

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
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**Wolf Packet – Where do you stand on hunting wolves?**

You will read two articles and summarize the readings below. At the end of the reading “Protect wolves or hunt them?” there are several questions to answer.

**Article #1: Beloved Yellowstone wolf’s killing by trophy hunter just outside protected park sparks outrage.**

Summarize reading here:

**Article #2: Protect wolves or hunt them? Western states are in the crosshairs**

Pro/Cons Protecting wolves:

Pro/Cons Hunting wolves:



Read



## Beloved Yellowstone wolf's killing by trophy hunter just outside protected park sparks outrage

By Christina Zhao On 12/3/18 at 7:32 PM

"Spitfire," a beloved wild Yellowstone she-wolf, was shot and killed by a trophy hunter after wandering just outside the protected National Park in Montana last weekend.

The seven-year-old wolf, also known as Lamar Canyon Wolf Pack member 926F, was popular among wolf enthusiasts and biologists. According to *The New York Times*, Spitfire was legally shot and killed "near cabins" less than five miles outside of Yellowstone's boundary.

Spitfire's mother was the once-famous alpha wolf, called 832F, also known by her fans as "06," who suffered the same fate after being killed by a hunter in 2012. 832F was the subject of the book *American Wolf: A True Story of Survival and Obsession in the West* which detailed her journey as the leader of the Lamar Canyon pack.

On Wednesday, a Facebook group called "The 06 Legacy" posted a eulogy celebrating Spitfire's life and condemning the "current wolf management practices."

"We had so much to celebrate when we saw five strong and healthy pups this fall. And now it took just one bullet and 926F is gone. Just like her mother 06 and her uncle 754M before her. With current wolf management practices, the tragedy just doesn't end," the statement read. "The 06 Legacy is committed to protecting wolves and we are going to fight even harder for 06, 926F, 754M and all the other wolves whose lives are taken for granted and are killed for nothing more than sport."

GettyImages-158275387 An European grey wolf is pictured in the animal park of Sainte-Croix, on December 12, 2012, in Rhodes, eastern France. Last weekend, a beloved she-wolf from Yellowstone (similar to the one pictured) was shot and killed by a trophy hunter just outside of the protected park. Getty/Jean-Christophe Verhaegen

The post sparked outrage among animal lovers and conservationists, with some calling for a buffer zone to be created around the park in order to protect the wildlife.

"Leave our beautiful animals alone and stop trying to play God. These wolves were re-introduced so they could be the guiding predators in Yellowstone. We need them to take care of nature naturally," one user wrote.

"No excuse for the shooting of this significant wolf. Of course, Yellowstone must have a hunting-free buffer zone," another added. "Laws need to be changed, until then it will continue. Sad, humans want to destroy everything. Why?? And they will."

In a blog post on Wednesday, The Wolf Conservation Center (WCC), a New-York based nonprofit organization, urged Montana to change their laws to better protect the wolves.

