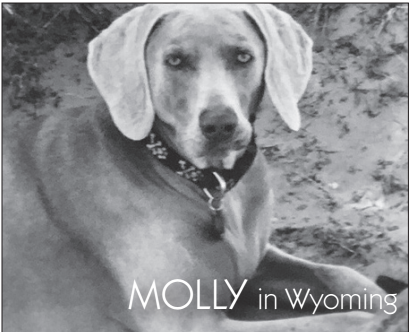




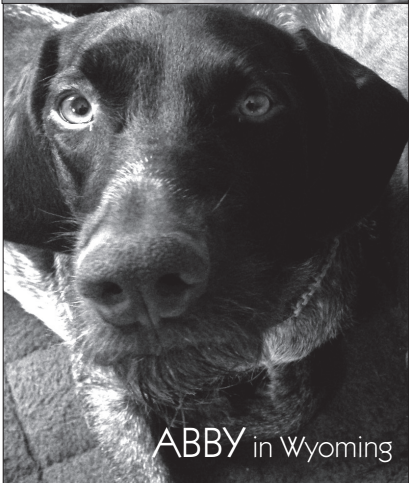
moving forward
for wildlife

with science &
the majority

In Loving Memory of Recent M-44 Victims



MOLLY in Wyoming



ABBY in Wyoming



KASEY in Idaho

December 2017

Dear Friend of Predator Defense,

We've heard from so many of you just how hard it is to celebrate the holiday season in a year of dramatic setbacks and mounting threats to the environment, human rights, and democratic principles. We feel the same way, but at the same time we believe we must hold on to hope. And we find encouragement in the fact that resistance has been fierce.

We are also pleased to share that—when it came to our campaign to end the use of indiscriminate wildlife poisons—2017 was a good year. It's when the notorious M-44 "cyanide bomb" became a household word for many Americans. Their primary reactions were disbelief and outrage that such lethal, indiscriminate and unnecessary devices are allowed in our great outdoors, endangering children, pets and wildlife.

Our work to ban M-44s reached new heights after three separate incidents early in the year. The resulting media coverage and lawsuits, both filed and under-way, were bolstered in large part by our work over the decades. Things kicked into high gear in February when a young male wolf (OR-48) was killed in northeast Oregon after it tugged on a baited M-44 set to indiscriminately kill coyotes. A little over a week later, two dogs were killed in Wyoming while their human family was antler hunting. The entire family, including a 9-year-old girl, was also exposed to the deadly cyanide.

Then in March a young boy from Pocatello, Idaho, was walking his dog behind his house and picked up what he thought was a sprinkler head. It went off, covering him with cyanide powder and killing his beloved dog right in front of his eyes. The boy was only spared death because of the direction of the wind, and he has suffered severe side effects. He and his family traveled to Washington, D.C. with us in June to urge Congress to ban M-44s (see photo on pg. 2). The timing proved fortuitous, as prior to these last two incidents we had asked Representative Peter DeFazio (D-Oreg.) if he would introduce the bill we'd been working with him on for a nationwide ban on M-44s and Compound 1080, another wildlife poison. And he did! But, this bill still needs to become law.

We were pleased to be the primary driver of publicity about these M-44 tragedies. Here's what our work to expose these cases has helped accomplish so far:

- A statewide M-44 moratorium in Idaho.

"In our work to end the use of indiscriminate wildlife poisons, 2017 was a good year—it's when the notorious M-44 'cyanide bomb' became a household word for Americans and moratoriums began."



— cont. on page 2



In June 2017 we went to D.C. with the Mansfield family of Pocatello, Idaho, to urge Congress to support new legislation to ban M-44 “cyanide bombs” and other wildlife poisons. The Mansfield’s lost their dog, and almost their son, to an M-44 device set behind their back yard. Read about their case at www.predatordefense.org/m44s.htm. Photo by Jenifer Morris Photography

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR, *cont. from page 1*

- An M-44 moratorium in six eastern Oregon counties.
- A federal judge ruled that M-44s can no longer be used on public lands in Colorado. The ruling orders the USDA to study the harm these “cyanide bombs” pose to the environment, meanwhile banning their use. This ruling at least temporarily prohibits the use of some other lethal killing methods, such as neck snares.
- Last, but far from least, the only manufacturer of the spring used to activate the M-44 device contacted us in October to tell us they would no longer sell the spring to the government. Incredibly they also made a \$1,000 donation toward our efforts to ban M-44s once and for all.

