

Raszka Shelley

From: Elizabeth Huntley <wiwolfyone@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 14, 2015 7:29 PM
To: Raszka Shelley
Subject: Fwd: We oppose HB3515

Please see below...thank you!

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Elizabeth Huntley <wiwolfyone@gmail.com>
Date: Tue, Apr 14, 2015 at 8:48 PM
Subject: We oppose HB3515
To: shelly.raszka@state.or.us

To the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee, respectfully:

I'm absolutely baffled why the progressive state of Oregon is considering a bill (HB3515) to prevent gray wolves from ever being included on the state's list of threatened or endangered species? This sounds as draconian a position as 2 unrelated bills being circulated in Congress that essentially advocate the same position!

Wolves are probably the most studied large predator in North America, if not the world. Science has proven time and time again through rigorous research that wolves are essential to maintaining a healthy ecosystem, which includes ungulate herds and songbirds as well as understory plants and water conservation. To NOT safeguard your wolf population from indiscriminate trophy hunting and poaching would be a crime. Wolves now only occupy 5% of their original US distribution since being wiped out by the early 1920's due to excessive hunting, trapping, and government contract killers.

We are a much more enlightened society now than we were then, both about wolves and the delicate ecosystems in which they and other fauna reside.

Oregon farmers and ranchers are obligated to learn "less-than-lethal" methods to protect their livestock; depredating wolves can be removed by lethal means. Slaughtering wolves indiscriminately has been shown to actually increase livestock depredation, not decrease it as evidenced by recently released research out of Washington State.

I urge the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee to oppose this bill based on the best and most credible science regarding wolves and their benefits on ecosystems. Blowing 10 years of wolf re-colonization in your state would be shameful and irresponsible. Don't become a "Wisconsin"!

Regards,

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Elizabeth Huntley

Director, WI Wolf Conservation PAC

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Wolf-Conservation-Political-Action-Committee/922052567823467>

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"Harmony with land is like harmony with a friend; you cannot cherish his right hand and chop off his left. That is to say, you cannot love game and hate predators...
The land is one organism."

— Aldo Leopold

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