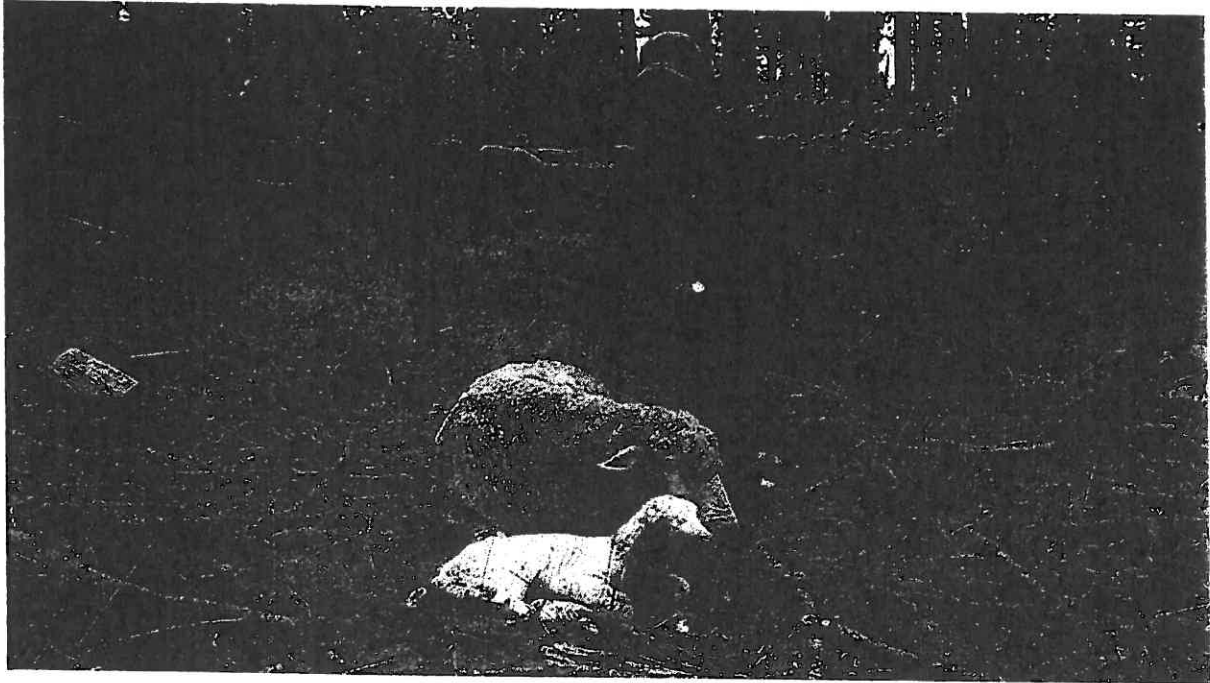
"Studies also show that since their return over 20 years ago, wolves have delivered an economic boost to Yellowstone's surrounding communities. University of Montana researchers found that wolves bring an estimated \$35M in annual tourist revenue to the region," the blog read. "Trophy hunting of wolves brings in money too. Montana wolf hunting licenses cost \$19 for residents and \$50 for nonresidents.

Perhaps Montana should take a closer look at the economics of wolf hunting. Seems that Yellowstone wolves are worth a lot more alive than dead."

# Protect wolves or hunt them? Western states are in the crosshairs

By Elaine S. Povich, Stateline.org on 08.03.16

Word Count **1,810**



Washington state sheep rancher Dave Dashiell kneels next to a lamb he delivered minutes earlier. Western states such as Washington are walking a line between preserving wolves as an endangered species and helping ranchers control them. Pew Charitable Trusts/TNS

HUNTERS, Wash. — Sheep rancher Dave Dashiell got to his feet and wiped the blood from his hands. A newborn lamb he had just delivered from a struggling ewe took one breath, then another. He laid the lamb down gently in front of its mother. "I hope he lives," Dashiell said.

In extreme northeastern Washington state, the hope is not only that the lamb will avoid sickness and injury so its mother will raise it, but that an increasing number of gray wolves won't make it their prey.

As gray wolves multiply and come off endangered species lists in Western states, a new problem has emerged: Packs of wolves are harassing ranchers, their sheep and cattle. And states are trying to walk the line between the ranchers, who view the animals as an economic and physical menace, and environmentalists, who see their reintroduction as a success story.

Nowhere is that line more starkly drawn than here in Washington, where the state has devoted thousands of man hours to the issue and has \$3.3 million in its budget to help manage it.

"How do you cross that divide? It is a tough one," said Donny Martorello, wolf policy chief in the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. "It really is about having a large carnivore back on the landscape that has been absent for decades. If you are in a rural community, there is that uncertainty that it will threaten your way of life and how you support your family.

"The larger society has made the call that they value wildlife," he said, "and our job is to steer (wolves) toward recovery. Wolves are doing quite well. Is there an option not to have wolves in Washington? That is not in our foreseeable future."

In most of the United States, gray wolves are listed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as an endangered species and protected from hunting or trapping. But in certain areas and some states, such as Montana, Idaho, the eastern third of Washington and Oregon, and north-central Utah, the wolves have been "de-listed," meaning they no longer have blanket protection.

