

W.O.L.F.



SPRING 2024

Sanctuary Update

Gala Recap

Wolf Interviews

Tribute to Reese

Wyoming Story



W.O.L.F.
SANCTUARY
Wolves Offered Life & Friendship

ON THIS COVER: CREE



W.O.L.F.

SANCTUARY

Wolves Offered Life & Friendship

- IRS Tax Exempt Status Under Section 501(c)(3)
- Colorado Nonprofit & Tax Exempt Corporation
- United States Department of Agriculture, Licensed
- Pet Animal Care Facilities Act, Licensed
- American Sanctuary Association
- Community Shares of Colorado, Member

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

- Rescue** - Save captive-born wolves and wolf dogs in need and find them appropriate placement at a Sanctuary or other qualified site;
- Sanctuary** - Provide a lifelong home at W.O.L.F. in a natural habitat that takes into account each individual's physical, medical & emotional needs;
- Education** - Provide the public with education about the plight of wolves and wolf dogs (both captive-born and wild) to help foster a greater understanding of them and their value.

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Letter From The Director

Dear Friends of W.O.L.F. Sanctuary,

I am delighted to share some exciting news and updates from W.O.L.F. Sanctuary this spring. I reflect on our recent successes with great joy and gratitude and look forward to spring's promise.

First and foremost, I am thrilled to announce that our recent gala was a resounding success! Thanks to the unwavering support and generosity of individuals like you, we surpassed our fundraising goals, ensuring the continued well-being and care of the magnificent animals under our stewardship. Your contributions have made a tangible difference for residents; we are profoundly grateful.

Speaking of our residents, I am delighted to report that they continue to thrive in our new sanctuary environment. The dedication of our staff, volunteers, and supporters has created a haven where our wolves and wolf dogs can flourish, experiencing the freedom and love they so richly deserve.

Looking ahead, we have some truly exciting events on the horizon that promise to deepen our connection with the NOCO communities. From educational workshops and volunteer opportunities to some fun events to be announced, there are countless ways to get involved and support our cause. I invite each and every one of you to join us on this journey as we work together to protect and preserve these magnificent creatures and their habitats.

In closing, I want to extend my deepest gratitude to each of you for your continued support, dedication, and passion for our cause. Your unwavering commitment inspires us; together, we can ensure a brighter future for wolves and wolf dogs.

As always, gratefully and humbly yours,

- Shelley Coldiron, PhD

Red Feather Update

From Laura Davis, Senior Director of Operations

Spring has arrived at the W.O.L.F. Sanctuary, and it's our busiest time of year for getting projects completed while we have nice weather. It is also when we are fortunate to have most of our work groups at W.O.L.F. to assist with these projects. Your support and assistance are crucial to our success, and we are grateful for your continued dedication to the animals that we serve. Several facility improvements are on our list to complete or at least get a good start on for this spring, summer, and fall, including:

"Dog" Houses

We are building our newly designed dog houses to provide additional shelter for our residents. Materials for the first doghouse will arrive in mid-May. Kieran and Kyah will be the first residents to have a doghouse and will be good candidates to test our design!

Cement Wheel Stops

We will place cement wheel stops in the front of each deck pen to deter our residents with an affinity for digging! These wheel stops will also allow us to create steps in some anterooms with steep inclines at the entry points.

Solar Panels

We will design and place solar panels for the generators that heat the water buckets during the winter. Thanks to generous donors, we procured and used the generators for a good portion of this winter. The next step is installing the solar panels so the generators can charge in place.



While we were not able to raise enough funds to purchase a second ATV for the Sanctuary, we were able to identify an affordable alternative. W.O.L.F. purchased an ICON golf cart designed for use on dirt roads and more rugged terrain than standard golf carts, allowing staff to transport people where they are needed at the site.



Rock n' Howl wasn't just any gala – it was a milestone celebration marking our move to Red Feather Lakes. It was an unforgettable evening filled with laughter, music, and, most importantly, support for our beloved Sanctuary. Supporters from near and far gathered at the Hilton Fort Collins to join in the festivities and show their dedication to our cause.

