

Possible Revisions for FWC Consideration to July 28, 2011 WDFW Preferred Alternative for the
Final EIS/Recommended Wolf Conservation and Management Plan
November 3, 2011

<u>Plan Element</u>	<u>Oct. 9, 2009</u> <u>Draft EIS/Plan</u> Preferred Alternative	<u>July 28, 2011</u> <u>Final EIS/Recommended Plan</u> Preferred Alternative	<u>Nov 3, 2011</u> <u>Possible Revisions</u>
Number of recovery regions	Three recovery regions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Eastern Washington ▪ Northern Cascades ▪ Southern Cascades/ Northwest Coast 	Status Quo	Status Quo
Downlist to Threatened (6 successful breeding pairs for 3 yrs)	2 in Eastern Washington 2 in Northern Cascades 2 in Southern Cascades/ Northwest Coast	Status Quo	Status Quo
Downlist to Sensitive (12 successful breeding pairs for 3 yrs)	2 in Eastern Washington 2 in Northern Cascades 5 in Southern Cascades/ Northwest Coast 3 anywhere in state	4 in Eastern Washington 3 in Northern Cascades 5 in Southern Cascades/Northwest Coast	July 28, 2011 language or: 4 in Eastern Washington 4 in Northern Cascades 4 in Southern Cascades/Northwest Coast
Delist (15 successful breeding pairs for 3 yrs)	2 in Eastern Washington 2 in North Cascades 5 in Southern Cascades/ Northwest Coast 6 anywhere in state	5 in Eastern Washington 4 in North Cascades 6 in Southern Cascades/Northwest Coast and If 18 SBPs in any one year, with distribution, could initiate delisting process but delisting would not occur until geographic recovery objectives met for 3 yrs	July 28, 2011 language or: 4 in Eastern Washington 4 in North Cascades 4 in Southern Cascades/ Northwest Coast 3 anywhere in state and/or: 18 SBPs (4/4/4/6) in any single year, could initiate delisting process

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Translocation of wolves from one area of Washington to another to establish a new population	Available as a tool.	Status Quo	Status Quo
Manage for landscape connectivity	Expand existing efforts to maintain and restore habitat connectivity for wolves.	Status Quo	Status Quo
Use of non-lethal injurious harassment	Allowed by livestock owners (including family members and authorized employees) with a permit and training from WDFW during all listed statuses; will be reconsidered during Endangered status if used inappropriately or a mortality occurs under this provision.	Status Quo	Status Quo
Lethal control by state/federal agents of wolves involved in repeated livestock depredations	Allowed during all listed statuses and after delisting, consistent with federal law.	Allowed during all listed statuses and after delisting, consistent with federal law. During all listed statuses, WDFW may consider issuing a permit to a livestock owner (including family members and authorized employees) to conduct lethal control on private land they own or lease if WDFW does not have the resources to address control.	Allowed during all listed statuses and after delisting, consistent with federal law. During all listed statuses, WDFW may consider issuing a permit to a livestock owner (including family members and authorized employees) to conduct lethal control if WDFW does not have the resources to address control.
Lethal control by livestock owners (including family members and authorized employees) of wolves involved in repeated livestock depredations	Allowed with an issued permit on private lands and public grazing allotments they own or lease when wolves reach Sensitive status.	Status Quo	Status Quo

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Lethal take of wolves in the act of attacking (biting, wounding, or killing) livestock	<p>Allowed by livestock owners (including family members and authorized employees) on private land they own or lease when wolves reach Threatened status.</p> <p>Would be reconsidered if used inappropriately or more than 2 wolf mortalities occur under this provision in a year.</p>	<p>Allowed by livestock owners (including family members and authorized employees) on private land they own or lease at all listed statuses, with an issued permit, after documented depredation (injury or killing) in the area.</p> <p>Would be reconsidered if used inappropriately or more than 2 wolf mortalities occur under this provision in a year. WDFW would evaluate the circumstances of the mortalities and determine if it would continue issuing permits.</p>	<p>July 28, 2011 language</p> <p>or</p> <p>Allowed by livestock owners (including family members and authorized employees) on private land they own or lease and public grazing allotments at all listed statuses, with an issued permit, after documented depredation (injury or killing) in the area.</p> <p>Would be reconsidered if used inappropriately or more than 2 wolf mortalities occur under this provision in a year. WDFW would evaluate the circumstances of the mortalities and determine if it would continue issuing permits.</p>
Payment for confirmed livestock depredation	<p>Twice the full value for each confirmed depredation on grazing sites of 100 or more acres.</p> <p>Full value for each confirmed depredation on sites of less than 100 acres.</p> <p>Losses covered on both private and public lands.</p>	<p>On grazing sites of 100 or more acres, and where the agency determines that it would be difficult to survey the entire acreage, full current market value for two animals for each confirmed depredation . It would not include double payment if all other animals are accounted for.</p> <p>On sites of less than 100 acres, full current market value for each confirmed depredation.</p> <p>Losses covered on both private and public lands.</p>	Status Quo

