

W.O.L.F.



A Tale of Two Rescues
How to Help Wolves: Know the Facts
Colorado Gives Day is Back!



Letter from the Director



Dear Supporters:

There is a nip in the air and the change in seasons has begun. The kids are frisky and looking forward to snow. We smile and laugh as we watch them play and run crazy with cool weather glee. There are two new youngsters on the block, Trigger and Spartacus. They're 7 months and 3 years old, full of boundless energy and have become the best of brothers; see their stories within.

Colorado Gives Day is December 9th. Last year you helped raise almost \$35,000! This year is an exciting new opportunity! We have a supporter who is challenging all of us to raise over \$80,000! They will match dollar for dollar up to \$40,000! When we reach this goal (notice I said "when" and not "if") we will have a greater chance to win \$Thousands more with matches from the Community First Foundation and FirstBank. See details in the newsletter.

As you may have read, W.O.L.F. filed for a Chapter 11 Bankruptcy on October 7, 2014. The filing was part of a larger financial reorganization for W.O.L.F. that began over two years ago when I became Executive Director. As our supporters know, the Sanctuary has been repeatedly whacked by Mother Nature with the High Park Fire and last year's unprecedented flooding. While our fundraising has remained strong, these events were a serious financial drain on our assets. In addition, we have started the complicated process to move the Sanctuary to higher ground where we can develop a more stable infrastructure and provide additional safety and security to our animals and staff. In order to accomplish these goals and put the Sanctuary on a financial course that is sustainable over many, many years, W.O.L.F. made the decision, as part of that larger reorganization, to file for Chapter 11 Bankruptcy. This type of bankruptcy is not a dissolution or liquidation of the organization, but an opportunity to move forward with a court-approved financial reorganization.

During the court proceedings, W.O.L.F. will continue its ordinary operations without interruption. The Ch. 11 action will allow W.O.L.F. to restructure its debt with the assistance of the Bankruptcy Court and provide a stable and sustainable plan for the future. To follow W.O.L.F. through this process, you can create an account at www.pacer.com with Case Number 14-23662 EEB. Once you create this account, you can keep up-to-date as the case moves through the reorganization process. W.O.L.F. will come through this Ch. 11 process as a stronger and more viable organization that can withstand the vagaries of Mother Nature and whatever else life has to throw at us. As Executive Director, I ask for your patience and understanding as we move through this debt restructuring phase and make the financial changes that will help our organization grow for many years to come.

Please remember W.O.L.F. this holiday season. We have a lot of new merchandise that will make wonderful holiday gifts. To provide gifts for W.O.L.F., please go to Amazon.com, click on the Wish List icon on the far right of the menu bar and search for "W.O.L.F. Sanctuary". As always, your financial support is much needed to continue to lovingly provide compassionate and diligent care for the animals we so love.

Happy Holidays! May your dreams come true and may your heart be filled with happiness, love and peace.

As always, humbly and gratefully yours,

Shelley

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Cover Photo: Rajan



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Exciting news! Donate to W.O.L.F. December 9th through the Colorado Gives Day website and your donation will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$40,000!



IRS Tax Exempt Status Under Section 501(c)(3)
Colorado Nonprofit & Tax Exempt Corporation
United States Department of Agriculture, Licensed
Colorado Department of Agriculture, Licensed
Colorado Parks and Recreation, Licensed
Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries, Accredited
American Sanctuary Association, Accredited
Community Shares of Colorado, Member

Mission: To improve the quality of life for all wolves and wolf dogs.

Strategic Objectives:

- Rescue** - Save captive-bred wolves and wolf-dogs whose guardians are no longer able to care for them.
- Sanctuary** - Provide a lifelong home at W.O.L.F. that takes into account each animal's physical and emotional needs.
- Education** - Provide the public with information about wolves (both wild and captive) to help foster a greater understanding of them and their value.

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Celebrating 20 Years!

When:

May 30th, 2015
5:00PM to 9:00PM

Where:

The Hilton
425 West Prospect Road
Fort Collins, CO 80526

See You There!



It is because of your dedicated support that W.O.L.F. has been able to care for abandoned and neglected wolves and wolf dogs for 20 years. In celebration of this we are revamping our annual Waltz for the Wolves gala. Mark your calendars and be sure to attend our "A Truly WOLF Affair: Mardi Growl Masquerade" Auction Gala on May 30th, 2015 at the Hilton in Ft. Collins, CO.

With food, music, and entertainment this is sure to be a celebration to remember, so bring your masks and be prepared for a grrreat time!

Just in Time for the Holidays

If you are looking for a gift for someone that will be more than just another 'thing' this holiday season consider giving a gift they will cherish while supporting a great cause!

Once again our 12-month calendar will brighten anyone's home or office with stunning photos and fun anecdotes about the animals featured each month. Or check out the beautiful jewelry of White Wolf Gifts featuring photos of our wolves. And don't forget the one-of-a-kind gifts from Wild and Wolfy -- hand spun and knitted items made from our wolves' naturally-shed fur! You are sure to find something for everyone on your list.

