



the  
wolf  
education  
and  
research  
center




the wolf education  
and research center  
p.o. box 3832  
ketchum, idaho  
83340



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## the story

Wolves once roamed throughout all of North America. But as Americans migrated westward wolves became a symbol of the wilderness that needed to be tamed. In the late 1800s, they were hunted and systematically eliminated. In one 25 year period, over 80,000 wolves were killed in Montana alone.


 In 1973, under the Endangered Species Act, wolves were given complete protection, although by then the wolf was nearly extinct in the Rockies. But in the spring of 1986, for the first time in over 50 years, pups were born in the Rockies to a wolf pair that had drifted south from Canada. Today wolves maintain a tenuous foothold in the region; approximately four dozen currently inhabit Montana, Idaho and Wyoming.



**the vision...** *The Wolf Education and Research Center (WERC) is dedicated to providing public education and scientific research concerning the gray wolf (Canis lupus) and its habitat in the Northern Rocky Mountain*



*Region. Because the precarious status of the wolf exemplifies the plight of many threatened species and ecosystems, this magnificent creature has been chosen as the focus and symbol of the Wolf Education and Research*

*Center.*  *The Center will provide the public with the rare opportunity to observe and learn about the gray*



*wolf in its natural habitat. It is our goal to be an inclusive organization that offers factual and balanced information. We seek to enhance public awareness of threatened species in the region, to develop in concert with regional residents workable ways to co-exist with these species, and to involve concerned citizens from all walks of life with issues of environmental urgency.*



## **the center**

The Wolf Education and Research Center's multi-disciplinary programs encourage visitors to examine their role within an ecosystem and consider ways to balance human needs with the needs of other species. Visitors will have the opportunity to:

- ▶ study a captive wolf pack in a natural habitat
- ▶ watch the Sawtooth Pack eat, howl, play and spar
- ▶ enjoy lectures and performances by visiting scientists, artists, musicians, and historians.
- ▶ explore educational exhibits about the wolf and the importance of ecosystem stability and biodiversity
- ▶ research a variety of environmental topics in the video and book library.

WERC's outreach programs reach the diversified population of the western community. *The Ambassador Wolf Program* brings wildlife biologist, Pat Tucker, and the ambassador wolf, Koani, to schools and community centers throughout the Rockies. *Coalition Development* involves discussions with groups that have been traditionally antagonistic to the wolf.

## **your help**

This country's gray wolf population was jeopardized as people moved to colonize the west in the late 1800s. As we enter the last years of the 1900s, the gray wolf's future teeters on a thin line. We have the opportunity to preserve the sound of the wolf's howl in the wilderness but we must act now.

Join the Wolf Education and Research Center! Your membership will allow us to continue our vital work in educating the public about wolves. Changing people's attitudes toward wolves is essential to securing a future for wolves in the Rockies. WERC members will receive:

- ▶ a subscription to the Center's newsletter
- ▶ discounts on WERC's special programs
- ▶ reduced admission to the Center.

**WERC Box 3832 Ketchum, ID. 83340 208.726.2860**



*Copy first 3 pages to  
Jeff Yeo  
Jim Peck  
Jay O.  
i Package to Jeff*

THE WOLF EDUCATION & RESEARCH CENTER

John Hendee  
Dean, College of Forestry, Wildlife and Range Sciences  
#1311 University of Idaho  
Moscow, ID 83843

May 14, 1993

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Kristin Poole  
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Lori J. Schmidt

Dear Dean Hendee:

I write at the suggestion of Singer Rankin who is a friend and Board member of the Wolf Education and Research Center (WERC). Singer was enthusiastic about a conversation she had with you last month about wolves and our project. Stephen Kellert, a member of our Advisory Board, has also mentioned your name to us. I write to tell you who we are, to invite you to visit the wolves and to talk with us about our programs.

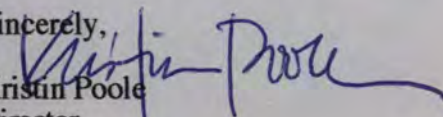
The Wolf Education and Research Center is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to increasing education and research about the gray wolf and its habitat in the Northern Rockies. The Center was founded in 1991 by Jim Dutcher and Karen McCall as a result of their experience making a film for ABC television about the gray wolf. WERC's mission is broad based and involves providing the public educational programs on ecosystems, biodiversity, wolves and other endangered species as well as addressing some of the concerns of the traditional industries in the western U.S.

