

# Wolf Advisory Group Meeting

Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife

Seattle, [Husky Union Building](#)

4001 E Stevens Way NE, Seattle, WA 98195

Room - HUB 332

April 12-13, 2023

Zoom links will be provided separately to WAG and WDFW staff

---

## Mission of WAG

*To promote equitable, inclusive, and respectful dialogue and decision-making among diverse people to foster durable peace by transforming the root causes of social conflict and providing high quality recommendations on wolf recovery, conservation, and management.*

## Meeting Objectives:

1. Encourage a dialogue between WAG and WDFW on the following topics to provide a deeper understanding that enables WAG members to better network this information:
  - 2022 Annual Wolf Report
  - Coordination with livestock producers in anticipation of the 2023 livestock grazing season
  - Overview of the Periodic Status Review
2. Share and discuss the progress of current task groups and affirm the next steps for task group members.
3. Conclude the current exploratory phase to better understand interactions between wolves and ungulates in Washington, and identify concepts for future WAG advice, recommendations, and/or a sounding board.
  - How predators are impacting ungulate populations in Washington—what we do know and won't know from the Predator-Prey Project.
  - How WDFW will use this information to inform its decision-making regarding wolf management.
  - Is there interest and opportunity for WAG to support ungulate habitat restoration in areas where habitat is a limiting factor for ungulates?
4. Provide opportunities for WAG members and WDFW staff to build collaborative capacity and strengthen their relationships with one another<sup>1</sup>.

## Wednesday, April 12

Time	Topic	Reference Materials <sup>2</sup>
10:15 AM	Opening – <i>Facilitation Team</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Welcome to public observers</li><li>• Meeting purpose and agenda</li><li>• Hybrid meeting mechanics</li><li>• Mission and ground rule reminders</li><li>• Introductions—<i>WAG Members and WDFW Staff</i></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Agenda</li><li>• <a href="#">WAG Ground rules</a></li><li>• <a href="#">January WAG Meeting Summary</a></li></ul>

---

<sup>1</sup> WAG members, WDFW Staff, and the Facilitation Team gather for a private, informal check-in prior to beginning the formal meeting each day. No business is conducted during this time.

<sup>2</sup> All web addresses for reference material links can be found at the end of the agenda.

Time	Topic	Reference Materials <sup>2</sup>
10:35 AM	Program Updates and Dialogue— <i>WDFW Staff</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Legislative session—<i>Julia Smith</i></li> <li>2022 Annual Wolf Report—<i>Trent Roussin, Gabe Spence</i></li> <li>Preparation for 2023 program activities—<i>Jim Brown, Joey McCanna</i></li> <li>Periodic Status Review—<i>WDFW</i></li> <li>Dialogue</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Gray Wolf Updates</a> (please review any published updates ahead of the meeting and bring any questions you have to the meeting)</li> <li><a href="#">Periodic Status Review of the Gray Wolf</a></li> <li>2022 Annual Wolf Report</li> </ul>
12:00 PM	Lunch (hosted on-site for WAG members and WDFW staff)	
1:00 PM	WAG Task Group Updates and Next Steps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Range Riding</li> <li>Carcass Management</li> <li>Monitoring and Data Sharing</li> <li>Wolf-Ungulate</li> <li>Future task groups update—<i>Facilitation Team</i></li> </ul>	---
2:30 PM	Break	
2:45 PM	Public Comment (up to three minutes per person)	
3:15 PM	Round-robin Reflections— <i>WAG members and WDFW Staff</i>	
4:00 PM	Wrap up Day 1 – Adjourn	---
<b>4:10 – 5:00 PM -- Informal session with WDFW and the public</b>		

#### Thursday, April 13

Time	Topic	Reference Materials
9:00 AM	Opening and Agenda Review—Facilitation Team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agenda</li> <li><a href="#">WAG Ground rules</a></li> </ul>
9:10 AM	<b>Wolf-Ungulate Interactions, Part 1:</b> Key takeaways from three studies that are part of the Washington Predator-Prey Project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anthropogenic impacts on the occurrence patterns of predators &amp; prey in eastern Washington—<i>Beth Gardner, PhD (for Sarah B. Bassing, PhD)</i></li> <li>White-tailed deer and elk population dynamics (2017–2021) in NE WA—<i>Taylor Renee Ganz, PhD</i></li> <li>Prey diversity and season mediate trophic overlap between cougars and wolves in anthropogenic ecosystems—<i>Aaron Wirsing, PhD (for Lauren Satterfield, PhD candidate)</i></li> <li>Q&amp;A/discussion</li> </ul>	<a href="#">Recording from Predator-Prey Project presentations to the F&amp;W Commission, Dec 2022</a> (beginning at 6:03:55, ending 7:26:52)
10:30 am	Break	
10:45 am	<b>Wolf-Ungulate Interactions, Part 2:</b> Washington ungulate populations and impact from wolves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Elk Status and Trend Summary</a></li> </ul>