In the early 1900s, gray wolves were nearly extinct, except in Alaska. But protection programs have restored their population to an estimated 1,904 in Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Oregon and Washington as of the end of last year, according to the federal agency.

In Montana and Idaho, wolves may be hunted, within tight restrictions and seasons. In the other states, there is no legal hunting of wolves. But in the parts of Oregon, Utah and Washington where wolves have been de-listed, states are empowered to eliminate wolves that have been proven to be a menace to livestock, dogs or humans, and to provide compensation for lost livestock.

(Although the federal agency has recommended that the protection of wolves be lifted in Wyoming and the western Great Lakes region, court cases have stalled the change in regulation.)

Oregon began planning for wolf management in the eastern part of the state in 2005, long before wolves became a menace, according to Michelle Dennehy, spokeswoman for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. Earlier this year, the department killed some wolves in what's been named the Imnaha pack because they were involved in "chronic livestock depredation," she said.

The regulations for compensating ranchers for livestock lost to wolves vary among the states and can be quite detailed. And dispute stems from the various details. For example, what constitutes "proof" of a lethal wolf attack causes much of the conflict between

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conservationists and ranchers. Washington has a compensation program for ranchers whose livestock is killed by wolves, but first, the rancher has to prove it. And the amount of compensation varies with market prices.

Justin Hedrick, 29, a fifth-generation rancher and co-owner of the Diamond M Ranch in Laurier, Wash., just shy of the Canadian border, maintains there are enough wolf packs in the northeastern part of the state to justify lifting protections on them statewide. But that's not how it works.

Washington is divided roughly into thirds, and each part of the state must have a requisite number of packs for the wolves to come off the protected list. The northeastern third more than qualifies, but the other two do not, according to the state's Fish and Wildlife Department.

Once a cow or sheep is found dead in the northeastern third, state officials come out to do an autopsy to determine the cause of death.

Sometimes it's easy. Bite marks and wolf tracks nearby are pretty good indicators. But in other instances, the wounds are nonspecific and the tracks are nonexistent, leaving officials to use blood tests and other forensic exams to try to determine a cause of death.

Then there are the nonlethal implications for the cattle and sheep. Len McIrvine, 73, Hedrick's grandfather and co-owner of the Diamond M, who has been in the ranching business his entire life, said the cows have been more skittish and haven't calved as often since the wolves have been around. McIrvine said that when wolves harass cattle, 20 percent of the cows don't calve in the spring, compared with a normal 2 to 3 percent.

Dashiell, 59, said the same for his sheep. Dashiell said he lost 300 sheep in 2014 to the nearby Huckleberry wolf pack, out of a flock of 1,800. The packs are named by the Wildlife Department to help keep track of them. State Fish and Wildlife examiners confirmed two dozen kills and implemented a plan to kill four wolves in the area with helicopters and rifles. But the wily wolves successfully hid in the trees, and only one wolf was killed.

Dashiell said because of the risks posed to his flock by the wolves, he decided to sell off 600 head last fall. At about \$200 a head at market, he said his potential gross sales went from \$100,000 a year to \$40,000 "if we're lucky." The state compensated Dashiell for his lost sheep, \$216 a head, but the market price at the time was more like \$250 to \$300 a head, he said.

The wolf program is costly for the state, too. In the 2015-2017 budget, Washington state gave wolf management planning a special one-time appropriation of \$2.2 million that goes to research, consulting and planning.



The program itself is funded by \$3.1 million in state funds, along with a \$600,000 one-time grant from the federal government. The state money comes from a \$10 surcharge on personalized license plates, wildlife license sales, a tax on firearms and ammunition, and general revenue. In fiscal 2017, the state set aside \$300,000 to compensate for livestock losses caused by wolves.

Cooperation between the states and the federal government is key to managing wolves, according to a June report by the Western Governors' Association. After extensive consultation, workshops and seminars, the governors called for more attention to "how state resources, including data, science, analyses and manpower, can be better leveraged for the benefit of species."

