

# INTERNATIONAL WOLF

A PUBLICATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL WOLF CENTER  
WINTER 2001



**Wildlife Art no Longer Extinct,  
page 4**

**Mexican Wolf Fate Teeters  
Between Science and Politics  
page 8**

# Take an Adventure Vacation in Wolf Country

*Experience the magic of the north woods and the excitement of learning at the renowned International Wolf Center interpretative facility in Ely, Minnesota, U.S.A.*

*Located within scenic Superior National Forest, adjacent to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, it's the ideal place to observe signs of wildlife—at the ideal time—winter through early spring.*



For more information, call **1-800-ELY-WOLF**, ext. 25.  
Or visit our web site at **www.wolf.org**

## Wild Wolf Weekend Teacher Workshop

March 8-10, 2002

Cost: \$295 includes food, resort lodging, curriculum guide, activity materials.

Spend a northwoods weekend combining the excitement of field study with curriculum training which will enrich your classroom studies of this controversial species.

## Wolves, Eagles, and Bears, Oh My!

May 17-19, 2002

\$295 per person, includes meals and resort lodging

Immerse yourself in the world of Minnesota's greatest wildlife treasures. You'll study the resident pack of wolves at the International Wolf Center, wild bears at the Vince Shute Wildlife Sanctuary and eagles at a local nesting site. Your action-packed weekend will feature a howling expedition and a wolf feeding.



*Carl Brenders Robert Bateman R.S. Parker Al Agnew Don Gott Jorge Mayol Frank Miller*



*Carl Brenders, One-to-One*



*Robert Bateman, Hoary Marmot*

## Save money on collectible wildlife art and support the survival of wolves worldwide!

Donated collection now available to the public.

**Extra savings, low prices!**

Limited edition prints by celebrated artists.

Proceeds directly benefit the International Wolf Center mission.

View our online gallery by visiting **www.wolf.org**

For private inquiries, please call 763-560-7374

Any donation above the already low asking price is tax deductible to the full extent of the law.



**International Wolf Center**  
Teaching the World About Wolves

The International Wolf Center is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting the survival of wolves worldwide through education.

*Bev Doolittle Robert Travers Lee Kromschroeder James Meger Bruce Miller (and many others!)*

# INTERNATIONAL WOLF

THE QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL WOLF CENTER  
VOLUME 11, NO. 4 WINTER 2001

## Features



*Den Mother-Wolf Family* © Carl Brenders



California Wolf Center

### 4

#### **Wildlife Art no Longer Extinct**

Art dealers and galleries are carrying more wolf art than ever before. Steve Grooms investigates where to find quality wildlife artwork.

*Steve Grooms*

### 8

#### **Mexican Wolf Fate Teeters Between Science and Politics**

Will the fate of the Mexican wolf be determined by scientific-based decision-making or by politics?

*Michael J. Robinson*

## Departments

**2** As a Matter of Fact

**3** From the Chair of the Board

**12** International Wolf Center Notes From Home

**15** Tracking the Pack

**16** Wolves of the World

**20** Personal Encounter

**24** Book Review

**26** News and Notes

**27** Wild Kids

**28** A Look Beyond

## On The Cover

A detail of *When Trails Cross* © Dan Smith. Artwork courtesy of the artist and art print publisher Mill Pond Press, Inc., Venice FL 34292, 800-535-0331.

Dan is a long time contributor to the International Wolf Center and other wildlife organizations.

To view and purchase additional art, check out our new web gallery at [www.wolf.org](http://www.wolf.org).



**International Wolf Center**

# INTERNATIONAL WOLF

Publications Director  
Mary Ortiz

Magazine Coordinator  
Amy Bowman

Technical Editor  
L. David Mech

Graphic Designer  
Tricia Hull

*International Wolf* (1089-683X) is published quarterly and copyrighted, 2001, by the International Wolf Center, 3300 Bass Lake Rd, Minneapolis, MN 55429, USA. e-mail: mplspack@wolf.org. All rights reserved.

Publications agreement no. 1536338

Membership in the International Wolf Center includes a subscription to *International Wolf* magazine, free admission to the Center, and discounts on programs and merchandise. • Lone Wolf memberships are U.S. \$30 • Wolf Pack \$50 • Wolf Associate \$100 • Wolf Sponsor \$500 • Alpha Wolf \$1000. Canada and other countries, add U.S. \$15 per year for airmail postage, \$7 for surface postage. Contact the International Wolf Center, 1396 Highway 169, Ely, MN 55731-8129, USA; e-mail: wolfinfo@wolf.org; phone: 1-800-ELY-WOLF

*International Wolf* is a forum for airing facts, ideas and attitudes about wolf-related issues. Articles and materials printed in *International Wolf* do not necessarily reflect the viewpoint of the International Wolf Center or its board of directors.

*International Wolf* welcomes submissions of personal adventures with wolves and wolf photographs (especially black and white). Prior to submission of other types of manuscripts, address queries to Mary Ortiz, publications director.

*International Wolf* is printed entirely with soy ink on recycled and recyclable paper (text pages contain 20% post-consumer waste, cover paper contains 10% post-consumer waste). We encourage you to recycle this magazine.

PHOTOS: Unless otherwise noted, or obvious from the caption or article text, photos are of captive wolves.

# As A Matter Of Fact



L. David Mech

## Is aerial hunting of wolves legal in Alaska?

Public aerial hunting is not legal in Alaska. ■

## New Question

What is the average litter size of the wolf?

## Correction

The photo on Page 16 of the fall issue of *International Wolf* was credited to Tom Brakefield. The photo was actually taken by William E. Rideg.

## WEST GATE MOTEL

110 North 2nd Avenue West • Ely, MN 55731

RESERVATIONS:

1-800-806-4979

1-218-365-4513

*Closest motel to the downtown area.*



## From the Board Chair

INTERNATIONAL  
WOLF CENTER

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Nancy jo Tubbs  
Chair

Dr. L. David Mech  
Vice Chair

Dr. Rolf O. Peterson  
Secretary

Paul B. Anderson  
Treasurer

Dr. Larry D. Anderson  
Phillip DeWitt

Thomas T. Dwight  
Nancy Gibson

Helene Grimaud  
Cornelia Hutt

Dr. Robert Laud  
Mike Phillips

Dr. Robert Ream  
Paul Schurke

Teri Williams

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Walter M. Medwid

### MISSION

The International Wolf Center supports the survival of the wolf around the world by teaching about its life, its associations with other species and its dynamic relationship to humans.

Educational services and informational resources are available at:

1396 Highway 169  
Ely, MN 55731-8129, USA

1-800-ELY-WOLF  
1-218-365-4695

e-mail address:  
wolfinfo@wolf.org

Web site: <http://www.wolf.org>

## A Portal into Wolf Wonderland

By Nancy jo Tubbs

Alice ("in Wonderland") climbed down the rabbit hole and met the Red Queen, Tweedlee and the Cheshire Cat. This quarter, *International Wolf* is your portal into another wild world populated with fascinating characters. Like Wonderland, the International Wolf Center offers many doorways.

In this issue, you can read Center Director Walter Medwid's report of Ellesmere Island's missing wolves and the reason even musk oxen were sparse on this year's high Arctic visit by Medwid and researcher Dr. David Mech. Readers are invited to take a second portal through the cyber looking glass to view on-the-scene reports from the two men on the Center's web site ([www.wolf.org/field\\_notes/index.htm](http://www.wolf.org/field_notes/index.htm)).

Wolf Curator Lori Schmidt gives readers a glimpse into the steamy summer life of the wolf as she writes about our resident five-pack in "Tracking the Pack." Two other doorways on the subject have also been open for readers. Those who visit the Center in Ely can stand nose to nose with scampish yearlings Malik and Shadow at the observation window. And this summer, members attended exclusive Behind the Scenes programs to see the pack close-up and learn how the wolves are socialized and cared for by their handlers.

Too far away to visit? The Center's cyber portal opens to a real-time wolf cam view of the captive pack. From your desk at work or school, check ([www.elyminnesota.com/Cams/WolfCam/index.asp](http://www.elyminnesota.com/Cams/WolfCam/index.asp)) to glimpse what the yearlings, Lakota, MacKenzie and Lucas are up to in Ely.

Read Wolf Center Board member Neil Hutt's report on Wolves of the World in this issue; then you can vote in the Web site's [www.wolf.org/field\\_notes/index.htm](http://www.wolf.org/field_notes/index.htm) survey of potential wolf reintroduction sites in the US.

Do you like the magazine's pop quiz—the "As a Matter of Fact" question? If so, slip through the Web doorway to [www.wolf.org/learn/learnfrm.htm](http://www.wolf.org/learn/learnfrm.htm) for an intro to wolf biology, wolf management, and the survival of the species around the world. Then take the more extensive on-line quiz.

Going to "Wolf U" is next. This portal is a week-long Intensive Wolf Study Course at the Center, January 19-25, 2002. There in Ely, serious students study wolf-prey relationships, northern forest ecology, and thrill to field study from a dog sled, aerial tracking flights, and snowshoes.

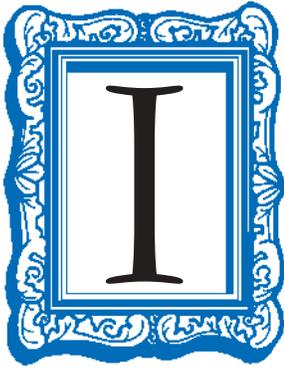
In this issue of the magazine, readers can also step into the world of wolf art with writer Steve Grooms; in addition, they can learn about Mexican wolf recovery from Michael Robinson, and follow an educator into the classroom with real kids.

All these and more treats await you as a member of the International Wolf Center. We hope you enjoy your adventures in Wolf Wonderland. ■



Nancy jo Tubbs

*Nancy jo Tubbs*



It is the coldest picture I've ever seen. An arctic wolf is howling in a whiteout blizzard. The wolf's head is raised, its ears laid back. You can tell by the ruffled fur that a keen wind is hitting the wolf from the left side. The snow has that weird wispy quality that it only gets during bitterly cold weather.

Lee Kroemschroder's "Howling Wind" stands out among wolf paintings I've seen as the image that best captures the harshness of a wolf's struggle for survival. Wolves lead difficult, dangerous and strenuous lives. "The Howling" is brutally honest about what it is like to be a wolf.

If this painting is too frigid for your den wall, you might prefer Carl Brenders' "Den Mother." An adult wolf lies with six half-grown pups, several of which are "monkeyballed" on top of her back leg. The pups have been rendered with care so that each has

its unique identity. The painting is perfectly realistic, yet it conveys the bonds of love that wolves have toward their pups. I can't imagine any fan of wolves looking at this painting without smiling.

Whatever your tastes might be, today there are many superb paintings of wolves to choose from. And that is a relatively new fact. Thirty years ago there was hardly any market for wildlife art. For various reasons, including the unease many people felt with non-representational modern art, art galleries began selling paintings and limited-edition prints that featured wildlife. In recent decades wildlife art has been one of the liveliest sectors of the art world.

Wolves began to appear in wildlife art in the mid-1980s, according to Robert Koenke, the publisher of *Wildlife Art News*. That period roughly coincides with the great fight to restore wolves to Yellowstone, a battle that both created and reflected a new public tolerance for wolves. Wolves became one of the most frequently painted animals and now rank as one of the five most popular subjects, according to Koenke.

Wolf pictures can be divided into three groups. Least expensive are the wolf posters that usually (but not always) feature photographic images. Many posters cost about \$10. Posters are the type of art people might put up on a rec room wall with pins. At the opposite end of the economic scale are original paintings that sell for thousands of dollars, sometimes many thousands of dollars.

Between those extremes lies the large and fascinating market of limited-edition prints, and that will be the focus of this article. Since relatively few people can afford to buy original paintings by established artists, limited-edition prints are attractive to wolf fans who want to grace their homes or offices with the beauty and magic of wolves.