We have selected a site in the Sawtooth National Recreation Area, 25 miles north of Sun Valley, Idaho. At the Center the public will have the opportunity to watch the 6 member Sawtooth Wolf Pack play, eat and spar. The 15 acre enclosure will provide the public adequate views and allow them to experience the kind of ecosystem wild wolves require. We are currently working with the Forest Service to secure the necessary permits. We hope to open the Center in the fall of 1994.

It is our intention to be an inclusive organization that serves the diverse population of the Western community. WERC's coalition development programs are underway throughout the region with biologists, ranchers, hunters and politicians. We are working with traditional adversaries of the wolf as well as conservationists. Pat Tucker and WERC's Ambassador Wolf, Koani, have been presenting programs throughout the region that address wolf biology, habitat needs as well as the ESA. Presented by a wildlife biologist, they are meant not only to engage the audience but to present factual information about the wolf and its ecosystem.

It is our hope to include the region's scientists and scholars in our programming. Additionally, we are eager to discuss potential research projects that WERC can help facilitate. I have enclosed for your review our brochure, newsletter as well as a copy of a project abstract that will provide detailed information about our programs and plans. There are many potential programs that you and your department could be involved in. ☆

I would like to introduce you to the wolves, have you meet WERC staff and Board members and discuss potential ways to work together. If you have plans to be in the area this summer, I can make arrangements to take you to film camp where the wolves are currently in a 20 enclosure in the Stanley area. Please contact me if you would like to visit and/or if you would like further information.

Sincerely,  
  
Kristin Poole  
Director





# THE WOLF EDUCATION AND RESEARCH CENTER


## voice from the wild

**What we need is to discover the continent again...(We need) an insight into how to conduct our life here so that it might be richer. And so that what is left of what we have subjugated might determine its own life.—Barry Lopez, *The Rediscovery of America***

In his landmark speech on the legacy of the Western conquest of the New World, BARRY Lopez invites us to “rediscover” our continent, not as a

simple source of acquisitive wealth, but as our home. And right now in the Northern Rockies, a faint voice is calling to us. A voice that may, if we heed its message, help us rediscover this land as our home. It is the voice of the gray wolf.  For years now, the evidence has trickled in.

Rumors and anecdotes, suspicious tracks, fuzzy photographs. The number of sightings led some to believe that it was actually happening. Then came the confirmed sightings, authentication being assured most often due to the death of the wolf. And yet we still hear the voice. What is the voice saying? It's telling us that if we are willing, if we can learn to just leave them be, wolves can make it on their own.  As writer Rick Bass has pointed out, it is not up to us to give the wolf another chance; the wolves are giving us another chance. To be sure, the wolf question has much more to do with people—our prejudices and myths—than with the wolves or habitat loss. When

we eliminated the wolf from most of the lower 48 states, we eliminated the possibility of knowing the truth. With virtually no wolves present, can we really be surprised that the fear and myth of a thousand years—and not the true knowledge of current experience—has governed our attitudes?  The solution to this endangered species issue is rooted

in education. To understand the wolf, we must know it. *(continued inside)*

*“There is room for cattle and elk, wilderness and ranches, people and wolves. If we can't find solutions which acknowledge that, we're in serious trouble.”*  
**Senator John Peavey**

Jim Dutcher





Jim Dutcher

# 1 staff notes

# 3 koani's story

# 4 consider the rancher

# 2 film update

# 5 children's page

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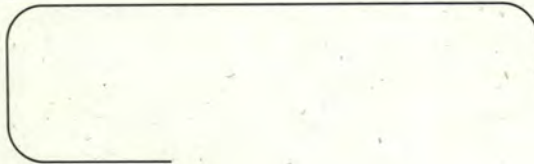
**mission** The Wolf Education and Research Center is dedicated to providing public education and scientific research concerning the gray wolf and its habitat in the Northern Rocky Mountains. The Center will provide the public with the rare opportunity to observe and learn about the wolf in its natural habitat. It is our goal to be an inclusive organization that offers factual and balanced information. We seek to enhance public awareness of threatened species in the region, and to develop in concert with residents ways to co-exist with these species.



**the wolf education and research center**  
p.o. box 3832 ketchum, idaho 83340

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*This issue  
is dedicated to  
Wallace Stegner for  
his contributions  
in defining our  
vision of the west.*



**address correction requested**



# THE WOLF EDUCATION & RESEARCH CENTER

## Executive Summary

The Wolf Education and Research Center (WERC) is dedicated to increasing public education and scientific research concerning the gray wolf (*Canis lupus*) and its habitat in the Northern Rocky Mountain Region. Because the precarious status of the wolf exemplifies the plight of many threatened species and ecosystems, it has been chosen as the primary focus and symbol of the Wolf Education and Research Center. Designed to serve as a prototypical environmental learning facility, WERC is more than an institution that adds to the existing array of environmental centers. The Center will provide the public with the rare opportunity to watch and learn about the gray wolf in its natural habitat. This first-hand experience coupled with extensive interpretive and educational programming will inform the public about ecosystems and endangered species.

