RESOLVE
Results Through Consensus

MEMORANDUM

TO: Wolf Working Group Members (WWG) and WDFW Staff
FROM: Paul De Morgan, RESOLVE and Turner Odell
SUBJECT: Action Items from the March 26-27, 2008 Meeting #7 – FINAL
DATE: April 23, 2008

This memo includes action items agreed to during the March 26-27 meeting, a list of future meeting dates, a summary of and flipchart notes from WWG discussions at the meeting for your information.

Please review the action item list for tasks assigned to you and/or the Working Group in general (highlighted in yellow). After reviewing the memo, please let us know if we missed any action items and/or if you identify any omissions or changes to more accurately capture the conversations.

Upcoming Meetings	When and Where	Suggested Agenda Items
WWG Meeting #8	Wednesday, May 21, 2008 *Ellensburg, WA*	• Review progress from subgroup and finalize plan to send to WDFW
WWG Meeting #9	TBD	• Review of public review process results

I. ACTION ITEMS

Action Items Memo	Who	Completed by
1. Distribute draft Action Items memo for review	RESOLVE	COMPLETED
2. Provide edits/comments on Action Items Memo to RESOLVE	WWG members	COMPLETED
3. Finalize and distribute final memo to WWG and WDFW	RESOLVE	COMPLETED

Outstanding Issues	**Who**	**Completed by**
4. Address 12 outstanding issues and share results with full group for consideration in advance of next meeting	Colleen, George, Jack, and John S.	UPDATE - COMPLETED
5. Review and additional effort to address 12 outstanding issues	TBD *(based on results of prior action item)*	Ongoing (in advance of May 21 meeting)

Chapters I-XIII	**Who**	**Completed by**
6. Submit proposed edits on the draft plan to Harriet Allen and Gary Wiles	WWG Members	Friday, April 4
7. Revise numbering of strategies in Chapter XII to reflect the Chapters from which they are drawn	WDFW	Prior to distributing next draft of Plan
8. Edit draft Conservation and Management Plan per agreed-upon edits from March 26-27, 2008 meeting (see flipchart notes for details) and submitted edits as appropriate	WDFW	Friday, May 2
9. Provide new draft conservation and management plan to WWG members	WDFW	Friday, May 2

Miscellaneous	**Who**	**Completed by**
10. Send Response Guidelines to WWG members along with new contact information for incident response and memo on implications of federal delisting for management of wolves in Eastern Washington	WDFW	Friday, Apr. 18
11. Share analysis of recent wildlife damages case	WDFW	When completed
12. Discuss with Defenders of Wildlife the possibility of continuing their compensation program in eastern WA (despite federal delisting).	WDFW	Completed (agreement to continue in E. WA)

Ongoing	Who	Completed by
13. Update website as necessary	WDFW	Friday, April 25
14. Hard Copy Packet Distribution – Mail information to Daryl Asmussen and Jeff Dawson	WDFW and RESOLVE	Ongoing

II. PARKING LOT FOR ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED IN THE DRAFT PLAN

[This list was originally developed at the September 13-14, 2007 meeting; it was not updated at subsequent meetings.]

- Provide general data of location of grazing permits or locations where there are no allocations
- State Sensitive/Managed Big Game – Provide clarification on the distinction between state sensitive and managed big game (management implications)
- Forest Practices Act Clarification – Provide further clarification on rule for protection of denning sites (Class IV Special designation) including reference to appropriate legislation and review periods
- Clarifications on Conflict Issues – Provide clarification on the following:
    - What is 'chronic' wolf depredation (pg. 6)
    - Will the Department support a statutory change for wolf take when 'caught in the act?'
    - What are the implications of a guard dog killing a wolf
- Hybrid Issues – assess feasibility of new saliva sample technology determining depredation by wolf or hybrid

III. OVERVIEW OF DISCUSSIONS

Day 1 – December 6, 2007

A. Welcome, Introductions, and Agenda Review

Harriet Allen, WDFW, welcomed the members to the Wolf Working Group (WWG) meeting and thanked participants on behalf of WDFW for their involvement. The facilitator reviewed the meeting objectives, agenda, and materials. It was noted that three members (Jack Field, John Stuhlmiller, and Arthur Swannack) had been in touch with the facilitator and would not be in attendance for the first day of the meeting. It was also noted that pursuant to the WWG Operating Principles, Paula Del Giudice would no longer be a member of the WWG.