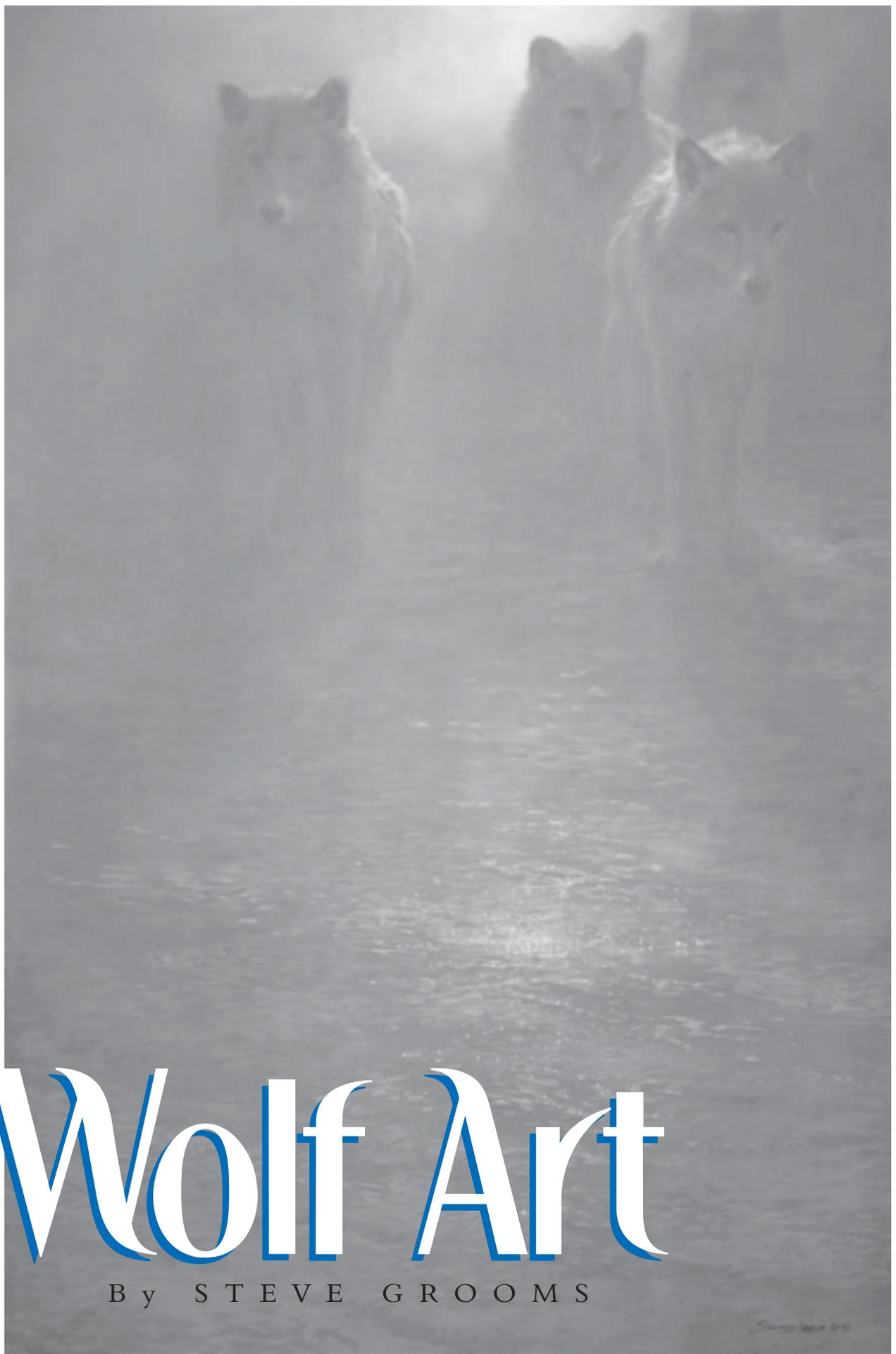
Prints are not prohibitively expensive. Limited-edition prints typically sell in the range of \$150 to



"Howling  
Wind"  
©Lee  
Kroemschroder

Artwork courtesy  
of Lee Kroemschroder  
and Wild Wings, Inc.

# Welcome to the World of



# Wolf Art

By STEVE GROOMS

*Frozen  
Moonlight  
©John Seerey-  
Lester*

Artwork courtesy of  
the artists and art  
print publisher  
Mill Pond Press,  
Venice, FL 34292

For additional  
information,  
call 800-535-0331.

\$220. Prints look most attractive when expertly matted and framed. A good frame shop will charge about \$200 to mat a print of average size. The size of the print dramatically affects the cost of matting and framing. In total, most limited-edition prints cost about \$400 to \$500 after matting and framing.

Because limited-edition prints are limited, the popular ones sell out and become valuable. Art dealers and galleries often stockpile prints they expect to sell out. When the print is sold out or in low supply, those reserved prints can still be bought, but they will be more expensive.

“Silent Witness,” by renowned artist Robert Bateman, falls in this category. This moody picture features a Canadian Shield environment in winter. Two massive blocks of lichen-encrusted granite dominate the foreground. The watchful wolf is halfway obscured by a granite block. This is exactly the way we so often see wolves, standing with dignity but caution, only partially in view.

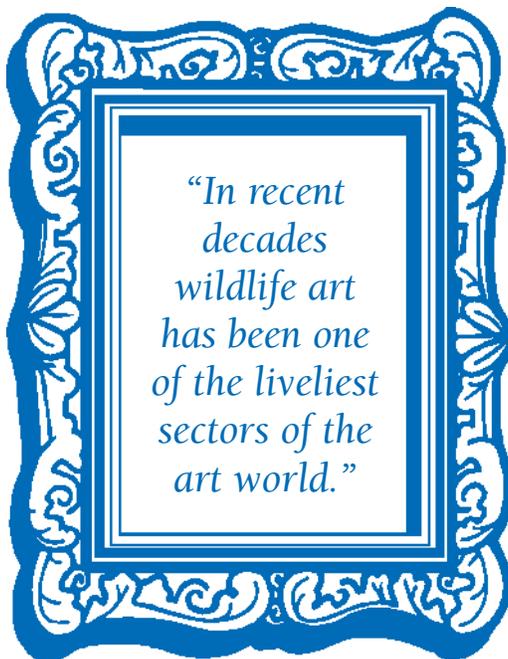
How can you find the wolf art that would please you most? The simplest way is to look at many paintings until you find an image that stirs your heart. But a few observations about the different wolf art styles might help define your tastes.

When wolves first appeared in wildlife art, the fashion was to make them highly colorful and distinct from their surroundings. Artists emphasized the rich browns present in the pelts of many wolves, heightening that effect by bathing the scenes in golden sunlight.

As the wildlife art market has matured, the trend has been toward more somber, naturalistic paintings. The popularity of this more somber and natural art style owes much to Robert Bateman. The wolves in Bateman’s paintings blend so perfectly

with their environment that you might need to look hard to see them. Similarly, John Seerey-Lester’s “Frozen Moonlight” depicts three wonderfully spooky and indistinct wolves in dim blue light.

Wolf art can also be placed on a continuum running from the extremely romantic to the extremely realistic. Artists like Bateman, Seerey-Lester, Carl Brenders and Dan Smith



(cover art) paint in the muted tones of the highly realistic art. But many wolf fans love the spirit, symbolism and romance of wolves. Romantic paintings might combine the image of a wolf with that of a Native American or show a wolf pack howling with a display of northern lights blazing behind them.

And, of course, many paintings fall in between the extremes of realism and romanticism. No single style is “right” or “better” than any other. To my eye, most painted wolves are plumper and more contented looking than the wild wolves I’ve seen. But that’s just my taste. If you like a wolf painting, it is the right one for you.

There are three good ways to buy a limited-edition print.

The traditional way is to visit a wildlife art gallery to examine what they have in stock or listed in catalogs. These galleries are popular enough that many wolf fans will find one—or perhaps several—nearby.

The newest way to shop for wolf art is via the Internet. Just direct a search engine to find “wolf paintings,” and it will come up with many hundred hits. Two Internet galleries featuring wolf art are the Birchwood Gallery ([www.birch.mb.ca](http://www.birch.mb.ca)) and World Wide Art ([www.world-wide-art.com](http://www.world-wide-art.com)). Both galleries let you play with various combinations of prints, mats and frames on your monitor until you find the most attractive combination. Then you can order the print along with framing and matting for one low price.

The most enjoyable way to buy wolf art is to visit a wildlife art show. Wildlife artists attend such shows because they love to chat with people who share their passion for wildlife and art. By visiting an art show you can come home with a print and a great story about how it came to be created. These shows are advertised in magazines like *Wildlife Art News*.

Two of my friends make a point of collecting the work of artists who have supported wolf restoration. Because so many wildlife artists have been generous in their support of wolves, there are too many names to try to list them here. Any great painting of wolves can bring its owner joy. The pleasure of owning a really special wolf painting is all the sweeter if you know the artist has personally contributed to the welfare of wolves. ■

*Steve Grooms is a writer living in Saint Paul, Minnesota, USA who recently revised his book, The Return of the Wolf.*

*Silent Witness ©Robert Bateman*

Artwork courtesy of the artists and art print publisher Mill Pond Press, Venice, FL 34292. For additional information, call 800-535-0331.



## Which Wolf, Which Background?

Because there are so many paintings of wolves on the market today, you can choose one that matches your ideal vision of wolves.

For example, many people now have observed wolves at Yellowstone Park. There are wolf paintings that specifically

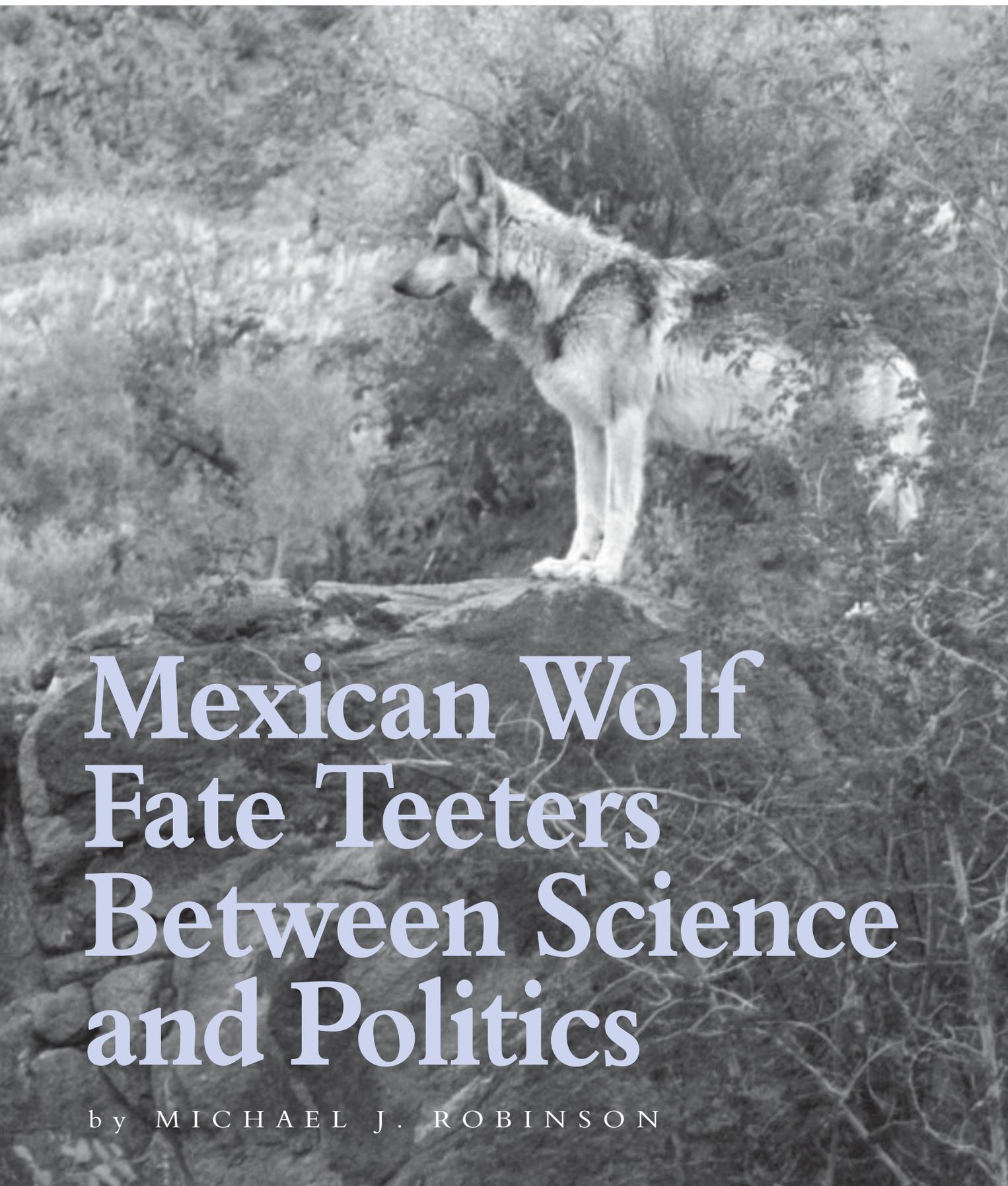
use Yellowstone's beauty as the backdrop. John Banovich's handsome "The Return" is an example. John Seerey-Lester has at least one Yellowstone painting.