Go to www.wolfsanctuary.net/store.html to view all of our wonderful new items. But remember to hurry -- orders must be placed by December 10th to be received in time for Christmas!

And for those friends and family who don't want material things consider getting them a gift membership to W.O.L.F.! It is a great way to help the Sanctuary and give a loved one a meaningful gift that will last the entire year.

Not a member yourself? There is still time! Purchase or renew your membership today and your 2015 calendar is free!



A Tale of Two Rescues

W.O.L.F.'s Rescue Coordinator was contacted in August 2014 by a woman who impulsively purchased a very young, high content wolf dog pup from an ad in the paper by an unscrupulous breeder. By the time Trigger was five months old, it was very clear to his owner that he was not an appropriate family pet. She loved the little pup and had a very strong bond with him; however, after doing extensive research on wolf dogs, she realized that Trigger would never be happy or healthy in her home. Trigger



had already eaten part of a wall and she was forced to keep him in a wire kennel in her bedroom while she was at work. She was still able to keep him confined in the kennel, but knew that shortly he would be able to eat his way through the containment. He enjoyed playing with her other dog but the play could eventually turn to dominance and endanger the more mature dog. Trigger's owner made the difficult decision to try to find sanctuary placement for her beloved pup.

Sanctuary placement is very difficult to locate. There are so many animals in need and so few placements. However, she contacted W.O.L.F. with the hope that help would be available. As luck would have it, W.O.L.F. did have space to take Trigger. The owner provided extensive information about the pup, photographs and

videos as well as medical information and W.O.L.F. made the decision to accept Trigger into Sanctuary.

On a lovely fall morning, Trigger and his owner arrived at W.O.L.F. She was able to assist with his placement in an enclosure and tour the facility to see where her baby boy would live the rest of his days. She was extremely lucky that WOLF was able to take Trigger. Now he has

his forever home at the Sanctuary and his former owner is welcome to visit him as often as she can.

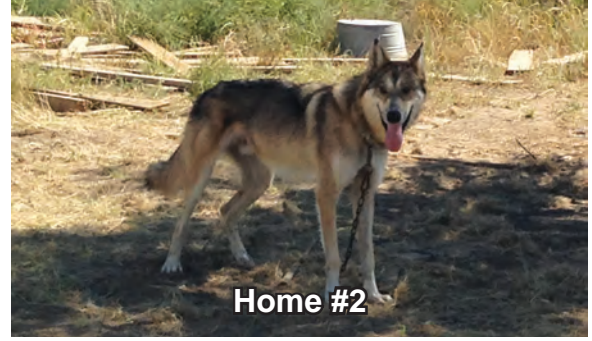
At first we thought to try Trigger as a companion for Sasha, but she made it very clear right from the beginning that she was not interested in raising another puppy despite Trigger's attempts to win her over. With that potential pairing scratched off the list we moved onto our second choice, Pax. Pax was unsure about what to do with Trigger but was surprisingly tolerant of Trigger's puppy antics and pleas and we became hopeful that Pax would accept the role of friend and mentor for Trigger. Unfortunately, Pax never warmed up to Trigger, often ignoring him or actively trying to avoid him in the enclosure. We were devastated. Trigger was such a sweet, shy little boy in desperate need of a friend and playmate. Luckily, it seemed like the answer to our problem was just across the pond...





And another tale – with a different twist. The frantic call came to W.O.L.F. headquarters on a hectic Monday morning in September 2014. A wolf dog named Spartacus was in danger of being shot. Amazingly, the call was from one of the owners. Spartacus had attacked one of their goats and the husband was threatening to shoot the wolf dog if he was not immediately removed.

Spartacus, only 20 months old, had already been through two homes. As incredible as it may seem, the first home was with the owner of a day care facility who purchased him from a breeder as a pup. Spartacus lived his life at the end of a chain. After Spartacus



accidentally scratched the arm of one of the day care children he was rehomed.

When family #2 took Spartacus, life was not much better for him. He was once again chained to a tree in a dirt yard with no house or shelter and had the chain collar around his neck. The family could not afford to adequately feed Spartacus and he grew very, very thin and malnourished. The tips of his ears were eaten away by fly strikes and his family, not knowing any better, used motor oil on his ears to repel the flies. Spartacus spent a summer rubbing his ears raw and growing thinner by the day. The heat was unrelenting and he dug a hole in the ground to try to stay cool and find a bit of shade. His owners could not afford any veterinary care so he did not receive shots, heartworm tests, or medical attention of any kind.



W.O.L.F. quickly jumped into action and posted the wolf dog on our Rescue Network. No other sanctuary or private placement in his vicinity was

able to take Spartacus. W.O.L.F. spent a day analyzing the situation and potential placements for him, and then made the decision to go and get Spartacus and bring him home to W.O.L.F.