The public, students and scientists who visit the Center's headquarters near Sun Valley, Idaho will have the opportunity to study a captive wolf pack in a large, naturally diverse habitat. A unique 15-acre enclosure has been designed for observation of the Sawtooth Wolf Pack from an interpretive trail system that leads to unobstructed view points. In addition to providing visitors with direct interaction with the wolves, the Visitor Center will house educational exhibits about the wolf and the complex system of interrelated plant and animal species that complete the ecological balance of the wolf's habitat in the Northern Rockies Region. Exhibits will include displays about ecosystem stability and maintenance, plant and animal species, maps and history presentations concerning the gray wolf in North America. Additional programming will consist of visiting lectures and performances by artists, scientists, musicians, story tellers and historians. This multi-disciplinary perspective was developed to encourage visitors to examine their own place within an ecosystem and consider solutions that balance human needs with the needs of other species.

WERC recognizes that many people will not have the opportunity to visit the Center's permanent location. For this reason WERC has developed several outreach programs. A variety of approaches will be employed to reach the diversified population of the western community. Coalition Development with groups that have been traditionally antagonistic to the wolf will be accomplished through small gatherings, seminars and personal interaction. WERC's primary outreach tool, the Ambassador Wolf Program, brings to the public a direct

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experience with a gray wolf. Pat Tucker, Program Director and a wildlife biologist, and the Center's "ambassador wolf," Koani, have made presentations to thousands of people at schools, town meetings, and community centers around the country. This program has proven remarkably effective as a means of addressing the myriad concerns and misconceptions surrounding the wolf, issues of wolf recovery in the Northern Rocky Mountain Region, and questions about the Endangered Species Act. Additionally, the Center's quarterly newsletter will be distributed to WERC members, educational institutions, related government agencies, and conservation and agricultural organizations throughout the United States.

The Wolf Education and Research Center's goals are ambitious but achievable. We have developed a strategy, a set of programs and phased development that is both realistic and workable. It is not only our desire to create an atmosphere that will allow a sustainable population of gray wolves in the Northern Rockies Region but also to serve the public as a center of information about the natural world. It is our goal to be an inclusive organization that disseminates factual and balanced information. We will work to increase public awareness of the threatened and endangered species in this region, to develop with the region's population reasonable solutions for living with these plants and animals, and to involve concerned citizens from all walks of life with issues of environmental urgency. It is our hope to serve the nation as a prototypical environmental resource center.

### *Background*

In 1990 Producer/Photographer Jim Dutcher contracted with ABC television to produce a full length feature documentary on the gray wolf. Dutcher's previous film for ABC, "Cougar: Ghost of the Rockies," had received wide critical acclaim as well a dozen awards ranging from the Genesis Award to the Cowboy Hall of Fame. Dutcher Film Productions brought nine wolves to Idaho from Montana and Minnesota to produce "Wolf: The Return of a Legend." A 20 acre enclosure was built in the foothills of the Sawtooth Valley to house the wolves. Every attempt was made to provide the wolves with habitat that resembles what they would experience in the wild.

The original Sawtooth Pack consists of three adolescent wolves and three pups. All of these wolves were raised from the age of two weeks by the Dutcher film crew. This close contact between young wolves and humans enabled crew members to be welcomed as part of the wolf pack. Two adult wolves from the International Wolf Center in Ely, Minnesota and the Center's Ambassador Wolf, will also be included at the Center.

During the course of producing "Wolf: The Return of A Legend," the Dutcher Film crew became enchanted with the wolves. Personal relationships developed between members of the crew and the wolf pack. As these bonds strengthened, the crew became aware of the misunderstandings that they and others had about wolves. Instead of cold blooded killers, the crew discovered animals of tremendous power and dignity whose loyalty to and dependence on the pack was evident. Having learned this, the history of annihilation of the gray wolf in the Northern Rockies Region became an increasingly disturbing story and one that Dutcher and the crew felt committed to change.

Believing the wolf had a place in the wild and confident that the public would share wonder in the wolves, Dutcher and Jan Roddy, the Center's Development Director, began to explore the idea of building a facility where the public could experience the wolves first hand. They were certain that through education and personal exposure to these animals public misunderstanding and fear could develop into compassion and respect. The Wolf Education and Research Center was born from this personal conviction and inspiration.