Many artists have painted arctic wolves well. Among them are Al Agnew, Carl Brenders, Robert Bateman and John Seerey-Lester.

Some artists have painted wolves in Alaskan or Canadian settings.

Perhaps the biggest challenge is to find red wolf art. For current information, contact the Aubrey White at the Red Wolf Coalition, Box 2318, Kill Devil Hills, NC 27948-2318.

*Purchase beautiful  
wildlife art and  
support the survival  
of wolves.  
Check out our new  
web art gallery at  
[www.wolf.org](http://www.wolf.org).*



# Mexican Wolf Fate Teeters Between Science and Politics

by MICHAEL J. ROBINSON

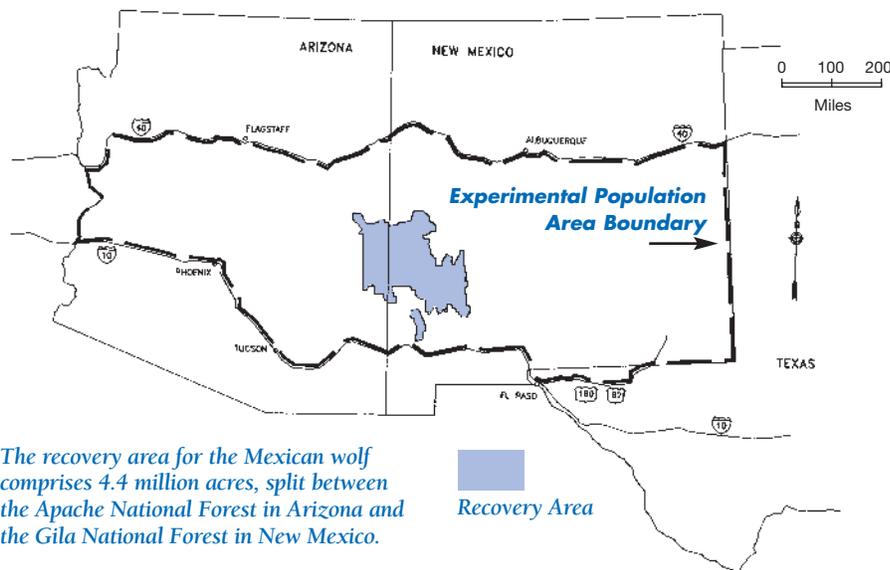
California Wolf Center

The saga of the troubled Mexican gray wolf recovery program can be traced through the life of M166, a seven-year-old male lobo who at birth in the Wild Canid Survival and Research Center in Eureka, Missouri, was given the more romantic and even hopeful name, Rio, “river” in Spanish.

Until recently, every known Mexican wolf was born in captivity, the progeny of the last five wild wolves trapped in Mexico between 1977 and 1980, interbred with two lineages already held in captivity in the U.S. An emergency captive breeding program raised the world’s Mexican wolf population to around 200 animals, but until reintroduction began in March, 1998, there were no wolves known in the wild in either Mexico or the southwestern United States.

Rio was one of the first eleven animals released that historic spring. The recovery area for the Mexican wolf comprises 4.4 million acres, split between the Apache National Forest in Arizona and the Gila National Forest in New Mexico. Unlike Yellowstone National Park and central Idaho, more than two-thirds of the Mexican wolf recovery area is grazed by cattle; the Gila contains the largest chunk of ungrazed terrain and three-quarters of the recovery area.

However, to meet the opposition of the livestock industry-dominated New Mexico Game Commission, wolves from the captive population would only be released in the Arizona portion of the recovery area, with allowance for translocating animals into New Mexico following their recapture from the wild.



*The recovery area for the Mexican wolf comprises 4.4 million acres, split between the Apache National Forest in Arizona and the Gila National Forest in New Mexico.*

A second equally-unprecedented management provision, also demanded by ranchers, called for removal of any wolves that establish territories outside of the recovery area—even on other public lands and even if the wolves are not killing livestock.

Finally, in contrast to the Northern Rocky Mountain Wolf Recovery Plan, there are no provisions requiring livestock operators to assume any responsibility for cleaning up the carcasses of cattle that die from other causes before wolves scavenge on them and become habituated to stock. In the Southwest, where many allotments are grazed year-round, it is not uncommon to stumble upon dozens of dead cattle that succumbed to starvation, disease and other factors.

Shortly after the first eleven pioneering Mexican wolves were released in the Apache National Forest, they started getting shot. Rio’s mate was one of five wolves killed within half a year. A sixth wolf disappeared and is presumed dead, and Rio’s pup, thought to be the first Mexican wolf born in the wild in the U.S. in over 70 years, disappeared and is also presumed dead after its

mother was shot. (There has been one conviction from these [first] five shootings - that of James Rogers, a member of a local ranching family, who served four months in prison.)

Over the next two years, Rio was successively provided four new mates, the first of which was killed by a mountain lion and the next two recaptured after showing insufficient fear of humans. But the last mate displayed suitable wild behavior: The pair avoided people and domestic animals. Then they crossed out of the recovery area.

As a result, Rio and this last mate found themselves back in captivity. After four months, they were re-released in the Gila National Forest in December, 2000. But the once-established pair split up shortly after their release.

Rio’s experience wasn’t unusual. Three other packs were released in Arizona but recaptured and held in captivity for several months, and two of those have been re-released. Each split apart after re-release, with most of those animals subsequently recaptured, killed in vehicular hit-and-run incidents, or dying or disappearing suspiciously.



California Wolf Center

*In Arizona, where wolves have been released directly from the captive population, five packs with around 25 wolves are now established, and several litters of pups have been born this year.*

During Rio and his mate's peregrinations alone in the first half of 2001, each separately scavenged on livestock carcasses. A rancher refused to allow Fish and Wildlife Service biologists to remove a bull Rio had been feeding on, even though the bull (when alive) was not supposed to have been in that part of the national forest. He was one of a number of trespass cattle in the area; a necropsy revealed he had died from a fall—not from wolf predation.

This also is not atypical. The first three wolf packs to be recaptured had each scavenged on cattle. One pack's scavenging had taken place in a region closed to grazing by the Forest Service but with cattle still present in defiance of that order. Two of those packs went on to kill cattle. The third pack was recaptured to prevent possible future depredations, resulting in an injury

that required the amputation of the alpha female's leg (perhaps a factor in that pack's dissolution upon re-release and her eventual disappearance and presumed demise.)

Then, in May of this year, Rio and his mate re-united and began killing cattle, leading to their recapture in June. They have been separated in captivity, and Rio has been assigned a new mate—his sixth—in preparation for another release.

The Mexican wolf recovery area spread across parts of two states aptly illustrates the difference a state line can make. In Arizona, where wolves have been released directly from the captive population, five packs with around 25 wolves are now established, and several litters of pups have been born this year. But in New Mexico only one pair survives.

In June, 2001, four biologists led by Dr. Paul Paquet, released an 86-page study of the first three years of the reintroduction. The scientists concluded that "survival and recruitment rates . . . are far too low to ensure population growth or persistence. Without dramatic improvement in these vital rates, the wolf population will fall short of predictions for upcoming years."

They recommend eliminating artificial management boundaries. "By far the most important and simplest change the Service can make," they write, is "obtaining the authority to conduct initial releases in the . . . Gila National Forest." They also recommend allowing wolves that are not "management problems" to roam freely outside the



recovery area, noting that “in sharp contrast with the Service’s approach elsewhere, the Mexican wolf project developed a rule that requires wolves to be removed from public and private land outside the . . . recovery area, even in the absence of a problem.”

Another recommendation is to “Require livestock operators on public land to take some responsibility for carcass management/disposal to reduce the likelihood that wolves become habituated to feeding on livestock.” They note that “At least 3 packs were removed from the wild because they scavenged on dead livestock left on national forest lands. Such scavenging may predispose wolves to eventually prey on livestock.”

Unfortunately, Mexican wolves have seldom benefited from scientific-based decision-making. The first Fish and Wildlife Service Mexican wolf recovery coordinator lost his job in 1999 when he proposed allowing wolves from captivity to be released in the Gila. After Clinton Administration officials finally agreed to this change, the agency failed to follow through with the requisite amendment to the management rule, and still has not initiated the legal process to do so.

Now, rancher-congressman Joe Skeen (R-NM), infuriated by the scientists’ recommendations, is pushing legislation to conduct a new study of the recovery program to be conducted by non-biologists.

Whether sonorous howls will continue to echo along southwestern canyon walls will depend on whether politics continues to hold sway or whether we finally heed the scientists’ warnings. For North America’s most imperiled mammal, the stakes couldn’t be higher. ■

*Michael Robinson represents the Center for Biological Diversity and lives in Pinos Altos, NM, on the edge of the Gila National Forest. He is completing a book tracing the political and cultural history of the federal wolf extermination campaign. For up-to-date coverage of the Mexican wolf, see <http://www.biologicaldiversity.org/swcbd/species/mexwolf/wolf.html>.*

# WOLVES IN SPACE!

(CYBERSPACE THAT IS)  
[www.wolf.org](http://www.wolf.org)

## 700 web pages

Here you will find volumes of information. Biology, bibliography, scientific abstracts, studies and reports. News on wolf populations around the world. Telemetry, event listings, photos and Wolf Watch, our live wolf cam. Plus updates on our resident pack in Ely, Minnesota, U.S.A. And these features: USDA Wildlife Services Livestock Depredation Reports, and polls where you can state your opinion on a variety of wolf issues.



**International Wolf Center**  
Teaching the World About Wolves



## Notes From Home

### Actress Amber Tamblyn Hosts Benefit for International Wolf Center

Amber Tamblyn, a young actress who played the character, “Emily Bowman Quartermaine” on the American soap opera, General Hospital, has been concerned for the survival of wolves since she was a child. Her enthusiasm for wolves was evident from her dressing room. It was decorated with wolf posters

and photos, and on her door was a sign, “Little Red Riding Hood Lied.” Amber has been a member of the International Wolf Center for years and further demonstrated her devotion to wolves when her role on the soap opera ended and she decided that her farewell party would be an event to benefit the International Wolf Center.

Amber hosted a pancake breakfast with a Kung-Fu theme. The choice of the theme was Amber’s way of continuing a running joke on her website. She had garnered a reputation for battling verbally on issues that were important to her—something that earned her the name “Kung-Fu Princess” among her online fan club members. Amber certainly rose to the challenge of championing wolves with this creative event.



Above: Amber Tamblyn, General Hospital actress, a wolf enthusiast since childhood, hosted a benefit for the International Wolf Center.

Right: Amber Tamblyn and friends.



