbers sensibly ,through hunting, is the only logical, effective, and moral recourse! Sincerely, Donald A Miller, RN

**Donald Miller Pitcairn, PA**

87. I am a lifelong Montanan, conservationist, hunter and outdoorsman and I support the management and ethical hunting (including trapping) of wolves as part of an overall management plan.

**Travis Teegarden Laurel, MT**

88. Kill those bastards down to 100 . They are killing too many elk . Kill 900 of them . I didn't realize there were so many liberals in Montana .

**Ralph L Gouge. Maryville, TN**

89. This is an easy one. Aren't elk, deer, fish and any other hunted animal monitored. The wolf is not a natural species to Montana, Idaho or any other state where these wolves were transplanted. Elk herds have diminished by 66%; solely by the introduction of the wolf. Why is this such a contested issue. You can eat an elk, deer, moose, etc. but you've allowed them to be slaughtered by a wild pack of dogs. The best meat on the planet goes to the dogs, literally. 90% elimination is a great start. Stop delaying. It is going to take years for the elk herds to recover, just because some Washington bureaucrat wanted to get his/her name in the paper. This is such a joke that it has gone on this long. A complete embarrassment to Montana

**Russell Cook Las Vegas, NV**

90. we have to keep these predators in check. I say yes to wolf hunting

**glennon w ryan II Castle Rock, WA**

91. Please keep wolf hunting open. They need to be keep at manageable levels or they will decimate the elk deer and prong horn populations. Thanks

**steve salvador morgan hill, CA**

92. More wolves need harvested and a year around open season is imperative to managing wolves

**Al Morris Springville, UT**

93. I think that in certain public arises bordering all these big ranch's should be open to snaring. Especially where the packs are running thick, like North of Ovando and up in the Seely Lake and Swan Vally range.

**No name Ovando, MT**

94. I would like to go there for a fishing vacation and don't want to have to carry a weapon. I just want to fish without risking my life. Please allow the hunters to install the fear of humans into these huge, non-native man killers that should not have been released in the first place.

Thanks much, Tony Dres

***tony dres Los Angeles, CA***

95. Fish and Wildlife of Montana need to open the wolf season for trapping and predator control they need a quota on all packs located coming into the state our Elk Deer herds have steadily decreased with the reintroduction to Montana I'm a native Montanan and have lived in Alaska retiring from the USAF and have watched as outsider for many years now that I have been back taking care of my 87 year old dad for the last 21/2 years the elk we used to have on the Warnken ranch is no more or very very limited now because of the wolf reintroduction in Montana I'm not saying complete destruction of the wolf packs but something has to be done or the new born will be gone and there will be no more elk and deer to hunt thanks for your time John Keck

***John Keck Superior , MT***

96. ***William Vejtasa Stanford, MT***

97. Please don't let What happened in Idaho's Frank Church Area, Happen in Montana. You are well over the 150 limit the anti hunters agreed to yet they keep fighting it with out of state money. Time to control the wolf population while you still have Elk. The Lolo Zone has become a predator pit. Don't let that happen to the rest of Montana.

***Bradford Mingle Cody, WY***

98. I have hunted elk as an out of stater in your beautiful state. There needs to be balance with All animals including predators. Please approve the the 2021-2022 wolf and trapping regulations. Severe depredation by over populated predators will hurt your deer and elk herds and the result will limit the numbers of tags you will be able to give out and those of us out of staters will see less opportunity to come hunt your beautiful and magnificent state.

***Stephen Craig Peyton, CO***

99. Wolves have wiped out a large part of the elk and deer poulation North of Helena. We see the around him on a regular basis. Their numbers are way too high.

***John Shearin Ulm, MT***

100. I hope Montana takes this as far as needed to get the numbers down so we can have our elk deer moose herds back just as we are starting to in idaho open up the season with no restrictions till you reach your goal Treat them as a predator for which they are

***Mitch Gaber Post falls, ID***

101. I have pretty much given up on harvesting a deer in the area I loved to hunt in Western Mont because of wolfs. Deer are scarce where they were once plentiful and the survivors are far and

few between. What used to be a good hunting experience is no more and I have essentially given up on Montana. Two reasons. Price of tags and the wolf decimating the deer population I what used to be my favorite area. I totally buy in to the new proposals not so much for me as for future hunters.

**Neil Fulwiler Malaga, WA**

102. I support a wolf season in Montana to control a species that will quickly get out control and damage other wildlife species in your great state

**Bud Romine Lampasas , TX**

103. They're running rampant everywhere everywhere they have gone! Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife sends me emails of are predation, yet has done nothing.

**Chris Odell The Dalles, OR**

104. If you are a student of American history you will then understand where we will end up if Wolf populations are not kept in check and managed by scientific data, not emotions.

**Ronald Moore Salt Lake City, UT**

105. As a life long avid outdoorsman and Hunter I believe it's vitally important to keep all wildlife numbers in check, in relation to carrying capacity of available habitat. It's no different for predator numbers. Wolf numbers are way out of balance in Montana and Idaho. I believe it's the duty of both states wildlife commissions to more aggressively manage their population numbers to bring them down to sustainable levels for the wolves and their prey

**Mike McMayon Las Vegas, NV**

106. Please make the right decision to maintain a management program controlling the predator populations

**Jon Richardson Albuquerque, NM**

107. I have seen firsthand the destruction what to many wolves do. They kill wildlife and livestock just for the fun of killing. Need to manage the population to control there destruction.

**Bill Berg Halstad, MN**

108. Director and Commissioners, The comments that were stated during the June Meeting, in opposition, that claimed that support for trapping was a small number. Nothing is farther from the truth, look back to the 2016 ballot issue that was supporting trapping at 63%. I support the house bill not the FWP proposal. I support the house bill not the FWP proposal.

**TOM FIEBER Polson, MT**

109. Sirs, I believe your increase in the wolf harvest is prudent and rational...in our area of TN, introduced wolves to the no hunt ntl park has caused numerous livestock loss and several close calls for children, common sense dictates that dangerous and pestilent predators should be closely controlled.

**James Penland Gatlinburg, TN**



110. I live on the western slope of Colorado and here we run cattle, sheep etc. I feel that every state needs to manage their population of wolves as they do the rest of our wild game. People with good common sense understand with controlling and allowing hunters to help keep numbers in line that the wolves will throw the rest of the game out of balance along with our domestic livestock stock. Controlling the wolf population should be allowed as any other predators. And I feel people who live in our cities should have little say in matters where they have no dealing up close like we do in the country! Sincerely Dan Kunde

**Dan Kunde Paonia, CO**

111. "As a Montana resident and an advocate for wildlife, I value the presence of healthy wolf populations in Montana. The proposals before the Commission are not ethical, science-based, sustainable, or needed. I urge the Commission to reject proposals to extend wolf hunting seasons or to approve new and deadly wolf killing tactics such as hunting at night or using bait to hunt or trap wolves." Thank you

**Nancee Beebe Bozeman, MT**

112. Please proceed with the commission recommendations on wolf hunting. We must not allow a vocal anti-hunting minority to make policy decisions for wildlife populations. These decisions must be based on science and solid field data, as the commission has set forth. Hunters and trappers stand ready to meet the call as necessary to help control the wolf population. As an archery hunter myself I've come across a wolf killed elk on both private and public land in Montana. We cannot allow these apex predators to reek havoc on other big game populations. Please stand firm in your support of the commission recommendations and proceed with the expanded hunting/trapping harvest of wolf populations in Montana. Thank you and Sincerely, Jay Canada

**Jay Canada Glensvil, NE**

113. Wolves, in general, are not the threat they are perceived to be to livestock. Other mitigation and deterrent strategies are available to prevent livestock predation. Please do not allow snares and other cruel devices to be used to cull wild wolves. They are indeed part of a functional, healthy ecosystem in your region. Thank you.

**Verna Kilic Seattle, WA**

114. **Lisa lor Oakland, CA**

115. Please manage wolf populations so we can continue to provide Montana with out of state hunting revenue. Failing to do so will mean a loss of revenue and resources As a zoologist, I would recommend consideration of night hunting at least on private lands Thank you Dr B Johnson

**Bryan johnsbn Clarkston, MI**

116. The more aggressive the better. Science based regulations should always trump ballot based.

**David Livernash Roy, WA**

117. As a hunter I believe in a balanced environment for animals and believe that the wolf population in Montana needs reduction to protect the population of other animals.

**Bob Brandenburg Buffalo Grove , IL**

118. I have a concern when wildlife management is regulated by emotions, all other wildlife has license requirements, season and method of take, depending upon the species, crop damage, auto/wildlife collisions or just out of balance for supporting habitat, in such cases the animals usually suffer a slow painful death of disease if not harvested and utilized by sportsman. Please leave the management of wildlife to professional wildlife managers not emotionally disturbed people who "feel" their opinion is right. Ranchers and landowners have rights too. Please do the right thing for the wolves, elk and deer as well as the ranchers, landowners and sportsman. Put the rules in place that have been passed by the legislature and signed into law by the governor. Kind regards & fellow sportsman, Boyd

**Boyd Lilly Littleton , CO**

119. MI has the same problem as many western states . must people know we have to control the population but a few just dont care or they are uninformed.

**richard Melvin engelbert columbus, MI**

120. As an avid supporter of wildlife, I ask that the commission help expend the hunting and trapping opportunities for sportsmen to control Montana's wolf population which has far surpassed its target population quota. We need to greatly reduce wild numbers in order to sustain our native ungulate species. It would be an extreme dis-set or to deer, moose, elk and mountain lion populations if we do not act now. Please consider my request to expand the wolf harvest opportunities like Idaho is proactively approving as well. Thank you for your consideration. Best Regards, Adam Brescia

**Adam Brescia Bozeman, MT**

121. Wolves kill Cats. If you are concerned about the lynx being protected than reduction of wolves population will help. Go back to your basic plan on the number of wolves you outlined in the beginning to have a viable reproducing number. That number was what was agreed upon. These people have no honor. They will never be satisfied. The Elk and Deer herds are paying the price. Ranchers pay the price. What do these people pay? They are not hunter or trappers. They know about as much in these areas as they do piloting the space shuttle. Reducing the number will make the population more healthy and reduce the stress on all the other wildlife.

**WILLIAM DYE Vernal, UT**

122. This appears to be a well thought out scientific approach to keep the wolf numbers in check. I wish all the states with wolves would follow Montana's approach.

**tyson miller Mosherville, MI**

123. Please support the new wolf proposal that was passed through our states legislation. We need the extended season to help get these predators in check. by opening season 15 days earlier it

will help us trappers out tremendously. I hope that the commissioners will support this. I also hope the commissioners will support the increase bag limit per trapper. With the legislation that was passed I hope you use the the snaring tool and allow it on private land until an education program can be established and wolf snaring included. Thanks Wilson

***John R Wilson Bonner, MT***

124. I support the full and opened hunting, trapping and the reduction of these arctic wolves from our state. Our elk, deer and moose populations has taken a massive hit from these predators. It's past time to reduce these animals down to allow the herds to regenerate again.

***Lorilee Cuvillier Trout Creek, MT***

125. I strongly support the wolf management practices that Governor Gianforte signed into law earlier this year. These management practices are necessary to reduce wolf depredation on livestock, pets, and big game animals. The wolves have driven many of the elk herds from the mountains to the foothills and river bottoms. This change greatly increases the risk to pets, livestock and humans. I have seen wolves chasing elk towards the subdivisions from my deck near the Hamilton golf course. Having wolves near subdivisions is a recipe for disaster.

***Nancy Dezell Hamilton, MT***

126. Intermediate is well said No matter what options used they should be based on Science.

***Robert Pace Gardnerville, NV***

127. Hunters and trappers are necessary to control the wolf population . Valuable wildlife such as deer, elk and moose need the control in order to have sustainable numbers and a renewable resource .

***Wayne Cox Athens , TX***

128. I strongly support the wolf management practices that Governor Gianforte signed into law earlier this year. These management practices are necessary to reduce wolf depredation on livestock, pets, and big game animals. I was born and raised in Hamilton and the wolves have driven many of the elk herds from the mountains to the foothills and river bottoms. This change greatly increases the risk to pets, livestock and humans.

***Craig B Dezell Hamilton, MT***

129. If proposed changes to the state's wolf-hunting regulations are passed, it would expand some of the cruelest and most vile practices: snare trapping, night hunting, and use of baits to lure unsuspecting victims into gunsights. I urge FWP commissioners to PLEASE vote against new wolf-hunting regulations. Wolves are a keystone species without whom ecosystems cannot thrive - plus, the presence of wolves has a trickle-down effect, increasing biodiversity in animal and plant species.

***Laksh Sank Bozeman, MT***

130. Responsible scientific wolf management is the ONLY reasonable answer, knee jerk policies are doomed to fail and have detrimental consequences down the road that become not only hard

on other species that share the landscape to say nothing of the waste of resources that could better utilized elsewhere.

**Jeff Seeholzer Logan, UT**

131. I fully support the commission to decide that the wolfs need to be managed. We have to make people realize that these animals a killing machines. There is no animal that has a chance to survive against a pack of wolves. I for one would not like to go up against a pack of wolves, even with a gun in my hand.

**Larry Heikes Ellsworth, MN**

132. As a Montana resident and an advocate for wildlife, I value the presence of healthy wolf populations in Montana. The proposals before the Commission are not ethical, science-based, sustainable, or needed. I urge the Commission to reject proposals to extend wolf hunting seasons or to approve new and deadly wolf killing tactics such as hunting at night or using bait to hunt or trap wolves. Wolves play a crucial role in healthy ecosystems and MFWPs needs to manage them in a sustainable/viable manner not allow a 'free for all' hunting policy.