Spartacus arrived at the Sanctuary late on a Friday night, four days after the initial call for help. He is now safely in his forever home at W.O.L.F. Spartacus will never be chained again. He will always have high quality food, companionship, and expert medical care. This young wolf dog, who was so close to a very sad and untimely demise, is now living the life he always deserved. This is the mission of W.O.L.F., to rescue, provide lifetime sanctuary, and educate the public



about the plight of wolves born in captivity and forced to live life on chains because they are not appropriate family pets.

Spartacus is an insatiably social individual, both with humans and wolf dogs, and did not handle his initial isolation at the Sanctuary well. While we had him quarantined to make sure he had no diseases and was healthy enough to put in with our animals, he would howl continuously when people weren't there to pepper him with love and attention. Much to the dismay of the overnight caretakers, his foghorn-like howl would often echo through the canyon at odd hours throughout the night, usually just about the time they had finally gotten back to sleep (earning him the nickname "Tugboat").

The Tale Continues...It was shortly after we determined that he was healthy enough for a companion that we found ourselves dealing with Trigger being alone again, so we decided to try them together. Once introduced, Spartacus and Trigger began to play almost immediately. They chased each other and wrestled, and even slept in the same dog house together! It was truly wonderful to see them getting along so well.

Both Spartacus and Trigger are happy to have each other's companionship and Spartacus' obsessive howling has all but disappeared with Trigger's introduction. Spartacus' enthusiasm for people is helping Trigger slowly come out of his shell and he has been coming up to take a treat or two through the fence or sniff your hand. Of course, while Spartacus obviously is doing better with a companion, he is still somewhat obsessive about human contact and has been finding all sorts of creative ways to get it. That (along with his obsession for dominance mounting) has earned him yet another affectionate nickname..."Naughtius Maximus"!

We are thrilled that the boys are working out so well together and it is always a joy to watch them romp and play together. We are so thankful that these beautiful spirits were able to join us at the Sanctuary and look forward to many years with them.



Work Groups to the Rescue!

There is always a ton of work that needs to be done around the Sanctuary in the fall to prepare for the winter season. Final repairs need to be made in the enclosures, new terrace logs installed, trees trimmed and chipped into mulch, dog houses and fire dens cleaned and given fresh bedding, and a host of other chores. Luckily for W.O.L.F. fall is also the season of work groups and this year we have been blessed with an abundance of help. We are missing group photos for some of the volunteers, but we want to thank everyone for their extraordinary efforts and dedication!



OtterBox - Aug 18



OtterBox - Aug 19



OtterBox - Aug 20



OtterBox - Aug 21



OtterBox - Aug 22



OtterCares - Aug 28



OtterCares - Sep 15



Constant Contact - Sep 18



OtterCares - Oct 16



Make a Difference Day - Oct 20



Make a Difference Day - Oct 22



Make a Difference Day - Oct 23



Make a Difference Day - Oct 24



Make a Difference Day - Oct 24



AAN - Oct 26

The Wound and the Gift



On September 14th, our Executive Director attended the premier showing of Linda Hoaglund's documentary "The Wound and The Gift" at the Vancouver International Film Festival.

The film is described by its producer: "Narrated by Vanessa Redgrave, The Wound and The Gift explores the major transformation in our relationship with animals through the growing 'Rescue' movement. All over the world, people are saving the lives of animals that were bred for profit, abused, or sold on the black market. Millions of us are adopting dogs and cats from shelters, rather than buying pets from breeders and pet stores. Many people devote their lives to providing sanctuaries and shelters for rescued animals. By caring for wounded animals in need, we are learning just how much animals give back to those who care for them."

"The narrative spine of the film is an ancient fable about a wounded crane, saved by peasants, that attempts to express her gratitude with a gift. Scenes from the folktale weave together stunning real life footage of

rescued animals and their sanctuaries. As the fable and the film unfold, we cannot help but wonder, Who is saving who?"

W.O.L.F. is the first organization featured in the film: <http://www.thewoundandthegift.com/stories/>. The film is a beautiful portrayal of the sadness that our captivating residents often experience before coming to the sanctuary (The Wound) and the wonderful lives they now have with our family at W.O.L.F. (The Gift). Hoaglund and her crew filmed at W.O.L.F. on October 21, 2012. We were in total chaos because of the recent High Park Fire and the first of a series of flooding events. Despite this tumultuous time in our lives, Linda's crew was able to capture stunning video and audio for the film. Have your hankies ready for the tears as you see a number of our babies that have crossed over the Rainbow Bridge. It is heartwarming to see them again on film, living and enjoying their lives as they did at W.O.L.F., but also heartbreaking to know they are gone from this world.



Once Hoaglund recovers her costs for producing the film, she plans to share some of her profits with the featured organizations. Please support the film "The Wound and The Gift," which conveys two benefits for W.O.L.F. First is the educational benefit regarding the plight of abused, neglected animals and the challenges for rescue organizations like W.O.L.F. who provide "lifetime sanctuary" so that these animals can be nurtured, respected, and loved in a safe environment. Second is a financial benefit through your support of the film.

