



moving forward
for wildlife

with science &
the majority

The Truth Is in the Science

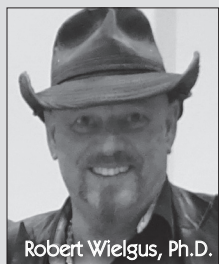
We're pleased to feature one of the newest members of our advisory board, Robert Wielgus, Ph.D., a warrior for science and for truth.

By now you've probably heard more than enough about Washington State's counter-productive war on wolves, and the irresponsible rancher for whom most all wolves to date have been killed (18 out of 22). This rancher notoriously set wolves up to prey on his cows, dumping them in remote, indefensible forested terrain where the wolf pack had been living in peace.

But you would never have known what really happened if not for the courageous and outspoken scientist named Robert Wielgus, Ph.D., a large carnivore specialist and former Washington State University (WSU) professor, whose long tracking of wolves and cattle and peer-reviewed research showed the state's policy of killing wolves that preyed on cattle was likely to lead to more predation, not less. This occurs because it destabilizes the wolves' pack structure. Wielgus' also

worked successfully with other ranchers proving that no attacks occurred when cows were kept a half mile from the wolves' den.

WSU, Big Ag and state wildlife managers hated Wielgus' research. They had



Robert Wielgus, Ph.D.

vested interests in killing wolves so cows could live in inappropriate places until their slaughter dates. And so, for moving science forward, Wielgus was suppressed, censured, denigrated and defunded. He is no longer at WSU. But we're thankful he's now with us.

Learn more about Wielgus' academic freedom fight, the science, and the sellout at www.predatordefense.org/profanity.

History shows we blame predators for problems humans have caused. Help us right this wrong. Support our work at predatordefense.org.

December 2018

Dear Friend of Predator Defense,

It's not an exaggeration to say the fight for wildlife, science, and our nation's democratic principles reached a fever pitch this year. We suspect you may be as exhausted as we are and hope you share our belief that we must continue to fight this raging virus of ignorance, cruelty and greed with everything we've got.

Thankfully, we've got a lot. We have sanity, science and passion for a sustainable planet on our side. In fact, since science reveals the truth about our world, we can honestly say we have reality on our side. And denying reality doesn't change it.

We're relieved to share that—regardless of the daily assault of headline horror—we do have good news to share in our year-end call to action toward ending America's war on wildlife.

A Precedent-Setting Win: Judge Rules Idaho Ignoring Science, Environmental Impact of Killing Thousands of Predators Each Year

Some of the best news of the year came in June, when a federal court ruled that USDA Wildlife Services' barbaric wildlife killing program in Idaho ignores science and fails to properly analyze how killing thousands of coyotes and other predators each year could impact the environment. We are plaintiffs in this precedent-setting case, which delivers a powerful rebuke to Wildlife Services.

The judge's opinion is a win for wildlife, and a win for management based on modern science. The court also found that Wildlife Services ignored or dismissed essentially unanimous critical comments—not just from conservationists, but also from their own sister organizations, including the U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, and Idaho Department of Fish and Game.

We were represented in this extremely important case by Advocates for the West and Western Watersheds Project. It is currently in the remedy phase, where the judge considers solutions to the problems identified in the ruling—in particular, that indiscriminately killing native carnivores does not achieve Wildlife Services' stated goals. Instead, the slaughter increases conflict and undermines vital ecosystem functions.



— cont. on page 2

predatordefense.org
Helping people and wildlife coexist since 1990

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

U.S. Manufacturer of Deadly Poison Compound 1080 Shuts Down

In the late 1990s we started making solo trips to a small town in Oxford, Alabama where the deadliest poison on earth, Compound 1080, had been produced since the 1950s. Called Tull Chemical, it was the only factory in the world that produced 1080. Our goal was to raise community awareness and shut the plant down. We held town hall meetings and meet with concerned citizens. To our delight the owner of the factory shut his doors this year. We have not heard of production resuming elsewhere and are waiting to see what happens in New Zealand, which uses 1080 to cruelly and unnecessarily kill thousands of animals each year and hopefully no longer has a supplier.