**Ron Torretta Trout Creek, MT**

133. Please allow the Dept of natural resources to handle the wolf population as they deem fit. Sound science is the way to regulate predator/prey relationships! Emotion has no place in determining wild life populations

**Don grannan Osceola, IN**

134. I love animals. I love dogs. I also love hunting wild game. Never have been interested in hunting fur-bearing animals. Nonetheless - I 100% agree with maintaining minimum populations of this apex predator. They can and will decimate deer, horse, farm animals, and even the family pets. Let's not let our love of dogs and all things Twilight confuse the issue - take care of the wolves or the wolves will take care of themselves by growing their packs and increasing their presence and appetite.

**Michael Beau Gayner Bedford, WY**

135. Any wildlife needs to be regulated and hunting is an excellent way to do that. Keep the forests healthy with management too!!!! Thanks

**Dennis Plank MONTEZUMA, GA**

136. Gents & Ladies. Balance is the key to a successful ecosystem. Hunting seasons and reasonable, scientific regulations and bag limits are THE best means to manage populations. Let us use science and not emotion to make our decisions. Thank you.

**Emil Reiman Lorena, TX**

137. I completely support the law passed by elected officials in the great state of Montana to harvest the wolf population back to a sustainable level. If the wolf population is left unchecked, it will ultimately lead to degradation of other predators and could impact more human encounters. Please allow the hunt and trapping of wolves in the Big Sky State.

***Joseph Isabella White Oak, PA***

138. As an avid hunter and knowing that harvesting of animals are in their best interest in most areas. I support either Intermediate or Maximum New Tools to assist in controlling the wolf population in Montana. The people of Montana that make a living raising cattle, guiding for elk, deer, moose, and any other animal deserve to have those resources protected.

***Lynn Dupree Frisco, TX***

139. I am an advocate for trusting wildlife agency leadership to determine the best approach to predatory species management without pressure from special interest groups or politicians. I have personally witnessed first hand the decimation of local elk and deer population numbers in my home state that has been directly impacted by the release and protection of wolves. Unabated these predators will upset the natural balance of wildlife sustainability!

***Russ Casteel Arlington, WA***

140. I've not been back to hunt MT (elk and deer) because the wolf predation in the area where I hunted was a huge detriment. Why spend \$1000s for out of state hunting just to compete with the wolves?

***David Duncan Carl Junction, MO***

141. Considering there is 5X the intended wolf population in a short time. Need a unrestricted open season on wolves to save the deer and elk populations. The ranchers were correct with wolf management in the early twentieth century.

***Jeff Stewart Clio, MI***

142. Increase the wolf harvest numbers. Extensive damage has been done to the livestock population

***Dennis mindock Chicago, IL***

143. While I do not live in Montana, I have hunted that area of the U.S. I totally agree with the commission's recommendations. We have had a substantial drop in our wild turkey population due to predators, coyotes and raccoons. Predators need managed like any other species. A large predator like the wolf could quickly decimate your deer, elk, and possibly pronghorns. The ranchers also take a big hit on livestock. I am totally in agreement with your management.

***Tommy D Lloyd HARRAH, OK***

144. I love the outdoors. And I believe that wolves are causing more harm than good. Please allow for us to keep hunting them and protect wildlife

***Tiago Sousa Lehi, UT***

145. Sensible management of all animals is just the right thing to do. Wolves are a special animal to many...management is what should happen, not eradication.

***Darby Townsend Eagle river, WI***

146. We need to manage wolves anyway we can, you cannot limit seasons and harvests. Take what you can with these hard to get predators and hope you can keep the population in check.

***Devin Birnamwood, WI***

147. An excessive wolf population can have a negative effect on big game populations. I support maintaining a wolf population that is acceptable to ranchers and the hunting public. The hunting public is willing to assist in maintaining/controlling the wolf population. Just last fall (2020), the state of WI had a wolf hunt to control the excessive wolf population.

***Dan Krieg Little Canada, MN***

148. The wolf needs to be kept in check as any predator should be. American hunters are ready, willing, and able to be the answer to managing these growing predator populations responsibly and ethically. Hunting is a great American tradition and hunters can work with state agencies to manage numbers and do what makes biological sense to keep all wild animals in a balanced population. Too many wolves leads to attacks on livestock and other animals. Please do what makes sense backed by data. Thank you.

***Lee Erickson Grant, MN***

149. People don't understand predators have to be managed if the left or to go camping and get attacked by wolves it would be a different story I'm all for managing the herd

***Donald Norris CEDARTOWN, GA***

150. Please continue to allow the harvesting of Wolves that are continuing to increase and be a threat to other native wildlife and the ranchers that raise cattle. The lack of hunting and trapping wolves will only continue to destabilize our natural habitat and destroy peoples lives.

***Steve Newby Porter, TX***

151. Wolves need to be controlled. Ranchers and wildlife need a break. Yes they are beautiful, but they are killers. Coyotes in NJ are starting to attack people. It's only a matter of time with wolves, and you can't convince me otherwise.

***Stanley Williamson Milford, NJ***

152. I agree with the Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks approach to a known problem with wolf populations

***Elwood William Maurer Ashland, PA***

153. I support the removal of more wolves to preserve our wildlife and livestock from depredation by too many wolves in the State of Montana!!

***Steven J Hess Molalla, OR***

154. I'm so tired of this fight! The F&G, based on evidence and factual studies of the impact wolves have had to our herds, wild and domestic, have NO RIGHT to even take comments from activists and people who have no interaction with wolves! DO YOUR DAMNED JOBS for a change and proceed with management practices! Also, please post online the names and positions occupied here so we, as outdoorsman, can replace you when opportunity arises!

**Jason Smith Dillon, MT**

155. I believe the expansion of the season to bring the wolf population down to a more manageable number will be a positive influence. Not only for the other wildlife that inhabit the same country, but also the agriculture community that live in the same regions and deal with the wolf on a regular basis.

**Jacobus Brennan Bruneau, ID**

156. Hunting as a part of a conservation plan makes sense.

**Jorge Field KANSAS CITY, MO**

157. Wolf populations are out of control. I hunt the Centennial valley in south west Montana and have for thirty years. The decline of elk and deer is overwhelming. I either see or here wolves every year. The population must be reduced.

**Pete McKnight Florence, MT**

158. As a Wisconsin resident who has seen firsthand the destruction, fear and losses a unchecked wolf population creates; I fully support all current and proposed hunting of wolves in Montana.

**Mark Scholze Luck, WI**

159. Please use the biologist recommendations for management of wolf populations. Hunting as a management tool

**Erv Dykstra Jasper, GA**

160. Dear Commissioners: If you must, please only implement the "Limited Tools" option. I'd prefer if nothing was changed from current regs. Thank you

**Michael Stoerger Livingston, MT**

161. Please vote against these cruel new wolf-hunting regulations! These animals should not be used for sport. That is undebatable, and I will not be visiting this state in the future if these regulations pass. Wolves are a keystone species without which many others would not survive, and their presence has a trickle-down effect, increasing the biodiversity of their ecosystem. They deserve better.

**Tabatha Black Twickenham, WA**

162. We need a longer season and more quotas in all areas. There are more wolves in our state than folks realize. If you spend some time out in our public and private lands, you will see the problems created by this animal.

**Chris Hindoen Choteau, MT**

163. The most obvious case of shooting oneself in the foot. Removing top tier predators from the natural hierarchy is only going to spell disaster. We are ruining this planet through means of animal agriculture and further destroying what we have left is in no way shape or form a resolution.

**Rachael Kitchen Norman, OK**

164. PLEASE STOP THE SENSELESS KILLING OF WOLVES IN MONTANA...THESE ARE GOD'S CREATURES JUST LIKE WE ARE...WOLVES HAVE FAMILIES. FATHERS, MOTHERS, SISTERS, BROTHERS, AUNTS AND UNCLES...WHY DO HUMANS THINK IT IS OK TO KILL OTHER OF GOD'S CREATURES INSTEAD OF MAKING EVERY EFFORT POSSIBLE TO LIVE TOGETHER AS BEST WE CAN. gIVE SPACE AND RECEIVE SPACE!!!

**Richard Waide Billings, MT**

165. Please use utmost restraint in implementing recent legislation. Please use "Limited New Tools" rules for all seven key elements in wolf "harvesting." I believe NONE of the three FWP proposals showing combinations of quota areas and quotas are acceptable. The legislation is NOT based on science. Wolves have a positive impact on the environment. The legislation negatively affects wolves around the national parks (nation-wide issue). Further, the internet of these new regulations VIOLATE THE MONTANA CONSTITUTION, Title 8, Fish and Wildlife pg. 87-5-103. Lastly, the claims that wolves are seriously impacting Montana's elk and livestock industry is FALSE. In its implementation, Fish and Wildlife must follow science, and science does NOT support allegations made about the wolf. Thank you very much.

**Lawrence Drummond Kansas City, MO**

166. These proposed changes are not only barbaric and cruel, but not backed or base in science, This new plan is driven by conservative legislators who are basing decisions in ignorance and "old school" MT beliefs that the wolves are decimating deer and elk populations This is absolutely not true.

**Kim Lockwood Bozeman, MT**

167. Please vote against new wolf-hunting regulations. Please protect these animals.

**Natalie Pierce Fort Worth, TX**

168. Please vote against these new wolf hunting regulations. Too often, animals need protection from ugly human behavior. Greed and profit are usually the catalysts for animal abuse and death. If passed, this regulation would expand some of the cruelest and most vile practices: snare trapping, night hunting, and use of baits to lure unsuspecting victims into gun sights. Please stop the foreseeable increase of slaughtered wolves. They have no voice so on their behalf, please consider a vote of NO. Thank you for your time.

**Paula Petragallo KINGSTON, IL**

169. **Marty Otero oxnard, CA**



170. I oppose all use of snares and trapping. I oppose all baiting and night hunting. I oppose the quota of 450 wolves, this number is way too high. Please maintain the current quota of 2 wolves in units 313 and 316 near Yellowstone and also maintain the current quota near Glacier. I support fixing the regulations instead of making emergency meetings. Don't allow any trapping in areas where there are lynx or grizzly bears, and restrict all other trapping with snares. Thank you for registering my remarks!

***Victoria Bell Livingston, MT***

171. Please vote AGAINST new wolf-hunting regulations. Studies show that the presence of wolves increases biodiversity in animal and plant species. While I am not a resident of Montana, I will not visit the state in the future if these regulations pass. Thank you for your consideration.

***Kristi Fox West Palm Beach, FL***

172. As a Montana resident and an advocate for wildlife, I value the presence of healthy wolf populations in Montana. Wolves are a "keystone" species that help restore balance to our landscapes. These aggressive proposals threaten not just the future of these wolves, but all of our state's natural environment as well. The proposals before the Commission are not ethical, science-based, sustainable, or needed. I urge the Commission to reject proposals to extend wolf hunting seasons or to approve new and deadly wolf killing tactics such as hunting at night or using bait to hunt or trap wolves. The proposed snares will trap many animals besides wolves, and adding "bounties" is really an insult to a true hunter. Please protect our wolf population.

***Kerry Krebill Clancy, MT***

173. The new montane laws for trapping are barbaric and inhumane. They do not represent the majority of people in this state, in fact they represent less than one percent. I pay state and federal taxes and for me to fear walking in the National Forest with my dog is NOT Right because I have rights to enjoy what my taxes support. Please vote to suspend trapping within 500 ft, of a trail. Please put up signs on trails if there are traps set. Please oppose more wolf killings, a thousand is too many. Many other animals are caught in traps, so trapping should be limited to certain times, not all year around. Please oppose baiting wolves and night hunting, and the ethic of Fair Chase. Wolves have helped the YNP ecosystems, symbiotic relationships work.

***ann fuller Livingston, MT***

174. effeff

***bob nome, AK***

175. Thank you Chair and Commission for receiving public comment. My name is Brian Hoffman and I am a long time resident of the Flathead valley. I grew up hunting all over Montana but especially the Flathead area. I support a low count wolf season as it is routinely supported by wildlife experts and hunters alike. While I strongly object to the dramatic increase in wolf harvesting, I know the Commission must plan for this regardless, as is required by new laws, so I will instead focus on the proposal of snaring. I strongly oppose the proposal to allow snaring on private lands. If a higher quota must be met, it should be met with larger bags, not a wider

variety of killing methods. I acknowledge a personal bias against most trapping, having grown up around it, not just because I have seen very few trapping deaths that seem expedient or humane, but also because of the high rate of unintended targets, bears, lynx, peoples' dogs who wander off. All public land in Montana borders private land, some is nearly surrounded by it. Do we all have to constantly worry our dogs might wander and get killed by a snare? I think many hunters like myself would agree that a killshot with a rifle is far more swift and intentional than a snare left out in the woods. And while I also appreciate the Commission's attempts at regulating the snares used in order to protect other species, these regulations will be ignored by land owners knowing that it's unlikely anybody will actually come check their adherence to regulations. As has been recently demonstrated by our Governor, private land owners routinely ignore trapping regulations knowing they are unlikely to get caught or can just pay a fine and do it again. Please do not allow snaring on private land to kill wolves. Thank you. PS - Representative Fielder recently suggested that it was the job of the Commission to read between the lines of his bill and assume his legislative intent when it comes to drawing up wolf season plans. I encourage the Commission to ignore this and adhere to the letter of the law. If he had additional intentions in mind he should have written them into a bill in plain language and passed them.