"The Wound and The Gift" will premier in New York in mid-November 2014 and in Tokyo early 2015. All of us at W.O.L.F. are grateful to Linda Hoaglund for featuring W.O.L.F. in this amazing documentary.





Reese & Outlaw

How to Help Wolves: Know the Facts

by Jay Mallonee

Wolves! Here is a subject guaranteed to ignite the emotions of many people. Some view them as perfect killing machines—relentless and ruthless. Others see wolves as nature's perfect animals, always in balance with their surroundings. As a research biologist, I have found that wolves are neither super-beings nor simple-minded organisms programmed by nature to react only through primeval instincts. Twenty years of research has taught me that wolves are quite different from what most people have imagined.

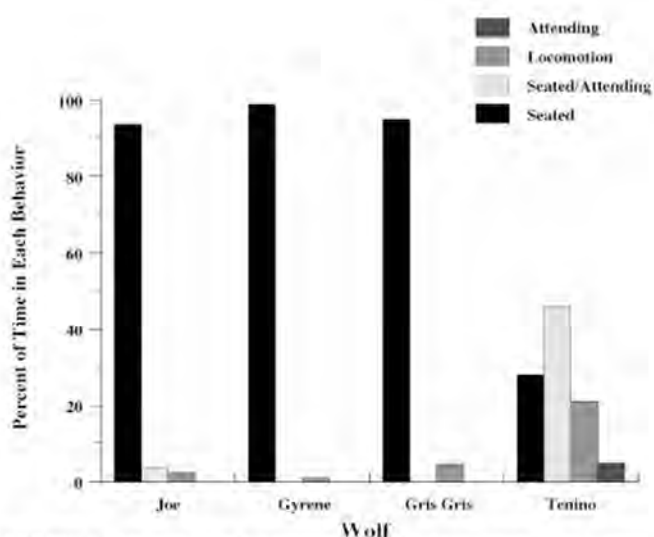


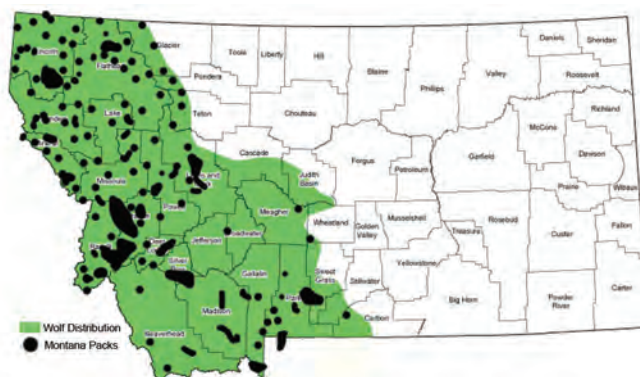
FIGURE 2 Hypervigilant behaviors observed in Tenino during rest periods.

Mallonee, J., Koslin, P. (2004). Traumatic stress disorder in an adult wild captive wolf. *Journal of Applied Animal Welfare Science*, 7(2), 107-126.

Science has revealed some of the intricacies of their social nature, intelligence, pack behavior and the complex relationship they have with their surrounding environment. When pushed to their physical and psychological limits, wolves can suffer emotional disorders similar to those observed in humans. One of the wolves I studied in captivity had come from the Ninemile pack in southwest Montana where she had been chased twice by wolf managers from a helicopter and darted each time. She was eventually placed into captivity where she was shot two more times with tranquilizers during escape attempts. By the time I arrived nine months later, she had developed post-traumatic stress, which I verified through scientific study. Therefore, wolves are emotional and sensitive creatures, which allows them to adapt to an ever-changing environment and maintain pack cohesiveness.

Wolf packs are a process in which all members participate, and these processes are linked in geographic regions to form networks. Such a widespread social system cannot be managed, at least in the traditional sense. Hunts cause harm to wolf populations by removing a large number of individuals in a short time and disrupting the population network, which already helps to control wolf numbers. Disruption can also result in continued wolf depredation on livestock and interfere with the daily complexities of pack continuity. This is because wolf packs act as family units year round, unlike other predators, such as cougars and bears which are solitary most of the year. Given the complexity of wolf society, how are they being managed, at least in Montana? Current techniques include management control actions, hunting by the public and behavioral conditioning. Killing is by far the primary method used to manage most wildlife and wolves are no exception. Why?

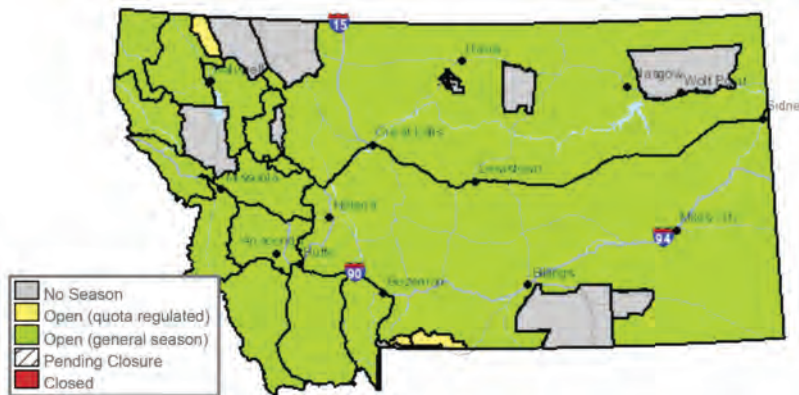
Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP), the agency responsible for managing wolves, claims that science is used when making management decisions. (<http://fwp.mt.gov/fishAndWildlife/management/wolf/population.html>)