Time	Topic	Reference Materials
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Affirm the key factors currently limiting ungulate populations in regional areas of Washington—<i>All</i></li> <li>• Affirm what we know, and what won't we know, regarding statewide ungulate populations—<i>All</i></li> <li>• Learn how WDFW makes management decisions in the face of uncertainty—<i>WDFW</i></li> <li>• If wolves are a key factor in any region, what action(s) might WAG wish to advise the Department to undertake?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Deer status and Trend Summary</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Synthesis of 2022 Wolf-Ungulate Interactions Presentations to WAG (Jan 2023)</a></li> </ul>
11:25 am	<b>Wolf-Ungulate Interactions, Part 3: Ungulate habitat</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How is ungulate habitat in Washington monitored and assessed?—<i>WDFW</i></li> <li>• Affirm what is known and won't be known regarding the status of ungulate habitat—<i>All</i></li> <li>• Learn about long-range plans related to habitat restoration—<i>WDFW</i></li> <li>• If habitat is a key factor in any region, what action(s) might WAG wish to advise the Department to undertake?</li> </ul>	---
12:00 PM	Lunch (hosted on-site for WAG members and WDFW staff)	
<b>12:30 PM</b>	Wrap-Up Wolf-Ungulate Discussion; Next Steps	---
1:00 PM	Public Comment (up to three minutes per person)	
1:30 PM	Next Steps, Final WAG and WDFW Reflections/Closing— <i>All</i>	---
2:00 PM	Adjourn	

To keep current on Wolf Advisory Group's progress, visit the WAG website at: <https://wdfw.wa.gov/about/advisory/wag#>  
To contact the WAG Facilitation Team, email at: [wagfacilitationteam@rossstrategic.com](mailto:wagfacilitationteam@rossstrategic.com)

## Web Addresses for Reference Material Links

(in the event you are unable to open the document by clicking the link in the agenda)

- WAG Ground Rules - <https://wdfw.wa.gov/sites/default/files/about/advisory/wag/member-handout-2022-10-12.pdf>
- January 2023 WAG Meeting Summary - <https://wdfw.wa.gov/sites/default/files/about/advisory/wag/wag-meeting-summary-january2023-final.pdf>
- Gray Wolf Updates - <https://wdfw.wa.gov/species-habitats/at-risk/species-recovery/gray-wolf/updates>
- Periodic Status Review of the Gray Wolf - <https://wdfw.wa.gov/about/regulations/development/periodic-status-review-gray-wolf>
- Recording from Predator-Prey Project presentations to the F&W Commission (12/2022) - [https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/play/vY5aXpu0UbUsbgbeJMDWPgoe\\_a2-vZpiT\\_xuWLQLOXNhjSuWwYXt4r219TAfQKOaBgAC4g0SSc4HFioS.Vi7ETfg69DGgrY2R?continueMode=true&x\\_zm\\_rtaid=kmROuaJLQP62Yt-ji54Uyw.1671594579997.4c30100ea75c056ddb4c15a135d86ae&x\\_zm\\_rhtaid=307](https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/play/vY5aXpu0UbUsbgbeJMDWPgoe_a2-vZpiT_xuWLQLOXNhjSuWwYXt4r219TAfQKOaBgAC4g0SSc4HFioS.Vi7ETfg69DGgrY2R?continueMode=true&x_zm_rtaid=kmROuaJLQP62Yt-ji54Uyw.1671594579997.4c30100ea75c056ddb4c15a135d86ae&x_zm_rhtaid=307)
- Elk Status and Trend Summary (1/28/2023): <https://wdfw.wa.gov/sites/default/files/2023-01/12-20230128-elk-status-and-trend-summaryv2.pdf>
- Deer status and Trend Summary (1/28/2023): <https://wdfw.wa.gov/sites/default/files/2023-01/20230128-deer-status-and-trend-summary.pdf>
- Synthesis of Wolf-Ungulate Presentations to WAG (Jan 2023 WAG meeting): [https://wdfw.wa.gov/sites/default/files/about/advisory/wag/synthesis-wag-wolf-ungulateinteractionsdiscussions\\_0.pdf](https://wdfw.wa.gov/sites/default/files/about/advisory/wag/synthesis-wag-wolf-ungulateinteractionsdiscussions_0.pdf)