Thanks to the incredible generosity of our attendees, sponsors, and donors, we are proud to announce that we netted \$110,000!

The evening was filled with memorable moments and entertainment for all. From line dancing lessons with the rocking tunes of the Jukebox Boys to capturing fun memories in our photo booth, attendees enjoyed every moment of the festivities. Our candy store and wolf tattoo station added to the excitement, providing something for everyone to enjoy. The highlight of the evening was undoubtedly our silent and live auctions, featuring an array of exclusive experiences in Vail, Cabo, Yellowstone, and beyond.

Thank our dedicated volunteers, sponsors, donors, and everyone who came out to celebrate with us. Your unwavering support made Rock n' Howl a truly magical and unforgettable event.





Ashima - Female

Birthday: April 11, 2017
Given Sanctuary: June 16, 2017
Companion: None
Guardian Angel: Laura Davis
Lifetime Defender: Laura Davis



Likes: Ashima loves to observe the activities at the Sanctuary from her spacious habitat. Sometimes, you will find her just observing from her perch on top of the rock outcroppings in her habitat. Other times, she loves running the fence lines, following staff when they are in the ATV doing chores, or walking along to greet some of her fellow residents who are being walked. She thoroughly enjoys the attention she receives from being an 'official greeter' for staff, volunteers, and visitors who can't resist petting her at the fence.

Dislikes: Being left when her favorite people have been in her habitat to visit with her.

Fun Fact: Ashima is a master den builder! She excavated a den in her habitat below a rock outcropping that is so clean it looks like it has been swept.

Personality: Ashima is beautiful inside and out. She is playful and vigilant at the same time and definitely has a mischievous side. She loves the attention she receives from staff and volunteers, and they love her right back! Everyone who sees her at the Sanctuary comments on how beautiful she is. She has amazing intellect and is quite adept at capturing corvids that have the misfortune of thinking they can outsmart her.

Yuki - Female



Birthday: December 23, 2018
Given Sanctuary: June 23, 2020
Companion: None
Guardian Angel: Bri Hinchliffe
Lifetime Defender: Donna Crosman



Likes: Yuki loves keeping vigil over her neighbors, Tenali and Zakai, and strives to keep them in line! She constantly runs the fence line with them, which is how she keeps her girlish figure, even though she is well known for her robust appetite.

Dislikes: Being fed after her nemesis Tenali and Zakai get their food. She must be fed first!

Fun Fact: Yuki means snow in Japanese.

Personality: Yuki loves to be active. She is bright and observant and enjoys her routine walks with staff. She is always alert and interested in what is going on at the Sanctuary with her fellow residents. She enjoys the attention she receives from staff, volunteers, and visitors and has been known on occasion to rub against them like a cat.

IN THIS PHOTO: AKELA



IN THIS PHOTO: NALA



Tribute to Reese



I remember the first time I saw Reese — it was my first visit to W.O.L.F. Sanctuary in the fall of 2019 when I met her and her companion, Outlaw. While visiting with him, she came down and was watching our interactions from a safe distance. I was struck by how beautiful Reese was. She was striking physically, with gorgeous markings and clear, thoughtful eyes. Although Reese was quiet and did not seek her caretakers' attention, she had a strong presence. She was thoughtful, observant, and always aware of what was happening around her. She and Outlaw were the best companions. He was the attention seeker and mischievous one. She was the thoughtful onlooker who seemed to enjoy watching his antics.

When Outlaw passed away, staff paired her with Castiel. The two bonded well, but it was not the same as it was with Outlaw! She seemed to enjoy her new home at Red Feather Lakes and having new spaces to watch the Sanctuary activities or just soak up the sun. The day of her passing came as quite a shock for all of us as she did not show signs of her illness. It was a sad day and one that I will never forget. I miss her quiet presence and her beautiful face. As with the others who passed while in our care, she will remain in my heart, and I am honored and privileged to have been part of her life and a participant in her care.

