

Raszka Shelley

From: Jan Accardo <j.derylle@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 15, 2015 5:07 PM
To: Raszka Shelley
Subject: House Bills 3515 2050 3140 3188 3514

Dear Ms. Raszka,

A few minutes ago I read an email about a meeting being held tomorrow about House Bills 3515, 2050, 3140, 3188, and 3514. As you are aware, these bills target what are being called 'anti-predator' bills, but what does that make us? Aren't we the major world predators, especially since we have advanced brains which are being used to not just target animals here, but worldwide and with complete abandon?

Morally, these bills are just wrong. These animals are being systematically removed because they are in the way of special interest groups. How can this be allowed to happen on one hand while they are romanticized and adored by the general population on the other? Take wolves and wild horses, for example. How many people wear tee-shirts emblazoned with photos of them? How many people spend money on trips just to catch a glimpse of them?

I recently retired from West Salem High School as a Special Needs Assistant in the LRC program. I was fortunate enough to work in main stream classroom with amazing teachers. One of these was John Borowski teaching Biology, Ecology, and Marine Science. I have always loved the natural world, but John taught in a way that changed my life and also many many MANY students. He showed us the world in its true Circle of Life. I remember learning about how wolves were removed from Yellowstone for many years with disastrous results. What some had thought to be a good idea turned the natural ecosystem upside down. Wolves were re-introduced and the true Circle of Life for Yellowstone returned!

In the past we have taken many animals and through careful breeding, have created what we needed and wanted. Back to the wolves: Anthropologists and Biologists now believe humans may never have survived had we not tamed the wolf. They became our protection, our load bearers, our hunting advantage, our alarm systems and now our companions and lapdogs. They are the Only. Other. Species who looks us directly in the eye - on the side of our face that expresses our truest emotions!

Humans, with our way-to-big-brains and too little care, are the ones who have now reeked havoc upon the Earth. It is time, it is past time, that instead of looking out for #1 we look out for all the #1s. We need to look at what we are doing wrong, not what they are doing wrong, and 'fix it' before all go the way of the black rhino.

Thank you in advance for reading my concerns. I am at our Hebe Cottage in Lincoln City for the next few days or I would definitely be attending the meeting. After I send this my dog, Seamus, and I will walk the Siletz shore and hope to see some. egrets, herons, gulls, and maybe an eagle or two.

Life is good,
Jan Accardo