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Payment for probable livestock depredation	<p>Full value for each probable depredation on grazing sites of 100 or more acres.</p> <p>Half the value for each probable depredation on sites of less than 100 acres.</p> <p>Losses covered on private and public lands.</p>	<p>On grazing sites of 100 or more acres, and where the agency determines that it would be difficult to survey the entire acreage, half the current market value for two animals for each probable depredation. It would not include double payment if all other animals are accounted for.</p> <p>On sites of less than 100 acres, half the current market value for each probable depredation.</p> <p>Losses covered on private and public lands.</p>	Status Quo
Proactive measures to reduce depredation	<p>WDFW would hire wolf specialists, whose duties would include working with livestock operators to provide technical assistance to livestock operators to implement proactive measures to reduce conflicts.</p> <p>Assistance with some costs may be paid by Defenders of Wildlife on a limited basis.</p>	<p>WDFW will provide technical assistance to livestock operators to implement proactive measures to reduce conflicts.</p> <p>Assistance with some costs may be paid by non-profit organizations or other entities on a limited basis.</p>	Status Quo

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Ungulate management	Manage for healthy ungulate populations through habitat improvement, harvest management, and reduction of illegal hunting. Manage harvest to benefit wolves only in localized areas if research has determined wolves are not meeting recovery objectives and prey availability is a limiting factor.	Status Quo	Status Quo
Wolf-ungulate conflict management	After wolves are delisted, if research determines that wolf predation is a limiting factor for at-risk ungulate populations, could consider moving of wolves, lethal control, or other control techniques in localized areas.	<p>During any listed status, if the Department determines that wolf predation is a primary limiting factor for at-risk ungulate populations and the wolf population in that recovery region is healthy (i.e., it exceeds the delisting objectives for that recovery region), it could consider moving of wolves, lethal control, or other control techniques in localized areas.</p> <p>The status of wolves statewide as well as within a specific wolf recovery region where ungulate impacts are occurring would be considered in decision-making. Decisions will be based on scientific principles and evaluated by WDFW.</p>	<p>July 28, 2011 language or During any listed status, if the Department determines that wolf predation is a primary limiting factor for at-risk ungulate populations and the wolf population in that recovery region is greater than 4 successful breeding pairs, it could consider moving of wolves, lethal control, or other control techniques in localized areas.</p> <p>The status of wolves statewide as well as within a specific wolf recovery region where ungulate impacts are occurring would be considered in decision-making. Decisions will be based on scientific principles and evaluated by WDFW.</p>

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Definition of “at-risk ungulate population”	<i>Term was not defined in Plan</i>	For the purposes of this plan, an at-risk ungulate population is any federal or state listed ungulate population (e.g., Selkirk Mountain woodland caribou, Columbian white-tailed deer), or any ungulate population for which it is determined to have declined 25% or more below management objectives for three or more years and population trend analysis predicts a continued decline. For populations for which numeric estimates and/or management objectives are not currently available, it will not be possible to use a specific threshold to assess a need for management action. Instead WDFW will use other sources of information related to the population, such as harvest trends, hunter effort trends, sex and age ratios, and others.	July 28, 2011 language or For the purposes of this plan, an at-risk ungulate population is any federal or state listed ungulate population (e.g., Selkirk Mountain woodland caribou, Columbian white-tailed deer). An at-risk population would also include ungulates that have experienced a decline below the objective for the population management unit and evidence suggests a continued decline. In ungulate populations where estimates are regularly calculated, if a decline greater than 25% below the population management objective is detected, the department would consider taking management action. In ungulate populations without numeric estimates and/or without management objectives, the department will not use a specific threshold to assess a need for management action. Instead, WDFW will use other sources of information related to the population, such as harvest trends, hunter effort trends, sex and age ratios, and others.
Outreach and education	Use WDFW wolf specialists to conduct outreach and education programs.	Use WDFW staff to conduct outreach and education programs.	Status Quo