B. Updates Since the December Meeting

Federal Delisting

Harriet Allen noted that the federal proposal to remove the grey wolf from the federal endangered species list for certain areas in the Rocky Mountain West will take effect on Friday March 28, 2008. She noted that this would result in delisted status for the wolf in the eastern third of Washington. In

these areas, WDFW now assumes the lead role in wolf management and response. West of the line, the wolf is still federally listed and the federal agencies remain in the lead.

Members expressed concern and asked questions regarding the Department's preparedness to handle complaints about wolf activity or depredation in Eastern Washington. WDFW noted that it would update and clarify its "response guidelines" to reflect the new responsibilities. Otherwise, the delisting does not affect the WWG's ongoing planning process or the content of the plan. It was noted however that the Defenders of Wildlife compensation program only applies to federally listed species, and there is no compensation system currently in effect under state law. Members suggested that someone explore the possibility of Defenders extending their compensation program to cover losses in the eastern third of Washington until the state can adopt its plan and a compensation program.

Members asked questions about the implications of the delisting for translocation. Specifically, could wolves be translocated from a delisted area into a listed area or within listed areas? WDFW noted that early indications from USFWS were that they would not oppose either type of proposal.

External Factors

WDFW noted in general that it was working with the WWG to develop a plan, recognizing that external factors may come into play (including the delisting and possible legislative action) and that the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission had determined that it would have the final authority to adopt the wolf management plan, not the Department Director.

There was also discussion of a recent court case addressing a landowner's liability for taking wildlife that is causing damage to property under certain circumstances. The Department noted that it had requested an analysis from the Attorney General's office and would share it when completed.

Caucus and Subgroup Activity

The two caucuses established during past meetings each held separate conference calls to discuss issues related to the Plan. The two caucuses are referenced herein as the conservation caucus (which includes conservation, environmental, and related interests from within the WWG) and the producers caucus (which includes livestock producer, ranching, forestry, hunting, and related interests from within the WWG). Since the last meeting, the conservation caucus had met or convened by teleconference on several occasions and had worked hard to develop proposals based on the options matrix used at the last meeting. A smaller caucus of conservation and producer representatives also met to work on compensation issues and came up some ideas regarding percentage and ratios applicable under various loss circumstances.

C. Comments on and Discussion of Chapters I-II, V-XIII, and Other Plan Components

The first day was spent working through the entirety of the new draft Wolf Conservation and Management Plan (the Plan) with the exception of Chapters III and IV (regarding wolf conservation and wolf/livestock conflicts, respectively). Key points of discussion are summarized below. Additional edits for each chapter can be found in Attachment B, Flipchart Notes.

The Department noted that it had pulled out key strategies from each substantive chapter into a single list of strategies near the end of the document (Chapter 12). At a later point in the discussion it was noted that the strategies in Chapter 12 were mostly numbered to reflect the chapters of the plan from which they were drawn (e.g., Strategy 5 regarding management of wolf prey base, including subparts 5.1 to 5.7, related to Chapter 5 on wolf/ungulate interactions). Members requested that the Department revise the strategies so that this approach to numbering the strategies was consistent throughout the Plan.

Chapter I (Introduction)

Members agreed that the introduction should include more information (like a narrative or history) about what the group had considered and what the group went through to reach the final package of recommendations. It was suggested that it was important to demonstrate to other audiences that have not been involved in the discussion to date that there has been a lot of effort and well considered compromise involved in reaching the final package, and that it should not be taken lightly. It may be useful to pull this information (currently spread throughout the document) up to the front to provide perspective and then present the agreed upon package clearly and simply.

Here and throughout the document, members noted that the draft should be revised as appropriate to reflect the change in ESA status for wolves in the eastern third of the state.

Members and WDFW acknowledged that this introductory chapter would have to be revised to reflect the rest of the plan as it exists upon final agreement of the group. Some members suggested including a brief overview of opportunities and challenges presented by wolves, including reference to ecosystem impacts from wolves on the landscape.

