



State of Washington  
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 43200, Olympia, WA 98504-3200 • (360) 902-2200 • TDD (360) 902-2207  
Main Office Location: Natural Resources Building, 1111 Washington Street SE, Olympia, WA

WDFW Director Kelly Susewind's response to [Governor Jay Inslee's letter](#) requesting changes to wolf management methods in northeast Washington:

*We take our responsibility to recover wolves in Washington seriously and this issue is a top priority for the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. The level of wolf-livestock conflict in the Kettle Range of northeast Washington is greatly impacting many of our communities, including ranching communities, environmental communities, and the Department.*

*The forest conditions and livestock operations in this particular landscape make it extremely challenging, and unfortunately, has resulted in repeated lethal removal actions. We all share the perspective that something has to change to reduce the loss of both wolves and livestock in this area. WDFW believes this is consistent with the Governor's request.*

*Overall, about 90 percent of wolf packs are coexisting in our state without livestock conflicts. As Governor Inslee indicated, the Department has been and will continue working with the Wolf Advisory Group and stakeholders on minimizing conflict proactively with lethal removal as a last resort. We are also engaging with the local community, the US Forest Service, and others to seek new solutions for this challenging landscape.*