**Brian Marion, MT**

176. I'm from Alaska living in Montana. Y'all bunch of Bitches. The mentality you have about Wolves and Bears is DISGUSTING. All because Cows and Ranchers are your gods. Hopefully you Dick's are still around when the planet goes completely Tits up. Maybe you'll get eaten by a BIG BAD WOLF 🐺👊 Have a Lovely day

**Tierney Troy Choteau, MT**

177. I oppose the following measures to reduce the wolf population in Montana. Using a five-animal bag limit. One wolf should be sufficient for anyone with a license; otherwise, it's a wolf slaughter. Expanding the hunting season for wolves. James C. Halfpenny notes in *Yellowstone in the Wild* (2003, p. 37) "The alpha female is not ready to breed until late January or early February." Halfpenny goes on to say, "The estrous cycle lasts about ten days." and "mating occurs near the end" of that cycle. "Gestation lasts 60 days, plus or minus three days." Do we really want to be so inhumane as to kill pregnant wolves? Use of bait, night hunting and snares. I am against all of them. What happened to fair chase? Are we headed toward the methods our ancestors employed? According to the FWP document "Hunting Season - Quota Change Supporting Information," that "Snares also generate some of the most consistently expressed concerns relative to incidental capture of domestic dogs and other wildlife species including federally listed lynx and grizzly bears." Just wait until someone's beloved dog gets caught in a snare and is maimed or dies. In addition, on p. 16 of your information, it states, "Individual experienced trappers have expressed concerns over allowing the snaring of wolves by people who have not been trained to avoid non-target animals." I do agree with the statement on p. 3 of the document. "Wolf and furbearer seasons continue to be set by the commission annually to allow opportunity for season adjustments between consecutive seasons based on review of harvest, population size, and conflicts." On p. 14 of "Supporting Information" FWP identifies population objectives that are based on "landowner tolerance,

habitat conditions, social factors and biological considerations." How will this year be different for wolves with the intense heat, smoke and fires? Some of the FWP objectives named are "3. Maintain positive and effective working relationships with stakeholders." "4a. Reduce wolf impacts on livestock." and "7. Learn and improve as we go." How much educating is done by FWP to landowners on prevention methods to take and thus avoid predation from wolves? (I know this is done by Defenders of Wildlife.) Do different methods work in different districts?: I would support quota areas around Yellowstone and Glacier National Parks for no more than one wolf each because many of these wolves are used in research studies.' Thanks for your consideration. Berma Saxton

***Berma Saxton Helena, MT***

178. I think you should keep the regulations at least at 2020 levels. Night hunts and snares on private lands are just unsportsmanlike like junk.

***Pamela Cersosimo Livingston, MT***

179. As a Montana resident and an advocate for wildlife, I value the presence of healthy wolf populations in Montana. The proposals before the Commission are not ethical, science-based, sustainable or needed. I urge the Commission to reject proposals to extend wolf hunting seasons or to approve new and deadly wolf killing tactics such as hunting at night or using bait to hunt or trap wolves. I also vehemently oppose the use of snares and traps. They are terribly cruel and dangerous for other wildlife, not to mention domestic pets and humans recreating in the outdoors.

***Faith Conroy Cameron, MT***

180. "As a Montana resident and an advocate for wildlife, I value the presence of healthy wolf populations in Montana. The proposals before the Commission are not ethical, science-based, sustainable, or needed. I urge the Commission to reject proposals to extend wolf hunting seasons or to approve new and deadly wolf killing tactics such as hunting at night or using bait to hunt or trap wolves." I am absolutely against any hunting of wolves as they are needed to help control CWD in our elk/ deer population and there are a record number of elk in the state of Montana, absolutely no shortage. If you feel there is a shortage of elk then there should be no shoulder seasons needed, of which is wrong in many ways because you are killing cow elk that are pregnant, so therefore eliminating two, which is in humane. And as far as cattle/sheep depredations by wolves it's proven to not even be 1%. Domestic dogs kill more! Illness is major factor in all cattle/sheep deaths. Cattle need to be removed from all public, BLM, federal and state property as they ruin the ground by overgrazing and crowding at the water source which in turn depletes the feed source for elk/deer forcing them to move onto ranches and then those ranches then only allow out-of-staters to hunt trophy bulls/ bucks for big money! Our elk should not be "for sale" to the rich! Then these same ranches cry wolf for a shoulder season because they don't allow the true Montana hunter to take cow elk during regular season. These same ranches should be forced to clean up or bury dead cattle/sheep carcasses to prevent attracting/baiting our wolves and bears, instead of piling carcasses in closest ditch on their property! The wolves are needed for our ecosystem, Yellowstone is proof of this, follow the

science and biologists.....this should NOT be a political agenda with control of our wildlife!!

***Kim Finn Livingston/Paradise Valley, MT***

181. These new bills show a disturbing lack of or knowledge or concern for our wildlife and wild places. Hunting has an ugly side which seems to be growing. An animal that is restrained by traps does not have a fair chance of escaping from the hunt. Any animal deserves a chance to die quickly and humanely. These new bills make all hunters look bad. This needs to stop and wolves are going back on the Endangered Species list.

***linda olson polson, MT***

182. As a Montana resident and an advocate for wildlife, I value the presence of healthy wolf populations in Montana. The proposals before the Commission are not ethical, science-based, sustainable, or needed. I urge the Commission to reject proposals to extend wolf hunting seasons or to approve new and deadly wolf killing tactics such as hunting at night or using bait to hunt or trap wolves.

***Dennis Heinzig Whitefish, MT***

183. NO to all these horrendous new policies to slaughter our wolves!! I urge the commission to reject proposals to extend wolf hunting season and new inhumane wolf killing tactics. Stop disrupting the balance of nature. These new bills are barbaric and disgusting....

***Skye Donaldson Polson, MT***

184. It's so stupid of our "legislators" to try to race Idaho, Wyoming, and other states to the bottom of conservation. You make me so sad and embarrassed to be a Montanan, finally. Sure, I could go back to where I came from but I'd rather be here as a conservationist with support from intelligent people instead of killers. How about dumping wolf hunting and maybe authorizing cattle and sheep hunting in some limited numbers so the farmers and ranchers finally understand they're not as privileged as you have made them.

***kent mollohan Helena, MT***

185. I visit the Montana region at least once and many times twice a year. My trips average around \$5000 each in hotel/dining/tourism each visit. My primary reason for visiting Montana is to hopefully catch a glimpse of wolves. The income from visitors wanting to see wild wolves must outweigh any income from hunting and trapping wolves. Please DO NOT ALLOW the killing of wolves to increase to 450!!! Please DO NOT ALLOW night hunting!! Please DO NOT ALLOW the use of snares!!!! Not only are all of these new regulation proposals detrimental to wolves and the entire ecosystem..it most definitely will limit my visits and dollars spent in Montana.

Debbie Fetters

***Debbie Fetters Layton, UT***

186. "As a Montana resident and an advocate for wildlife, I value the presence of healthy wolf populations in Montana. The proposals before the Commission are not ethical, science-based, sustainable, or needed. I urge the Commission to reject proposals to extend wolf hunting

seasons or to approve new and deadly wolf killing tactics such as hunting at night or using bait to hunt or trap wolves.”

***Janice Stroud Victor, MT***

187. I visit the Yellowstone area 2-3 times a year. I stay, dine and shop in Montana spending quite a lot of money each trip. I make these trips to view wolves. Without the wolves, I would not come. The economic benefit of wolves (and grizzlies) is large. I would like to make these comments: (1) Maintain the current quotas of 2 wolves in the management units 313 and 316. (2) I Oppose the quota of 450 wolves for the season. This is way too many wolves. (3) Support fixing the regulations instead of setting a series of emergency meetings. Do not allow any trapping at all in areas where there are lynx and grizzly bears. Restrict all other trapping with snares. (4) Oppose the use of trapping and use of snares (5) Oppose all baiting and night hunting.

***Virginia Wolfe Vashon, WA***

188. Snares should not be allowed for any animals. The bag limit is to many. Killing of animals in their dens whilst sleeping is inhumane and cruel. We need our wildlife as they are necessary. People are inhumane and cruel and we do not need to be killing them, just because you don't like them.

***Misty Hammerbacker Jefferson Island, MT***

189. These proposals may sound good to a less than 1% of our Montana population (trappers) but to the majority of the people living here they are beyond disturbing. I watched who brought those bills up and saw how this legislative process went in their favor ignoring all other sides and including science to get them advanced. There were similar attempts in previous years by the same related people to advance such propoganda to kill more wolves because some hunter claimed the elk were gone in their area. Couldn't that be due to a change in forage due to climate change and possibly over hunting by humans themselves? Where is the data showing more wolves need to be killed throughout our state? I have searched myself and requested information from you in the past for it and have received nothing. The truth is we do not have a wolf problem in Montana but we do have a problem with right wing politics being in control right now. How is trapping any animal fair chase? How many non target animals have to die and be discarded with a toss to satisfy these people? The lynx and grizzly are susceptible to these cruel proposals and you know it's true. Stop catering to trappers and ranchers and start thinking about the rest of us who see the urgent need to coexist. Like the saying goes..if ain't broke don't fix it!

***Valarie J Krum Laurel, MT***

190. I am opposed to any hunting of wolves in Montana until such time they have over populated an area and pose a serious threat to the natural balance of predator and prey. Snaring and trapping is cruel and should be illegal. That is not hunting! Wolves are a part of the balance of nature and improve the environment such as they did in Yellowstone National Park by preventing damage to the Yellowstone River by large herds of hoofed animals.

***Mellin Norman Kalispell, MT***

191. As a Montana hunter and outdoorsman living in prime wolf habitat, I have seen the difference in having a healthy wolf population on our wild lands, fauna, and even flora. As such, the proposals before the commission are WAY WAY out of bounds. We need decisions about our wildlife populations to be science-based, evidence-based and these proposals are unneeded, unsustainable, and wholly unnecessary. Reject them immediately. No increase in hunting season, no baiting, no night hunts. Stop this madness now. These are simply wild dogs and an integral part of our wild Montana lands. They are not some dangerous alien species, just a wild dog who belong in Montana as an apex predator.

***Paul Grove Eureka, MT***

192. As a Montana resident and an advocate for wildlife, I value the presence of healthy wolf populations in Montana. The proposals before the Commission are not ethical, science-based, sustainable, or needed. I urge the Commission to reject proposals to extend wolf hunting seasons or to approve new and deadly wolf killing tactics such as hunting at night or using bait to hunt or trap wolves." Its a time that's the humanity steps in in the role of protection of the nature and it's inhabitants , instead perpetuate the greed and cruelty game. We want our wolfs here and not the trophy hunters. You are being held accountable for your choices! What we do to others, in that case to the wolfs , will come back to us. Protect Montana and it's inhabitants. We all can coexists together in peace. Thank you

***Iwetta Luckhaus Kila, MT***

193. As a Montana resident and an advocate for wildlife, it is really important to me to have healthy ecosystems including top down predators such as wolves. The proposals before the Commission are troubling to say the least. They are not based on good science, necessary or ethical. I urge the Commission to reject proposals to extend wolf hunting seasons or to approve new and deadly wolf killing tactics such as hunting at night or using bait to hunt or trap wolves. Montanans are better than this - please reject the proposed changes.

***Vera Smith missoula, MT***

194. We absolutely need the "maximum new tools" and more. We are so far behind compared to Idaho... Time to catch up!

***Mike Hamilton, MT***

195. As a Montana resident and an advocate for wildlife--specifically predators, I value the presence of healthy wolf populations. The hysteria around wolf hunts is unethical, not based on sound science, and doesn't account for the fact that wolves as keystone species play a vital role in maintaining a healthy ecosystem. As we face the 6th mass extinction and climate change, we need to be focusing on protecting our wildlife and wild spaces, not killing animals with who we could easily coexist with just a little forethought and creativity. I strongly urge the Commission to reject proposals to extend wolf hunting seasons or approve new and horrific wolf killing tactics such as hunting at night or using bait for hunting or trapping wolves.

***Mariah Palmer Bozeman, MT***

196. Please do not allow wolf hunting. Many of the ways it is don't are very cruel. Thank you!!

***Marlene Miller Butte, MT***

197. Protect the Wolves! No to hurting and murdering them! They are a beautiful and iconic part of Montana.. why would you want to destroy them?!

***Tammy Fenske Plentywood , MT***

198. As a Montana resident and an advocate for wildlife, I value the presence of healthy wolf populations in Montana. The proposals before the Commission are not ethical, science-based, sustainable, or needed. I urge the Commission to reject proposals to extend wolf hunting seasons or to approve new and deadly wolf killing tactics such as hunting at night or using bait to hunt or trap wolves. The ungulate populations in Montana are starting to suffer due to a lack of unbiased predators such as wolves. We need to keep them in our wild places and in this great state. Thank you.

***Kasey Felder Laurel, MT***

199. Snares and traps should NEVER be used in any hunting practice especially for wolfs. The wolf population is helping balance the ecosystem , they thin out the weak elk and deer and only make the herds stronger. Hunters should have to hunt with a rifle only for wolfs. There should be no increase in the amount of wolfs hunted. Snares and traps catch more than wolfs and are a hazard for all who enjoy the woods.

***Genevieve Eureka, MT***

200. This is horrible! Seems the purpose is to completely eliminate wolves from Montana. Unacceptable. These laws must be overturned.

***Tracey Vivar East Glacier Park, MT***

201. ***Kellie 6410, CT***

202. Please protect wolves from all forms of hunting!!!!

***Marlene Miller Butte, MT***

203. As a regular non resident deer and elk hunter in Montana, I believe that the MT FWP department should have the latitude to adjust seasons and methods to meet the population objectives. For this reason I support the proposed regulation changes. I would encourage the Commission to maintain quota areas as I feel that this is important to the general public to help understand that we want to maintain wolf populations in all areas within a specified range. Thanks for the opportunity to comment.