2011 MT Wolf Pack Distribution

2014-2015 MT Wolf Harvest Areas

(<http://fwp.mt.gov/hunting/planahunt/huntingGuides/wolf/>)



systems and influence what diseases will be expressed, what grass species will grow, and the quality of both fresh and salt water. Given FWP's management policies, wolves are harvested for convenience and money, like corn. They do so with complete disregard to conservation and keeping ecosystems intact. It's just business. So what can you do?

Know the facts. Organizations, from government to environmental, fling numbers around to convince people of their agenda. Therefore, always ask, "Where did they get that information?" When it comes to Montana's wolves, there is only one source of population numbers: FWP. And, their numbers are flawed, as my paper demonstrated. So what is really happening? In this case, FWP is currently strapped for money and must continually look for additional sources of revenue. Profits from hunting wolves and other wildlife contribute, and they are making plans to sell conservation stamps to help fund wolf management. However, there is another problem. Over the past several years it has become more difficult for only five FWP biologists to count, or even sample accurately, the entire wolf population in Montana. Therefore, FWP has no idea how many wolves total live in the state. Nevertheless, they are required by the federal government to maintain a minimum population of at least 100 wolves that includes 10 breeding pairs. The remainder can be killed. But how many? Who's counting?

As of this year, FWP will use "... hunter observations as a cost effective means of gathering biological data to estimate the area occupied by

Harvest Limits and Quotas

Harvest Limits – The combined maximum hunting and trapping bag limit is five wolves per person during the 2014-15 season. Five wolves can be taken by means of hunting each with a valid wolf license. Trapping is authorized Dec. 15, 2014 - Feb. 28, 2015 with a valid trapping license and upon completion of a mandatory wolf-trapping certification class. Persons could take up to five wolves via a combination of hunting and trapping (maximum harvest of five wolves per person).

2014 MT Wolf Hunting Regulations Guide

(<http://fwp.mt.gov/hunting/regulations/>)

obtain "objective data" from the people who paid for the opportunity to kill wolves.

Data are the infrastructure of any scientific investigation and should be collected using a scientific protocol that controls for and eliminates as much bias as possible. Impressions about wolf abun-

However, in 2011, I published a peer-reviewed, scientific paper that examined the wolf population data collected annually by FWP. It showed that no protocols were used to collect their numbers, which invalidated their claim that science was used during the process. The paper also debunked their justifications for killing wolves in the first place. In fact, FWP ignores the available science that demonstrates how predators promote healthy ecosystems. From atop all food chains, predators produce far-reaching effects that ripple downward throughout eco-

2014 Season Dates



Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

These dates are provided only as a general reference. Check current regulations for specific dates. Visit our website @ fwp.mt.gov

2014 Big Game Seasons

Antelope	
900 series	Aug 15–Nov 09
archery	Sept 6–Oct 10
general	Oct 11–Nov 09
Bighorn Sheep	
archery	Sept 5–Sept 14
general	Sept 15–Nov 30
Bison	Nov 15–Feb 15, 2015
Black bear	
spring	Apr 15–Varies (May 15–June 15)
fall archery	Sept 6–Sept 14
fall	Sept 15–Nov 30
Deer & Elk	
archery	Sept 6–Oct 19
youth, deer only	
two-day hunt	Oct 16–Oct 17
general	Oct 25–Nov 30
backcountry – HD's 150, 151, 280, 316*	
archery	Sept 6–Sept 14
general	Sept 15–Nov 30
Moose	Sept 15–Nov 30
Mountain Goat	Sept 15–Nov 30
Mountain Lion	
archery	Sept 6–Oct 19
fall	Oct 25–Nov 30
winter	Dec 1–Apr 14, 2015

2014 Wolf Seasons

archery	Sept 6–Sept 14
general	Sept 15–Mar 15, 2015
trapping	Dec 15–Feb 28, 2015

* HD 316 does not have an archery season

wolves in Montana ... " according to their 2013 annual report. In August 2012, FWP conducted a survey of public attitudes towards wolves. In general, they found that Montanans were intolerant of these predators and dissatisfied with FWP for not doing enough to kill them, and allowing the public to do so. Hunting quotas have increased ever since, along with more relaxed hunting regulations. Now, as a basis for management policy, FWP wants to

dance from hunters is not science, because FWP has not controlled for bias during data collection. Instead, FWP claims they have a modeling system that will correct for bias. But this is after the data has been collected. Models are used by scientists to help interpret raw data but remain simplified reflections of reality, often devoid of the actual complexities involved. Therefore, data collection is paramount, because conclusions based on modeling are only as good as the quality of data being used. In other words, correct for bias *during* data collection rather than *afterward*. Once again, no science. After two decades of working with management organizations, I have learned that if you want to know what is happening with wolf management, follow the money.