### Rhode Island Elementary School Reaching out to Wolves

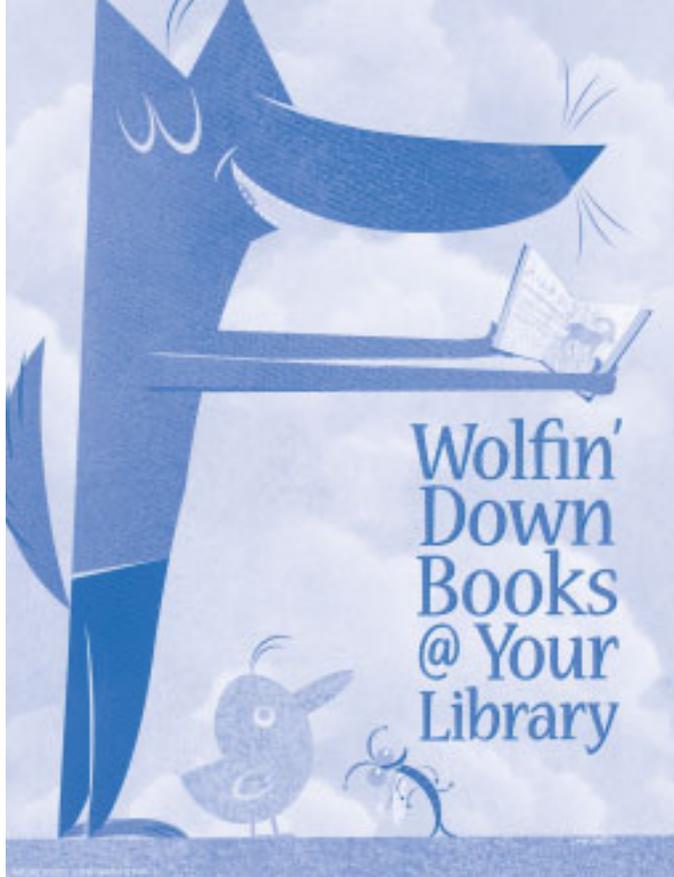
Word of wolves was spoken recently by the children, teachers and parents of Primrose Hill Elementary School in Rhode Island. Students from first, second, and third grade classes became interested in wolves earlier in the year through their teacher, Laura Butler. Laura had talked to the kids about the wolf and had obtained information to share with the class from the International Wolf Center’s website.

In the fall, when the school decided to have a bake sale, the students voted on where they wanted their hard-earned money to go. The children, remembering the website and the International Wolf Center from their studies earlier in the year, decided that they wanted to use the money to go to Lakota through the adopt-a-wolf program. The students then collaborated with their parents and other teachers to hold a very successful bake sale.

They soon realized that they had made more than enough money for the adopt-a-wolf program, and decided together to donate the rest of the money earned to the International Wolf Center. In the end, the students not only helped support Lakota through the adopt-a-wolf program, but also donated over \$200 to the International Wolf Center.

Their efforts have definitely not gone unnoticed. The International Wolf Center sincerely appreciates the work of each and every one of the people that helped raise funds for Lakota and the International Wolf Center. To show its appreciation and to encourage Primrose Elementary School to remain involved with wolves and the International Wolf Center, a membership in the name of teacher Laura Butler was given to the school.





A poster from "Wolfin' Down Books. The International Wolf Center Speakers Bureau joined with libraries across the state of Minnesota for this highly successful summer reading program.

## Wolfin' Down Books

When the International Wolf Center learned that public libraries across the state of Minnesota had set the theme, "Wolfin' Down Books," it saw an opportunity to broaden its audience through reading programs.

Speakers from the Center's Speakers' Bureau went everywhere from farm communities in southern Minnesota to towns along the Iron Range, and from one-room libraries close to the South Dakota border to an auditorium near Rochester's medical center. Interior locations for the presentations varied from a corner amidst crowded book shelves to city-council chambers.

The program was designed for families.

Attendance included toddlers too young to stay in any one place long, elementary-school children who had been reading books from the varied library displays, youth fresh from studies of wolves in school, and adults who had a life-long fascination with "*Canis lupus*."

As is so often the case, participants opened the door for exciting learning opportunities. They asked questions such as "Are there any wolves around here?" "Could I get a tame wolf?" "When can people begin to kill wolves?" One of the more challenging questions was "How do you tell the difference between male and female wolves?"

Responses to the programs were encouragingly positive.

## The Wolf World Will Also Miss Ralph Bailey

Ralph E. Bailey, a former International Wolf Center board member, passed away June 23, 2001. Bailey, a resident of Marquette, Michigan since 1965, became a board member in the mid-1980s and served for several years.

During his tenure on the board Bailey was a strong advocate for public education about wolves. He had a great passion for the outdoors and conservation; his interest in fishing, hiking, backpacking, camping, and hunting influenced his life and career.

Bailey completed his Bachelor of Science degree in Wildlife Management at the University of Minnesota. He started working for the Michigan Department of Conservation in 1947, beginning a career that would span 37 years.

He was involved in research and the Farm Game program in his early years, moving on in the 1950's to become District Wildlife Biologist at the Jackson District Office, overseeing wildlife programs in a number of southern Michigan counties.

In 1965, the Department of Conservation became the Department of Natural Resources, and Ralph took over as Regional Wildlife Biologist in Marquette, overseeing all wildlife programs in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan (UP). Before his retirement in 1984, his major accomplishments included laying the groundwork for the reintroduction of moose in the central UP, a program that has been a great wildlife success. He was also chair of the federal government's Eastern Timber Wolf Recovery Team from its inception in 1974 through approval of the last Recovery Plan in 1992.

Bailey will be greatly missed by family, friends and the staff at the International Wolf Center. His contributions to wildlife will always be remembered. ■



Ralph Bailey



INTERNATIONAL WOLF CENTER

*Contributors*

*Thank You!*

**Major Donors**

Barbara Apgar  
 Paul Bridson and Kelly Sargent  
 Robert Halley  
 Catherine D. Brown  
 Laura Butler  
 Eric A. Carlson  
 Lynn Ebberly  
 Falcon Trading Company Inc  
 Ellen M. Gigliotti  
 Robert Halley  
 Charles Heck  
 Jack and Phyllis Heck  
 Carol Hodges  
 Book Hower  
 Patricia Huston  
 Neil N. Hutt  
 Dorothy Kanehl  
 David Mech  
 Patty J. Miller  
 Dolores Ann Nesbit  
 Martin and Linda Orro  
 Karen L. Pajari  
 Cornelius and Yvonne Pettinga  
 Primrose Hill

Elementary School  
 Linda Pritle  
 Deborah Ann Reynolds  
 Cherie Russell  
 Lynn E. Eberly and  
 J. Andrew Scherrer  
 Isabelle Dee Suminoe-Ku  
 Amber Tamblyn

**Wolf Enclosure Donations**

Catherine D. Brown  
 Robert Carlson  
 Barbara Chance  
 Rick and Lauren Coffman  
 Henry S. Crosby  
 Brian and Ellen Dietz  
 Nancy Gibson and Ron Sternal  
 J. Parker Hall  
 Johanna Goering  
 Deborah Ann Reynolds  
 Jolene and Gene Roehlkepartain  
 Twin Spruce Foundation  
 Nancy jo Tubbs

**Honorary**

In Honor of Blanka Glos  
 George Glos  
In Honor of Linda Landis  
 Northeast Utilities  
In Honor of Erik Nelson and Lisa Ledwidge  
 N. Paul Nelson

**Memorials**

In Memory of Ralph Bailey:  
 Walter and Dorothy Breckenridge  
 Susan R. Clark  
 William C. Hickling  
 Carol Hyder  
 Kathryn Kenyon  
 David Mech  
 Rolf and Candy Peterson  
 Loyd G. Schemenauer  
 Marion Sonderegger  
In Memory of Gus the Siberian Husky:  
 Michael and Rosalyn S. Jordan

In Memory of Nesbit Siekkinen:  
 Norma Arnold Butler  
 Mary D. McKelvey  
 Jean V. Ruth and Linda Vineyard

In Memory of Tom Speros:  
 Ben Agar and Julee Caspers Agar  
 Larry Anderson  
 Paul Anderson  
 Tom Dwight  
 Nancy Gibson  
 Neil Hutt  
 George Knotek and Diane Jensen  
 Terry and Sue Kuzma  
 David Mech  
 Walter and MaryBeth Medwid  
 Mary and Gene Ortiz  
 Rolf and Candy Peterson  
 Teri Williams

In Memory of Christopher Yearling:  
 Roland and Beryl Schmitz

**Matching Gifts**

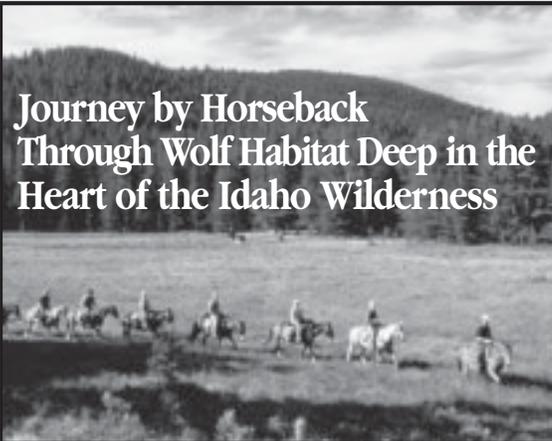
Grainger Matching Charitable Gifts Program

**In-Kind Donations**

Pine Cone Gallery Distributing

**Royalties**

Voyageur Press Calendar



**Journey by Horseback Through Wolf Habitat Deep in the Heart of the Idaho Wilderness**

- One night hotel stay, with meals
- Base camp in the wilderness with canvas cooktent and individual pop-up tents to sleep in for privacy.
- Fully prepared home cooked meals
- Trips begin in mid-July and end in late August

**Mile High Outfitters of Idaho, Inc.**  
 P.O. Box 1189, Challis, Idaho 83226  
 (208) 879-4500  
 milehigh@cyberhighway.net  
 visit our webpage at  
[www.milehighwolf.com](http://www.milehighwolf.com)



# Tracking the Pack

## Wolf Days of Summer

by Lori Schmidt, Wolf Curator

Have you heard the expression “Dog Days of summer”? Those hot summer days best spent lying on the porch? At the International Wolf Center in Ely, we have experienced the same behavior in our ambassador pack of wolves. The summer of 2001 will be remembered for the unusually hot daytime temperatures. As the mercury reached 90+ degrees, summer

visitors to the center asked “How do the wolves handle the heat, especially for Shadow and Malik? (the Arctic subspecies).

There are three main traits that allow wolves, and most other canids, to remain cool through the summer heat. The first is the pattern of shedding. There are two types of hair on a wolf, guard hairs, those long hairs that dictate the color of the pelt and the undercoat, tightly matted hairs that keep animals warm and dry. Beginning in early June, wolves at the Center begin to shed their thick undercoat. By mid-July, usually just the guard hairs remain. This summer, Malik, Mackenzie and Lucas completely shed their undercoat while Shadow and Lakota maintained a thick ruff of undercoat around their neck, called a partial shed.

Depending on a wolf’s geographic location and individual characteristics, a complete or partial shed may occur. Arctic wolves may partially shed, while Mexican

wolves shed completely. After a complete shed, the insulating effect of the undercoat is gone, allowing the wolves to be cooler. In contrast, by only partially shedding, a wolf can stay warm even if summer turns cold such as is often the case in the Arctic.

The second trait that helps



Ellen and Brian Dietz

Lucas naps in a cool comfortable bed of dirt and leaves in order to stay cool on a hot summer day.



Lucas pants to keep cool. Panting allows the tongue to remain moist and helps heat to escape through evaporation, which cools the wolf.

humans do, wolves pant. When panting, the tongue remains moist and allows heat to escape through evaporation, thus cooling the wolf.