***Steve Schaefer Prescott, AZ***

204. Thanks for the opportunity to comment on the proposed 2021 Wolf Season Options. First of all, current management practices are effective at managing wolf populations. It is clear that Rep Fiedler's sponsorship of the new proposals are purely politically motivated, rather than science based. Let's keep science based management as the main focus for managing our PUBLIC

wildlife resources in Montana. The new proposals allowing neck snaring of wolves is not only dangerous but unnecessary. According to a 2018 report prepared by Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks, legal coyote snares killed captured non-target animals 73% of the time, whereas foothold traps resulted in the captured animal's death 24% of the time. Over a six-year period, coyote snares killed four domestic dogs, 17 mountain lions, six bobcats, four deer and three wolves. Again, allowing wolf snares on public land is purely a political move. Extending the annual wolf season and allowing nighttime hunting is just plain unnecessary. Hunters and trappers are currently effective at managing wolf populations. Let's stick with what works, and leave the politics out of wildlife management. Thank you for your time, Andrea Morgan

***Andrea Morgan Ovando, MT***

205. As an outfitter who brings tourism to the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, I oppose the increase of the wolf harvest to 450 as well as the increase of the bag limit to 10. I would like to see no increase whatsoever from 2020 limits.

***Steve Silberberg Hull, MA***

206. Do not kill the wolves. Please

***Torja Ngengr Stockholm, HI***

207. I oppose the wolf-hunting regulations.

***Jolinda C. Elmwood Park, IL***

208. Please vote against new wolf-hunting regulations. Wolves are a keystone species without whom ecosystems cannot thrive—and that studies show that the presence of wolves has a trickle-down effect, increasing biodiversity in animal and plant species. I won't be visiting the state in the future if these regulations pass.

***Ramona Krause Lakewood ranch, FL***

209. I am writing to oppose the proposed new regulations because I: - Wish to maintain the current quotas of 2 wolves in wolf management units 313 and 2 wolves in unit 316 near Yellowstone NP and the current quotas near Glacier. In the Gardiner and Silver Gate gateway communities, a healthy wolf population is the highest value, economically, for research, and because people want wild wolves in the ecosystem. - Oppose the quota of 450 wolves for the hunting season. This is killing too many wolves. This plan would take 50% of the population. - Support fixing the regulations instead of setting up a series of emergency meetings. Don't allow any trapping at all in areas where there are lynx and grizzly bears, and restrict all other trapping with snares. - Oppose BY ALL MEANS THE CRUELTY of trapping and the use of snares. Oppose all baiting and night hunting.

***Manuel Alonso The Sea Ranch, CA***



210. I urge the FWP commissioners to vote against new wolf-hunting regulations. Wolves are a keystone species and without them, ecosystems cannot thrive. Studies show that the presence of wolves has a trickle-down effect, increasing biodiversity in animal and plant species. If these regulations pass, I will not be visiting Montana in the future. Thank you.

**Melanie Down Phoenix, AZ**

211. PLEASE reconsider your thoughts on hunting and trapping wolves. We need them in the wild to help keep the eco system healthy. Again, please don't punish these beautiful animals.

**Carmen Steele Larkspur, CA**

212. Stopstop

**Diane M Fazzi Campbell, CA**

213. I believe the increase should go in to effect. I have seen steady increase in wolf tracks while hunting and a steady decline in Elk.

**Jack Scoggins Hamilton , MT**

214. I am visiting Yellowstone National Park for the first time ever and I can't even begin to describe the feeling of elation after seeing a Wolf in the wild. I am beyond grateful that my children had this incredible opportunity. We were lucky to see a mama Wolf and her pups. They were playing and interacting and do curious. Much like my own little ones. The proposed increase in Wolf quotas will devastate the population of these incredible animals. My experience today was unexpected however more unexpected in the wonderful variety of travelers that I met at 6 am that had traveled from all over the world just to see these creatures! There is no where else in the world where you can watch wolves right from a road. Wolves have been seen in Yellowstone every day for almost three years. This directly translates to more dollars spent from Wolf-obsessed travelers spending money in and around the park, boosting the Montana economy. I plead with you to please do an Economic impact assessment of this proposal in order to prevent a downturn in already difficult pandemic -affected economy. In addition I request that the state maintain the current quotas of 2 wolves in wolf management units 313 and 2 wolves in unit 316 near Yellowstone NP and the current quotas near Glacier. In the Gardiner and Silver Gate gateway communities, a healthy wolf population is the highest value, economically, for research, and because people want wild wolves in the ecosystem. Also oppose the quota of 450 wolves for the hunting season. This is killing too many wolves. This plan would take 50% of the population. Please support fixing the regulations instead of setting up a series of emergency meetings. Don't allow any trapping at all in areas where there are lynx and grizzly bears, and restrict all other trapping with snares. Please oppose trapping and the use of snares. It is cruel and unnecessary. Please oppose all baiting and night hunting. It's not the qualities of a true gamesman.

**Devi Hall Gardiner , MT**

215. Please Do the HUMANE & MORAL thing; vote against the Wolf hunting and trapping.

**Lyssa KERNERSVILLE, NC**

216. Please save these wolves from this day forward.

***gayle sickinger sammamish, WA***

217. Wolves are important to our ecosystem. They are also loving emotional creatures like us. They are shy and want nothing to do with humans. They are not thoughtless killers-again they prefer no interaction with us. It is wrong to keep eradicating various species. We are destroying our environment by doing so, therefore we are changing the earth and eventually destroying ourselves. I beg you to please leave wolves alone! Thank you.

***Wendie Jara Marana, AZ***

218. Harvesting of wolves should be eliminated. This practice is cruel & very painful.

***Lucindy Warren Mebane, NC***

219. We oppose a number of the proposed new Wolf Season Options, Snaring is unacceptable in any shape or form or anywhere. No matter what you do, nontarget wildlife will inevitably be harmed. Black bear, mountain Lion and Bobcat will inevitably be killed or maimed in addition to the impact on endangered grizzly Bear and Lynx. Baiting of any kind is unacceptable for the same reasons. Combining baiting with, not a furbearer subject to trapping trapping and you will trap many black bears. This is not acceptable . Black Bear is a game animal not a furbearer subject to trapping. Restricting these proposals o private lands will not limit the impact on these species.

***Mike and Aleta Kantor Missoula, MT***

220. "Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the 2021-2022 Wolf Hunting and Trapping Regulations Proposal. I provide the following feedback as both a Montana resident and a local, female, small business owner who is supporting my livelihood and that of my small staff in this beautiful state, with much gratitude. 1. I support implementation of all of the options under 'Limited New Tools' for wolf management in the proposed wolf hunting season options table. 2. As a business owner and year-round resident of wolf management unit 313, where living wolves are of tremendous economic and social value, I strongly support maintaining the current quota of 2 wolves in management units 313 and 316, near Yellowstone NP and the current quotas near Glacier. In the Gardiner and Silver Gate gateway communities, a healthy wolf population is the highest value, economically, for research, and because people want wild wolves in the ecosystem. I operate wildlife watching and hiking tours in Yellowstone and the Gardiner Ranger District of Gallatin NF. My clients visit Montana to see living grizzlies and wolves and really hope to see mountain lion too. The entirety of my livelihood and that of my two employees depend on these animals being present and abundant in this ecosystem. 3.

The proposed hunting quota of 450 wolves annually must be reduced. This plan would take 50% of the population, which is not sustainable at a population level according do MTFWP's own data, stated objectives (harvests not to exceed 29% of the population) and other peer reviewed north American research (e.g. "Population Dynamics and Harvest Characteristics of Wolves in the Central Brooks Range, Alaska"). Montana's wolf population is of value to a diverse array of stakeholders from trophy hunters to wolf watchers. Their populations should be managed as a resource (like mountain lions), not driven toward extirpation. High harvest quotas

like this make FWP seem as though it is managing wolves as vermin and abandoning the North American Model of Wildlife Management. Overharvest will lead to wolves being federally delisted, which will restrict management options in the future. Isn't that an outcome that we would all prefer to avoid? If this high quota is aimed at increasing elk populations or decreasing depredation, it is important to note that elk populations in the state already exceed FWP's goals in nearly every region, AND depredations are low (averaging 60 domestic animals per year, including cattle). 4. The wolf season needs to be shorter. MTFWP allows killing of wolves Sept-Nov, when the pelts are useless. It is considered wasteful and unethical. 5. I support improving the regulations to prevent a series of impractical emergency meetings becoming necessary. 6. Trapping or snaring should not be allowed in areas where there are lynx and grizzly bears. Non-target capture and mortality is likely because trappers are not required to check their equipment regularly. In other areas, these activities should be allowed ONLY on private lands, with landowner permission and liability. These activities pose significant risk to all other users of public lands, to livestock, domestic animals and non-target wildlife species. They significantly limit multiple uses on public lands, which is completely unfair to other users/stakeholders. 7. I oppose all baiting and night hunting. It is unsporting and inhumane. People and dogs will die from these activities. They are way too dangerous. Baiting will also lead to more bear problems that will increase costs and workload for already under-resourced state agencies. I acknowledge that MTFWP staff are already working very hard with extremely limited resources. Their jobs do not need to become more difficult or dangerous. Thank you for considering my comments. Sincerely, Cara McGary Owner, In Our Nature Guiding Services LLC, Gardiner MT. "

***Cara McGary Gardiner, MT***

221. The Commission should retain season elements from the 2020 season unchanged. These regulations have been successful for both hunters and wolves for many years. The reasons for changes proposed by the legislature are not supportable scientifically, ethically, or socially. If this is not possible, the Limited New Tools are the best option minus snaring. Snaring is cruel and indiscriminate. It should not be allowed anywhere at any time. Trapping, in general, is not an ethical or fair hunting practice in this age where subsistence hunting is no longer necessary or common.

***Noreen Breeding Bozeman, MT***

222. State of Montana already has very aggressive hunting and trapping seasons for wolves. The state doesn't need to expand the seasons or approve new tools for killing wolves. It looks like that Montana plans to eradicate wolves completely. I oppose rules allowing baiting wolves and killing wolves at night, this way you can kill lynx, bears, dogs. I also oppose increasing the bag limit for wolves — a single hunter shouldn't be able to wipe out an entire pack of wolves. I oppose that youth, age of 12 or even 16 can kill our key animals. Please ban snaring on public or private lands. Please treat wolves as valuable animals not like trash.

***Andrey Slutskiy Scarsdale, NY***

223. I am opposed to Montana FWP Proposed 2021 plans for Wolf Hunting Season regulations. It would expand the cruelest and most vile practices; use of baits to lure unsuspecting victims

into gunshots. , snare trapping, night hunting. Even worse that increase of limits of wolves lives taken from our wilderness areas. Hunting wolves is a travesty to the biological balance in nature and is damaging the ecosystem. The presence of wolves helps keep the healthy balance of predator and prey, populations. That leads to recovery of ecological habitat for wildlife. Montana shares borders of the Yellowstone National Park, there needs to be a buffer for a wolves protection zone , for wolves who cross the boarder. My wife and I are recently retired, and we have always wanted to travel, to visit the beautiful Yellowstone National Park, and the surrounding wilderness (and Montana) areas. When the pandemic is over, we plan to visit the GY National Park and surrounding areas. We are looking forward to our wonderful wilderness experience to include guided tours for wolf watching, horseback riding, and fishing. Everywhere we travel we do our part to support the local communities, and their economy. However, if Montana FWP sponsors that Act Revising Laws related to the Harvesting of Wolves Legislation, that is carnage of wolves, we will boycott, by not visiting Montana. On these issues, I know there are many more who feel the same as we do. Our moneys are spent to support ethical and sustainable economies. I urge Montana FWP desist in that unethical Legislation of Harvesting of Wolves. Regards, George McGhee

***George McGhee COSTA MESA,, CA***

224. I am opposed to Montana FWP Proposed 2021 plans for Wolf Hunting Season regulations. It would expand the cruelest and most vile practices; use of bates to lure unsuspecting victims into gunshots. , snare trapping, night hunting. Even worse that increase of limits of wolves lives taken from our wilderness areas. Hunting wolves is a travesty to the biological balance in nature and is damaging the ecosystem. The presence of wolves helps keep the healthy balance of predator and prey, populations. That leads to recovery of ecological habitat for wildlife. Montana shares borders of the Yellowstone National Park, there needs to be a buffer for a wolves protection zone , for wolves who cross the boarder. My husband and I are recently retired, and have wanted to travel, to visit the beautiful Yellowstone National Park, and the surrounding wilderness (and Montana) areas. When the pandemic is over, we plan to visit the GY National Park and surrounding areas. We are looking forward to our wonderful wilderness experience to include guided tours for wolf watching, horseback riding, and fishing. Everywhere we travel we do our part to support the local communities, and their economy. However, if Montana FWP sponsors that Act Revising Laws related to the Harvesting of Wolves Legislation, that is carnage of wolves, we will boycott, by not visiting Montana. On these issues, I know there are many more who feel the same as we do. Our moneys are spent to support ethical and sustainable economies. I urge Montana FWP desist in that unethical Legislation of Harvesting of Wolves. Regards, Jeannine McGhee

***Jeannine McGhee Costa Mesa, CA***

225. I do not support ANY use of snares in Montana, especially for Wolf trapping. This absolutely should not be allowed, snares are too non-selective and kill far too many non-target animals. I do not support expanded wolf seasons at all. The season is already too long. I do not support increased individual bag limits. We Montanans need to use logic and science in managing this game species, not politics. Legislating game management is absolutely the wrong approach.

We need to listen to our expert FWP biologists, who work for us and our wildlife. Thank you for your consideration.

***Steven Kloetzel Ovando, MT***

226. The 500 foot set back is a horrible idea

***Cyrus sweedman Libby, MT***

227. Please stop this senseless slaughter of our valued wildlife. These ctions are barbaric and oppose all our country's principles regarding conservation.