Looking Ahead: 2019 Should Bring Positive Change

The midterm elections made it amply clear that the vast majority of Americans support progressive policies and/or a kinder, more rational approach to how our country comports itself and treats its citizens. This sentiment extends to how America treats wildlife, which gives us hope for positive changes in 2019. Highlights of our plans for the coming year include:

- Reintroducing the Chemical Poisons Reduction Act in the U.S. Congress via Rep. Peter DeFazio (D-Oreg). This is legislation we've been pushing for since our inception that will ban wildlife poisons like Compound 1080 and M-44 "cyanide bombs." Banning these poisons is a vital public safety issue.
- Promoting a poignant new film called "Lethal Control," which features heart-grabbing interviews with key M-44 victims we've helped over many years. We plan to screen it for Congressional staff at the U.S. Capitol and beyond.
- Continuing to speak truth to power and spread the word about the counter-productive outrage that is America's ongoing wolf slaughter and war on native predators.

Your Tax-Deductible Donation Today Will Kickstart 2019 Projects

We don't know anyone who wants to be constantly asked to make a donation. That's why, unlike many organizations, we only send three or four mailings a year and spare you from an endless email barrage. This works for us because we don't have large payroll and marketing expenses to fund, and because we prefer to spend our time and resources diligently working on the issues, a lot of which happens behind the scenes.

This is our last call for 2018 and we hope you will continue to strengthen our efforts with a tax-deductible donation to kickstart our 2019 projects. You can also let us know we can count on your regular support over time by setting up a recurring monthly or quarterly donation at www.predatordefense.org (click on "Donate Now" button, choose amount, and set frequency). Regardless of how you choose to give, please know we can never thank you enough and are forever grateful for your support.

For all that is wild and free,

Brooks Fahy, Executive Director



PREDATOR DEFENSE

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Brooks, Danny & Woody wish you good company & joy-filled moments this holiday season

Advisory Board Spotlight

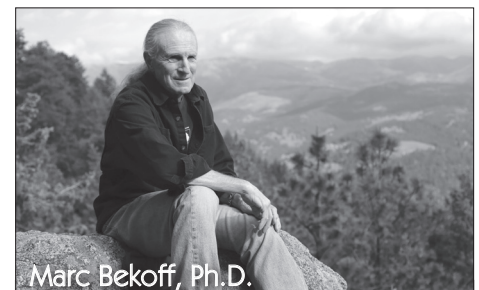
Sharing choice quotes from a few of our advisory board members, key experts who help us navigate the scientific, ecological and ethical issues affecting the vital native predators we work to protect.



Donna Harris, DVM

Beloved veterinarian, witness to the brutal effects of trapping on wildlife and pets, tireless anti-trap activist

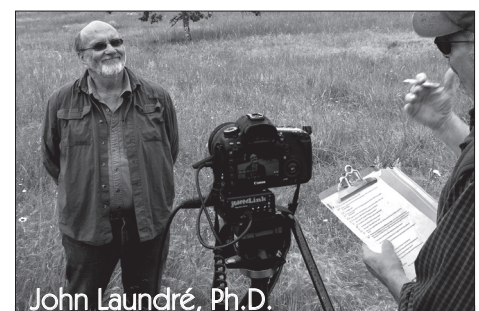
"All animals experience the same emotions of fear, pain, anxiety, and stress that humans do. There's no doubt about that. Trapping is a form of animal abuse. It is a deliberate infliction of pain and stress and withholding of food and shelter."



Marc Bekoff, Ph.D.

Pioneering cognitive ethologist, expert on animal minds & behavior, prolific author, colleague of Jane Goodall

"All animals count. They have wives and children. They each have jobs within their family hierarchies. It is devastating when individuals leave [are killed]. You want the group to function as a whole. If you pull one out, it changes the social dynamics among all."



John Laundré, Ph.D.

Legendary predator-prey conservation biologist, expert on mismanagement of carnivores, originator of concept "the landscape of fear"

"The idea that we need to kill predators to control their populations is really one of the biggest myths in wildlife management. We now know it's the prey that controls the predator, not the predator that controls the prey."