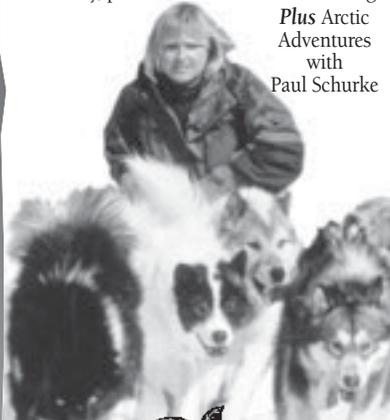
The wolf’s third trait that helps them remain cool is their tendency to remain inactive during the warmest part of the day, preferably in a freshly dug hole. This behavior best represents the classic “Wolf Days of Summer.” Thus on a typical summer day, the wolves at the Center will be sleeping in cool comfortable beds, attempting to keep their cool during the summer heat. ■

keep wolves cool is their ability to pant. Evidently it was more important for a wolf to keep warm in winter than cool in summer, since they have a thick coat with no sweat glands on their body; they only have sweat glands on their paws. So, instead of sweating like

*Mush Your Own Team*  
**DOGSLED VACATIONS**

- 3 & 4 night Lodge-to-Lodge Dogsled Tours
- Boundary Waters Dogsled Camping Trips
  - For all ages, no gear or skills needed
- Friendly, pure-bred Canadian Eskimo Dogs

Plus Arctic Adventures with Paul Schurke



**Wintergreen**  
 Dogsled Lodge  
 1101 Ring Rock Road • Ely, MN 55731

For 18 Years, America's Top Dogsled Trips Program  
 Directed by Arctic Adventurer Paul Schurke

For info: (218) 365-6602  
 For color brochure: 1-800-584-9425

# Wolves of the World

by Neil Hutt

## WOLVES IN SAUDI ARABIA

### A Struggle for Survival

Some 600-700 wolves survive in Saudi Arabia. Most of the known range of these wolves extends along

the Red Sea coast where their main prey are sheep, goats, chickens and garbage.

Because of the wide distribution and importance of livestock herding, wolves are not popular in Saudi Arabia. A survey in the recent "Distribution, Status and Conservation of the Wolf (*Canis lupus*) in Saudi Arabia", published by the King Khalid Wildlife Research Center, Saudi Arabia, and three cooperators shows that the only respondents expressing positive attitudes toward wolves included a biologist and some civil service

employees. The rest, mainly herders whose lives depend on livestock, cited damage to domestic animals as their reason for killing wolves. Interestingly, few of these herders expressed fear that wolves might harm humans. Some of them even described the wolf as a "strong and clever animal" with the power to keep away "genies", supernatural beings capable of assuming human and animal forms. "It is better," said a few of the herders, "to have some wolves around if they do not attack animals."

Nevertheless, wolves in Saudi Arabia have no legal status, and they suffer a high degree of direct persecution. A few herders admitted using poison, but most wolves are shot and their



*Left: Because of the wide distribution and importance of livestock herding, wolves are not popular in Saudi Arabia.*

*Above: Wolves in Saudi Arabia have no legal status, and they suffer a high degree of direct persecution.*

carcasses are often hung on trees. In addition to advertising the skill of the hunter, herders hope this practice will scare away other wolves. Pieces of liver, believed to have medicinal value, are sometimes extracted from the dead wolves.

If any wolf conservation initiatives are to succeed in Saudi Arabia, conflict between herders and wolves must be reduced. Most herders interviewed said they do incorporate measures to protect domestic animals. These include surveillance of grazing animals, pens to enclose animals at night, and the use of guard dogs. Nomadic herders do not, however, shelter their animals in effective enclosures.

Direct persecution no doubt takes a toll, although the wolf population continues to survive. The recent status report points out that much needs to be done in the way of a comprehensive approach to livestock depredation, the establishment of specific laws regarding wolves and other carnivores and education and public awareness.

## WOLVES IN GERMANY

### “A Delightful Cultural Event”

The first wild wolves in over 100 years have been born in Germany. The three pups belong to a pack of six wolves living on a military training site in eastern Germany near the Polish and Czech border. Wolves have been extinct in Germany since the 19th Century, and news of their return has caused what Oliver Matla, president of the German Wolf Association, described as a huge wave of euphoria.

Ranchers as well as environmentalists are excited. Dieter Tanneberger, president of the Society of Private Ranchers, called the discovery of the pack a “delightful cultural event.” Tanneberger is not worried about the wolves. Wolves are shy, he said, and they live in a very remote area. Nevertheless, the German Wolf Association is cautioning ranchers against believing there is no chance wolves will prey on livestock. “The attitude toward wolves is extremely positive,” Matla said, “but we all know how fast this can change to the extreme opposite.” The Saxon Ministry for Environment has announced it will make

compensation payments if the wolves kill sheep.

The presence of the pack is exciting news for conservationists who hope the wolf’s return will encourage the preservation of wild lands in Saxony, one of the few regions in Germany where wolves have a chance to establish a population. Meanwhile the Ministry for Environment has warned the public and the media not to enter the highly restricted training site. Every effort is being made to ensure that the wolves remain undisturbed while they raise their pups.

The German Wolf Association is contacting local forest service rangers

and hunting associations for information about sightings so estimates about actual wolf numbers can be made. Some sources in the region have said that wolves may have inhabited the area for several years, but these earlier reports are unconfirmed. Matla is cautious about making population estimates, however. “We have a few single commuting wolves that travel back and forth across the borders to Poland and the Czech Republic,” he said, “and this makes it even harder to make a good guess.”





Lynn and Donnie Rogers

**WOLVES IN NORWAY**

## Another Wolf Hunt Underway

Norway's winter wolf hunt, reported in the Summer 2001 issue of *International Wolf*, was conducted between February 10th and April 6th, 2001. The hunt spurred harsh criticism around the world. E-mails protesting plans to kill 10 wolves were sent to the Norwegian Directorate of Nature (DN), and conservation organizations filed lawsuits. Wolf supporters in Norway formed groups of singing skiers and conducted noisy dog sled races to disrupt the hunt. News crews arrived to film the events, and travelers were urged to avoid the rural townships of Stor-Elvdal and Rendalen as well as the eastern Norwegian community of Koppang as vacation destinations.

Despite the outcry, 9 of the 10 wolves in the Antdal pack were shot by licensed hunters at a final cost of \$331,200. The 10th wolf, affectionately named Martin for the Norwegian wolf conservation campaigner and race rally driver Martin Schanche, managed to escape the helicopters and the team of trackers authorized to exterminate the pack.

Anders Bjarvall, Swedish representative to the World Conservation Union's Wolf Specialist Group, reported that in late April, 2001 the

number of "family groups" in southern Scandinavia had been reduced from 12 to 10. He noted also that the number of territorial pairs had increased from 4 to at least 5. Bjarvall estimated the maximum Scandinavian population at 84-100 wolves with a maximum of 64-78 in Sweden where local biologists believe that at least 200 animals are needed to sustain the species.

The summer of 2001 began quietly, but in early July at least 20-30 sheep were killed in the township of Rendalen in the area of another wolf pack, the Koppang/Rendalen pack. Authorities reported an additional 100 sheep missing.

In response, the DN issued permits to kill up to 4 wolves in the Koppang/Rendalen pack by July 30, 2001. According to John Linnell, Research Ecologist for the Norwegian Institute for Nature Research, no wolves had been killed as of the last week in July. Linnell pointed out that hunting in summer is almost impossible because monitoring is mainly based on snow tracking.

Meanwhile, the mayor of Rendalen claimed the government had done little to combat the growing wolf problem despite the hunt last winter. Leonhard Mikalsen, team leader of the winter hunt, disagreed. "It is a difficult job," Mikalsen said. "Wolves are smart and have good instincts."



# BIG LAKE WILDERNESS LODGE

## AND OUTFITTERS

**Come join us at Ely's finest full-service wilderness resort — the most remote drive-in lodge in northern Minnesota.**

- Fully modern, squeaky clean housekeeping cabins
- Fully outfitted secluded island campsites
- Family activities; knowledgeable, friendly staff
- Minnesota DNR top-rated walleye lake
- Abundant wildlife; spectacular fall colors
- Daytrips and overnights into the BWCAW
- Nestled in the Superior National Forest
- Weekly area orientation and fishing seminar
- Pontoon boat, kayaks, paddle boats, playground, sauna

**Call, write or e-mail for a free brochure**  
**Big Lake Wilderness Lodge**  
**P.O. Box 359, Ely, MN 55731**  
**info@biglakelodge.com**  
**www.biglakelodge.com**




**WOLVES IN THE  
UNITED STATES**

## The Last Best Place?

The southern Rockies ecoregion covers an area nearly the size of Maine. Falling principally in Colorado, it extends from northern New Mexico to southern Wyoming and includes vast tracts of public land with abundant prey for wolves. Biologists maintain that the region can support at least 1,000 wolves. The Southern Rockies Wolf Restoration Project (SRWRP), representing 17 member groups, recently released opinion poll results indicating that the majority of residents in Colorado, Arizona and New Mexico (66% of those polled) support wolf restoration in the southern Rockies.

A panel of scientific advisors to the SRWRP (including International Wolf Center board members Dave Mech, Rolf Peterson and Mike Phillips) has written a joint letter to

Secretary of the Interior Gale Norton, Colorado Governor Bill Owens and New Mexico Governor Gary Johnson. The letter outlines the objectives of the proposed recovery effort and requests a meeting to develop a plan. In addition, the SRWRP will involve input from local people including ranchers and from organizations like the Colorado Cattlemen's Association and the New Mexico Farm and Livestock Bureau.

But numerous obstacles will have to be overcome if the SRWRP is to succeed. First, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) is reluctant. USFWS points out that the successful reintroduction of wolves to the northern Rockies already ensures the species' survival in the 48 contiguous states. Secondly, Colorado's governor and the state wildlife commission have voiced opposition to the return of the predator to this portion of its former range. Furthermore, critics say, the opinion poll was funded by environmental groups and failed to show opposition by farming and ranching

citizens. In addition, Tom Compton of the Colorado Cattlemen's Association claims that heavy summer use of the state's backcountry makes Colorado "a poor place for wolves." Finally, Colorado legislators last year prohibited the state wildlife agency from spending money to reintroduce any species.

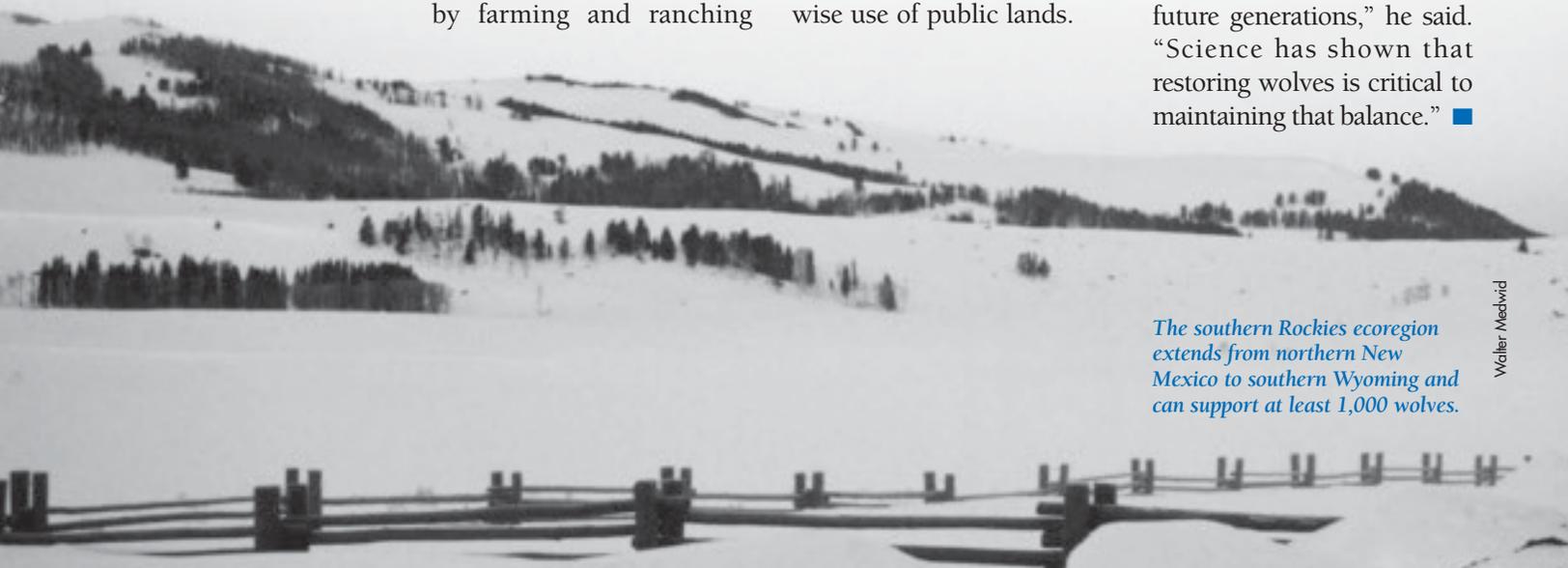
If the SRWRP is to go forward, one key to success will be a management plan that includes a public livestock-depredation compensation program as well as expansion of private compensation programs such as the one offered by Defenders of Wildlife. Another key would be a plan to track and control problem wolves. The Turner Endangered Species Fund has said it would fund such a plan. For their part, livestock owners would have to heed the increasing demand by taxpayers that ranchers take more responsibility for wise use of public lands.