***suzanne ingrao norwalk, CT***

228. As a lifelong Conservationist with education and experience as a Wildlife Sanctuary Steward, I find it incredibly bizarre that any Montanan would want to destroy any wildlife! For every target animal caught in a trap, two non-targeted animals are caught and discarded! That is unacceptable!!

***Lynn Arney Absarokee, MT***

229. Dont increase the setback ,it is hard enough now to check your traps without leaving scent,if it is changed you be forced to walk to your trap and would catch nothing

***Levi M Carlberg Libby, MT***

230. I am a lifelong hunter, with graduate studies in Forestry and Wildlife Management. I was on the Yellowstone Center for Resources team that restored gray wolves to the park, and have been studying and teaching about wolves since 1985. If wolves must be hunted, I favor Limited New Tools over the other two alternatives. In our desperate, heartless, morally indefensible slaughter of wolves, we are eliminating the very real possibility that, if allowed to perform their natural role in wild systems of selecting out diseased prey, and reducing the spread of plagues such as chronic wasting disease, we are doing a disservice to hunters, and to the majority of Montana's citizens who appreciate wolves for their intrinsic values. Father of game management in America Aldo Leopold wrote, "Harmony with the land is like harmony with a friend; you cannot cherish his right hand and chop off his left. That is to say, you cannot love game and hate predators....The land is one organism."

***Norman A. Bishop Bozeman, MT***

231. As a life-long Montanan, I do not support any wolf harvesting at all, while knowing that that is not going to happen at this stage. However, I cannot believe that it is proposed to reduce half the current population by killing 450. Why don't we just pretend that it is 1921 instead of 2021 and admit that this last legislature and our YNP-wolf-killing governor intend to go back to full wolf extermination. Welcome to re-listing and declining tourism. Therefore, reluctantly, I would ask the Commission to only institute the limited use tools, and tighten that as possible, and then work with the 2023 Legislature to repeal these draconian new wolf extermination laws.

***Melanie Ruby Helena, MT***

232. Dear FWS commissioners, it is very important for you to treat key animals according to their status. In 2019 we visited Montana specifically to see wolves and now after the latest horrific proposals many tourists will decide not to go to Montana anymore. Also your decisions will affect your daily life. Please be reasonable and not approve any horrific actions, like night hunting, using the bait and snaring on the wolves

***Eva Kapravo Brooklyn, NY***

233. Director and Commissioners, The use of snares during trapping season was not intended for private land only. Both trapping organizations did request a delay the first year to get information out to trappers on avoiding incidental catches. No one asked that snaring not be allowed on public land. We want to make sure that public land snaring would go into effect next year at the least. I support the house bill HB224, not the FWP proposal.

***TOM FIEBER Polson, MT***

234. Leave The Animals Alone!!!!

***Ginny Gursky ARVONIA, VA***

235. Please vote against new wolf-hunting regulations. Wolves are very important to our ecosystem and an icon of America. I will not visit Montana in the future if these regulations pass. Thank you

***Marie Maciel Bridgewater, NJ***

236. 1 license for bag limit. Start trapping on Dec 1

***Laurien Riehl Missoula, MT***

237. Winter baiting for wolves. Hunting and trapping.

***Laurien Riehl Missoula, MT***

238. Please stop this. Wolves are beautiful creatures who deserve our love and caring, not to be murdered

***Dara Cobb West Monroe, LA***

239. Wolves need to be protected against hunters as they are a vital aspect in their ecosystems. As the top predator in their food chain, they play an enormous role that impacts every animal and plant system in their ecosystem. Wolves are also sentient beings that feel pain and form deep bonds with one another. These animals do not deserve to die through inhumane practices that are being discussed such as snares and night trappings. FWP officials should not be pressured by wealthy landowners to make their decisions, as these decisions will have lasting and severe consequences. I ask as a member of the Montana population to act with compassion, intelligence, and critical thinking. Thank you.

***Kate Carveth Anaconda, MT***

240. I am in favor of maintaining current regulations. This should be about science and biologist recommendations, not Gianforte politics. Night hunting, baiting have been illegal for good

reason; they are unethical. Trapping season should remain the same and snaring should only be allowed on private land with only FWP recommended snare types.

**Denise Lynn Davies SOMERS, MT**

241. The maximum new tools need to be implemented. The goal of killing 450 wolfs is also too low. It leaves too many for a proper eco balance.

**Brian Bauman Wolf Creek, MT**

242. Stop this abuse

**Aicha Amsterdam, AL**

243. Please I urge all the FWP commissioners to vote against new wolf-hunting regulations. Remind them that wolves are a keystone species without whom ecosystems cannot thrive—and that studies show that the presence of wolves has a trickle-down effect, increasing biodiversity in animal and plant species.

**Marina Mooney Gouldsboro, ME**

244. no hunting, not very kind and not very 'family values'. thx. a.

**amy sigurdson Northwood, OH**

245. I am a former Pacific Northwest resident. My father owns a ranch north of Spokane. Although I come from a hunting family, I was taught by my Dad, and later in University, that wolves are an apex predator. Wolves are a necessary animal to protect and support in order to maintain a healthy ecosystem. Yes, with more wolves killed, there will be a surge in the number of deer and elk. Why is this a good thing? Too many causes destruction to the natural environment due to overgrazing, and even riverbanks due to trampling. Do people want to be responsible for more deer and elk starving in winter due to a lack of browse? Or do anti-wolf people think that they have more of a right to hunt these prey than wolves?

**Anna Ruston Yigo, GU**

246. Dear FWP commissioners, I urge you to vote against the new proposed wolf-hunting regulations. Wolves are a keystone species without whom ecosystems cannot thrive. Studies show that the presence of wolves has a trickle-down effect, increasing biodiversity in animal and plant species. While I am not a Montana resident, I often visit Montana for work and recreation, but if these new awful regulations are passed, I won't be visiting the state again in the future, preferring to spend my money in states that put nature first!

**P Martin Fort Collins, CO**

247. enough of the killing

**deboraj sanderson surrey, NV**

248. I strongly urge FWP commissioners to vote against new wolf-hunting regulations. Wolves are vital to a healthy ecosystem. The presence of wolves actually helps increase biodiversity in

animal and plant species. If these regulations pass, I most definitely won't be visiting Montana again.

***Pam Carlyle North Little Rock, AR***

249. I strongly urge FWP commissioners to vote against new wolf-hunting regulations. Wolves are vital to a healthy ecosystem. The presence of wolves helps increase biodiversity in animal and plant species. If these regulations pass, I will not be visiting the state again.

***Cameron Carlyle Little Rock, AR***

250. I strongly urge FWP commissioners to vote against new wolf-hunting regulations. Wolves are a keystone species without whom ecosystems cannot thrive. Studies show that the presence of wolves has a trickle-down effect, increasing biodiversity in animal and plant species. If these regulations pass, I certainly won't be visiting the state again.

***Duncan Carlyle North Little Rock, AR***

251. I strongly urge FWP commissioners to vote against new wolf-hunting regulations. Wolves are a keystone species without whom ecosystems cannot thrive. Studies show that the presence of wolves has a trickle-down effect, increasing biodiversity in animal and plant species. If these regulations pass, I certainly won't be visiting the state again.

***William Carlyle North Little Rock, AR***

252. I strongly urge FWP commissioners to vote against new wolf-hunting regulations. Wolves are a keystone species without whom ecosystems cannot thrive. Studies show that the presence of wolves has a trickle-down effect, increasing biodiversity in animal and plant species. If these regulations pass, I certainly won't be visiting the state again.

***Elle Evans North Little Rock, AR***

253. I strongly urge FWP commissioners to vote against new wolf-hunting regulations. Wolves vital to a healthy ecosystem. If these regulations pass, I will not be visiting the state again.

***Daisy Carlyle North Little Rock, AR***

254. I strongly urge FWP commissioners to vote against new wolf-hunting regulations. Wolves are a keystone species without whom ecosystems cannot thrive. Studies show that the presence of wolves has a trickle-down effect, increasing biodiversity in animal and plant species. If these regulations pass, I certainly won't be visiting the state again.

***Clint Jones Ward, AR***

255. I strongly urge FWP commissioners to vote against new wolf-hunting regulations. Wolves are a keystone species without whom ecosystems cannot thrive. Studies show that the presence of wolves has a trickle-down effect, increasing biodiversity in animal and plant species. If these regulations pass, I certainly won't be visiting the state again. The insatiable bloodlust that humans exhibit never ceases to shock and disgust me. We seem to be under the misguided belief that we are the superior species and that for some reason it gives us the right to capture, use, abuse & kill animals how we see fit. We see examples of this horrendous cruelty in the



meat & dairy industry, the fashion industry, the entertainment industry and, of course, in scientific research just to name a few. Considering that no other species on earth has done as much damage to this planet and every living creature on it than our own, one could argue that far from being the superior species, the human race is actually quite the opposite. Our destructive nature and negative actions across the board have been absolutely disgraceful. Let's not add to this by allowing these new regulations to pass. Animals have few enough protections as it is. The human population has reached outrageous numbers and is continuing to grow at a shamefully alarming rate. How can we have the nerve to suggest that another species needs "culling" when we can't even keep our own ever growing population under control. And as for opting for some of the cruellest methods with which to do so, it's beyond comprehension.

***Kirstie Carlyle Ward, AR***

256. Wolves are a keystone species without whom ecosystems cannot thrive. Hunting them is a disgusting practice which should be immediately stopped. I urge you to take action immediately and stop hunting these animals of immense beauty. Please for the sake of animals!

***Hannah Murray Madeira, CA***

257. Please don't give permission to hunt wolves so cruelly or hunt them at all. They are beautiful creatures who deserve to be treated with kindness. Killing them would mean robbing the world of a gift. I am horrified to learn that you actually kill wolves. Please stop this right now!

***fatimah mehmood Manhattan, NY***

258. I urge the commission to enact limited new tools for wolf hunting. I live in the North Fork area. I know no one in this area who is bothered by wolves. On the contrary, we are glad to have a pack here and support the notion of ecological balance. Predators like wolves are part of that balance. There are usually unexpected and unwelcome consequences when people eradicate a species. I believe we should not allow too many wolves to be killed. Options two and three would lead to too much killing.

***Emily Murphree Polebridge, MT***

259. There is no logical reason to attack this species and cause suffering via snares or traps. Please stop all efforts to allow harvesting wolves.

***Randy wenthold Belle Plaine, MN***

260. I am opposed to the proposed changes to the state's wolf-hunting regulations that, if passed, would expand some of the cruelest and most vile practices: snare trapping, night hunting, and use of baits to lure unsuspecting victims into gunsights. The number of wolves allowed to be slaughtered could also be increased if commissioners pass this measure. Wolves are a keystone species without whom ecosystems cannot thrive—and studies show that the presence of wolves has a trickle-down effect, increasing biodiversity in animal and plant species. My cousin, who I haven't seen in decades, lives in Montana, and this was to be the year we were going to meet up, but I won't be visiting the state in the future if these regulations pass.

***Marina Drake Madison, WI***

261. Dear FWP commissioners, please if you have compassion for animals you will all vote against the new wolf hunting regulations. I and so many are upset to hear this is even being talked about, these wolves need to be left alone and do what wolves do. They are just trying to survive and what do you know, certain people just keep planning these killings, which should not be in any plans period. Please leave these wolves alone. They are beautiful, fascinating, important animals who need to be left alone. The public do not want these wolves killed, let them be, let them live. Thank you

**David Williams Casper, WY**

262. Please do not pass any regulations allowing cruel, extreme and vile hunting methods on wolves. Wolves are a keystone species without whom ecosystems cannot thrive. The presence of wolves has a trickle-down effect, increasing biodiversity in animal and plant species. I will not be visiting Montana in the future if regulations are passed that allow extreme and cruel hunting methods to be used on wolves, or any other wildlife.

**Sarah Lauk Carson City, NV**

263. I am horrified by the proposed wolf trapping and hunting regulation proposals. None of these proposals are based on useful or needed solutions. They frankly appear more intended to be cruel to animals and oppositional to certain groups of people. As someone who has enjoyed the spectacular flora and fauna of Montana, much of it as a result of the reintroduction of wolves, and the ensuing benefits to the entire ecosystem, I can't imagine continuing tourism dollars for destroying and maiming these connections to our wild West.

**Alice Neuhauser Manhattan Beach, CA**

264. So very, very wrong killing wolves! They are such a very important piece of our ecosystem. Man needs to stay out and let nature run nature.

**Louise Mitchell, SD**

265. I am not a farmer, or rancher, or scientist, or biologist, or lawyer. I am simply an American who loves the beauty of our country, our wild places and wildlife, especially wolves. I am a dog lover. Dogs are an integral part of my family. They are my family. The truth is wolves and humans share much of the same family dynamics. Domesticated wolves are our family dogs and they fit in very well in our families. We all like to be treated with value and dignity. This comes from the fact that we are alive and not because of what we do. Why should this be different in our relationship with wolves? They also deserve to be treated with value and dignity. The wolves of Montana deserve to be treated with value and dignity. I beg you to cancel any and all wolf hunts, traps, snares, or poisons. It is up to you, the leaders of Montana to do the right thing and protect our wolves. I promise if you take the higher road and cancel all wolf slaughter and instead protect them, as should be done, I will travel to Montana and spend lots of my money in your state, and will make sure my friends and family do the same.

**Sherry Reisch New York, NY**

266. I oppose The 2021 Montana legislature bills, they are unprecedented and destructive to wolves. The new quota would kill too many wolves. The Gardiner and Silver Gate and areas

surrounding the park thrive on a healthy wolf population for economics and research and beauty, we want to see wild wolves in the ecosystem . I spend thousands of dollars in Montana to bring my family to observe wolves and appreciate their unique and beautiful presence in our world. It is inhumane to trap wolves, and I do not approve of any trapping or use of snares, baiting and night hunting..this is dangerous activity If someone wants to hunt a wolf, they should pay a large sum of money to do so. Your fees are too low for hunters.