Chapter II (Background)

With respect to the wolf's current status (numbers on the ground in Washington) members felt it was very important to keep the WWG and the draft Plan up to date. Members asked the Department about their efforts to assess wolves in eastern Washington. The Department replied that it was not waiting for the Plan to be completed to begin assessment work in eastern Washington. The Department noted that it was aware of individual wolves entering the state but had no knowledge of any packs or breeding pairs within the state. Reports from other states suggest that it would become obvious when packs or breeding pairs are settling in a given area.

Other suggested edits included adding an explanation of work done by WDFW over the past few years in terms of assessing wolf numbers, including a table or appendix outlining sightings or other relevant information.

Chapter V (Wolf-Ungulate Interactions)

Members noted at the outset that this chapter, unlike many of the other chapters in the plan, includes no management objectives for wolf/ungulate interactions. (By way of example, it was noted that Oregon's plan included a very general objective that ungulates be managed to meet wolf objectives, while meeting ungulate objectives.) Members wondered how current issues/concerns/problems with ungulate management in Washington will be affected by wolves and suggested including a discussion of that in the chapter. Producer members again noted their concern

about impact in the eastern third of Washington where wolves will be delisted and where wolf numbers will be increasing first. Members also suggested several revisions to note that the map of elk herds did not reflect herds on tribal or national park land.

Chapter VI (Wolf Interactions with Other Species)

Members suggested the Department dig a little deeper to identify potential impacts to other species based on experiences in other areas (e.g., Canada). Members also suggested adding some detail on how the Department would respond to potential interactions with other species (such as other endangered species).

Chapter VII (Wolf-Human Interactions)

Some members wanted a more detailed discussion of the risk of wolf attacks on humans (noting a possible attack documented in Canada about which there possibly remains some debate). Other members suggested showing such information in perspective by providing comparative data on hazards/risks from other more common predator species and dangerous animals (cougars, bears, dogs, bees). The overall goal is to make the chapter realistic, balanced, truthful and sufficiently complete to provide the public with notice of the risks. It was suggested that some of this information might be best shared in a companion document as part of a public information effort (WDFW is working on that currently). In this chapter some members noted that it may be helpful to address the fear factor up front by identifying some appropriate strategies for minimizing risk right in this text (rather than waiting for Chapter 12 strategies). Members suggested that strategies for this chapter should also address pet wolves and hybrids and the dangers of habituation.

Chapter VIII (Land Management)

Members suggested splitting the discussion of "public lands" into separate paragraphs on state and federal lands. Members also suggested adding a "Public/Private Land" section with better information on impacts to public lands (e.g., the loss of use of public grazing allotments near wolves because of livestock harassment/depredation by wolves and associated reductions in income).

Chapter IX (Information and Education)

Some members suggested adding specifics to this section about the content of a public education effort (e.g., a reference to the dangers from rabies or other human diseases from wolves). Other members suggested leaving such details out of the plan, but recognized it was incumbent on WDFW to develop a program that is honest, complete, and balanced. Members and WDFW observed that funding will be an important factor in creating and maintaining a successful program because the program will necessarily be staff intensive. It will be important to leverage limited funding by prioritizing targeted regions/audiences and program content. Members thought it would be appropriate to have a balanced stakeholder group help review proposed materials (maybe even this group).

Chapter X (Reporting and Evaluation)

Members immediately suggested edits to ensure the chapter text correctly stated the goal of reporting and evaluation (i.e., to assess how the plan is working). The plan should also state when the reporting obligation begins for WDFW.

Chapter XI (Research)

Some participants felt that research should not be focused on basic data such as diet and ranges, but should rather focus on recovery related information. On the other hand, at least one WWG member suggested conducting research on vegetation patterns, nesting habitat, ecosystem impacts, and other effects of wolves on the landscape (and linking that research to education efforts and annual reporting). There was more general agreement that research should be open to the public, Washington focused, and, like the education program, balanced in terms of focus.

