

BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH WILDLIFE AND PARKS
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

In the matter of the adoption of a New) RULEMAKING PETITION
Rule pertaining to wolf management)
stamps])
)

TO: All Concerned Persons

1. Petitioner's name and address is Marc Cooke, on behalf of Wolves of the Rockies, P.O. Box 742, Stevensville, MT 59870.

2. Petitioner is a 501(c)(3) non-profit whose mission is to protect and to protect and defend the wolves of Yellowstone National Park and the Rocky Mountains by advocating and educating, and gathering wolf advocates worldwide to consolidate their voices into a force that will influence the protection and acceptance of wolves that call the Rocky Mountains their home. Wolves of the Rockies membership includes non-consumptive users, they spend significant time attempting to see, and observing, wolves throughout Montana. If the rule is adopted, it will facilitate the management of wolves for all residents, and not just consumptive uses.

3. Petitioners would like a mechanism to donate to wolf conservation and management in Montana. It would allow nonconsumptive users to donate funds without purchasing a hunting license, or being a hunter or angler.

ADOPTION:

The rule[s] as proposed to be adopted would provide[s] as follows:

NEW RULE I WOLF MANAGEMENT STAMPS (1) The department shall create wolf management stamps to be issued to any persons who wish to donate to the department's management of wolves. Any resident or nonresident may purchase one or more such stamps for a donation of \$20.00 each.

(2) Money received from the sale of wolf management stamps will be considered a donation and must first be used to pay for the cost of administering the stamp program. The remainder of the money received must be equally divided and allocated for the following purposes:

(a) grants awarded through the livestock loss reduction program, pursuant to 2-15-3111, MCA;

(b) wolf monitoring, habitat protection or acquisition within occupied wolf habitat, scientific research of wolves, or public education and outreach activities relating to wolves; and

(c) the hiring of additional wardens, as defined by 87-1-101(5), MCA, within occupied wolf habitat.

AUTH: 87-1-201, MCA.

IMP: 87-1-201, MCA.

5. Persons known to petitioner to have an interest in the proposed agency action are:

KC York, Trap Free Montana, P.O. Box 325, Hamilton, Montana, 59840

Derek Goldman, Endangered Species Coalition, Missoula, Mt.59801

6. Petitioner requests a hearing for expression of petitioner's and other interested persons' views.

WHEREFORE, petitioner requests the Department of Fish Wildlife and Parks to adopt this proposed rule.



Marc Cooke
Wolves of the Rockies

October 19th, 2023