### *Need for the Wolf Education and Research Center*

The wolf has been persecuted in North America and throughout the world for centuries. Eliminated from much of its former range by human induced mortality, public opposition and habitat destruction, the wolf continues, nevertheless, to survive in isolated pockets of the world. Within the United States, the wolf has been protected by the Endangered Species Act (ESA) since 1973. Unfortunately, a significant portion of the American public may be unaware of the status afforded wolves by the ESA and wolves continue to be illegally killed. Nineteen years after passage of the ESA, and seventeen



years after gray wolf recovery efforts were initiated in the Northern Rocky Mountain Region, the goal of a viable wolf population in the Northern Rockies remains unrealized.

Studies indicate that public fear and misunderstanding are the greatest threat to the survival of the wolf (Hook & Robinson, 1982:382-394). The Wolf Education and Research Center will directly address misconceptions about the wolf through several programs. Using the wolf as the focal point, WERC's programs are designed to develop in visitors of all ages a sense of ecological balance and the importance of maintaining biological diversity. Programs will demonstrate to visitors the essential role wolves play in their ecosystem and how extinction of this species could effect dramatic change. WERC programs will accurately demonstrate the impact wolves have on humans and how human choices have impacted wolves.

While wildlife is common in the Northern Rocky Mountain Region, most people will never see a large predator, particularly one as elusive as the wolf. The Wolf Education and Research Center provides an unprecedented opportunity for the public to experience wolves in their natural habitat. The Sawtooth Wolf Pack, in its simple reality, instills a sense of inspiration and respect. Through direct interaction with the wolf pack people become more comfortable and are able to more readily accept the wolf's presence in the wild. The habits and habitat needs of the wolf are the focus of the Center's interpretive programs. This focus is critical when programs are later opened to discussions of more complex issues of biological diversity, the interdependence of all life and the role people play in creating and solving environmental problems. Information and education packets, specifically designed for different ages and interest levels, will be available at the conclusion of each program.

The scope of the Wolf Education and Research Center is important since opinions regarding the wolf vary considerably between children and adults, men and women, and urban and rural communities (Llewellyn, 1978). For instance, livestock and agricultural industries are concerned that the protection of wolves and other endangered species is a threat to their livelihoods. With regard to wolf recovery, ranchers believe the toll on livestock will be high, although no hard evidence exists to justify this theory (Miniclier, 1987:10-11). Moreover, ranchers are capable of significantly influencing predator populations. During this century alone hundreds of thousands of wolves have been systematically killed by ranchers who considered this animal a threat to domestic livestock.

The Wolf Education and Research Center recognizes that it is essential to address this traditionally adversarial relationship. A sustainable population of wolves in the wild will only be possible if there is a consensus of understanding and respect for the wolf throughout the western community. WERC's outreach programs, in particular the Ambassador Wolf Program, are extraordinarily effective in developing this respect. While it is not unusual for antagonistic people to attend an Ambassador Wolf Program, the

program's design. especially the presence of a real wolf. elicits genuine interest and involvement from even the most reluctant audience members. The support of the entire western community including that of the ranching, timber, mining and development industries is critical to the wolf's survival. Coalition development with these powerful land use groups through presentations, conferences, and one-on-one interaction is one of the Center's primary missions.

For many other people, the wolf has become a symbol of the rapidly vanishing wilderness - a measure of the essence and future of America's wild lands (Dunlap, 1988:xii). There is room in the Northern Rockies Region for both human and wolf populations to coexist (Fritts, 1991:2+6). Several sectors of the population expect to benefit from the wolf's presence. Environmental interest groups value the wolf for both aesthetic and ecological reasons. Numerous scientists and public land managers believe that wolves will add an element to the Northern Rockies ecosystem that will help restore it to a more natural, balanced state and allow the public to better enjoy their wilderness experiences in the Region (McNaught, 15). At some parks, wolf howling programs have become an extremely popular visitor attraction. In fact, during the summer of 1985, the "Wolves & Humans" exhibit at Yellowstone National Park drew more positive visitor comments than any other exhibit in park history (Bishop, pc).

Among permanent residents of the Region, recent surveys indicate that 72% of Idahoans (Boise State University, 1992) and 70% of Montanans favor having wolves in wilderness and roadless areas (University of Montana, 1987). The Wolf Education and Research Center intends to build on this consensus by providing unique opportunities for the public to experience wolves and to learn about their role within the Northern Rocky Mountain ecosystem.

