

A provocative new film about our unjust, counter-productive war on wolves

The Profanity Peak Pack:

SET UP & SOLD OUT

September 2017

Dear Friend of Predator Defense,

We know that some of you have already watched our newly released short film, "The Profanity Peak Pack: Set Up & Sold Out," because we've been getting positive feedback and support for the bold steps it takes. Thank you!

If you haven't watched the film yet, we encourage you to check it out. It has been ruffling more than a few feathers. In fact, it has people across the country fuming at the irresponsible rancher in Washington State who set up a pack of wolves living on public land in a remote forest to attack his cattle. People are also outraged at how state wildlife officials and major conservation organizations were party to the killing of the wolf pack, a slaughter that resumed against a new pack in 2017.

The film has been brushed off by four conservation organizations involved, who do not want people to know about their role in setting wolves up for the slaughter. The groups include Defenders of Wildlife, The Humane Society of the United States, Conservation Northwest, and Wolf Haven International. They are all members of Washington's Wolf Advisory Group (WAG), a body comprised of ranching interests, state wildlife officials, and environmental/conservation organizations. WAG is driven by consensus and requires all members to be bound by the majority decision.

"There are two ways to end the problem of wolves attacking cows on grazing allotments with indefensible terrain—either stop planting cattle where they cannot be defended, or stop holding wolves accountable for behaving like wolves."

Just one of the many outrageous things we heard when Washington State was justifying slaughtering the Profanity Peak pack for attacks on cattle in 2016, was a statement by Donny Martorello, wolf policy lead at their Department of Fish and Wildlife, who said: "Is that really the wolf population we want to repopulate the state?"

So there you had Washington's top wolf manager who apparently doesn't understand or value the basic nature of wolves as apex predators, performing their vital role in our ecosystems. The state is also not acknowledging that killing wolves disrupts the social order of the pack and often has serious unintended consequences. It can remove the wisdom of elder pack members and drive younger, less experienced wolves to make unwise decisions. In fact, over the years I've seen killing wolves can actually increase attacks on livestock.

Noted scientists and environmentalists who have watched the film are speaking out, excoriating the players in the case, whose actions they find representative of all that is wrong with America's treatment of wolves. A short sampling of some scientists' thoughts is available at right. Full versions, and testimonials from many more highly respected scientists and environmentalists, are available online at www.predatordefense.org/profanity.

— cont. on page 2



Prominent Scientists Applaud Film, Call Wolf Slaughter Unjustified & Unethical

"The precedent set by the killing of these endangered icons—despite public outcry—is potentially dooming entire populations to be wiped out based on the whim of private interests seeking to exploit public lands. [This film] unabashedly sheds light on a broken system."

RENÉE OWENS, M.S., *Conservation Biologist; Executive Director, Wild Zone Conservation League*

"The destruction of the Profanity Peak wolf pack is tragically symptomatic of what is wrong with American wildlife conservation...morally, biologically, and financially."

BILL CLARK, Ph.D., *Wildlife Consultant, Animal Welfare Institute; Former wolf researcher & 23-year member of INTERPOL's wildlife crime unit*

"The decisions by the rancher/owner of the cattle and the state wildlife agency are irresponsible, bordering on the outrageous in terms of common sense... The pack was lured by placement of cattle, which displaced the elk food base of the wolves, so the wolves, victimized once, are then destroyed, becoming victims a second time."

BARRIE GILBERT, Ph.D., *Sr. Scientist Emeritus, Dept. of Wildland Resources, Utah State Univ.*

"The best way to reduce conflict is to keep livestock away from wolf den sites. Using nonlethal control methods is far more effective than killing wolves. This truthful, thoughtful, and poignant film addresses these 'inconvenient' facts and also shows how wolves are caught between a rock and a hard place. If they cannot live on public lands without being persecuted, then where?"

ROBERT WIELGUS, Ph.D., *Professor & 35-year researcher of large carnivore/human conflicts; author of 35 published scientific papers*

"This film reveals the wider political and scientific malpractice of lethal wolf management. Animated by the blatant immorality of victimizing wolves for the benefit of corporate agriculture...It also exposes the moral shame that lies at the heart of traditional conservation—the often blind reliance on killing wildlife."

WILLIAM LYNN, Ph.D., *Ethicist & Social Scientist, Marsh Institute of Clark Univ., NewKnowledge*

LEGAL DISCLAIMER: Mr. Lynn's views are his own, and do not represent those of other individuals or institutions.

Watch. Share. Support.

predatordefense.org/profanity

Because wolves need places to live in peace.

