

From: Ramona Phillips
Date: March 24, 2013 9:57:48 AM PDT
To: "beth.reiley@state.or.us" <beth.reiley@state.or.us>
Subject: How do wolves affect you?

My family has lived in Wallowa County for close to 50 years now. When my husband and I bought our ranch, which we are still paying on, we never could have imagined having wolves on our private property, having to camp with our cows and not having the right to protect them, especially since our grazing ground is only 6 miles from town. This is how the wolf has affected us, turning out later two years in a row, one year when traps were being set on our property, the next when our children had paid for a vacation to Hawaii for my husband and I for our "40th" wedding anniversary. Needless to say our "free" vacation turned out very expensive, as we had our cows fed hay while we were gone. The next year we camped out with our cows and encountered wolves several times, namely the "Imnaha Pack" and one wolf came within 500 feet of where we were camped, it showed no fear of us and circled a calf of ours 3 times. My husband had a gun on the wolf the entire time. Ranchers here in Wallowa County have shown great restraint, especially since we seem to be the only ones following the Oregon Wolf Plan. We have also seen and heard wolves on our homeplace which is behind the Moraine of Wallowa Lake, which is only 3 miles from town. The wolves have cost us easily close to 20,000 dollars and we have been fortunate enough not to have lost an animal...yet! Our grazing ground has been overgrazed where we camped with them, because they would stay close to us when the wolves were close and not spread out in their normal grazing areas. We have had to sell two cows because we could no longer work with them, they would charge us and our dogs. Another cow we donated to friends for meat, because she couldn't even be loaded in a trailer and had to be put down in the corral. Our grandchildren have always wandered our ranch with our dogs and now we worry about that too. How do wolves affect you? And what do you feel about private property rights? Finding wolf prints by your feet while salting cows is not an exhilarating experience for me! I am always open to showing people just what we are contending with. Thank you, Ramona Phillips 541-432-8125 62052 Prairie Creek Road, Joseph, Oregon 97846

From: Kerry Tienhaara
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2013 1:13 PM
To: Reiley Beth
Subject: Wolf Plan Management

Dear Members of Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources,

My husband and I own and operate a small hay and cow/calf ranch in Wallowa County. We have had a confirmed Canadian Gray wolf kill on our property. We also had a calf attacked and gravely injured. The calf's mother had to be sold because she had become unmanageable and a danger to us when it came time for moving or chute work.

The Canadian Gray wolves have been seen traveling through pastures and hay fields in our neighborhood during the day, and can be heard howling from the Wallowa Lake Moraine some nights.

We own our property. Our cows and calves graze on privately owned property bordering ours. We are a mere six miles from the town of Joseph, Oregon.

The government introduced Canadian Gray wolf is protected under Oregon's ESA, however the ESA regulations apply only to state owned property. Please read Attorney General letter, pages 147-149 of the Oregon Wolf Conservation and Management Plan.

Laws are to protect citizens from 'mob-rule'. We, as United States Citizens, have the right to protect our private property (this includes our livestock) from harm. The thought of demanding people who live in cities to stand by, watch and do nothing as a marauding pack of thieves tear their hard work and years of effort to pieces never entered my mind. Yet this is what 'mob-rule' has brought to livestock producers of this state with the introduction of the Canadian Gray wolves.

Please keep that in mind as you hear the testimony of those whose paychecks depend upon putting the non-endangered Canadian Gray wolf ahead of the rights of citizens. They won't lose a dime, or a single night's sleep to the Canadian Gray wolf.

Thank you,
Kerry Tienhaara
Upper Prairie Creek
Joseph, Oregon