Addressing the myriad concerns and myths that surround the wolf will not be easy. There is little middle ground in the public's love/hate relationship with the wolf. To some, the wolf is a cold-blooded killer. To others, like the Cheyenne and Sioux Indians, the wolf epitomizes the traits of great warriors. To many, especially to those who will never see one, the wolf is an idea or a symbol. It is through education and research that WERC hopes to enhance public understanding of the wolf and, in turn, encourage tolerance and respect for predators in the wild.

By targeting a specific species, the Wolf Education and Research Center takes a unique approach to educating people about the natural world in which they live. Because the wolf functions as a symbolic fulcrum upon which some of humanity's most confused and contentious feelings toward nature are focused, our ability to understand and accept this species offers a kind of litmus test of our willingness to change fundamentally and unequivocally our historic relationship to the natural world. The Center's ongoing programs are essential to this effort.

### *The Site*

Site selection criteria for a project of this scope is extensive. After careful consideration, WERC has chosen a site 20 miles north of Sun Valley, Idaho in the Sawtooth National Forest. The enclosure and Visitor Center will be located near Galena Lodge within the Sawtooth National Recreation Area (SNRA). WERC is currently working with local and regional foresters to obtain the necessary conditional use permit.

The Galena site has a history of multiple use, from mining in the 1860's to a present day nordic skiing lodge and resort. Locating the Wolf Education and Research Center at this site will enhance the recreational values of the SNRA, while enabling the Center to draw upon the thousands of people that annually visit the popular Sun Valley area. Center visitors will include regional residents from rural communities as well as national and international visitors to the Sun Valley area. WERC will be easily accessible from State Highway 75, a National Scenic Byway that runs from Ketchum, Idaho into the spectacular Sawtooth Valley and along the Salmon River. It is anticipated that the Wolf Education and Research Center will reach between twenty and twenty five thousand people in its first year of operation.

The Center's wolf enclosure will cover 15 acres of varied, scenic terrain from creek bottom and willow covered meadow, rising to pine and aspen forest. Wherever possible enclosure fencing will be concealed by existing forest and natural topography. The trail system is designed to accommodate visitors of all ages, abilities and time constraints. Trail signage will provide information on local geology, flora and fauna, cultural history as well as notes on wolf biology and behavior. Two mongolian style yurts will be located near the wolf enclosure. One will house the Center's wolf biologist and curator. The other will serve as visitor orientation space. Galena Lodge will provide space for educational displays, special programs, offices, the library and a small dining area.

Cooperation with the local nordic ski operation that maintains the skiing and hiking trails around the Galena Lodge, and partial use of the Galena Lodge building will enable WERC visitors to spend a full day hiking or skiing along the trails, dining at the Lodge and visiting the wolves. WERC's programs will operate on a year round basis.

### *Objectives*

Accurate public education and scientific research, the Center's principal objectives, are the key to ensuring the presence of the wolf and the continuing biodiversity of the Northern Rocky Mountain Region. The Wolf Education and Research Center takes a uniquely comprehensive approach to environmental literacy by targeting a specific species - the wolf - as a starting point to understanding larger, more complex ecosystem issues. In emphasizing the intricate relationship between all parts of an ecosystem, the Center hopes

to instill in people of all ages a sense of inclusion and feeling of respect for the interdependent nature of our world.

Recognizing that it is difficult to quantify WERC's objective of developing a population base that is informed about natural systems and interested in maintaining a healthy and diverse ecosystem, the following benchmarks have been developed to help measure program success.

- Natural and sustainable gray wolf population in the Northern Rockies region by the year 1999. (The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has determined a sustainable population to be 10 breeding pairs of wolves in each of the three recovery areas--Central Idaho, Yellowstone, and Northwestern Montana--for a minimum of three successive years. [USFWS, 1992:1])

- A marked reduction in the number of poisoned and killed wolves in the Northern Rockies region.

- A membership base of 5000 families who are committed to WERC and its programs by year end 1995.

- An active environmental center that is used as an educational resource by community organizations, school children, agency professionals, scientists and concerned citizens throughout the Northern Rockies Region.

- Outreach programs that reach 10,000 people annually through the Ambassador Wolf Program and Coalition Development. These programs will constructively and effectively address the concerns of traditionally adversarial groups.

The Wolf Education and Research Center is designed to serve as a catalyst for public debate. Through programming comprised of four distinct components -- direct visual contact, community outreach (including the Ambassador Wolf program), public library and resource facilities, and scientific research -- WERC will engage the public in a variety of ways. This four-pronged approach is being developed in consultation with leading educators, scientists, artists, politicians, industry representatives and conservationists. The Center will maintain and cultivate these partnerships, encouraging the development of critical, often overlooked, dialogues between the public and private sectors, artists and scientists, children and adults. In keeping with these comprehensive efforts, the Center's Board of Directors has been, and continues to be, carefully developed to represent a diversity of regional and national interests.