If you find all of this disconcerting, please visit my web site (www.wolfandwildlifestudies.com), to find the scientific sources for the information in this article and a link to my petition to end the hunting and trapping of wolves in Montana. In it you will see email links to all the officials involved. Contact them and demand answers as to why the killing of wolves is necessary. Ask them, "Where is Jay wrong?"



Jay Mallonee is a research biologist with a master's degree in neurobiology/animal behavior. Through his business of Wolf and Wildlife Studies, he conducted a ten-year study of the Fish-trap pack in northwest Montana: the longest behavioral study of wolves in Montana's history outside of Yellowstone National Park. Previous studies have included wolves in captivity and a variety of cetaceans such as gray whales, bottlenose dolphins, harbor porpoise, Dall's porpoise, and orcas. He also taught college-level science courses for 15 years with an emphasis in environmental science and anatomy/physiology. Other courses included chemistry, ecology, biology, physical science, physiological psychology, developmental psychology, and wolf biology at Michigan Tech University. Along with scientific publications, Jay wrote the book *Timber - A Perfect Life*, an account of his sixteen-year relationship with a profound canine companion.

W.O.L.F. Awareness Night with the Denver Nuggets



To our supporters who are (or know) basketball fans, the Denver Nuggets are hosting an awareness fundraiser for W.O.L.F. on Friday, November 21st at the Pepsi Center in Denver, CO for their game against the New Orleans Pelicans! If you purchase tickets for this game, not only can you get discounted seats but \$5 of every ticket sold will be donated to the Sanctuary. There are also package deals available. Hurry and buy your tickets today at www.nuggetstix.com/wolf14 and come enjoy a great game while supporting W.O.L.F.!

Friday, November 21, 2014

7:00PM

**Pepsi Center
Denver, Colorado**

TICKETS

Corner Loge: \$50 (regularly \$98+ fees)

Club Corner: \$45 (regularly \$85+ fees)

Upper Corner: \$15 (regularly \$30+ fees)

For more information contact Trevor Cowan at 303-405-1693 or TCowan@pepsicenter.com

Interning at the Sanctuary

Internships are a great way to gain experience and in the field of animal care they are essential in finding a job. Experience is often more highly prized than education when one is looking for employment at a zoo, aquarium or sanctuary. Many organizations across the globe offer exciting internship opportunities for people to gain invaluable insights into the inner workings of animal care and we here at W.O.L.F. are excited to be one of those organizations.

This summer we were able to host two interns. They helped us with everything from daily chores and animal care to construction and maintenance projects through administrative tasks. Their help was invaluable to the Sanctuary and we asked them to share their experiences as an intern with you.



I first discovered W.O.L.F. on a website that listed reputable animal sanctuaries in the U.S. Even though there are two that have wolves in my state (Indiana), I decided that helping out one in Colorado sounded far more interesting. My first day there I realized how different W.O.L.F. was compared to the ones I was used to. The one here that has wolves only allows contributors that donate \$1,000+ to interact with wolves. The other one has a wide array of animals, but no one is ever allowed in with any of the animals in their enclosures. So meeting Outlaw in his catch area my first day

was a very different experience. I had previously had a lot of experience with wolves, bears, coyotes, and foxes so I was a great deal more excited than intimidated. Along with him I was able to bond with a fair amount of the other animals even though I only spent about 5 weeks interning.

There were always daily work activities to get done such as feeding, watering, and poop scooping. Once those were completed I would work on whatever else the full time staff required of me. Many of the days there were enough volunteers to do all the daily chores if I had something that was more time consuming to complete. Thursdays were spent working on the evacuation pens at an off-site location. There were a lot of readjustments that had to be done before the final enclosures had to be put up. I was glad to be of great help for this project after hearing about and seeing what the fires and floods had done to the area.

Family and friends loved hearing about all of my encounters with each of the different personalities. Many plan to volunteer next time they are in the area. The volunteers that live close enough should count themselves very lucky that they have the chance to interact so directly with the animals. Volunteer work at most sanctuaries is normally cleaning or constructing. The most interesting task is usually feeding. Keep in mind that there are always tasks like that when you are able to pet, groom, and visit the wolf dogs, because I would much rather hang out with the foxes I see here than spend countless hours setting up their six-walled enclosures.



-Nic Johnson, summer 2014 intern

I came to Colorado from Salem, Oregon in September 2013 for a change of scene and some new adventures. I had finished my Bachelor's of Art in Theatre, had lived in Salem all my life and wanted to try something new. After moving to Fort Collins, I began to seek out local activities and I was happy



but work required my full attention and I took a break for several months. W.O.L.F. was never far from my mind, and I jumped back in during last year's "Wolf Waltz Benefit" enthusiastically.