Laura Davis

Originally from Oregon, Reese was one of ten wolfdog puppies born on April 24th, 2011. Two of the ten were stillborn. In 2013, W.O.L.F. staff were looking for a companion for a young, rambunctious wolfdog named Outlaw. A member of our national wolfdog rescue network then told us about Reese, who was two years old. They felt that Reese would be a perfect match. Once introduced, Reese and Outlaw became instant companions. Outlaw had a larger-than-life outgoing personality and loved interacting with his human caretakers, while Reese had a sweet but shy demeanor and tended to observe from a distance.

After Outlaw's passing in 2023, Reese was paired up with Castiel. The two of them became best buddies, with Reese now taking on the role of the more confident wolfdog while Castiel watched from a distance. Although shy around humans, Reese had a trusting nature, never exhibiting any signs of aggression. My favorite memory of Reese was on the morning of April 28th, 2016. It was a calm Thursday morning with some soft spring snow still on the ground. While entering to clean the habitat and saying hello to Outlaw, Reese surprised me by walking up and stopping within a few yards of us, showing cautious interest in my presence. I remember how sweet



and gentle she behaved and how she and Outlaw played just yards away while I quietly watched—that moment made me realize what a special soul she was.

Reese was a beautiful girl, tall and stunning, with gorgeous markings. Her departure was profoundly sad but I know in my heart that she and Outlaw are together again; Outlaw being the rambunctious spirit that he is and Reese watching his antics with patience and adoration. Rest in peace, beautiful. It was an honor to know you.

Keith Laposh

Wyoming Story

By now, you've heard the heartbreaking story out of Wyoming. A gray wolf was subjected to unimaginable cruelty allegedly at the hands of a hunter. The wolf, run over with a snowmobile, was then disabled and had its mouth cruelly taped shut with duct tape, was paraded inside a local bar for a photo op, and then mercilessly shot behind the tavern.

Despite the egregious nature of the abuse, the perpetrator received only a nominal fine for illegal possession of the wolf while alive. This tragic incident underscores the urgent need for stricter penalties for such heinous acts of animal cruelty.

Organizations like W.O.L.F. Sanctuary provide a beacon of hope for abused and neglected animals such as the captive-born wolfdogs we provide sanctuary to live out their lives, offering them a safe haven where they can heal and thrive away from the threats of human violence. The story of this abused wolf serves as a poignant reminder of the vital role these sanctuaries play in protecting and advocating for the well-being of these magnificent animals.

We reached out to Delia Malone, MSES, Director of Colorado Wild, to share her perspective on the war on wolves, the concerted efforts, past and present, to eradicate the gray wolf from the United States, and how we can help.

Delia Malone: Gray wolves continue to need the protections afforded by the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The reintroduction of gray wolves to Yellowstone National Park and Idaho in 1995 and 1996 was a shining example of what could be ecologically accomplished with the reintroduction of apex keystone predators. Along with the reintroduction of wolves in Yellowstone came the recovery of cougar and grizzly bear populations – each has contributed to the recovery of the Yellowstone ecosystem. With the protection of the ESA, wolf populations were increasing, and individuals were dispersing to successfully establish and reproduce in landscapes as distant as Washington, Oregon, and California. Then, in 2011, came the shifting political winds that delisted wolves, putting their survival at risk and undermining wolf recovery. *According to the Endangered Species Act, a plant or animal can only be delisted when it's no longer in "danger of extinction throughout all of a significant portion of its range – today, wolves occupy less than 20 percent of their historic range.*

Just as wolf populations began to recover, they were removed from ESA protections in the Northern Rocky Mountain states, and hunting and trapping increased, so now wolf recovery is threatened. In Wyoming's "predator zone," which covers 85% of Wyoming, wolves can be killed by any means throughout the year, with no limit on the number of wolves killed. Idaho's wolf laws will allow hunters and private contractors to kill 90

IN THIS PHOTO: WYOMING



percent or more of the state's wolves. Just last week in Idaho, twenty wolves, who never had any conflict with livestock, were aerially gunned down. Montana's laws allow hunters to kill up to 20 wolves, bait them, set neck snare traps, and hunt them at night on private land with the use of artificial light and night vision scopes.