Budget Estimates for Implementation

The group discussed a newly provided document roughly outlining estimated annual costs of recovery and management tasks to implement the Plan. Some members noted that the projected compensation funding seemed low and WDFW acknowledged that the figure did not reflect the ratios currently under consideration by the group. The group also noted that the projections did not take inflation into account, did not include a contingency for unanticipated miscellaneous costs, and, importantly, did not have a line item reflecting the costs of translocation planning and implementation. Some members also suggested that outreach and education efforts were underfunded. WDFW acknowledged that the two identified new positions would initially be based in the northeast part of the state where wolf populations were expected to increase first. Members were very concerned about the consequences if the Plan were not to receive adequate funding. WDFW suggested that if additional funding was not provided it would have to support minimum management activities (e.g., the response guidelines) and work with existing resources. Here, as with the Plan itself, it was noted that there would be a better chance of success in obtaining funding for the program if all the stakeholders stood together in their support of the Plan and adequate funding.

Chapter XIII (Economics)

The group had a lengthy discussion of various aspects of this chapter on economic values and impacts associated with wolf conservation and management. There was quite a bit of discussion about the values associated with ecotourism (e.g., wildlife viewing, etc.) with some members suggesting that that the value was overstated and not well supported – that wolf tourism is, at this point, "just pie in the sky." Others members suggested that the numbers were realistic noting that studies have shown that wolf tourism added $20 million to the Yellowstone area and that, in general, non-consumptive wildlife activities already amounted to approximately $1.6 billion in Washington. In the course of the discussion, however, members from both caucuses acknowledged that there can be significant economic activity associated with wildlife viewing, although it was also noted that the interest in wolf viewing would have to be carefully balanced with the potentially inconsistent interest in avoiding wolf/human interactions and not disturbing wolf den sites. Some members also suggested the report did not reflect all the costs of wolf recovery including, for example, reduced land value in areas where grazing was problematic or no longer possible due to wolf activity.

Some members also noted problems in the way the statistics on livestock were presented, while other members suggested presenting some comparative statistics regarding loss of livestock to other predators, including comparative data from other states regarding wolf and other species depredation.

Day 2 – March 27, 2008

D. Revisit Key Elements of Chapters III and IV

The second day of discussion was focused on Chapter III (addressing wolf conservation efforts, including target numbers for recovery) and Chapter IV (addressing wolf/livestock interactions, including management options at different stages of recovery and the compensation program). At the outset, members noted it might be helpful to rearrange these chapters to have the discussion of conservation context and concepts up front followed by the entire agreed-upon package all together at the end.

Chapter III (Wolf Conservation)

The following issues were identified for discussion with respect to Chapter III:

- Numbers – the total number of breeding pairs statewide to be set as recovery thresholds before down-listing the species. Separate thresholds are established for moving from (1) endangered to threatened, (2) threatened to sensitive, and (3) sensitive to delisted/game status (e.g., big game, predator or other status). The current proposed numbers are 6, 12, and 15 respectively (see pages 37-38 in the draft plan).
- Distribution – the proposed distribution (by numbers of breeding pairs) of wolves across the identified recovery regions (see chart on page 38 of the draft plan).
- Map – the proposed re-drawn map of recovery regions – (see map on page 36 of the draft plan).
- Timing – the length of time wolf populations (measured by number of breeding pairs) are required to be at identified threshold levels before down-listing can take place (e.g., 3 years at 6 breeding pairs before downlisting to threatened).
- Translocation – whether, when, and how to redistribute wolves entering certain recovery regions in order to (1) enhance recovery efforts and (2) reduce or avoid wolf/livestock conflict.
- Phases – what status does the wolf attain in its final phase of recovery after delisting from sensitive status (proposals include limited hunting, big game, and predator status)

At the beginning of the discussion, some members of the producer caucus suggested the group reconsider the recovery numbers on the table (by reducing them to 3, 6, and 8 respectively). These members suggested lower numbers were necessary to minimize impacts to individual ranchers – especially those in the eastern part of the state where wolves would be first arriving and, in fact, are already showing up – and to make the Plan more palatable to the industry in general. The idea to reduce the numbers was also driven in part be a concern that by the time the species was completely delisted (i.e., 3 years after 15 breeding pairs were confirmed) there could be, according to some estimates, upwards of 28 breeding pairs.