One more piece of good news is that a ruling in northern California requires USDA Wildlife Services to implement protections for wildlife and bans their traps and aerial gunning in federal wilderness areas. California must also look at the environmental impacts of killing native predators in their northernmost 16 counties.

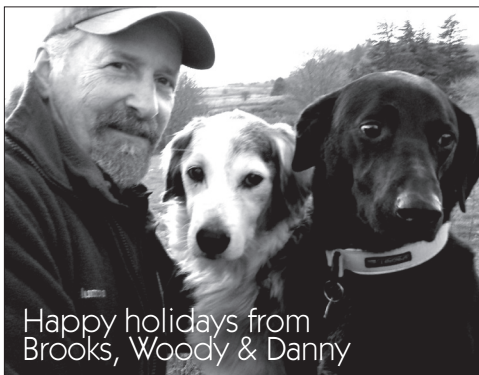
The progress we’re seeing now was built on our decades of work exposing Wildlife Services atrocities. Other organizations have benefited from our efforts, but the reality is that without our long-term perseverance these changes probably wouldn’t have happened. No organization has done more for this cause than we have over a longer period of time. And we wouldn’t have been able to do any of this without your support. Thank you! Meanwhile, we continue to push for a nationwide M-44 ban, while fielding countless calls for help and information from the media and general public.

It is only together that we can keep moving forward. We hope you will continue to further our work with a tax-deductible, year-end donation. And we wish you comfort and good cheer this holiday season.

For all that is wild and free,

Brooks Fahy

Brooks Fahy, Executive Director



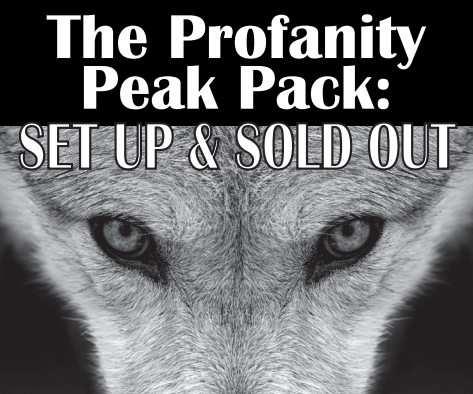
Happy holidays from Brooks, Woody & Danny

As Wolf Slaughter Worsens, We Ramp Up Our Truth-Telling, Film Screening Tour

Appallingly, wolves continue to be hammered in the American West. Oregon and Washington have recently seen a dramatic rise in wolf killings to appease ranchers, primarily on public lands.

Since 2012 Washington has killed 18 state-endangered wolves—15 on behalf of the same livestock owner highlighted in our provocative new film, “The Profanity Peak Pack: Set Up & Sold Out.” The unjust and counter-productive killings destroyed three wolf families, including the Profanity Peak pack last year and the Wedge pack in 2012.

Oregon is following suit. They killed five wolves in 2017 alone. They have also seen a dramatic rise in poaching, with two unresolved wolf kills this year. In another disturbing event, a wolf was killed by an elk



The Profanity Peak Pack: SET UP & SOLD OUT

Watch. Share. Support.
www.predatordefense.org/profanity

hunter, who claimed the wolf was charging him. The angle of the bullet wound indicated quite the opposite and independent experts who looked at the incident reports strongly disagreed with the hunter’s story. But the Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife destroyed the forensic evidence from the case, making an independent review impossible, and the state police also took the side of the hunter.

People need to learn that wolf attacks on humans are almost nonexistent; that wolves are vital, family-focused, apex predators who need places to live in peace; and that livestock should not be valued over wolves on public lands.

Our film speaks these truths to power and addresses wolves’ plight across the country. It also calls out some big conservation/animal welfare organizations for being party to the needless slaughter. Screenings begin in ID in January, then move to WA, OR, MT and CO. Details at www.predatordefense.org/profanity.

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