Furthering the carnage, Lauren Boebert's "Trust the Science Act" (H.R. 764) would remove ESA protections for wolves across the continental United States in all those locations where they still have protections and prohibit judicial review. Boebert's bill has passed the House and is going to the Senate. Ironically, Boebert's vote occurred in the face of the torture and murder of a yearling wolf that was unfortunate enough to live in Wyoming's predator zone.

In Colorado, CPW Commissioners are considering changing the Wolf Management Plan to allow livestock producers with "kill permits" the use of "nighttime aids" (artificial lights, electronic night vision equipment, electronically enhanced light-gathering optics, and thermal imaging) to lethally "manage" wolves. This proposal would continue the war on wolves that has been going on since at least the 1600s. This war led to their near extinction and is continuing in the Northern Rockies, where wolf populations are being decimated by extremist management agendas.

These weapons of war can easily be abused/misused. More often than not, wolves move through a cattle pasture without preying on cattle. Cattle may bellow, which may alarm the rancher or hired hands. Then, using night vision and an infrared scope on a rifle, wolves are easily killed - as research informs, often those wolves are just passing through the herd. The producer could claim the wolf was "chasing" their cattle - a death sentence - without any proof that the wolf was preying on their livestock.

Decades of evidence from the Northern Rockies indicate that non-lethal coexistence methods are more effective, economical, and ethical than lethal measures at preventing conflict and livestock losses. However, although nonlethal coexistence strategies are proven to be more effective in preventing losses, there is little incentive to use them. Nonlethal coexistence measures that prevent conflict between wolves and livestock also help prevent livestock losses to disease and injury, which account for the vast majority of livestock deaths.

Here's what you can do

1. Please call or email your Senators asking them to OPPOSE Boebert's "Trust the Science Act" (H.R. 764). Tell Senators Bennett and Hickenlooper that:

- a)** H.R. 764 would undermine the ESA's scientific processes to establish species' conservation status.
- b)** Gray wolf populations are far from recovered. Gray wolves were decimated by predator control programs and habitat destruction. While they have begun to make a comeback under the ESA, the population is far from fully recovered.
- c)** Colorado U.S. Congresswoman Yadira Caraveo cast one of only three Democratic votes for Boebert's Bill. Please call her office at 202-225-5625 to express your opinion about her vote to undermine wolf recovery.

2. Email your Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) Commissioners. Ask them to oppose using "nighttime aids" and instead support using non-lethal coexistence methods that protect livestock and wolves.

3. Ask your Commissioners to require livestock producers to use appropriate nonlethal coexistence methods to prevent livestock conflict and losses proactively. Only after all appropriate nonlethal coexistence measures have been properly implemented should a permit to lethally take a wolf that has been documented to prey on livestock be authorized.

We have an opportunity to change this age-old paradigm that has contributed to a worldwide biodiversity crisis. By embracing nonlethal coexistence and rejecting lethal management, we can begin to restore a natural balance.

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How to Give Back

Your Donation Helps

\$35 Can buy 3 months of heart worm prevention per wolf.

\$250 Is the cost of 1 off-site educational program.

\$50 Is the cost for one day of care per wolf.

\$1,250 Could cover a year of general medical care for a wolf.

Qualified Charitable Donations

If you are an IRA owner and are over 70 1/2, you are eligible to transfer funds to a charity of your choice tax-free through a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD). And if you are at least 72, QCDs count towards your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD). This is a great opportunity to support W.O.L.F. tax-free! Find out more today!

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EVERY DONATION HELPS.



Donations from valued supporters like you are the reason W.O.L.F. has been able to help save and provide quality care for unwanted, abused, and abandoned wolves and wolf dogs for over 29 years. Every donation, big or small, makes a difference.

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