This change of position sharply disappointed a number of members who felt that this was a step backwards – that the group had reached agreement in past meetings on numbers that everyone could "live with" if the rest of the package was acceptable. After some additional discussion it began to emerge that this request to reduce the numbers derived from a number of identifiable interests and concerns and was not necessarily supported by all members of the producer caucus if those other concerns and interests could be addressed. These specific concerns/interests included:

- Concern that an acceptable compensation package would not be achievable or adequately funded – this concern was based on a recent attempt to pass more comprehensive compensation legislation in Washington that would have provided compensation for depredation losses from a number of predators (including wolves).
- Concern that translocation would not ultimately be achievable because of resistance from areas to which wolves might be translocated ("NIMBY" opposition) or other challenges.
- Concern that there is insufficient information about wolves that are currently here in eastern Washington.
- Significant lingering concern, stemming from all of the above issues and from the delisting that is to take place on March 28th, that there will be a disproportionate impact on eastern Washington livestock producers. Members felt that somehow there needs to be more flexibility and more options for acting sooner in the East to protect producers. In a sense, the delisting represents an opportunity to better prepare for the movement of wolves into eastern Washington – and right now it appears there will be a significant delay between the delisting and the time when the plan becomes effective. Some members of the producer caucus acknowledged that getting management tools sooner is more important than the numbers themselves.

It was noted that the current numbers (6, 12, 15) were negotiated numbers, not conservation-driven numbers and if they were based on conservation needs, they would likely be substantially larger. To drop the numbers even lower might not have the desired effect if they did not make it through the peer review process. Some members also noted how important it was for the group to stand together in support of a complete package; otherwise, it will be come much easier for opponents to pick off little pieces of the package.

Members also made an effort to identify approaches or strategies that could provide additional flexibility or otherwise help meet the concern about wolves overwhelming eastern parts of the state. For example, members discussed developing a contingency plan for more aggressive management in case translocation was not feasible. It was also noted again that it would be helpful for the WDFW to flesh out the details of its interim approach to wolf management (including assessing the status of incoming wolves on the ground). Finally, it was noted that the Plan would be a living document, and there would be an opportunity to experiment with different approaches in the East as wolves move in to the state.

Chapter IV (Wolf-Livestock Conflicts)

The group then transitioned into a discussion of management options based on the table that appears on page 53 of the draft Plan. The group went through the table moving down through the columns and discussing the management tools available for each phase – endangered, threatened, sensitive, and delisted.

Management Tools

With respect to the endangered phase, discussion focused initially on the homestead protection provision and the definition of homestead. Some thought the exception should include all outbuildings in the immediate area of the residence and the 100 yard limit should extend out from there. This is what the text of the plan (as opposed to the table) reflected and this was, after discussion, generally understood by the group – though which way to go was still unclear. A tougher question for the group was around allowing lethal protective action (lethal take of a wolf in the act of attacking livestock) around buildings or clusters of buildings that were away from the residence, such as a calving operation at a remote barn/corral site. Exceptions for such action could be based on either a spatial parameter (describing where it is allowed) or a time parameter (describing when it is allowed – such as during calving operations).

With respect to the threatened phase, discussion focused on extending the use of lethal protective action to public lands – in particular, lands that are part of a grazing allotment and which are therefore treated as an extension of the rancher's private land. Members also discussed the possibility of transitioning more quickly to lethal control in the eastern part of the state if translocation is not feasible. Others suggested that the group stay focused on the proposed package (with an emphasis on translocation, not on less preferred alternatives) to help ensure its passage as is. Members suggested language could be added to require WDFW to reconvene the group (or a new one) to deal with finding alternatives when and if the need arises.

Compensation

Discussion initially focused on the potential funding that would be needed. Some members were concerned because a recent legislative attempt to establish a compensation program for other predators had been blocked in the legislature. Other members noted that the wolf package would have a better chance with broad support from the whole WWG membership. (They also noted that compensation for wolf depredation alone makes more sense because wolves are protected, but producers are allowed to kill other predators as needed to protect their herds.)

