



## Support Wolf Recovery in Oregon

### Wolves are under fire in the West.

Wolves were once nearly driven to extinction in the lower 48 states. In a few places, they've begun to retake their place on the landscape. As wolves return, scientists continue to learn more about the important role wolves and other native predators play in maintaining healthy ecosystems.

Unfortunately western wolves were prematurely stripped of their endangered species protections, and wolf management is now left to the states. Montana and Idaho sport hunts have led to the death of hundreds of wolves. Utah, Wyoming, and Idaho have passed or are considering legislation that allows wolves to be shot on sight.

Oregon has a relatively enlightened wolf plan. However, the plan is underfunded, sets extremely low recovery goals, and does allow wolves to be shot by wildlife managers. Even so, just as wolves begin to take real steps towards recovery in

Oregon, anti-wolf interests are actively trying to weaken the plan and make it even easier to kill this still endangered species.

*"What a country chooses to save is what a country chooses to say about itself"*

- Mollie Beattie, first female director of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service



This wolf was shot in a "fair chase" hunt during the 2009 Montana sport wolf hunt after being chased for 8 miles by ATV.

# Be A Voice For Wolves

## What you can do:

### Learn about wolves

Check out the Oregon Wild website, and join the Wolf Pack to stay up to date and become an advocate for wolves and the wild places they need.

### Spread the word

Contact your elected leaders & ODFW. Let them know you support meaningful wolf recovery in Oregon. Host a house party, show the Lords of Nature film, and take action!

### Become an Oregon Wild Member

Oregon Wild is fighting for wolves in court, educating the public, and defending Oregon's wolf plan. We're also working to protect the big wild places that wolves and other native species need to survive. We need your support to do it.



(above) ODFW wolf biologist Russ Morgan preparing to collar one of Oregon's few wolves.

## Fast Facts About Wolves

- *Wolves are native to Oregon and once had the widest range of any non-human land mammal on the planet*
- *Wolves evolved and coexisted with their prey and other native species for millennia. As wolves return to the landscape, scientists are learning about the critical role they play in maintaining healthy ecosystems.*
- *Wolf-based tourism has added millions of dollars to local economies where their presence has been embraced.*
- *There is not a single documented case of a healthy wild wolf killing a human during the entirety of the 20th century in North America*
- *Even in states where wolves have recovered, they have a small impact on the ranching industry. Livestock losses to wolves are dwarfed by losses due to weather, domestic dogs, disease, poisoning, and even human theft.*



## Wolves Return to Oregon

By 1946, every wolf in Oregon had been killed. Nearly 50 years later, the same government that once sponsored their extermination began a program to reintroduce them. Wolves have since taken significant steps to recovery, and a small population has established itself in NE Oregon. In the summer of 2008, Oregon confirmed its first pups in over half a century.

In 2009, the Obama administration carried out a Bush proposal to remove western wolves from the Endangered Species Act. That decision turned wolf management over to parties that are often still hostile to wolves and puts their long-term recovery in jeopardy.

Wolf recovery in Oregon is dependent on sound management here and healthy populations in neighboring states. Oregon Wild has joined with conservation partners across the country to fight the premature delisting in court. We're also working to educate the public and defend both wolves and their habitat here in Oregon. Support Oregon Wild to ensure we learn from the mistakes of the past rather than repeat them.

*The Oregon Wolf plan is currently open for review and public comment. Take a moment and tell ODFW what you think about wolf recovery by sending an e-mail to [odfw.comments@state.or.us](mailto:odfw.comments@state.or.us)*

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