Waverley Taylor

*The majority of residents in Colorado, Arizona and New Mexico support wolf restoration in the southern Rockies.*

Tom France, National Wildlife Federation's Northern Rockies director is optimistic about the SRWRP. "Protecting wildlife such as wolves and the wild places they call home will provide important educational opportunities for people throughout the southern Rockies," he said. Turner Endangered Species Fund director Mike Phillips agreed. "We all want to see the balance of nature restored in the southern Rockies for our own and future generations," he said. "Science has shown that restoring wolves is critical to maintaining that balance." ■



Widder Medwid

*The southern Rockies ecoregion extends from northern New Mexico to southern Wyoming and can support at least 1,000 wolves.*

# Personal Encounter

## Ellesmere Island-in search of wolves at the top of the world

by Walter Medwid, Executive Director

The thought of my returning to Ellesmere Island triggered a wave of visual images about this most unique and inspiring landscape of Canada's High Arctic. Even though I wouldn't be returning to the National Park portion of the Island where I had backpacked in 1997 and 1998, the idea of again visiting the northern edge of lifeforms, a place with some of the most magnificent, artful and geologically intriguing landscapes where I could assist with a classic fifteen-year study of an arctic wolf family by renowned biologist Dave Mech, had me excitedly tracking down my heavy winter gear weeks early. I took the trip as both an honor and a rare privilege to camp for two weeks amongst the musk oxen, the tundra hummocks, the spectacular alpine flora and hopefully, any survivors of the now famous wolf family of Ellesmere Island. Dave's research on this pack

began in 1986 and has continued ever since—a long-term study of wildlife that is more the exception than the rule. His studies and observations there have produced a new level of information and understanding about the wolf.

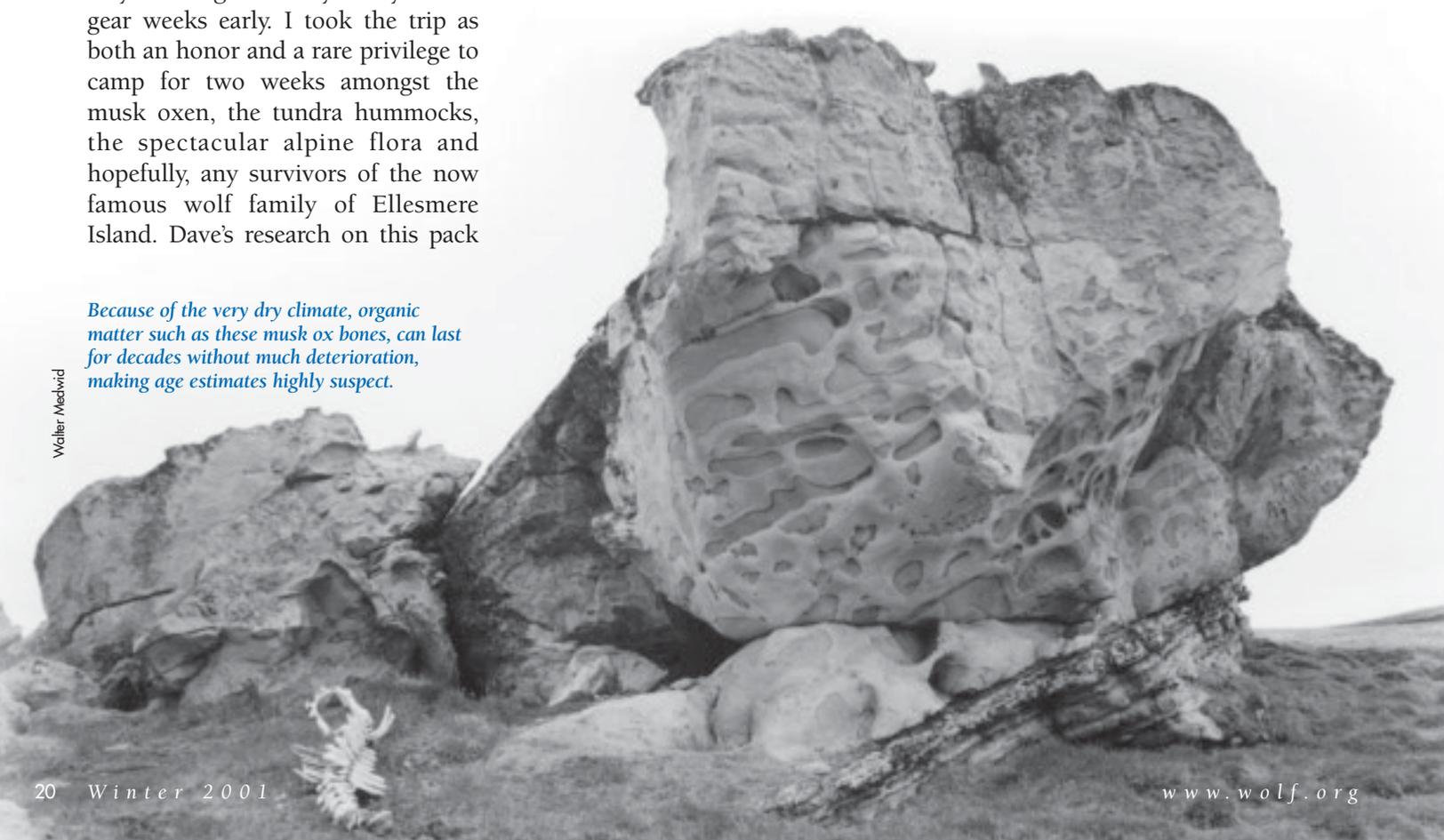
Bleak and barren. One gets the impression that the High Arctic landscape is just that while flying over in a small aircraft. Fellow passengers included several 55-gallon drums of aircraft fuel, cardboard boxes of food, and camping and research equipment all strapped together in "first class."

Smoking was definitely not allowed and if one were to be so foolish, the hazards to one's health would increase substantially! Down below, ice choked every waterway, and the only signs of summer were the narrow leads of water spearing the frozen surface dotted with distinctively sculpted icebergs that could have served as substitute Rorschach images. The land exhibited a range of subtle colors, but the overall impression was one of inhospitability, extreme remoteness and lifelessness.

Stones flew as the fat "tundra tires" of the plane taxied to a dusty halt. Off went our supplies and equipment, and soon we were making plans to set-up camp, cache food supplies and begin the search for signs of wolves. On the ground, a new and slightly different set of

*Because of the very dry climate, organic matter such as these musk ox bones, can last for decades without much deterioration, making age estimates highly suspect.*

Walter Medwid





Walter Medwid investigates a former wolf den site (above) and (right) enjoys the breathtaking view of Canada's artful and geologically intriguing landscape.

Photos by Dave Mech



impressions takes over. First there's the strong, cold winds coming off the fjord and then the surprising visual array of arctic flowers liberally sprinkled over portions of the rolling landscape, which by the way could be viewed for miles as no trees obstructed the view. Arctic poppy, Arctic dryad, heather, and purple saxifrage gave evidence to the narrow zone of plant life that existed sandwiched between the desert conditions above and the permafrost below. Actually there were lots of trees, specifically Arctic willow that, while numerous, grew to a height measurable only in fractions of an inch rather than feet. Their branches literally hugged the ground and avoided any attempt at height. As far as wildlife was concerned, we made no sightings in the first couple of days. However, the numerous tracks (mostly musk oxen and at least one fresh set of wolf tracks) and the numerous droppings gave proof that they were certainly around. Nevertheless, because of the very dry climate—a polar desert—organic matter including bones can last for decades without much deterioration, thus making age estimates highly suspect. Another enticing element of this

landscape was the presence of numerous marine fossils and petrified wood that made the search for fresh wolf tracks that much more of a challenging treasure hunt.

The mystery and the chief suspect of why we were not seeing more wildlife unfolded over our first few days of searching the area. We encountered several winter-killed musk oxen (eventually we would find 17 carcasses) whose bone fat content was exhausted. It was difficult to view the remains of the adults, but the dead calves were a particularly sad sight as one's mind imagines what their last days would have been like. Further evidence of a particularly harsh winter was the extremely low number of arctic hares (our count was less than a dozen), and the complete absence of leverets (young hares). In previous years, musk oxen and hares numbered in the hundreds. With little or no prey available, the wolves either died or moved on to parts of the island that may not have experienced quite so harsh a winter. The one creature that seemed to weather the winter well was the arctic fox. They visited our camp and were

regularly seen on our exploratory hikes. Perhaps the lemming population was in an upward swing fueling the fox population.

Our search of three former wolf den sites proved fruitless as far as fresh signs of wolves were concerned. But while we were disappointed, that emotion was overshadowed by something else. I will confess to feeling that I was on hallowed ground at the dens...especially the one featured so prominently in Dave's two books on the arctic wolves. Replaying the pictures from the books of the adult wolves and the pups, finding bits and pieces of bone left over from previous and countless meals taken at the site (one bone from that same spot was carbon dated at over 800 years old), and knowing that through a very long period in history this special spot was home to generation after generation of some remarkable animals, this alone made the lengthy trip a dream come true. Similar feelings arose while searching another traditional den site that I nicknamed the grotto. It had a rock garden feel

*continued on page 21*

**The Brat Pack**  
 paper print  
 limited edition  
 of 750 signed  
 and numbered  
 14"x32"  
 \$85.00



**The Guardians**  
 gicleé print  
 on canvas  
 edition of 75—  
 only 7 left  
 20"x26"  
 \$225.00,  
 \$295.00 framed



## Images of wolves by C.J. Conner

**Misty Morning Trio**  
 Gicleé print  
 on canvas  
 edition of 75—  
 only 20 left  
 14"x 28"  
 \$225.00



**In the Shadows, summer**  
 Gicleé print on canvas, edition of 200  
 18"x24" \$225.00

**NEW RELEASE**

**In the Shadows, winter**  
 Gicleé print on canvas,  
 edition of 200  
 18"x24" \$225.00  
 On paper, signed and numbered  
 edition of 475  
 16" x 20" \$65.00



**Woodland Wolves**  
 signed print on paper 16"x20" \$55.00

## C.J. Conner Art Studio

P.O. Box 102 Chetek, WI 54728



**(715) 353-2938**



**www.cjconner.com**

All prints available framed and matted 9"x12" \$25.00

## Personal Encounter

*continued from page 21*

about it, and the alpine heather was especially luxuriant there. Both sites commanded impressive panoramic views of the surrounding landscape—had that been a factor for the site selection committee?

I should add here that on one of our extended hikes, we discovered another dramatic outcropping of rock high on a mountainside. While this was not home to wolves, the significant build up of white streaking on several rocky ledges, and a few telltale white feathers at the base, indicated that this too was an historic nesting site of Ellesmere's only nesting raptor, the gyrfalcon. Like the wolf's spectacular panoramas, generations of gyrfalcons have begun their life overlooking a landscape that could challenge a school of landscape artists.

Visiting these historic sites had a profound impact on me for reasons that elude me. Perhaps it was that only a handful of people has ever walked this ground or that in our culture we are surrounded by such rapid change and that these sites spoke to the centuries. Maybe it was that, here, natural forces—as brutal as they might be—were the controlling influence on these animals whereas in so much of the world human influences play such a significant role with so many species. Regardless the reason, these sacred sites are indelibly etched in my mind.