Shawn Cantrell, a northwest regional director for the Defenders of Wildlife, a national environmental group, said that although he sympathizes with ranchers, wolves are "still very much in the recovery mode" in Washington and still need protection. "It's encouraging in the path it's going, but it is still fragile," he said.

He maintains that while the loss of livestock is a "big deal, an economic as well as a personal loss" to ranchers, wolves account for a relatively small percentage of livestock loss compared with that caused by other predators, such as coyotes, and by natural causes.

Wolves help the overall ecosystem, Cantrell said, because they control coyotes and thin the deer and elk populations. They also provide other environmental benefits, he said. For example, the return of wolves to Yellowstone National Park helps balance the riparian areas, the stream-side habitats. Without wolves, deer and elk would congregate along the rivers and eat all the young trees before they could grow. With wolves around, deer and elk don't stay in one place, allowing the cottonwoods and aspens to grow and further enhance the ecosystem.

Various bills in the 2015-16 session of the Washington Legislature would have changed wolf policy. Some would have removed protections entirely and others would have enhanced protections, but none succeeded. To combat polarization, the state in 2013 established the Wolf Advisory Group, with representatives from both environmental and ranching interests, along with an outside facilitator, to try to bridge the gap and make recommendations.

Some ranchers, like Dashiell, have quit the group in frustration, but others are still participating. State Rep. Shelly Short, who chairs the Republican caucus in the House and represents many ranchers in the eastern part of the state, said the wolf group came to an "aha moment" at a meeting in May. There was "recognition on the part of ranchers that cows would be lost and an acknowledgement on the part of the preservation community that wolves would probably be lost," she said.



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Jack Field, a rancher who represents the Washington Cattlemen's Association on the advisory board, said ranchers have to be involved in the conversation because the environmentalists hold sway with the Legislature and Democratic Gov. Jay Inslee. "You're either at the table or on the menu," he said.

Working with the advisory panel, the state has devised preventive measures such as lights, sirens, fencing, range riders and dogs to try to protect livestock. The costs are shared with ranchers. But ranchers say these methods are nearly useless.

State Rep. Joel Kretz, another Republican who also represents the area, pooh-poohs the preventive measures, too. He said residents in the more populous western part of the state, which includes Seattle, don't get it.

"I understand the concept of sitting in Seattle and thinking that it's good hearing wolves howl in the distance. But they don't understand what we go through," he said. "I ran a bill to relocate them (the wolves) to the West. I said, 'Here's your chance to experience the love of wolves in your community.'" It didn't get anywhere.

State Rep. Kristine Lytton, a Democrat who represents a northwestern part of the state, said learning to manage wolves to benefit both ranchers and conservationists would require cultural change. "How do we set up the environment where wolves and people and animals can be in their natural environments and still stay alive?"

In Idaho, where wolves have been hunted since 2009, Mike Keckler, spokesman for the Idaho Fish and Game Department, argued that the state's years of experience in managing wolf populations have succeeded in reducing the conflict between livestock owners and environmentalists.

But every year during wolf hunting season, wildlife protection groups decry the practice. For example: A "predator derby" in Idaho in 2014, which awarded prizes for killing animals including wolves, was decried as a "gratuitous wildlife massacre" by the environmental group Project Coyote.

**Quiz**

1 Which of the following aspects of the article is NOT thoroughly discussed?

- (A) how gray wolves affect ranchers' profits
- (B) how gray wolves benefit the ecosystem
- (C) how gray wolves have been protected
- (D) how gray wolves became endangered

2 Read the following selection from the article.

*Without wolves, deer and elk would congregate along the rivers and eat all the young trees before they could grow. With wolves around, deer and elk don't stay in one place, allowing the cottonwoods and aspens to grow and further enhance the ecosystem.*

Which of the following conclusions can be drawn from the selection above?

- (A) Wolves help to balance animal life and plant life.
- (B) Wolves benefit plant life, but disrupt animal life.
- (C) Wolves disrupt plant life, but benefit animal life.
- (D) Wolves disrupt both animal life and plant life.