Volunteering at W.O.L.F. reawakened a strong interest I had let go of a long time ago; nurturing and taking care of animals. I had always been drawn to that type of work, being raised by animal lovers and having dogs all my life helped, but I was wary of the responsibilities of veterinary work as a youth so I never pursued the interest. But now that I had experienced how fulfilling animal care could be by volunteering, I knew I needed to find a way to turn this passion into a career. I had received a group email from the sanctuary's Volunteer Coordinator, Amelia Wieber, about the internship program W.O.L.F. was offering. I knew students pursuing animal care would have precedence, but I responded expressing my interest in hopes that I would be accepted, regardless of lack of experience. Again, I was overwhelmed with the warm acceptance given to me by Amelia and was given a part-time internship position over this past August and September. Having volunteered up at the Sanctuary a few times, I felt comfortable jumping in and was eager to learn.



It was so exciting driving up to the canyon the first day of my internship, I had never taken anything on like this before and I was curious what I would learn. My first lesson was that animal care went far beyond understanding behavior and anatomy. You need to work at being a fully capable person, willing to work hard, get dirty and adapt to new situations. All excellent challenges that I was happy to discover made me even more invested and excited to start a career in animal care. My first project was helping staff members Bob, Michelle, my fellow intern Nick, and another volunteer put up a new chain link fence to repair an enclosure. I had never done anything like this before and I was treated with patience and attention while learning. I was sweaty and tired after a long day, but felt invigorated and fulfilled instead of drained. I was glad for the new challenges I had taken on; they were helping me realize an important truth about myself -- that regardless of how hard the work, every bit is worth it to help the animals.



As the month went on, I was taking on new responsibilities and gaining invaluable experience from the staff and residents every day I spent at the sanctuary. I helped with preparing and delivering meats, grooming the residents, mowing lawns and understanding the importance of dependable facility maintenance, how to fund an animal sanctuary and reach out to sponsors, and I learned fascinating facts about animal behavior and was happy to discover that I even found poop scooping enjoyable. Being out in nature

and working off the grid has its unique challenges, but I found that the environment inspired me instead of becoming a deterrent. I had discovered that all my previous fears were unfounded, that there were other career options available to me as an animal lover and that this was the kind of work I had been seeking. Taking care of animals and helping them live a happy existence is what I want to do with my life and the W.O.L.F. Sanctuary staff and internship helped me realize this wonderful truth. I still volunteer and will continue to help however I can while pursuing more experience and education in animal care. I encourage any student looking for experience or any animal lover to participate. You have the privilege of learning for free from a very talented staff and the W.O.L.F. Sanctuary gets some much needed help. A win for all involved, the best kind of result!

-Alyssa Magee, summer 2014 intern

W.O.L.F. is always taking in new volunteers and interns. Our internship opportunities are a minimum commitment of six weeks and can be part-or full-time experiences. This is a great opportunity for college students or recent graduates to gain hands-on experience working with wolves and wolf dogs, managing a sanctuary and maintaining an off-the-grid facility. All internship opportunities are unpaid and the participants are responsible for providing their own room and board. Having a reliable source of transportation is strongly recommended, although W.O.L.F. can offer some assistance with transportation needs to and from the Sanctuary. Those interested in our internship or volunteering opportunities can email our volunteer coordinator, Amelia (awieber@wolfsanctuary.net).

A Slap in the

In August we received what seemed to be an innocent message from Facebook informing us we had been flagged for posting inappropriate and offensive material. The message stated that we had to respond

to the message by logging in again and answering a few questions. This is how the hackers stole our site. The next day when we logged in to our account we were denied access, but the page could still be seen by our followers.

We immediately notified Facebook via email since that is the only way to contact them. Before long the hackers began posting sexually explicit pictures and cartoons. Many supporters were upset, but unfortunately there was nothing we could do except tell them to stop following the page. We created a new page so supporters could relocate to that instead of losing them completely. We contacted Facebook every day, and so did our supporters. After two weeks, the hackers began posting pictures of our own animals to trick our followers into thinking we had the page back! It was at this time we contacted the FBI and reported what we now considered stolen identity.

Two days later, without any explanation, our page was back under our account. We merged the two pages, keeping the new one as the main page since we worried about what might be lurking on the old site. All of our supporters can be relieved to know they will be seeing only W.O.L.F.-related material on our Facebook page and that we now only respond to emails from Facebook. We are so grateful to have our beloved page back!



Volunteer Spotlight



Sarah Arnold is this quarter's volunteer spotlight! She has dedicated countless volunteer hours, most notably at tabling events. She has a warm smile and friendly disposition that draw many people to our table. Sarah keeps them there, captivated by her knowledge and passion for wolves and W.O.L.F. Sanctuary. She is sometimes at events from set up to closing, guiding current volunteers and recruiting new ones. We are so grateful for Sarah's dedication, we don't know what we would do without her!

What do you do for a living and/or fun?