### *Methodology*

The Wolf Education and Research Center's goals and objectives will be accomplished through a series of educational programs that stimulate the public to reconsider their traditional biases about the wolf and its ecosystem. The essence of all WERC activities is to ask questions, challenge traditional paradigms and offer factual

information that serves to reform prevailing human attitudes that contribute to environmental instability and loss of species. The following programs have been designed to encourage public participation in addressing and solving the problems posed by limited environmental resources and the needs of all species.

• **The Sawtooth Wolf Pack Exhibit** The primary focus of WERC is to provide the public with the opportunity to personally experience wolves. First-hand interaction has proven to be the most effective means to educate and involve the public. WERC's 15-acre enclosure and Visitor Center is more comprehensive than any other publicly visited wolf enclosure in the continental United States. Designed to provide for the special behavior and habitat needs of the wolves, the site includes a perennial stream, underbrush, shade trees, rock outcroppings, and varied topography. The 9-member Sawtooth Wolf Pack has been raised in captivity and socialized to humans. This socialization process allows observation of the wolves without creating a stressful environment for the animals.

All visitors will be greeted by the Center's wolf curator and biologist and invited to attend a short program on endangered species, wolf biology and behavior, and appropriate conduct for observing the wolves. People can hike or ski along the interpretive trail system that surrounds the 15-acre enclosure. Along the trail, volunteer guides will assist in interpreting wolf behavior and discuss the natural history of the area. At specific viewing platforms, visitors will be able to observe the social interaction of the wolf pack, watching them eat, play, spar and howl. Visitors with time constraints and well as the elderly and handicapped will be able to see the wolves in several enclosures that are near the visitor's center. Educational materials on the Endangered Species Act, the gray wolf and the ecology of the Northern Rockies will be distributed to all visitors.

• **The Ambassador Wolf Program** The Center's primary outreach program brings this first-hand experience to those who are unable to visit the Center. Pat Tucker, a wildlife biologist, schedules Ambassador Wolf Programs with schools and community centers throughout the Northern Rockies Region. Accompanied by the Center's Ambassador Wolf, Koani, Pat's presentations address the biology and history of the gray wolf, the special social bond of the wolf pack, and issues related to the Endangered Species Act. The impact of Koani's presence on the audience is profound. While many people feel anxious about the wolf, once they are given the opportunity to see and learn about Koani their fears are replaced by curiosity. The Ambassador Wolf Program has proven remarkably effective in creating a population base that is interested and concerned about the gray wolf and, as a consequence, other endangered species.

• **Additional Outreach Programs** WERC's other outreach programs will take two forms: one-on-one interaction with various individuals and groups; and sponsorship of as well as participation in conferences and seminars on topics related to the wolf including

biodiversity, the Endangered Species Act and agriculture and public land use. It is WERC's intention to be an inclusive organization rather than representative of a specific interest group. For this reason WERC actively seeks alliances with a variety of groups within the western community including academic institutions, conservation and resource use organizations, and government agencies on a local, regional, and national scale. Coalition Development is of primary interest to WERC's staff and Board. We will call upon these various constituencies for participation in seminars which address issues of mutual concern. WERC will serve the region as conduit for dialogue and information.

• **Special Programs** Programs at the Center will take a variety of forms. Children's programs will include the visual arts, music and theater projects that address humanity's relationship with the environment. Wolf howlings, nature walks, and talks by the resident biologist will focus attention on wilderness--how to protect it, what to do in it and what to look for. Children have proven to be remarkably receptive to the wolves. It is the responsibility of the Center to take their interest to the next level and engage them in discussion on the whole of the ecosystem. Local and regional artists, story tellers and teachers will be employed to lead children's programs. Adult programs will involve concerts, photography and painting workshops, readings, story telling, and lectures on the gray wolf, myths and legends about predators, the Endangered Species Act, and the flora and fauna to be found in the local ecosystem. Artists, scientists and specialists from throughout the nation will be invited to offer programs. WERC will also call upon the special talents and interests of our Board members for programs.

• **Library and Research Facility** WERC will present visitors, students, and scientists with the unique opportunity to study wolves in a large, naturally diverse habitat. Because the enclosure is so unique, scientists and students will be able to conduct studies on the wolf that would not be possible in the wild. WERC has established alliances with a number of universities who are eager to participate. The Center's library will be a resource for scientists, students and public land managers as well as visitors. Books, periodicals, newsletters, videos and research papers will be available on topics ranging from the wolf to the history of western agriculture to biodiversity and Native American culture. Information on other endangered species and the flora and fauna of the Northern Rockies region will also be available. Visiting lecturers and scientists will be encouraged to use and contribute to the Center's public library.