**Holly Martone Chico, CA**

267. I urge commissioners to vote against new wolf-hunting regulations. Wolves are a keystone species without whom ecosystems cannot thrive. Studies show that the presence of wolves has a trickle-down effect, increasing biodiversity in animal and plant species. If passed, these regulations would expand some of the cruelest and most vile practices: snare trapping, night hunting, and use of baits to lure wolves into gunsights. This would be a danger to people and other non-targeted animals, including pets. The number of wolves allowed to be slaughtered could also be increased. There is widespread public opposition to the proposed changes. Do not allow pressure from wealthy landowners and large hunting outfitters who apparently think that killing more wolves will cause the deer and elk populations to surge, which they think would be profitable to them. According to the Natural Resources Defense Council, fewer wolves do not mean more elk. If Montana's wolf population is reduced, it could trigger relisting the gray wolf under the Endangered Species Act. Wolves are good for tourism, and while I had planned to visit the state next year and possibly other times in the future, I will not, if these regulations pass. Do the right thing, and do not pass these damaging regulations. Respectfully, Carolyn Croom

**Carolyn Croom Austin, TX**

268. The MT wolf population is significantly over the MT wolf management plan. It has drastically reduced the elk population in many areas. The best way to help control the wolf population is through trapping but trappers continue to be handcuffed with regulations. Legislation was passed to be able to allow trappers to more effectively harvest wolves in order to help balance the population but now FWP wants to only implement that Legislation in the areas that have the least amount of wolves? Wolves are extremely elusive and very hard to harvest. MT failing to properly manage the predator population will continue the rapid reduction of other species. Having hunted and trapped in Montana going back 30 years I believe that MT needs to immediately gain control of the wolf population until it grows even more out of control. I support the "maximum new tools" of allowing ALL regions in MT to expanded season dates, use of snares, increased bag limits and use of night hunting. MT has already let the wolves knock things out of balance and needs to take immediate action to get the wolf population closer to the wolf management plan goals. Thanks.

**Josh fielder Poolesville, MD**

269. Please stop the killings of this beautiful animal. There are ways to help any ranchers or farmers that lose life stock ,Here in Wisconsin they set up a fund to pay for any livestock lost. There are ways to get around killing them.

**Carol Tanner Verona, WI**

270. Option 1, 3 wolves /license, is my choice. Please support this option. Snaring, even on private land, is barbaric and should not be allowed.

**Richard E. Wackrow Polebridge, MT**

271. While I am not a citizen of Montana, I do reside in a state with wolves. Briefly I urge you to demand a thorough-going burden of proof from those who would promote trapping and hunting for regulation of the wolf population. Non-consumptive methods should first of all be implemented such as using guard dogs, proper fencing, and removal of farm animal carcasses.

**Richard Laybourn Bloomington, MN**

272. We had this go through the government litigation and it was all passed and signed into law but the Governor. I see no problem with any of this at this time . I would be for putting up signs , not near the trapped area but at area trail heads or nearby camping areas to make hikers and such aware .we can't put up signs at trap sites because of the opposition not abiding by the law of leaving our property alone . I know some would like to get hound hunting included but that is what got Wisconsin in trouble with their hunt last year in my opinion .

**Tim C Ross Billings, MT**

273. I am in absolute opposition to increased bag limits, expanded trapping dates, and any form of snaring anywhere in my state.

**Jason Van Hyning Florence, MT**

274. Please adopt the limited new tools option if you feel the need to change current regulations at all. The other options are far too likely to have unintended negative consequences to other species and public recreation. Thank you.

**Richard Stevens Whitefish, MT**

275. As a resident and practicing physician in Montana, I want to express my strong support for the expansion of wolf and other wildlife trapping opportunities in Montana. I hope the FWP commission will adopt the most aggressive and "maximum tools" possible to control the overpopulation of wolves in our state. As you are well aware, we are well above the target population of breeding pairs of wolves in Montana. Over the past 20 years, I have watched a dramatic reduction in game animals on our private property and adjacent public lands following the reintroduction of wolves (while there are pockets of overpopulated cow elk in Eastern Montana, most regions in Southwest Montana have seen a dramatic reduction due to the combined predation by wolves, mountain lion and bear). Wolves should be managed like all other wildlife....dependent on current scientific population information...NOT based on emotions, politics, or ridiculous claims of potential FUTURE impacts of "climate change"! The addition of the use of snares on both private and public land is a critical part of appropriate wolf management. Trapping and snaring can be done in a humane and responsible fashion. Do not let a few extreme cases of poor trapping practices reflect upon the far majority of trappers who are responsible sportsman like myself. Thank you for your continued work in managing all species of wildlife in Montana!

**DANIEL F ALDERMAN Belgrade, MT**

276. Wolves play a critical role in balancing wildlife and ecosystems and also are highly intelligent and a sentient species. These killing methods are outdated and medieval and should not be approved. I travel with my family several times a year to Montana and I will re-evaluate those trips if Montana approves these horrific practices. It is disgusting and shocking these practices could even be considered.

***Dawn Engelhardt Chicago, IL***

277. 1. Please maintain the current quota of two wolves in both #313 and #316 in Yellowstone and Glacier NPs. 2. Oppose the quota of 450 wolves for hunting, that's too many!! It's taking 50% of population. 3. Support fixing the regulation instead of setting a series of emergency meetings. Please don't allow trapping at all in areas of lynx and grizzly bears. Restrict all snare traps. 4. Oppose all trapping and use of snares. 5. Oppose all baiting and night hunting. My husband and I have come to Yellowstone every year for the past 20 years to watch wildlife, especially to see wolves and grizzlies in their natural habitat. There is nowhere else in the world we can do that. We spend a considerable amount of money in Gardiner at our inn and buying gas, groceries and visiting restaurants. We see the crowds of people growing every year and they all come to see the wildlife. I admit I don't understand hunting for sport and that is what wolf hunts are. No one eats wolf meat! Please keep all current quotas as they stand. I appreciate your time.

***Carrie Peterson Lakeland, FL***

278. Please vote against new wolf-hunting regulations, which could allow hundreds of wolves to be executed in horrific ways, including via snare traps, night hunting & baited hunting. Also, wolves are a keystone species without whom ecosystems cannot thrive. Studies show that the presence of wolves has a trickle-down effect, increasing biodiversity in animal & plant species. We are planning a trip out west but will not visit Montana

***Lisa Rubin-Horton Ocala, FL***

279. I respectfully request the current quotas of 2 wolves in management units 313 and 316 near Yellowstone NP and the current quota near Glacier NP be maintained. In some cases scientists are attempting to study the animals who may frequent these areas, often with a hope of reducing wolf/human or wolf/livestock conflicts. It helps no one when study animals may be killed. I further oppose the quota of 450 wolves for the hunting season. Were 450 wolves out of approximately 900 killed, there would be such a backlash from environmentalist and wolf lovers that you might find MT facing unanticipated consequences that might not have happened with a less extreme quota. Rather than have to go through these discussions each year, why not set reasonable quotas everyone can live with rather than have contentious meetings each year? Finally, I oppose trapping, snaring, baiting and night hunting of wolves. If the wolves are to be hunted, it should be done in a fair and sporting manner, not by deceit or human trickery. No wonder the poor creatures are so wary of humans. It does mystify me that anyone could want to kill such beautiful, elegant animals. Thank you for your consideration of this viewpoint.

***Barbara Louis New York City, NY***

280. ***Debbie Harrington Kenner, LA***

281. As a regular visitor to YNP and someone who cares deeply about the humane treatment of all wildlife I am opposed to Montana Legislature's 2021 proposed change regarding The Wolf Hunt Proposal. I ask that you please maintain (or lower) current quota of 2 wolves in WMU 313 and 316. Proposed hunting season quota of 450 wolves is shameful, sinful and should NOT be allowed - this is too large a % of their fragile population. This proposal is outrageous. These animals are just trying to live their lives with their family. Why must you kill them? The ranchers have plenty of livestock that is renewed every year and they should not be so greedy. The wolves will only take an animal this is already sick/weak stock/compromised. This feels almost like a form of genocide to me. Trapping of any kind is cruel and WRONG - how do you discriminate between wolves, bears, Lynx, Mountain Lyons, other animals. We are OPPOSED to all trapping and use of snares... Baiting and night hunting is wrong - we are opposed to allowance of these tactics. Please DO NOT allow the proposed 2021 Wolf Hunt Proposal to pass!

***Steve Stone Northborough, MA***

282. Stop being afraid of the 'big bad wolf'. Wolves are an important part of the ecosystems. These so called men need to find another activity to display their 'manhood'. All wolf hunting and trapping must stop!

***Lisa Walthers Arlington, VA***

283. As regular visitors to YNP and as people who care deeply about the humane treatment of all wildlife we are opposed to Montana Legislature's 2021 proposed change regarding The Wolf Hunt Proposal. Please maintain (or lower) current quota of 2 wolves in WMU 313 and 316. Proposed hunting season quota of 450 wolves is shameful, sinful and should NOT be allowed - this is too large a % of their fragile population. You are NOT God but he is certainly mindful and aware of your sad proposed actions. Trapping of any kind is cruel and WRONG - how do you discriminate between wolves, bears, Lynx, Mountain Lyons, other animals. We are OPPOSED to all trapping and use of snares... Baiting and night hunting is wrong - we are opposed to allowance of these tactics. Please DO NOT allow the proposed 2021 Wolf Hunt Proposal to pass!

***Anne Beckstrom Northborough, MA***

284. ***Tatum Connor Atlanta, GA***

285. Please do not kill, maim, hurt or trap any animals.

***Heather Robinson Martinsburg, WV***

286. ***Judy Nielson Henderson, NV***

287. This pretty well explains that we do not need to restrict the management of wolves in Regions 1, 2 and 3. Because right over the border. Idaho's Unit One in the Panhandle, accounts for more wolves trapped each year than most if not all other Units in the state... This same area has

91 documented Grizzly Bears living in roughly 19,000 square miles Outlined in Red above or roughly 1 Grizzly in every 4.5 x 4.5 mile square... In the same areas, more than 250 Lynx images were collected in camera studies in recent years... 10 years of solid data, with wolf trappers heavily active with both Grizzly and Lynx present, clearly shows Grizzly and Lynx Conflict are of minimal concern. Again, ZERO conflict recorded.

**Larry D Rattray Proctor, MT**

288. Let these animals live for god sake. Their lives are hard enough. Don't interfere with nature. Montana, you should be a shamed of yourself. I've always thought highly of you, but this sure is changing my opinion nor do I wish to visit your state now.

**Kevin Sacramento, CA**

289. Stewards to the land, killing for sake of killing, immeasurable torture to animals who are keystone species by a smaller group of people who enjoy it and don't care how they kill an animal--proven, and any species that happens along, should be stopped by the organization that is supposed to protect these animals and their environments. Wolves maintain their own population numbers and have proven to increase the populations of their prey, while being the proven component of maintaining the health of ecosystems. The most feared and destructive species on this earth is man. Please ask anyone who supports these unethical hunts to try these traps on themselves first. Ask yourself if you would allow any of your children or pets to be allowed to suffer as these animals do. Are you not educated people who should know better than to disrupt the wildlife in these areas, as you know they will be, and why would you support people who enjoy these hunts at the expense of our native species? These animals do so much for us and help maintain diversity. These people you are supporting in this proposal enjoy this measure of cruelty and the immeasurable pain inflicted on the animals. Is humanity ever going to learn from history and the present, and are you going to respect and protect the native species of your area? Again, wolves limit their own populations and actually have been proven to increase the populations of their prey. This is not a cold decision to be made for this proposal, it is a humane conflict, which side do believe in and are you willing to stand up for? Our predators will be at risk of becoming extinct, as animals are all around the world now, and our wolves especially now at risk of becoming extinct. The words harvest and bag limits are really horrifying if you look at all of the context. Harvesting is for plants. I encourage you to learn about the lives of wolves and their importance. Worldwide and many states have already banned these types of hunts, because of the immeasurable cruelty--veterinarians are against these hunts. As one man said, I hope you will have the courage to stand up for our wildlife.

**Michele Dewey Sanford, FL**

290. I believe we should maintain the current quotas in 313 and 316 as the wolves in these areas are too valuable for the ecosystem in terms of both research and economic benefit to people visiting the park. Additionally, the 450 quota is far too high. Im in for of wolf hunting and believe in its value as a management tool but I feel these proposals are too severe and are not in the best interest of the communities in the greater Yellowstone area and the wilderness areas throughout the state.

**Ryan Callahan Livingston, MT**

291. The wildlife science clearly does not support the increase in harvest numbers and the new level appears capricious and random. Snares and traps will certainly lead to high collateral captures and should never be permitted. Current safeguards are not sufficient protection for non target species. While not a resident, I have spent a great deal of time in Montana for pleasure and business with great interest in viewing predators in a natural state. These wild animals are in the character of America and needs our preservation - not eradication. Thank you.

***Denis Osowski Seville, OH***

292. Please eliminate the 2021 wolf hunting season, period.

***Roberta Johnson West Covina, CA***

293. Please vote against new wolf-hunting regulations. Wolves are a keystone species without whom ecosystems cannot thrive. Studies show that the presence of wolves has a trickle-down effect, increasing biodiversity in animal and plant species. Sadly, I will not be visiting your beautiful state should this law go into effect.