I'm a Denver native who enjoyed many jobs while exploring the resort towns through Idaho, Wyoming and the Colorado high country with Jeff and our (then) two dogs. Since being back in Colorado and settling in to Ft. Collins, I work for the natural and holistic pet food industry. This is something I really enjoy - helping pet guardians be the best parents they can be to their dogs and cats. This has brought me in touch with many contacts in the rescue world. Part of my job is to spread the word about proper nutrition at many adoption events and fundraisers. I have helped donate thousands of pounds of food to needy pets across Colorado and Wyoming.

I couldn't think of a better day than going for a sunny hike with Jeff and our dog, Basil, and relaxing on the patio with some good music and a cold local beer! For fun I enjoy live music, Joe Pickett and other western mystery novels, Pedro Almodovar and other foreign films, spending time with my family, and anything involving being outside.

When did you start volunteering for W.O.L.F.? Why?

I started volunteering for W.O.L.F. August 2013. My masters thesis was about the feasibility of reintroducing wolves to the Southern Rockies ecosystem and I have always been passionate and involved in the protection of wild wolf populations around the world, and especially the West and Southwest. Volunteering for W.O.L.F. is such a privilege, and just another way to educate the public on wild wolves and wolf hybrids and help these beautiful animals that are so misunderstood. Having hands-on experiences with our resident animals is life changing. I have learned firsthand what I have read for years in textbooks concerning body language, personalities, and behavior.

What is your favorite thing to do when you volunteer?

I love to feed the animals their daily meat! They get so excited and happy when they hear the roar of the ATV full of raw goodness! It makes you feel good to see them relax with full bellies after all the hoopla. Tabling events are also a lot of fun. It is rewarding to share with people what a wonderful place W.O.L.F. is and educate them about the problem we have with captive wolves and wolf hybrids. Meeting such dedicated and kind people is an added bonus to being a volunteer. I have gained new friendships and shared such wonderful stories and experiences with people I would otherwise never have met!

Who is your favorite wolf or wolves?

Kasota, Matoskah, Hachi, Mucqua and Renata - I am a sucker for the old ones and the underdogs. We can learn so much from such wise old souls! Isabeau - she represents everything wild! Bella Roux - just because she is such a gentle sweet girl!





Support us on
Colorado Gives Day
Tuesday, December 9
online at ColoradoGives.org/WOLF
New! \$1 Million Incentive Fund
And Remember...
100% of all donations given
online December 9th come
directly to the Sanctuary!!

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Colorado Gives Day is Back!

Last year's fundraising goal was \$25,000 but with your outstanding participation we raised over \$30,000! On top of that, enough people participated that we earned an additional \$4,500 in prizes. This year we are again asking for your help in shattering last year's record and raising \$80,000 for the wolves and wolf dogs in our care.

You may be thinking this is a lofty goal, but don't be discouraged, for we have a secret weapon. One of our supporters has generously agreed to match every donation made on Colorado Gives Day dollar for dollar **up to \$40,000!!** In addition, 100% of every donation made online to W.O.L.F. on Tuesday, December 9th starting at 12AM will come directly to the Sanctuary, and this year FirstBank has increased their incentive fund by 300%, making it one of the largest in the country!

What does this mean for W.O.L.F.? It means that we will receive a portion of FirstBank's **one million dollars** (\$1,000,000!!) incentive fund based on the percentage of donations we receive out of the total money raised for all the participating non-profits that day. And if we are in the top ten percent we will be awarded \$10,000. In summary, the more ***you*** donate to the Sanctuary on December 9th, the more money we will receive from FirstBank!

Even if you don't live in Colorado you can still donate on December 9th through the Colorado Gives Day website. What is even more exciting is you can schedule your donation **today** and it will automatically be charged for you on the 9th, so there is no need to remember to make the donation that day! To schedule your donation in advance simply login and begin the donation process. After you enter an amount, check the box that says "Schedule a donation for Colorado Gives Day 12/9/2014".

In addition to the one million dollar incentive fund, FirstBank is once again offering \$100,000 in cash prizes, and you can help W.O.L.F. win! Simply like FirstBank's Facebook page to participate in a trivia competition twice daily (8AM & 1PM) from December 1 - 5. Each winner will have \$1,000 donated to the registered charity of their choice! Go to www.facebook.com/efirstbank to participate.

If we raise more money this year on Colorado Gives Day than we did last year, W.O.L.F. will automatically be entered into the Luck-of-the-Draw Prize contest for a chance to win \$5,000!

Help us reach our goal! Visit www.coloradogives.org/WOLF
on **Tuesday December 9th, 2014** starting at 12AM



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W.O.L.F.

Fall 2014

W.O.L.F.



Your support makes what we do for the wolves in our care possible. Thank you for helping us thrive over the years. Your dedication and compassion are an inspiration to all of us here at W.O.L.F.

*Wishing You
Joyous Howlidays
and a Prosperous
New Year*

The Wolves, Volunteers,
Directors & Staff

Want to keep up to date on the happenings at the Sanctuary? Follow us online to find out about upcoming events, learn more about the animals in our care, or simply enjoy the videos and photos.



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