The group discussed various compensation options designed to make producers whole after losses attributable to wolves. The typical compensation offered under the Defenders of Wildlife program is 100% for confirmed kills and 50% for probable kills. The group also discussed some other state programs that provide compensation for lost animals and for reductions in weight gain while grazing when certain verifiable data is available that can adequately demonstrate that the loss or reduced weight gain is due to the presence of wolves. (Historical data on an operation's annual mortality is typically available from the rancher's financial institution and USDA keeps national data on weight gain and other relevant statistics.) As an alternative to a complex compensation scheme such as these, the group went on to discuss compensation ratios ranging from 1.5:1 to 7:1 based on confirmed/probable kills. In particular, the conservation caucus had done some research based on other states' programs and experience and concluded that the 7:1 number did not make sense in the circumstances here in Washington, but was willing to consider ratios in excess of 1:1. Members of the producer caucus were concerned that a compensation program should take into account the many ways in which the return of wolves would adversely impact their operations and their bottom line (e.g., the expense of non lethal defense against wolves). All members agreed that the goal of the

compensation program would be to ensure that no single sector would be unfairly burdened by the return of wolves.

Translocation

Members recognized the interest in implementing translocation efforts as soon as possible in the eastern part of the state to alleviate impact as wolves move westward into the state (assuming natural dispersal is not occurring). To help expedite the process, conservation caucus members proposed that WDFW should: 1) initiate the translocation feasibility study as soon as the Plan goes into effect (i.e., not wait until wolf populations reach the threshold numbers); and 2) begin the SEPA/NEPA process for implementing translocation as soon as two packs (not breeding pairs) are present in the subject area. In this way WDFW will be ready to implement a translocation as soon as the third pack arrives. Factors for consideration in the decision about where to send translocated wolves might include, for example, the existence of grazing permits (expressed in terms of Animal Unit Months or AUMs). In general criteria or factors in assessing translocation options will be determined during the Feasibility Study.

Regions

The issue for discussion related to the recovery regions was primarily about moving the boundary for the Eastern Washington region back towards either the old "ecoregion" line or the USFWS line for delisting. Some members felt, however, that spending time fine tuning the boundaries did not have much value for anyone in the group. There was agreement in the end to split the "Puget Trough" between the North Cascades and South Cascades regions. WDFW agreed to work on the map.

Timing

The group discussed the three year wait after reaching a threshold level before there could be a downlisting. The waiting period was intended to ensure that the wolf population was actually stable at the threshold level. There was still concern that in the end there could be a large surplus of wolves over target numbers before active management could begin. It was noted that this waiting period was still a concern even though the waiting periods could run simultaneously if wolf populations grew quickly. One proposed solution was to add a new slightly higher threshold (e.g., 18) after which there would be an immediate jump in status to delisted. This idea led to discussion of a cap on the number of wolves desired in the state – an idea that some members support and others do not. It was suggested by some members that these were not urgent issues at this time, and that the issues could be flagged for future consideration.

Caucuses

At this point in the discussion the group broke up to have discussions in caucus, focusing on the issues raised in the preceding discussion.

Upon their return the producer caucus initially presented their thinking. They proposed the following:

- Use the Federal line in the east and I-90 in the west as the regional dividing lines

- Keep the homestead protection provision as stated in the text (home and outbuildings)
- Allow lethal take by permit on public lands in sensitive species phase
- Translocation: 1) begin the SEPA/NEPA process for translocation upon reaching two packs in a given area: and 2) if there is a problem and translocation fails, quickly reconvene this group or take other quick action to provide relief
- Compensation – use a 3:1 ratio – establish compensation for loss of animal using death loss statistics from USDA
- Compensation must be fully funded as essential part of package

The conservation caucus did not come back with specific offers or a package because it did not have time to fully work through all the issues that had been raised. It did acknowledge the steps forward that were offered by the producers on some issues. However, the conservation caucus members also expressed their concern and frustration at the apparent backward steps taken earlier in the day. After some additional discussion the facilitator and the group went through the remaining issues to see whether they needed a mere "tweak" or whether they were a "potential deal breaker" in need of additional discussion. The issues broke down as follows:

• Homestead protection provision	tweak
• Lethal take off homestead	discussion
• Translocation	tweak or discussion, depending …
• Compensation	discussion – making progress – needs work
• Translocation	tweak
• Map	tweak
• Transition to Phase 4 (delisting)	tweak
• Cap	discussion
• Status in Phase 4 (big game, predator, etc.)	discussion

It was agreed that there was the potential to have another shorter (one-day) meeting to close out discussion on the several identified issues. In preparation, the group agreed to let another "group of four" develop options and prepare for the full group meeting. This time, that group would include Jack Field and John Stuhlmiller from the producer caucus and George Halekas and Colleen McShane from the conservation caucus.

E. Public Comment and Adjournment

At the opportunity for public comments, there were no members of the audience who had expressed interest or intent to offer comment. The group gathered briefly for a group picture and the meeting adjourned at approximately 3:00 PM.

Attachment A
March 26-27, 2008 WWG Meeting Attendees
(Based on attendance sign-in sheets)

WWG Members in Attendance:

- Daryl Asmussen
- John Blankenship
- Duane Cocking
- Jeff Dawson
- Jack Field (Day 2 only)
- George Halekas
- Kim Holt
- Derrick Knowles
- Colleen McShane
- Georg Ziegltrum
- Hon. Ken Oliver
- Tommy Petrie, Jr
- Gerry Ring Erickson
- John Stuhlmiller (Day 2 only)
- Arthur Swannack (Day 2 only)
- Bob Tuck (Day 1 only)
- Greta M Wiegand

WWG Members Not in Attendance:

- None

WDFW Project Staff and RESOLVE Staff in Attendance:

- Harriet Allen
- Rocky Beach
- Paul De Morgan
- Jerry Nelson
- Turner Odell
- Kevin Robinette
- Gary Wiles

Other Individuals in Attendance:

- Michele Beal-Erwin
- Dennis Beich
- Jim Davis
- Mike Hyink
- Leonard Eldridge
- Bill Liggett
- Chuck Perry
- Bobbe Thorniley

Attachment B
March 26-27, 2008 WWG – Flipchart Notes

Day 1 – March 26, 2008

Chapter 1

- p.6, l.20 (and in general) – update
- p.6, l.15-18 – Clarify
    - Consistency of terminology
- Reflect the rest of the "agreed upon plan"
- Include brief overview of opportunities and challenges from wolves
    - Also include reference to ecosystem concept/impacts

Chapter 2

- p.24 – Legal status – update
- p.15 – current status – keep updated
    - add explanation of work done by WDFW over past few years
    - table in appendix on sightings, etc.
- p.25 ln.3 – "requirement met in '03"

Chapter 5

- Objectives are missing
    - How will ungulate management be affected/dealt with
- P.59 ln.25 – revise/delete
- Colville herd missing?
- Transitory range concept needs to be included
- Include tribal herds/USPS and note re: relationship between State and tribes – sentence in Ch. 1, paragraph in 2

Chapter 6

- Strike 2nd sentence opening paragraph
- Add reference to variety of experiences (in US and outside)
- P.77 ln. 9-10 – Columbia whitetail – add to …
- New Journal of Ecology – Section D
- What do you do if an impact?
    - Comment for WDFW to deal with in other steps

Chapter 7

- P.79 ln. 15 – "none"… Saskatchewan Canada
    - Include reference to that case
- Add numbers re: cougar, bear?
- Clarify, a little, the 60,000 in North America (Alaska, Canada primarily)
- Page 80, Line 6 – India, more broadly
- Consistency – country or continent – page 79, line 13, 18
- Add bee stings, bull gorings

- No objectives
- Reduce size of B
- Wolves are potentially dangerous (especially if habituated) – education chapter
- Be realistic, put in perspective
- Safety, how to deal with habituation
- Add "pet wolves" to section 7.3
- Companion document – what not to do
- Education –add to section 7.1 as 7.1.5

Chapter 8

- Split out federal and state lands
- Add "Public/Private Land" Section – FPA
- Add reference to some giving up use of public grazing allotments near wolves because of reduced income
    - NOT "no impacts"