Appreciative Words from Viewers

"My deepest and sincerest "thank-you" for your continued passion for telling the truth...This was a riveting account of what we are doing to wolves and for what, hamburgers! You are to be applauded for it all—especially taking on the environmental groups that are providing cover for the ranchers and agreeing to the killing of these wolves, in the name of getting along and helping the management of them."

– Bend, OR

"I just finished watching your new film... twice. It is absolutely perfect. I can't believe you were able to touch on all the important parts of this issue within such a short documentary and did so in a wholly effective way."

– Salt Lake City, UT

"I cannot thank you enough for this video...you have spoken a truth that needs to be echoed by us all...I admire your work and am grateful for the stand you have taken. I stand beside you, and I thank you for leading the way."

– Golden, BC

"I can't stop the tears from falling and I personally thank you for your hard work and determination to put this out there. I work so hard to keep wolves alive and am working toward a citizens initiative that hopefully will bring about some long overdue change."

–Spokane, WA

A provocative new film about our unjust, counter-productive war on wolves

The Profanity Peak Pack: SET UP & SOLD OUT

"This is a cattle-killing pack of wolves. Total elimination is the only answer."

"We were set up to prey on cattle invading the forest we call home."

"This triggered the protocols that led to our executions."

predatordefense.org/profanity
Wolves need places to live in peace.

It is morally imperative that we end America's war on wolves. Please help us spread the word about this film by sharing the enclosed postcards and making a donation to help us expand our effectiveness.

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

Tragically, Washington State resumed slaughtering wolves in July 2017, killing two members of the Smackout Pack for attacks on livestock. "Our goal is to change the pack's behavior before the situation gets worse," said Martorello. They are indulging in such short-sighted and counter-productive thinking. In August they also authorized killing one or more members of the Sherman Pack.

In all three instances of wolves attacking cattle, the same ranching family is involved, the events have taken place on grazing allotments with mountainous terrain that makes them essentially impossible to defend, and the non-lethal deterrent used has been range riders. While range riders are deemed more effective than other measures in this terrain, they have proven insufficient, likely due to the geographic constraints and the inadequate "near daily" schedule they kept.

"Wolves are being slaughtered so cows can be raised to be butchered for profit."

I firmly believe there are two ways to end the problem of wolves attacking cows on grazing allotments with indefensible terrain—either stop planting cattle where they cannot be defended, or stop holding wolves accountable for behaving like wolves. Instead of trying to change wolf behavior, let's change human behavior. Let's prevent these situations by making informed, intelligent decisions.

But our film isn't just about wolves in Washington State. It addresses America's overall approach to wolves, calling it unjust, counterproductive and cruel. Around 5,000 wolves have been killed by hunters and trappers alone in seven states since wolves lost endangered species protection in 2011 and management was turned over to individual states. This has led me to ask: Did we bring wolves back just to slaughter them all over again?

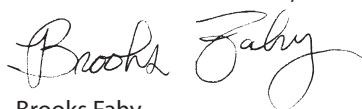
Washington and Oregon had remained fairly safe havens for wolves until 2016, when the Profanity Peak Pack was slaughtered. In August 2017, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife killed four out of ten members of the Harl Butte wolf pack, which, like the Profanity Peak pack, also lives in territory not suitable for unsupervised, free-roaming cattle. Trail cameras show cows literally using the same trails as the wolves' known territory. Oregon also issued a kill permit to a livestock producer to exterminate two members of the Meacham pack. Neither Oregon nor Washington have a recovered wolf population. Both states have over a million cows and barely 100 wolves, yet they are using management tactics from Idaho and Montana, which have larger wolf populations and have slaughtered thousands.

"Instead of trying to change wolf behavior, let's change human behavior...We must acknowledge that there are simply some places where it is absolutely inappropriate to have livestock."

Wolves are being slaughtered so cows can be raised to be butchered for profit. It is outrageous that ranchers are allowed to destroy public lands with livestock grazing while taxpayers help them externalize their business costs and fund the killing of wolves and other native predators. We must acknowledge that there are simply some places where it is absolutely inappropriate to have livestock. Wolves should have priority over cows on public lands. They need a place to live in peace.

I hereby extend a heartfelt thank you for the generous support so many of you have provided over time.* It allowed us to make this film and continue our work to make the world a better place for native predators. We are truly grateful to you.

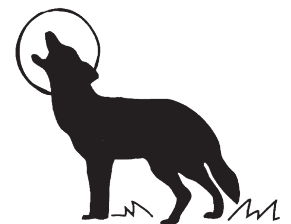
For all that is wild and free,



Brooks Fahy
Executive Director

* To those who donated by check since mid-June, thank you so very much! Your official thank you letters are coming!

www.predatordefense.org



Predator Defense
Helping people & wildlife coexist since 1990