***Jessenia Winstanley Burke VA, VA***

294. PLEASE STOP KILLING ANIMALS. BARBARIC

***angela bourne San Diego, CA***

295. This goes against everything we know about the importance wolves make in protecting our environment by providing a variety of species of plants and animals to sustain our lifestyle and our planet. Which are you going to go down in history supporting? our survival on this planet or destroying our chances for a future for our children and grandchildren? You want to leave a living legacy for all of our sake's.

***Randee LaSalle Nipomo, CA***

296. Please do not allow baring trapping, or wildlife killing contests or kill wolves in their send with their pups... eliminate or shorten the hunting/killing season.

***Sacha de Nijs Huntington Beach, CA***

297. ***Diogo Santos Rosenort, NV***

298. Montana FWP commissioners are considering proposed changes to the state's wolf hunting regulations. I find these changes would implement the most cruel, vile, & barbaric methods of reducing the wolf population. Not content to just shoot & kill, snare trapping, night hunting, bait luring, & killing pups in their dens would be allowed. How barbaric!. What kind of human being enjoys treating our innocent wildlife in such a manner? These proposed changes disturb the biodiversity of Montana's wildlife of which wolves play an important part of the ecosystem. These rule changes would also allow more wolves to be destroyed. Please do not bow to the wishes of landowners & hunters when the general public does not approve of such wildlife abuse.. Thank you

***marilyn evenson Norwalk, OH***



299. Please vote against new wolf-hunting regulations. Wolves are a keystone species without whom ecosystems cannot thrive. Studies have shown that the presence of wolves has a trickle-down effect, increasing biodiversity in animal and plant species. I'm a regular tourist to Montana but will have to boycott any further trips if these regulations pass. Thank you.

***Darius Fattahpour San Diego, CA***

300. My proposals on each option 1. Licenses 1 license for 5 wolves 2. bag limit 10 statewide 3. Season Dec. 1 - March 28th 4. Snaring Open Statewide 5. Nigh Hunting Open Statewide 6. Baiting Statewide 7. Quotas Retain area quotas but no restrictions on method of take. Allow additional wolves taken in areas with livestock & pet losses. Consider snare loops 3-4" in size for elk and moose calves. Define spring loaded snares. Some Coyote, Fox, Coon snares have small springs on them. Better map of Lynx areas than what is presently in the regs.

***Arthur Hall Sheridan, MT***

301. I am in favor Of inacting all of the new wolf harvest regulations just as the legislature intended them. please give them a chance to work.

***Jack Jay Federer BIG TIMBER, MT***

302. I think the idea of killing is barbaric and the council should let the natural checks and balances control the population. Very often items like this are very special interest and there must be better ways to control your perceived problem. Very unfortunate for animals.

***sk Baron Colleyville, TX***

303. Wolves provide a balance in the ecosystem. I would ask for the most humane treatment of them. Their numbers have been so depleted. Please help them to survive.

***Alison Taylor Leonardtown, MD***

304. Please reconsider increasing wolf trapping in Montana. There is money to be had in tourism by embracing wolves. They are intelligent, family oriented creatures, put here on earth by God for a purpose. You wouldn't trap your dog, yet dogs descended from wolves.

***Andrea S. Helena, MT***

305. Stop the Wolf hunting

***Doreen firouzi Beverly Hills , CA***

306. I am commenting on the proposed wolf season options and urge the commission to incorporate the more restrictive Limited New Tools with no use of bate, no night hunting and one license required for each wolf. The other two options pose threats to other animals. This overhaul of the wolf hunting regulations has been entirely too aggressive in my opinion.

***Jon W Cole Polebridge, MT***

307. I believe the current proposals would be detirminental to many different species in addition to wolves and that the current Montana law provides for an abundance of wolf-hunting

opportunities. I further believe these new proposed regulations were ill-conceived by our legislators, not based on science, and go too far. If forced to accept one of your options, it would of course be "limited New Tools". Thank you.

**Patricia D Cole Polebridge, MT**

308. Denali has been recognized as one of the best places in the world for people to see wolves in the wild. For many, seeing wolves is the opportunity of a lifetime. In 2010, the state of Alaska removed the small buffer zone on state lands adjacent to the park that protected wolves from trophy killing. Before the buffer zone was removed, viewing success for wolves in Denali was 45%. Since 2010, wolf viewing in the park has been on the decline. In 2019, wolf viewing dropped to its lowest level on record – just 1%. While some wolves die each year as a result of natural causes, disease, and through conflict with other wolves, the trophy harvesting of wolves is something that humans control. Idaho and Montana have recently passed legislation to reduce their wolf populations dramatically. In August, the Montana Fish and Wildlife commissioners will be announcing the 2021-2022 wolf hunting and trapping regulations. Currently, the two Montana wolf management units adjacent to Yellowstone National Park each have a quota (limit) of one Wolf that can be killed before the units are closed to hunting and trapping. Famous 926F was killed in one of those units in 2018. Should the quota be increased, there may be more trophy killing of wolves near the park. This in turn may lead to less viewing opportunities as has been the case in Denali. PLEASE do NOT go forward with these quotes. I will no longer be taking vacations or bringing revenue to the state if Montana should they continue. Thank you.

**Elena Tillman San Diego , CA**

309. I support HB224 as it was written. Not the FWP proposal, we need to manage the number of wolves and snaring is a vital management tool. I support more training for snaring and education. I do not support the FWP proposal.

**Barbara smith Bigfork, MT**

310. I support SB314 as it was intended. The wolves are chasing the deer, elk and moose around our cabin....please keep the SB314 as written. We need to reduce the wolf numbers and unlimited tags are the way to go. I do not support the FWP proposal.thanks

**Barbara smith Bigfork, MT**

311. I support HB225 as written and was intended. I do not support the current FWP proposal. thank you

**Barbara smith Bigfork, MT**

312. Snare trapping, night hunting, and use of baits to lure unsuspecting victims into gunsights is inhumane and not necessary in the ecosystem. Hunters just want it to pass so deer and elk populations will go up so they can hunt them too. It is not a necessary practice.

**Tracy S Tharp Clinton, OH**

313. PLEASE DO NOT DO THIS! PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW THE WOLVES TO BE KILLED IN THIS MANNER! PLEASE PROTECT THE WOLVES AND ALL OF THE ANIMALS IN MONTANA!

***Kristin Tharpe Charlotte, NC***

314. This is very cruel and completely unnecessary. Extremely disturbing that anyone would support this b

***Pamela Wassell Erie, PA***

315. plz vote NO. Absolutely No Tolerance Towards Animal Abuse n Cruelty

***Dennis busto visalia, CA***

316. Please do not initiate the increased wolf hunting especially using unfair advantage of baiting, traps and snares. This is not good sportsmanship. It's a form of animal annihilation. Bringing more species closer to extinction. I live in the middle of a beautiful forest in the mid west. And I see every day how all the wildlife struggles to live. Life is hard enough in the wild for animals. Please give them a break It's the right thing to do. Do not pass these cruel initiatives. People who love animals will not want to visit your state if you disrespect mother nature.

***Cathy Floyd Unionville, IN***

317. There are few wolves. Humans don't need to rid themselves of these animals for any reason and hunting in any form is cruel , useless and un ecological.

***Isabel Beteta Mexico City, NM***

318. Whomever proposed the ridiculous wolf hunting-trapping regs are doing nothing but SELLING more of Montana for \$\$\$\$\$. There will be nothing left of Montana after the yahoos who pay to kill our wildlife and fish our rivers dry are finished. No more money coming in and no more Montana!! Look at Yosemite. Get some brains, folks. Who's to gain from these proposals?? Not Montanans, not our wildlife, not the beauty and diversity of our gorgeous state, what's left of it. All about money, money, money and out of state tourists with guns, traps and fishing gear. Get a brain !!!!

***margaret Mullen corvallis, MT***

319. I strongly urge FWP commissioners to vote against new wolf-hunting regulations. The wolves are a keystone species without whom ecosystems cannot thrive—and studies show that the presence of wolves has a trickle-down effect, increasing biodiversity in animal and plant species. While I currently am in NY, I frequent Paradise Valley and Pray and am considering a move to Livingston MT to work on film/tv in the area. I will not be locating there if this passes. Thank You, Ally Jones

***Ally Jones BROOKLYN, NY***

320. I am respectfully requesting that the proposed montana wolf hunt be cancelled in 2021 and subsequent years. These majestic animals are NO threat to humans, and do not deserved to be hunted down and slaughtered for the pleasure of the hunt, their fur, or any other trophy. As a Federal taxpayer, and someone who is planning a trip to Yellowstone and Glacier NP, and has

booked accommodations in your state, please understand that if this wolf hunt occurs, those plans WILL be changed to travel to States where wolves, and frankly other wild animals, are protected and revered. I have already discontinued plans to visit Utah and Idaho due to their very poor choices regarding wild mustang's and wolves. I do my homework and I do not ever intend for my tourism dollars to go to States with cruel and inhumane practices such as you propose.

***Connie w. Revels Slidell, LA***

321. I'm writing to protest the proposed changes to the Montana's wolf hunting regulations. These changes, if passed, would expand some of the cruelest and most vile practices, such as snare trapping, night hunting, and use of baits to lure unsuspecting victims into gunsights. Please don't yield to pressure from large hunting outfitters who apparently think that killing more wolves will cause the deer and elk populations to surge. Please consider the importance of wolves in the ecosystem. Studies show that the presence of wolves has a trickle-down effect, increasing biodiversity in animal and plant species. I respectfully request that you consider the harm to the ecosystem as well as the suffering caused by these cruel practices and vote No on the proposed changes to the state's wolf hunting regulations.

***Cindy L Candelori Parkville, MD***

322. I support Option 3 with the most liberal seasons and quotas plus we need to add additional days and quotas to a minimum of 15 in Regions 1,2 and 3 where there are wolves. Let's manage wolves by regions like we do deer and elk. A portion of the FWP Department apparently can't do basic research. We have averaged less the 300 taken during each season. Idaho has averaged less than 500. Idaho estimates that their population has increased by 28% annually yet. Ken McDonald thinks because we harvested an additional few wolves (less than 50) last year, the population is going to decline by a couple of hundred. We need to get biologists who can count and a legal department that doesn't cave into every anti's threat of a lawsuit. Idaho has snares and traps in areas with Grizzly Bears and Lynx and does not have an issue. Let's use science to manage and not listen to the out of touch, and out of state wolf lovers and reclaim our ungulate population. Thank you for the opportunity to comment

***Larry D Rattray Proctor, MT***

323. I urge you to vote AGAINST these new wolf-hunting regulations. The cruelty inflicted on the wolves through the use of snares and baits, and in the practice of night hunting, is sickening. Ecosystems balance themselves: increasing the number of wolves allowed to be slaughtered would have severely negative consequences. Please stand up to landowners who want to make money and the vile instincts of those who hunt animals for 'sport' and vote against these regulations.

***Ann Dixon New York, NY***

324. SB314 was written to aid in wolf management, as a tool that will help to target only the animal intended. By night hunting and calling methods, this is a great way to target the selected target. Thank you

***Scott smith BIGFORK, MT***

325. HB225, I would like to see the bill as it was written. The largest number of wolves live in region 1,2,&3. The longer season would help us manage the growing number of wolves and help the suffering ungulate decline. We boarder ID and they have the longer season with no issues with the grizzly or the lynx populations. Thanks and please consider the bill as it was written.

***Scott smith BIGFORK, MT***

326. Pls don't kills wolfs This is not REGULATION This is cruelty

***Tina Miami, FL***

327. Killing hundreds of wolves is absolutely disgusting. Stop taking THEIR land and maybe they'd stop being a "nuisance"

***Jacklyn Lowville, NY***

328. I would like to address SB314. This bill was designed to help manage the growing wolf populations. I have seen the number of ungulates declining for the last 10 years. I also have seen how the deer and elk are now residing in and around residential areas. The wildlife are being pushed into smaller areas and this is in no way going to help the many diseases they are experiencing. You as the FWP are trained in wildlife management and know that expanding the number of wolves allowed to be taken is the only way to reduce predation. I am in favor of unlimited wolf harvest until the original goal numbers are met. thank you

***Scott smith BIGFORK, MT***

329. Please do not up the quotas and do not allow these beautiful creatures to be killed on public land

***Jaclyn Phoenix, AZ***

330. ***Randy Hocking, DC***

331. ***Alex Dustin, AK***

332. **From:** *Bridgarlogan@everyactioncustom.com* <*Bridgarlogan@everyactioncustom.com*>  
**Sent:** *Monday, July 19, 2021 1:48 PM*  
**To:** *FWP Wildlife* <*fwpwld@mt.gov*>  
**Subject:** *[EXTERNAL] No Lethal trapping in Montana*

Dear Montana Fish & Wildlife Commission,

I don't agree with the following added tools which include night hunting, lethal traps, foot holding traps, unlimited wolf kills under one tag, bounties that pay hunters to kill wolves, using spotting scopes, using atvs, snowmobiles and helicopters to chase down wolves, extended wolf season which would kill pregnant wolves, the use of snares and foot holding traps which will kill non targeted species including pets and also could harm people.

Sincerely,  
Bridgar Hill  
Livingston, MT 59047  
[Bridgarlogan@gmail.com](mailto:Bridgarlogan@gmail.com)

333. **From:** *Noreen and Roger Breeding* <*rog7nor@gmail.com*>  
**Sent:** *Sunday, July 18, 2021 3:27 PM*  
**To:** *FWP Wildlife* <*fwpwld@mt.gov*>  
**Subject:** *[EXTERNAL] wolf hunting comments*

The Commission should retain season elements from the 2020 season unchanged. These regulations have been successful for both hunters and wolves for many years. The reasons for changes proposed by the legislature are not supportable scientifically, ethically, or socially.