### *Addressing the Root Causes*

The Wolf Education and Research Center will motivate people to identify and help solve environmental problems by providing an unprecedented opportunity to experience wolves in their natural habitat, learn about the wolf and understand the complexity and fragility of the Northern Rockies ecosystem.

The successful establishment and long-term objectives of the Wolf Education and Research Center carry definite implications for the endurance of the wolf as well as all threatened species in the Northern Rocky Mountain Region and beyond. If people are able to objectively grapple with the complexities of, and interdependent relationships within nature, it is likely that efforts to preserve some of the most unique species and pristine ecosystems in the world will succeed. WERC is committed to cultivating a sense of ecological consciousness by reaching out to and encouraging all people and constituencies to embrace the diversity of life in the Northern Rockies ecosystem.

#### *Management Implications*

The management implications for the Wolf Education and Research Center are wide-reaching. Filling a much needed niche in the Northern Rocky Mountain Region, the Center will bring together traditionally adversarial constituencies, encourage investigations from the most basic to the highly complex and serve as a clearing house of information for institutions and government agencies that are too often forced to operate with inadequate resources.

The Wolf Education and Research Center will serve as a base for both short and long-term cooperative natural and social science research. By providing information and suggesting alternatives to traditional management norms, WERC will encourage a broader, more holistic perspective for understanding the wolf and the dynamics of the Northern Rocky Mountain ecosystem.

Through educational programs WERC will ensure that public land managers are assisted in their mission to support endangered species protection by facilitating the general public's understanding of the value and logic behind the Endangered Species Act, passive wildlife management and minimum impact land-use. The Center will work to increase public awareness about all aspects of public land use including how people directly and indirectly effect park, forest, and wilderness areas and how those areas interact with the surrounding environment. Through education and personal experience, the Wolf Education and Research Center will enable people to better define their relationship with the natural world. And in determining that relationship, they may come to understand their place in the greater scheme of the universe, not as conqueror but as thoughtful member and humble citizen.

## *Staff and Cooperating Agencies*

### **Staff:**

#### *Executive Director*

Jan Roddy brings strong communication and administrative skills to the task of developing the Wolf Education and Research Center team. Raised on a ranch in Montana, with a B.S. degree and graduate study in Biology from Montana State University, as well as multi-faceted business and community experience, Ms. Roddy will be instrumental in developing relations and building coalitions with the diverse groups that are integral to WERC's success. Prior to her position with WERC, Ms. Roddy owned and operated a small publishing business with international sales, worked with local architectural and engineering firms, and served as administrative manager and coordinator for a large Environmental Background Study. Ms. Roddy's extensive community work includes launching a successful political campaign for a current Blaine County Commissioner, working with the Idaho Conservation League, and serving as a member of the Sun Valley Community Library Board of Directors. As a member of the Library Board, Ms. Roddy was instrumental in raising program funds, and in developing and implementing a multi-cultural program for the Library's new lecture room.

#### *Program Director*

Kristin Poole has directed a number of not-for-profit art organizations since 1980. Trained as an art historian, Ms. Poole brings to WERC grantwriting skills as well as strong administrative and communication skills. While receiving her master's degree from the University of Chicago, Ms. Poole directed an international exhibition involving some 80 art galleries and 20,000 visitors. She served on the curatorial staff of the Museum of Contemporary Art in Chicago and is currently acting as art advisor and lecturer for the Boise Art Museum as well as a number of Boise-based corporations. Since Ms. Poole's return to Idaho, she has also directed her administrative and writing skills toward environmental concerns, serving as the administrator of the Wood River Chapter of the Idaho Conservation League and contractual consultant for The Wilderness Society.

#### *Wolf Biologist and Director of Ambassador Wolf Program*

Patricia Tucker received her Masters of Science degree from the University of Montana. She has done research on human attitudes toward wolves, a wolf prey base study in Northwestern Montana, and is currently directing a research project on the effectiveness of a wolf education program she developed for primary and secondary schools. For the past 5 years she has worked for the National Wildlife Federation in Montana where her primary duty was developing and distributing information on wolves and wolf recovery throughout the Northern Rocky Mountains. During this time she served as technical advisor to the federally appointed Wolf Management Committee, presented programs to a wide variety of audiences throughout the Region, and developed an award-winning educational program on wolves which utilizes traveling boxes that contain hands-on material such as wolf skulls, videos, books, and plaster casts of tracks which teachers can borrow. For the past year Ms. Tucker has developed and directed the Ambassador Wolf Program.