For certain, to watch wolves in this setting and over an extended period would have been a highlight of my life. I can only imagine what it would be like for these wolves to go about their business while I watched their every movement from up close. The pictures in the books will have to do. And while I experienced a bit of disappointment about missing that



*Left: Flowers such as Arctic poppy, Arctic dryad, heather, and purple saxifrage are found sprinkled over the rolling landscape.*

*Below: Evidence of a particularly harsh winter was the extremely low number of arctic hares and the complete absence of young hares.*

Photos by Walter Medwid



experience, for a very brief moment I was a part of a unique environment that is home to rare arctic wolves, polar bears and musk oxen, and birds that have traveled thousands of dangerous miles to nest under precarious conditions; an environment that once was a rich tropical forest, that hosted ancient peoples who left many visible reminders of their presence, and where glaciers and permafrost and the tilt of the earth create the rules for all life. I could hardly have asked for more. ■

## Enjoy four seasons of fun at **Northland Lodge!**



*"A touch of class in the Northwoods"*



### **Northland Lodge offers you the privacy, beauty and seclusion you dream of!**

We provide a fishermens paradise in a family setting with deluxe log lakehomes, two person whirlpools, fireplaces, groomed sand beach, screened decks and free children's activities.

Located on fabulous Leech Lake in north central Minnesota, come to enjoy miles of skiing or snowmobile trails, biking, area museums and history centers, golf—or to just sit and read a book!

**Visit us at beautiful Northland Lodge**  
*"A place where time is measured in memories, not minutes"*

Warren and Linda Anderson  
**Northland Lodge**

Walker, Minnesota  
1-800-247-1719  
[www.andersonsleech-lake.com](http://www.andersonsleech-lake.com)

# Book Review

## The Wolves of Minnesota, Howl in the Heartland edited by David Mech

by Pat Goodmann

Different authors who are all, including editor/author Dave Mech, field researchers, contributed chapters to this book summarizing briefly the history of wolf recovery and research in Minnesota and what problems are likely to shape the futures of these activities. This is a large format book with lots of pictures and will be of immediate use to people who have started to take an interest in conservation and ecology or a specific interest in wolves. It will also be of use to people who want the experts' ideas of the problems wolf conservation faces in the twenty-first century. The book is relatively slender, but the

authors all give good summaries of general information on wolf biology, ecology, and conservation. Readers can get a quick overview of a variety of topics and then consult the references for a more scholarly, in depth plunge, into specific topics. I strongly recommend that school and public libraries get this book—it has answers to a lot of questions we get from school children seeking help with term papers and similar projects.

The book is brightened throughout by a generous sprinkling of color pictures and colorful anecdotes, such as Mech describing how he paid a trapper \$100 out of his own pocket so the trapper would allow him to release a wolf from the man's trapline, after he fitted it with a new radio collar. When the same trapper later caught another radio collared wolf, it was too much of a fiscal nightmare for the U.S. Forest Service and the "Forest Supervisor Craig Rupp issued a special order protecting wolves on all federal land within the boundaries of the Superior National Forest" (p. 20), or in the last chapter (p. 114) when he describes what to do when a state legislature offers you a million dollars for a

project near to your heart. (Accept. Promptly. Then negotiate later for the larger amount they originally mentioned.) Or the amusing situation in chapter 8, where Steve Fritts deals with the still-thorny question, why manage wolves instead of letting nature balance itself. He talks about the problems his team faced when he and his team were in charge of driving off or catching wolves who had started to prey on livestock. They tried non-lethal methods of predator control: "We hung surveyors' flagging on fences and trees in an attempt to mimic Europeans' use of similar 'fladre' to funnel wolves while hunting them. Farmers laughed and cows ate the flagging." (p. 94) They also tried strobes and sirens, taste aversion, and encouraged the farmers to use guard dogs. He says the only consistently effective method was trapping and euthanasia of depredating wolves.

Though the book's focus is wolf research and conservation in Minnesota, author-editor Mech does range afield in giving a quick sketch of wolf research in the twentieth century. Sigurd Olson, whose early studies sparked an interest in wolf conservation, Young and Goldman, authors of *Wolves of North America*, Adolph Murie, whose book *The Wolves of Mt. McKinley*, is still a classic. Mech states that later studies of wolf social behavior have not so much corrected Murie's work as refined it and added details. Milt Stenlund started using planes to follow and study wolves in Minnesota, and on Isle Royale, Durward Allen was studying wolves and nurturing a number of promising young biologists. (Readers who would like to know more about this period before the book's editor dispersed from The Island should read Dr. Allen's book *Wolves of Minong*. Dr. Allen was not only a hands-on field biologist, but also an



accomplished writer whose prose is a pleasure to read.) Reminiscing briefly about his time on Isle Royale, Mech remarks that the more he saw of the Isle Royale wolves the more he wondered how wolves on the mainland were organized. When done with grad school, Mech dispersed and he found Minnesota. As he says on page 42, "it was only natural that I should settle in Minnesota."

One of the reasons I am buying this book for my own library is that it is a book with good scientific credentials, but in a "popular" style

*...it is a book with good scientific credentials, but in a "popular" style...*

that is not at all dry. It gives the latest thoughts, in clear thumbnail sketches, on wolf social behavior (packs are not primarily hunting units), hunting behavior (wolves can learn to take strange prey whether it is bison or livestock in the "bizarre surroundings" of barns and paddocks), dispersal patterns (long distance dispersers extend wolf range while others keep a low profile waiting for a vacancy in the existing territories) and it says in so many words that while wolves may take mice and other small prey, they do not live on mice alone (die annoying factoid, die). Another reason is that it contains a very nice chapter by Fred Harrington, whose work I have long admired, and that of two biologists, Russell Rothman and Roger Peters, whose work on wolves' scent marking and mental maps of their territories were invaluable to me as a master's degree candidate.

By the end of the book the reader will have a more than a nodding acquaintance with this animal known as "wolf" and also with the problems of conserving the species in the future.

Unlike some popular works, the authors and editors all have a hands-on acquaintance with the subject that is only gained through years in the field. Though this book is not among those which I have, on occasion, commanded readers to buy, it is one that I recommend that they get as a readable summary of wolf conservation progress and problems. ■

*(This review was originally published in the 2001/One issue of WOLF! Magazine, a quarterly publication of Wolf Park, in Battle Ground, Indiana. For more information go to [www.wolfpark.org](http://www.wolfpark.org))*

Pat Goodmann is the head research associate at Wolf Park where she has studied wolf behavior in Wolf Park's captive pack for 25 years.

## Unique Northwoods skiing... with distinctive comforts.



### GUNFLINT LODGE

*In this unspoiled wilderness setting we've created a tradition of providing every accommodation to make your vacation filled with as much adventure or relaxation as you wish. The environment which surrounds you is one of incomparable beauty and richness. The atmosphere that pervades it is wilderness elegance and home-away-from-home comfort. We invite you to make Gunflint Lodge your place in the northwoods.*

- Lakeside cabins with saunas, spas, fireplaces
- Gourmet dining
- Dogsledding
- Ski rentals & lessons



### BEARSKIN LODGE

*Winter is a very special time of year in the north country. It comes early and stays late. At its best, it's served up cold; perfect for cross-country skiing. Experience the quiet solitude, gliding over a carpet of white. Tree boughs droop under the weight of freshly fallen snow. Moose, usually shy creatures, are frequently seen foraging for food. The ski trails start right at the Lodge, and are marked, expertly groomed, and tracked.*

- Lakeside cabins and lodges with fireplaces
- Dining & Gift Shop
- Free group ski lessons
- Hot tub and sauna




- See our website for packages -

### GUNFLINT LODGE

1-800-328-3325 1-218-388-2294  
[www.gunflint.com](http://www.gunflint.com)

- NEW Dogsledding Program -

### BEARSKIN LODGE

1-800-338-4170 1-218-388-2292  
[www.bearskin.com](http://www.bearskin.com)

# News and Notes

**WOLF DELISTING** in the western US may have just been expedited by the discovery of a new breeding wolf pack in Idaho, the Gold Fork Pack, 10-15 miles NE of McCall, ID. This makes 30 packs known to have bred in Idaho, Wyoming, and Montana in 2000, thus starting the official countdown of 3 years during which at least 30 breeding packs bred. Eligibility for delisting wolves in this area from the Endangered Species List would come in December 2002, assuming the trend continues.

**A WOLVES E-MAIL NETWORK** is a new interactive project of the National Wildlife Federation for "wolf activists involved in NWF's wolf recovery efforts from around the country." To receive free highlights of NWF's efforts toward wolf recovery, e-mail [soper@nwf.org](mailto:soper@nwf.org).

**"WINTER HUNTING PATTERNS OF WOLVES** in and near Glacier National Park, Montana" is the name of a just-published technical article by Kyran Kunkel and Daniel H. Pletscher in the July 2001 *Journal of Wildlife Management*. The article analyzes the winter hunting

habits of wolves in areas inhabited by deer, moose, and elk.

**WOLF GUARDIANS** are doing just that in the Sawtooth Mountains of central Idaho. A group of volunteers, organized and equipped by Defenders of Wildlife, are helping save wolves by trying to prevent them from preying on sheep in the back country. The Guardians hope to scare any wolves off that get the idea that sheep might be suitable prey. If wolves were to kill the sheep, they would be subject to lethal control by the government.

**WOLF PUPS GALORE.** A minimum of 76 in Idaho and 67 in the Greater Yellowstone area have been accounted for, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service believes there were about 200 born this spring to an estimated 400 adults in the northern Rockies. The Service's weekly report about these wolves can be viewed at [www.wolf.org](http://www.wolf.org).

**WOLF POISONERS BEWARE!** A \$20,000 reward has been offered "for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible for illegally poisoning endangered gray wolves in central



Lynn and Donna Rogers

Idaho." Four wolves were confirmed poisoned by compound 1080 in Idaho, and Defenders of Wildlife and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service have posted the reward. Contact Special Agent Paul Weyland, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at 208-378-5333 with any pertinent information.

**"THE RETURN OF THE WOLF:** Reflections on the Future of Wolves in the Northeast." This new book of essays edited by Bill McKibben, John B. Theberge, Kristin DeBoer, and Rick Bass (Middlebury College Press, \$24.95) discusses possible wolf reintroduction to the northeastern U.S. as well as the complex biological and social issues involved in such an attempt.

**WOLF FRIEND MOVES ON.** Hank Fischer, the Defenders of Wildlife's Northern Rockies representative who conceived the innovative idea of private organizations paying compensation for wolf depredations on livestock, has left that position "to work more independently, to get involved with a wider variety of partners, and to engage in those projects that interest me most." Fischer intends to continue working for the conservation of large carnivores. ■

*Nothing Compares To The Thrill And Excitement Of  
Driving Your Own Dog Team*



- Lodge to lodge • Ice fishing • Base camps
- Camping trips throughout the heart of the Boundary Waters Wilderness Area
- Enjoy our spring trips in the far north - Churchill on Hudson's Bay and beyond

**White Wilderness Sled Dog Adventures**  
Box 727 • Ely, MN 55731  
800-701-6238 • 218-365-6363

# Wild Kids



## Back from the Brink

By Andrea Lorek Strauss,  
Information & Education Director

In the year 2000, scientists estimated that at least one species of plant or animal goes extinct every 20 minutes—that's 26,280 species that disappear every year!

The Endangered Species Act is a U.S. law passed in 1973 that identifies and protects plants and animals in danger of extinction or threatened by extinction in the foreseeable future. When a plant or animal is placed on the list of endangered or threatened species, the USFWS makes plans to protect that species from disappearing forever.

In this issue of *International Wolf*, you can read about the Mexican Wolf and efforts to ensure its survival in the wild. The Mexican Wolf is a subspecies (one type of) gray wolf (*Canis lupus*). The other types of gray wolves are not as close to extinction, but they have been exterminated from most areas where they used to live in the United States.