If this is not possible, the Limited New Tools are the best option minus snaring. Snaring is cruel and indiscriminate. It should not be allowed anywhere at any time. Trapping, in general, is not an ethical or fair hunting practice in this age where subsistence hunting is no longer necessary or common.

Noreen Breeding  
Bozeman

334. **From:** *Ramona Krause* <*ramona\_krause@yahoo.com*>  
**Sent:** *Monday, July 19, 2021 1:19 AM*  
**To:** *FWP Wildlife* <*fwpwld@mt.gov*>  
**Subject:** *[EXTERNAL] Wolf hunting regulations in Montana*

Please vote against new wolf-hunting regulations. Wolves are a keystone species without whom ecosystems cannot thrive—and that studies show that the presence of wolves has a trickle-down effect, increasing biodiversity in animal and plant species. I won't be visiting the state in the future if these regulations pass.

Thank you and best regards,

Ramona Krause

335. **From:** Ellen Trygstad <eltjupiter@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 19, 2021 2:35 PM  
**To:** FWP Wildlife <fwpwd@mt.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Wolf-harvest criteria

Dear Fish and Wildlife Commissioners, and Department decision makers,

The credibility of any government department and its decisions is based on the reasons, facts and information used in making decisions. The 2021 Montana Legislature has passed laws regarding wolf harvesting which do not reflect well-known and substantiated research and information about wolves.

First, wolf packs commonly reduce in numbers when faced with stressed situations. Fires, smoke, heat, drought, climate change and urbanization are among the factors increasingly stressing wildlife at large. Before we start changing numbers of wolves to be killed, and methods of killing which presently have been Fish and Wildlife regulations, the public should be ensured that current environmental factors are not causing wolves to limit reproduction as well as outright causing population reduction due to stress.

Therefore, a three year moratorium on these laws should be enacted to determine population numbers.

Second, when representatives of Fish and Wildlife, who are trained wildlife specialists, have to cull wildlife, the process is based on knowledge of a region, of a particular pack, and other relevant factors. It is my understanding that pack behavior is controlled and modified by certain individuals. When wolves are randomly killed by hunters, this disturbs pack structure and it is my understanding that packs do not self-regulate well without their pack structure intact. In contrast, wildlife biologists are knowledgeable about packs and individuals, and the best way to respond to wolf problems. My understanding is more problems are created by disturbed pack structure. Why would we want to disrupt pack structure and create more conflicts between humans and wolves?

Therefore, if population reductions need to be done, they should be done in conjunction with Fish and Wildlife biologists and local and specific information.

Third, baiting and snaring is not species specific. Fish and Wildlife have a responsibility to ensure the safety and well-being of wildlife, and the practice of baiting and snaring, in addition to causing horrific injuries and painful death, poses danger to other, non-target species. Domestic dog harm is well documented.

Therefore, if numbers reduction is determined a critical necessity by Fish and Wildlife, population members should experience no drawn out suffering. They should be shot and killed causing immediate death, and where only target animals would be killed.

Fourth, it has apparently been established that wolves are remarkably able to identify Chronic-Wasting Disease and more often than not single these animals out in culling elk herds for their sustenance. Why would we want to reduce an effective tool in controlling this terrible disease?

Therefore, we might want an increase of wolf numbers, not a decrease. However, I don't believe the dictates of the laws allow for what might be a common-sense practical step along this front. Fish and Wildlife has, however, decision making power for how the new laws are implemented, and it seems prudent that any and all steps that can be taken to maintain this disease management tool would be

wise, and in the public interest, and in the interest of hunters who want to harvest animals for food that is safe to eat.

I am not a Wildlife Biologist. I have great respect for those who study for years and have a love of nature and its remarkable workings, and the animals within the complexities of ecology and its ever-changing structures. The decisions those in Fish and Wildlife make regarding how to implement the new laws are a reflection of your responsibility, your expertise, and your judgment about ensuring the future and how animals will thrive. The climate is changing. Urban -rural/wild interface is growing. Stress on animals of all kinds, including humans, is increasing. It seems prudent to respond to the new laws with the evidence of the effects of environmental stressors for wildlife, and the need to preserve wolf populations, to keep numbers high, because natural attrition is sadly, at work.

Finally, overall, wildlife biology in America, and wildlife biologists trained in American institutions, has been highly respected globally. With climate change impacting all communities everywhere, collaboration among specialists has become increasingly important. Montana has been a leader for a long time in focusing on wildlife habitat, wildlife corridors, and species balance. I would like to see more conversation between the legislature and environmental and wildlife specialists. The public in general, tourists, those in businesses related to wildlife experience and appreciation, and do forth, depend on leadership at all levels to make wise decisions for the long-term for our State. The new laws seem out of step with our Constitution in this regard and with traditional Fish and Wildlife decisions and policies.

Please don't disappoint us Citizens with your decisions with which we've entrusted you as our wildlife specialists. Please respond to the new laws with a long-view to wildlife sustainability and health and respect.

Thank you so much if you had the time to read this lengthy letter. This matters greatly to people of all ages, and does affect others beyond Montana's borders. Your decisions will also affect other species and the overall health of the ecology of our places here.

Sincerely,  
Ellen Trygstad  
Bozeman, MT  
(406)-582-7624

336. **From:** Melinda Reed <[melindajoy96@gmail.com](mailto:melindajoy96@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** Thu, Jul 15, 2021 at 8:45 PM  
**Subject:** A Concerned Citizen (wolves)  
**To:** <[FWPDistrict4@gmail.com](mailto:FWPDistrict4@gmail.com)>

Hello Chair Leslie Robinson,

I live in western Montana where wolves are a problem. My brother hunted a place for 4-5 years and would hear many bull elk bugling every year... now when he goes, there is no sign of elk, and he can hear wolves howling. We



have had wolves on our property tear into deer and leave them half dead, suffering, dragging a leg. Also we've had wolves in plain sight (daylight) running through our fields! Not good when you have cattle like we do. I'm asking you as a commissioner to please listen to the people who are living the aftermath of these vicious wolves to please keep the wolf snaring and longer wolf trapping seasons in regions 1,2,3 where 90% of the wolves are - as intended in the 2021 legislation of House Bills 224,225 and Senate Bill 314. Please hear from local tax payers!

Thanks for your time!

Melinda

**337. From: [ebiemuller <ebiemuller@mail.com>](mailto:ebiemuller@mail.com)  
Sent: Sunday, July 18, 2021 5:16 AM  
To: FWP General <[fwpgen@mt.gov](mailto:fwpgen@mt.gov)>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Gray wolves**

Stop the augmented assault on gray wolves that would reimpose barbaric measures last seen 140 years ago with snares, night hunting, pursuit with dogs and any other measures being considered to reduce wolf numbers in such gruesome fashion. Knock off the utter nonsense! Do not alter, in any way, the measures currently in place and maintain the current gray wolf population at 985 animals.

**338. From: Darlene Martin <[windwriter@centurylink.net](mailto:windwriter@centurylink.net)>  
Sent: Monday, July 19, 2021 9:22 PM  
To: FWP Wildlife <[fwpwld@mt.gov](mailto:fwpwld@mt.gov)>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please Protect the Wolves of Montana**

Dear Fish, Wildlife, and Parks Commissioners,

Please do not harm wolves in any way. Wolves are beautiful animals, who have the capacity to love just as much as humans do, and they have a right to live in peace.

This is a majestic planet, a planet whose beauty might be unsurpassed in the whole cosmos, for all we know. We know of no other planet where such a far-reaching and extensive diversity of life exists. We must learn to treasure life on our planet, not destroy it. All wildlife, including wolves, are unique and precious, and just as we would not harm or destroy human beings, we must not harm or destroy wildlife, including wolves.

In the Old Testament the prophet Isaiah says, "[They will neither \[biblehub.com\] harm \[biblehub.com\] nor \[biblehub.com\] destroy \[biblehub.com\] on all \[biblehub.com\] My holy \[biblehub.com\] mountain \[biblehub.com\]](#)" (Isa. 11:9). God's holy mountain is sacred, and so is the state of Montana. The *Online Etymological Dictionary* says that the name Montana is the "Latinized form of Spanish montaña," which

means “mountain.” As residents of Montana, you have an opportunity to sanctify your mountain state and align your rules and regulations with the divine law that governs God’s holy mountain—a law that brings no harm to living beings, including all wildlife and all wolves.

Please make peace with the cosmos, with the law of love that has created it, and with yourselves by safeguarding all wildlife, including wolves. Just as enlightened beings bring no harm to those who dwell on God’s holy mountain, please bring no harm to the wildlife, including wolves, that dwell in your mountain state.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,  
Darlene

“The universe is composed of subjects to be communed with, not objects to be exploited. Everything has its own voice. Thunder and lightning and stars and planets, flowers, birds, animals, trees, — all these have voices, and they constitute a community of existence that is profoundly related.”

~ Thomas Berry, Cultural Historian

339. **From:** ray masters <adkmts723@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 20, 2021 8:31 AM  
**To:** FWP Wildlife <fwpwld@mt.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Wolves

To FWP,

I am opposed to the most aggressive wolf reduction proposals. I am not anti-trapping or hunting but believe a small reduction in wolf numbers might be warranted. There is evidence that removing individual wolves breaks up packs which makes less wolves initially but generates more breeding pairs and eventually more wolves. Please consider no removal or light removal.

Ray Masters

Red Lodge

340. **From:** John Meyer <[john@cottonwoodlaw.org](mailto:john@cottonwoodlaw.org)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 18, 2021 6:41 PM  
**To:** FWP Wildlife <[fwpwld@mt.gov](mailto:fwpwld@mt.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Wolf Comments

Dear MT FWP,

These comments are from Cottonwood Environmental Law Center in regards to wolf hunting.

Cottonwood staff and members hunt game animals throughout our National Forests. We are opposed to wolf hunting unless it is to eat the animal. Killing an animal and leaving the meat go to waste is unethical.

Too often we see dick-swinging hunters crying about wolves when it the hunter's lack of skill. Our members hunt in wolf and grizzly habitat and have success. We have no problem sharing the landscape with other carnivores. For that reason, we oppose wolf hunting for any reason other than scientific management.

On behalf of Cottonwood and its members,

John Meyer



John Meyer

Executive Director & General Counsel  
Cottonwood Environmental Law Center  
[P.O. Box 412 Bozeman, MT 59771 \[x-apple-data-detectors\]](mailto:John@Cottonwoodlaw.org)  
[John@Cottonwoodlaw.org](mailto:John@Cottonwoodlaw.org)  
[\(406\) 546-0149](tel:(406)546-0149)

JUL 19 2021

①

Dear Director -

FISH, WILDLIFE PARKS  
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

Please allow me to voice a valid and very frustrated opinion or two: What the heck happened to the idea of fair chase?

More and more people are now using the high tech gadgets to get a one up advantage over the next guy (or gal). Some of these are:

computers, game cameras, drones, electronic illuminated scopes, thermal optic scopes, and others. This gives a great advantage to those people with money. What has happened to Archery? If some fancy nimrod wants to hunt with the latest and greatest of "bows" that utilize all the computer enhanced pulleys, wheels, carbon fiber, optical sight, trigger release, etc. I'm all for him or her - group them in with rifle hunters, or muzzloaders.

I am not nor ever been an Archery guy, but I support an Archery season, but if anything that fires an arrow qualifies, then that gives an unfair advantage even over some of the old iron sighted firearms.

I've been buying hunt, fish, trapping licenses in MT for 40 years unless I've been hurt or unable to do it. This is the first year I'm considering to just "throw in the towel". . .

WHY???

Because there are too many roads and trails open to ATVs that scream back and forth through the backcountry; there are too many people utilizing game cameras that can be viewed from far away; and people flying camera equipped ~~drones~~ looking here and there to locate game. People don't want to hunt - they just want to kill with the least amount of physical effort.

More roads should be gated and closed to motorized vehicles; trail cameras utilized at gates to catch offenders, and stiff fines ~~employed~~ employed. This does not deny access to any that want to pick up a rifle and go for a walk or horseback or Mtn bikers, but only eliminates the loud, fast expensive machines that only the more wealthy can have. A side benefit is less erosion. Viable logging and mine use should be supported ~~as~~ as people need jobs.

Hunters, especially older ones are the biggest whiners there are! Wolves, wolves, wolves - they whine that there is one behind every bush it seems. B.S. - ~~no~~ no doubt they have made an impact and pushed big game into different habits or made them harder to hunt, but my experience does not indicate that

③

the wolves have "killed off all the game".

I think it's time for a hard look at putting some limits on some of the equipment used in hunting. There was a time when some hunters questioned whether the use of a 3-9 power scope on a hunting rifle was ethical! Now we have jokers running around with scopes costing upwards of \$2000 that top out at 20 power or more. Put that on a fancy super AR something in 300 win. Magl-em - then they bang away with half a magazine @ 600yds or more 'till they finally wound the poor beast. And, now they want even more - adding computers, illuminators and thermal imaging to the scopes. Everyone wants to blame wolves, but they have to work at it; human hunters just want to do things the lazy way. Maybe there is less game to hunt because the advanced weapons make it too easy.

Or, maybe an elk hunter should be allowed to take only one animal every other year?

Certainly I'm on the war-path with game camera and drones - except for law enforcement.

I'm still against shares for wolves; wolf season for trapping should be Dec. 1 through Feb. 15; I think the 5 wolf limit is okay but may be modified.

Sincerely, Brett Anderson  
P.O. Box 61  
Bret Dillon, MT 59725

360-623-9061

P.S. I think the cranky old  
hunters complain about the  
Wolves just the same as they  
do politics—they just like  
to WHINE. Most likely,  
they don't hunt as hard  
because it hurts more—  
I'm 62 with bad body parts  
too. They have found it's  
more fun to WHINE  
than hunt so hard 