3 Which sentence MOST accurately summarizes two main opposing perspectives in the article?

- (A) Environmentalists want to continue to protect the gray wolf population. Ranchers want to protect their livestock, profits and communities from gray wolves.
- (B) Environmentalists want to protect elk, deer and coyotes from gray wolf attacks. Ranchers want to protect their livestock from gray wolf attacks.
- (C) Environmentalists want the government to stop compensating ranchers for lost livestock. Ranchers want the government to stop protecting gray wolves.
- (D) Environmentalists want to place gray wolves on the endangered species list. Ranchers want to be able to continue hunting gray wolves without regulations.

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- 4 Why does the author include the following quote from Washington state Representative Joel Kretz?

*"I understand the concept of sitting in Seattle and thinking that it's good hearing wolves howl in the distance. But they don't understand what we go through," he said. "I ran a bill to relocate them (the wolves) to the West. I said, 'Here's your chance to experience the love of wolves in your community.'" It didn't get anywhere.*

- (A) to show the perspective of an environmentalist who thinks protecting wolves is a priority
- (B) to show the perspective of someone who wants to compromise with animal rights supporters
- (C) to show the perspective of the communities most affected by the growing wolf population
- (D) to show the perspective of an impartial government representative who sympathizes with both sides





# Inventors and Scientists: Rachel Carson

By Library of Congress and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, adapted by Newsela staff on 04.14.17

Word Count **823**

Level **1040L**



Activist and author Rachel Carson, whose book "Silent Spring" led to a study of pesticides, testifies before a Senate Government Operations Subcommittee in Washington, D.C., on June 4, 1963. Carson urged Congress to curb the sale of chemical pesticides and aerial spraying. AP Photo

**Synopsis:** Rachel Carson was a world-famous marine biologist, author and environmentalist. She worked as an aquatic biologist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Carson wrote "Silent Spring," the groundbreaking book that began the environmental movement and made Americans concerned about people's effect on the environment.

## Early Life

Rachel Carson was born in a small rural Pennsylvania community near the Allegheny River in 1907. She spent a great deal of time exploring the forests and streams. As a young child, Carson felt passionately about nature and her writing. She published her first story at the age of 10 in a children's magazine.

In 1925, Carson entered Pennsylvania College for Women and was determined to become a writer. Halfway through, she switched to biology. After graduating, Carson was awarded a scholarship to do graduate work in biology at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, an enormous accomplishment for a woman in 1929.

## **Joining The U.S. Fisheries Bureau**

Carson's talent for both writing and biology won her a job in 1935 with the U.S. Bureau of Fisheries, the government department that protects fish and where they live. Meanwhile, she continued to write articles on conservation and nature for newspapers and magazines. From the very beginning, she spoke about the need to always consider the well-being of the "fish as well as that of the fisherman."

Carson was one of only two women working for the bureau, later the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, as a professional. She visited the Chesapeake Bay region, where she spoke with fisherman and visited commercial plants and conservation facilities. During World War II, Carson investigated undersea sounds in a program to help the Navy develop techniques and equipment for detecting submarines.

Carson published her first book, "Under the Sea-Wind," in 1941. She presented complicated scientific material in clear poetic language that made people interested in the natural world.

## **"Silent Spring"**

Carson's second book, "The Sea Around Us," was published in 1951 and became a bestseller and was translated into 32 languages. In 1952, she left her job to devote her time to writing. Her fourth and last book, "Silent Spring," was published in 1962 after years of research in Europe and America. In it, Carson writes about the danger caused by harmful pesticides and said people have a responsibility to other forms of life on Earth.

Carson had become interested in the danger of pesticides while still associated with the Fish and Wildlife Service. She became even more worried when the pesticide DDT came out in 1945 and she learned about its effect on marine life. She had long hoped someone else would write about the dangers of DDT but realized that only she had the background and the money to do it.