Chapter 9

- Add reference to pictures and how to contact information in regulations page 109 "in the hunter pamphlet"
- Add specifics and context – rabies (human diseases)
    - Skunks
- Funding is key to success
- Staff intensive
    - Focus in regions?
    - Living with wildlife
- Incumbent on developing – be <u>honest</u> and <u>complete</u> and <u>balanced</u>
- Prioritize – key audiences, key tools

Chapter 10

- Strike first sentence and add "Goal of R&E is to assess how plan is doing"

Chapter 11

- Add to Page 113 – vegetation patterns, nesting habitat, ecosystem impacts, other species … -- link to education
- Research open to public
- Add "ecosystem" impacts <u>in WA</u> to annual report
- Add "financial impacts" to annual report

General

- Reorganize strategies to match chapters

Budget Estimate

- Compensation – numbers? (track in Compensation discussion) – 5-40K
- When implement – when wolves on the ground

- No funding -- ? (minimum level of management)
- Where stationed (the 2 people)?
    - In Northeast
- Inflation?
- Miscellaneous? – e.g., providing hay
    - Need funding
- Need permanent funding – especially for compensation
- Funding package process
- Outreach – underfunded
- Costs related to translocation
    - Feasibility study, SEPA, action itself
    - Add a line item
- Outside: if no funding, what will WDFW do?

Chapter 13

- Distinction between resource and service economics
- Impacts to land values
- Table 13-1 – range cattle and dairy cattle merged
    - Misconstrues value and value lost
- Wildlife tourism – misconstrues reality **
- Create a "deeper" understanding of WA economics
- Hounds – important "constituency" of concern
- Eliminate "D"
- "Tourism" vs. Strategy 9.7.4 (page 110)
- Operations that have allotments on …
- Context?
    - Depredation by wolves compared to others

<u>Day 2 – March 27, 2008</u>

Chapter 3 – Issues

- Numbers
- Distribution
- Map
- Timing
- Translocation
    - Triggers
- Phases

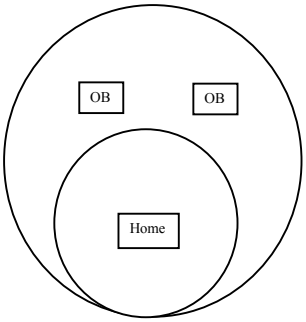
Chapter 3

- Reorganize the chapter – begin with the "science/context" and then present the package
- Interest: increased flexibility in the East more quickly

- Interest: know how many wolves on the ground now

"Endangered" Issues

1. "and outbuildings"
2. Re: off primary homestead
   - Location
   - Timing



"Threatened" Issues

3. Take on public land where permitted
4. Transition more quickly in East if no translocation (or unsuccessful)

Compensation

- Ratio: 1.5:1 to 7:1
  - "given" vs. steps to get to
- Review approach (5 years) based on WA statistics
- Weight loss/lost livestock
  - Establish requirements – verifiable
    - History
    - Annual mortality
    - …
  - Ratio

Confirmed/probable –	100/50 %	+	1.5 - 7.0 (nuanced)
Lost	% USDA		
Weight loss	?		

  - General management – ?
  - <u>Problem</u>: lack of verification

Translocation

- Feasibility Study and implementation plan (start when plan approved)
- Implementation Trigger: 2 Packs in East – initiate SEPA (NEPA?)
- Not Olympic initially
- Suitability for translocation
  - <u>Criteria</u> (will be developed as part of Feasibility Study and implementation plan)

Distribution

- Split "PS Trough" between North Cascades and South Cascades -- AGREEMENT
- Eastern Region –
  - Match USFWS
  - Move west boundary to west – 5/8 – match ecoregion

- WDFW will work on map

Timing

- When 15 BPs – still 3 years – but if "acceleration" then initiate delisting (appropriate caveats)
- Cap – "actively" defer – write a paragraph indicating it was an issue, will need to be addressed in future revisions – factors that would be considered

Action Items:

- Discuss with Defenders the possibility of extending the compensation program in WA until this plan is in place – as desired – 3/27
- Send Response Guidelines to WWG along with new contact information – Harriet/WDFW – Friday, 3/28 (?)