One of the reasons why wolves no longer live in ecosystems where they used to roam free is because people moved in and changed the

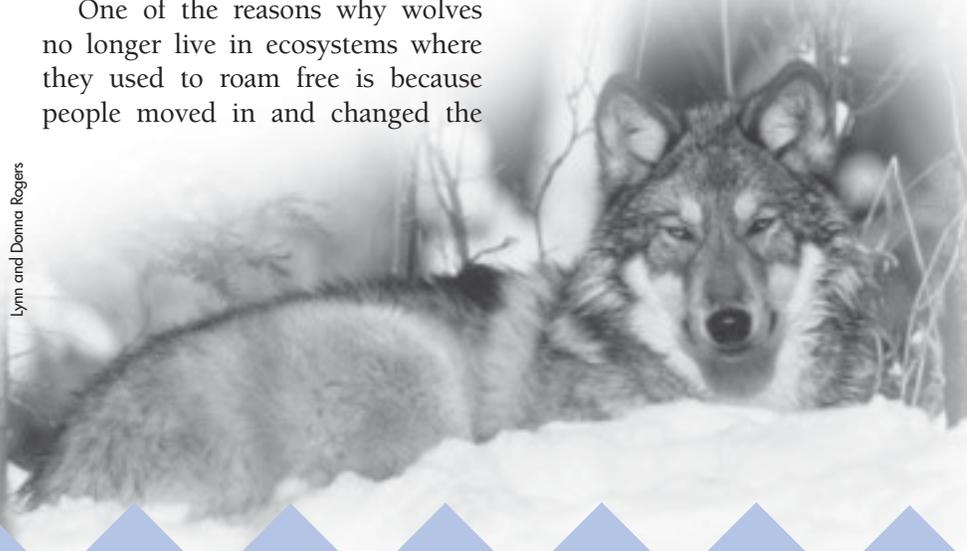
ecosystem. For example, wolves used to inhabit all areas of Minnesota, but when cities and farms were developed, wolves could no longer live in those areas. In addition, people feared wolves, so they shot and poisoned them to get rid of them.

The tables at right contain information about how populations of humans and animals have changed since the 1700s. Make a chart of the data and ask yourself:

- What trend do you see in animal populations over time?
- What trend do you see in human populations over time?
- How might animals and humans affect each other to cause these changes?
- Do you predict the trends will change or stay the same in the next 100 years?
- What could be done to change the direction of the trends? ■

*This activity and more can be found in the International Wolf Center's new Wolf Management curriculum for students grade 6 – adult. To obtain a copy of the activity guide and instructions for the on-line workbook, e-mail office2@wolf.org or call 1-800-ELY-WOLF, ext. 25.*

Lynn and Donna Rogers



### U.S. POPULATION

Year	millions of people	Year	millions of people
1790	.....4	1920	.....110
1800	.....5	1940	.....136
1820	.....9	1960	.....180
1840	.....19	1980	.....230
1860	.....28	1990	.....249
1880	.....54	2000	.....281
1900	.....80		

### WORLD POPULATION

Year	millions of people	Year	millions of people
1650	.....550	1850	.....1210
1700	.....610	1900	.....1630
1750	.....760	1950	.....2520
1800	.....950	2000	.....6200

### US/CANADA MAMMAL AND BIRD EXTINCTION

Year	Total species extinct	
	BIRDS	MAMMALS
1700-1799	0	2
1800-1899	20	6
1900-1980	39	33

### WORLD MAMMAL AND BIRD EXTINCTION

Year	Total species extinct	
	BIRDS	MAMMALS
1600-1649	3	2
1650-1699	9	5
1700-1749	13	8
1750-1799	17	16
1800-1849	39	21
1850-1899	87	43
1900-1949	152	102

Source: *Gray Wolves, Gray Matter, 2001, International Wolf Center, pages 78 – 81.*

# A Look Beyond

by Joyce Weldon

I had been working with my students K through 6, at Dogwood Elementary School for over 10 years regarding the wolf. Dogwood Elementary is located in Smithtown on Long Island in New York state. My students were surprised to learn that, at one time, wolves had lived, not only in the western states, but also on Long Island. In fact, in Islip, just five miles from Smithtown, there was a 1683 law stating that “Whatsoever Christian shall kill a grown wolf on Long Island, he shall be paid twenty shillings.” My students appreciated the proximity.

I educated the students about the plight of the wolf and showed them how they could bring about change. The students brainstormed issues such as Yellowstone, delisting, Red and Mexican Wolves, and the place the wolf could take in our own northeast.

During the years, students organized a Wolf Walk for good health and to raise money for wolf conservation. Letters from Dogwood students, have reached the desks of presidents, members of congress, the governor of New York and United States Department of the Interior officials, in direct responsibility for the wolf’s fate. Students’ letters in support of wolf reintroduction have appeared in International Wolf, Audubon and Defenders of Wildlife magazines, as well as local papers.

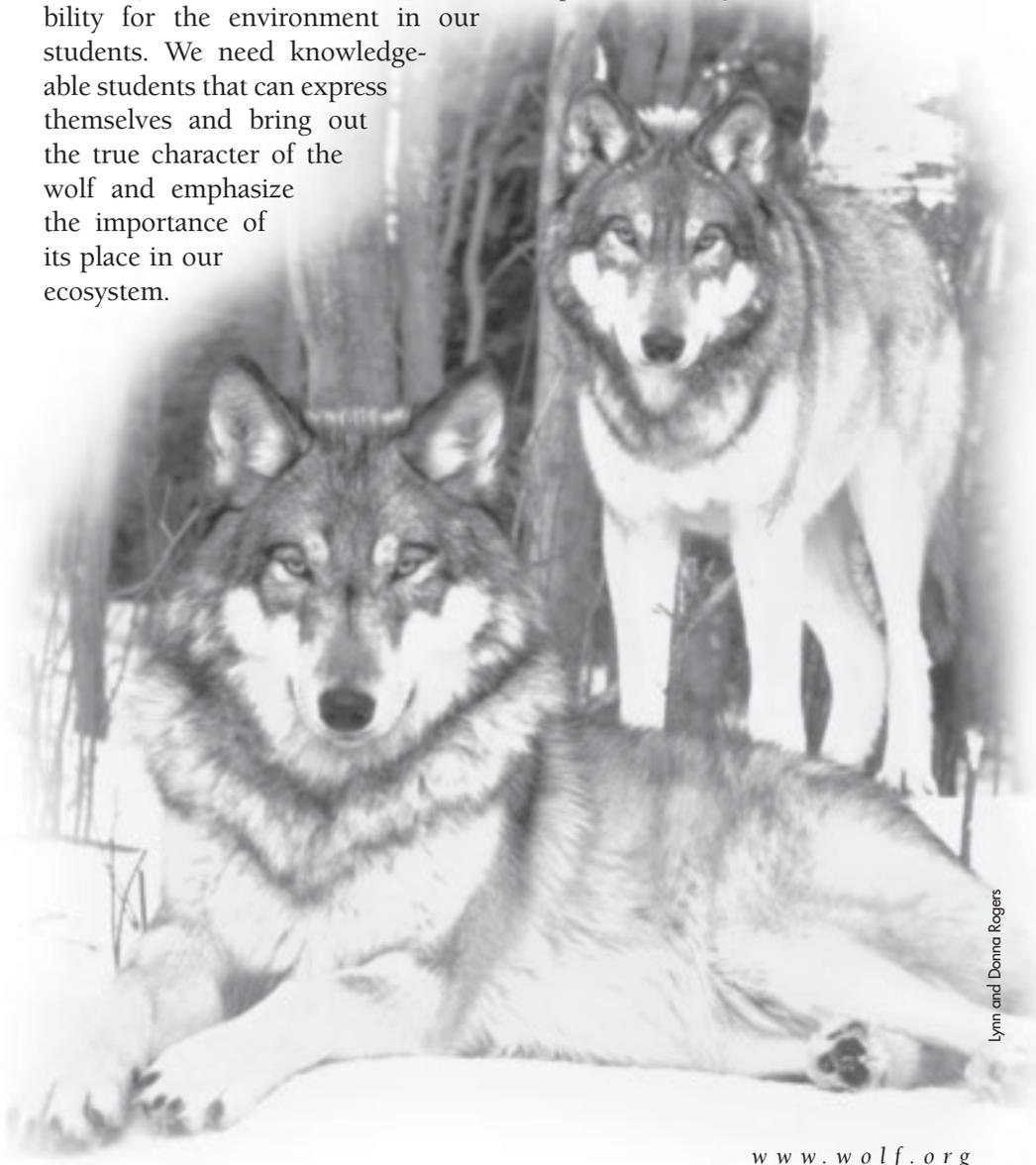
In honor of the students’ letter writing, a flag was flown on New York’s Capitol Hill and the United States Environmental Protection

Agency presented each of our children with a special award because of their tireless efforts on behalf of the wolf. They also participated in Imagine Yellowstone, an art project. Some of their work is exhibited in Yellowstone.

The most important lesson that our children have learned through this project is that even small voices can be heard. By integrating this program into the curriculum, we are instilling early on a sense of responsibility for the environment in our students. We need knowledgeable students that can express themselves and bring out the true character of the wolf and emphasize the importance of its place in our ecosystem.

The entire planet is ours and the wolf is a symbol of wildness and deserves its place. The Adirondacks are waiting to hear their first wolf howl in over 70 years. If it does happen, it will be in no small part that our children have willed it. ■

*Joyce Weldon recently retired as a teacher for 27 years at Smithtown School District, Smithtown, New York, USA. Joyce feels the environment and its creatures (with a special emphasis on the wolf) are important to everyone.*



Lynn and Donna Rogers



*Your gift  
for wolves can  
last beyond a lifetime.*

Photo by Lynn and Donna Rogers

**THE ALPHA  
LEGACY PROGRAM**  
*recognizes the generosity  
and foresight of individuals  
who have included the  
International Wolf Center in  
their wills or other estate plans.*

To learn more about making a gift through this program, please contact Walter Medwid, Executive Director, International Wolf Center, 3300 Bass Lake Rd., #202 Minneapolis, MN 55429

**763-560-7374**  
wmedwid@wolf.org



**International Wolf Center**  
Teaching the World About Wolves



*Run with the* **Wolves**

The whole family can show support for wolves by sporting the International Wolf Center "running wolves" logo on these rugged, but stylish sweatshirts and shirts. Distressed logo in dark navy against updated background color from nature's outdoor palette. Pigment-dyed, 100% pre-washed cotton. These clothing articles make great "can't miss" gifts. Colors: willow, yam, mustard

**Overize Sweatshirt**  
available in adult sizes only  
M, L, XL, 2X (L is 45" at chest)  
#2235 **\$42.95**

**Short-sleeve T-shirts**  
ADULT SIZES: S, M, L, XL, 2X  
(L is 42" at chest)  
#2179 **\$16.95**  
YOUTH SIZES: 6/8, 10/12  
(10/12 is 32" at chest)  
#2219 **\$12.95**

**Low-profile cap**  
Colors: yam, cactus.  
Fits heads to 24"  
#2229 **\$12.95**

**Visor with adjustable  
hook and loop closure**  
Colors: yam, khaki.  
Fits heads to 24"  
#2227 **\$12.95**



**International Wolf Center**  
Teaching the World About Wolves

To order, call **1-800-ELY-WOLF**, ext 25 (1-800-359-9853) or shop **www.wolf.org**

# They won't forget the year you gave them a wolf for the holidays.

As a member of the International Wolf Center you are **concerned about the wolf** and the fate of wildlands on our planet. You know the feeling you get every time another issue of *International Wolf* arrives in your mailbox, the **satisfaction of doing your part** to see that the wolf continues to have its place in the wild long into the future.

Why not share those feelings with friends and family? **Make them a member of the pack this holiday season.**

The International Wolf Center wants to make it easier for you to spread the word about the wolf and give **a meaningful gift** that will be enjoyed long after the holidays.

Call **1-800-ELY-WOLF**, ext.25, (218-365-4695) or visit **www.wolf.org** and have a gift membership sent in your name anywhere in the world in time for the holidays.



**International Wolf Center**  
Teaching the World About Wolves



**International Wolf**  
3300 Bass Lake Road, #202  
Minneapolis, MN 55429-2518

Remember to shop [www.wolf.org](http://www.wolf.org) for your holiday gifts!



NONPROFIT ORG.

U.S. Postage

**PAID**

Permit #4894

Mpls., MN