## **The Consequences Of "Silent Spring"**

In "Silent Spring," she wrote about how the reckless use of pesticides was contaminating the environment and slowly poisoning living things. She knew her claims would surprise "99 out of 100 people," as she put it. Many people, especially those working at chemical and agricultural companies, would feel threatened by her book. Farmers wanted pesticides to kill bugs that destroyed crops, and chemical and agricultural companies wanted to sell pesticides to

farmers. She knew they would attack her and say her book was false, but this did not stop her. She wanted to let the public know the facts about pesticides and she hoped it would lead to stricter environmental laws.

Carson had no idea just how popular and influential her book would become. Carson was right about her critics, though. They spent hundreds of thousands of dollars attacking her personally and trying to prove her wrong. She was called a hysterical woman and a poor scientist, but Carson knew her claims were scientifically correct and her book quickly became a bestseller.

Carson's book changed many people's ideas about the environment and inspired some to take action. People wrote to their congressmen and asked them to do something about pesticides. When several senators created a committee to research environmental dangers, they asked Carson to speak to them about pesticides. Carson recommended that the government control and reduce pesticide use, and ban the most toxic pesticides.

The government's Science Advisory Committee researched Carson's claims, and in 1963, it released a report supporting her findings. In 1964, Congress said companies had to prove a product was safe before it could be sold. In 1972, the government banned DDT. In 1970, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was created "in response to the growing public demand for cleaner water, air and land." Carson's work began the environmental movement and opened up people's eyes about the environment.

## **Later Life And Death**

Carson died of cancer in 1964 at the age of only 57. In 1969, the Fish and Wildlife Service named a refuge near her summer home in Maine after her to honor the memory of this extraordinary woman. It is called the Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge.



## Quiz

- 1 Which two of the following sentences from the article BEST reflect its central ideas?
- 1. Carson's talent for both writing and biology won her a job in 1935 with the U.S. Bureau of Fisheries, the government department that protects fish and where they live.*
  - 2. During World War II, Carson investigated undersea sounds in a program to help the Navy develop techniques and equipment for detecting submarines.*
  - 3. In "Silent Spring," she wrote about how the reckless use of pesticides was contaminating the environment and slowly poisoning living things.*
  - 4. They spent hundreds of thousands of dollars attacking her personally and trying to prove her wrong.*
- (A) 1 and 3
- (B) 1 and 4
- (C) 2 and 3
- (D) 2 and 4
- 2 Which answer choice provides an accurate summary of the section "Silent Spring"?
- (A) Carson wrote a bestselling book that allowed her to leave her job and write full time. She was interested in writing about the dangers of pesticides, especially DDT, which she did in her last book, "Silent Spring."
- (B) Carson quickly became a bestselling author when her second book was published in 32 different languages. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service hoped she would write "Silent Spring" because she was the only person qualified to do it.
- (C) Carson devoted her time to writing after she became disillusioned with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. By making writing a full time career, she was able to become a first-time bestselling author with the publication of "Silent Spring."
- (D) Carson left her job at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service because she realized that DDT was the most pressing problem affecting humans at the time. She wrote "Silent Spring" to expose the dangers of this pesticide.

3 Which of the following details from the article BEST develops the idea that Carson's passion for the environment outweighed her concern about what people thought of her?

- (A) She knew her claims would surprise "99 out of 100 people," as she put it.
- (B) Many people, especially those working at chemical and agricultural companies, would feel threatened by her book.
- (C) She knew they would attack her and say her book was false, but this did not stop her.
- (D) Carson had no idea just how popular and influential her book would become.

4 Why does the author include the following paragraph in the section "The Consequences Of Silent Spring"?

*The government's Science Advisory Committee researched Carson's claims, and in 1963, it released a report supporting her findings. In 1964, Congress said companies had to prove a product was safe before it could be sold. In 1972, the government banned DDT. In 1970, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was created "in response to the growing public demand for cleaner water, air and land." Carson's work began the environmental movement and opened up people's eyes about the environment.*

- (A) to argue that Carson's main goal all along was the creation of the Environmental Protection Agency
- (B) to list several specific examples of how Carson's research affected environmental laws in the United States
- (C) to show that the government always supported Carson's research, in spite of those who criticized her work
- (D) to explain the devastating effects that the use of pesticides like DDT can have on the natural environment