#### *Wolf Curator and Biologist for the Center's Sawtooth Pack*

Lori Schmidt is the current wolf curator for the International Wolf Center (IWC) in Ely, Minnesota where she has worked for the past six years in the socialization and management of IWC's captive wolf pack. During this time she conducted on-going wolf behavior studies and managed the daily health and veterinary needs of the wolves. Ms. Schmidt has a B.S. degree in Natural Resource Management with emphasis on Canid Behavior from the University of Minnesota. She has studied and trained under the tutelage of Dr. L. David Mech, chief wildlife biologist for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service who has studied wolves for 34 years, and Dr. Erich Klinghammer, an ethnologist from Purdue



University who specializes in the study of wolf behavior. While with the IWC, Ms. Schmidt was also an instructor of deer/wolf ecology, forest ecology, and biology at Vermillion Community College. She will begin her work with the Center in 1993.

#### *Ambassador Wolf*

Koani is a young Northern Rockies Tundra Wolf. She was born in captivity on May 5, 1991 in Montana. Her Blackfoot name means "to play". A wolf pup's distinct personality is evident at the age of three to four weeks. At this time, it was clear that Koani was the most outgoing, playful and relaxed of the litter's five pups. It was decided that Koani would become an "ambassador wolf", a wolf to be taken to schools and community programs to let people experience a wolf up close. Koani has been raised in Missoula, Montana from the age of two months by wildlife biologist, Pat Tucker. As an ambassador, Koani travels with Pat throughout the Northern Rocky Mountain Region and beyond.

#### **Wolf Education and Research Center Board of Directors:**

**Doug Christensen**, President of the Board, Wolf Education and Research Center, Ketchum, Idaho

**Michael Blake**, Author, "Dances with Wolves," Vail, Arizona

**Jim Dutcher**, Filmmaker, "Wolf: The Return of a Legend," Ketchum, Idaho.

**Singer Rankin**, World Wildlife Fund National Committee, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

**John Faulkner**, Rancher, Gooding, Idaho.

**Dr. Stephen R. Kellert**, Associate Dean, Professor of Social Ecology, Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut.

**John Peavey**, Idaho State Senator, Rancher, Flat Top Sheep Ranch, Carey, Idaho.

#### **Cooperating Agencies and Institutions:**

##### *U.S. Forest Service*

The Wolf Education and Research Center is working with the U.S. Forest Service to create this facility on public land in the Sawtooth National Recreation Area. Regional, District, and Area Rangers, have been helpful in site-planning and development. WERC sees this interaction as central to its mission and objective of helping the U.S. Forest Service fulfill its federally mandated mission to "utilize their authorities in furtherance of the purposes of the [ESA] by carrying out programs for the conservation of" listed species (ESA § 7 (a)(1)). The extensive scope of this obligation comes from the ESA's definition of "conservation" as "the use of all methods and procedures which are necessary to bring any endangered or threatened species to the point at which the measures provided pursuant to this Act are no longer necessary (ESA § 3(3))."

##### *U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*

As the lead agency in endangered species protection and recovery efforts, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's wolf recovery efforts are an integral part of the WERC plan. WERC will assist the Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Forest Service in their responsibility to develop, coordinate, and disseminate information and educational resources concerning threatened and endangered species. WERC resources will be made available to any and all government agency employees.

*University of Montana*

WERC is actively consulting with the University of Montana. College of Forest Resources regarding WERC strategy and long-term education and research goals.

*University of Idaho*

WERC is consulting with the Idaho Forest, Wildlife and Range Policy Analysis Group at the University of Idaho, College of Forestry, Wildlife and Range Sciences regarding WERC strategy and long-term education and research goals.

*Yale University School of Forestry and Environmental Studies*

WERC is actively consulting with the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies regarding WERC strategy and long-term education and research goals.

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Reply to: 2600

Date: December 3, 1992

Ms. Pat Tucker  
833 Harrison  
Missoula, MT 59802

Dear Ms. Tucker:

I wanted to tell you how much we enjoyed your February 1992 presentation to Lolo personnel about wolves. Having your Ambassador Wolf "Koani" present made the presentation special. Rarely do we have the chance to experience an animal of this kind close up. I think we all learned a tremendous amount about the intricate social behavior of wolves and their role in the environment as top-level predators.

I hope you get a chance to present your program to all our National Forests. I realize that the social climate for wolf acceptance varies widely from town to town. As a result I suspect some of our land managers may be a little nervous about endorsing your program. I found your program to be totally objective and professional. Having a better understanding of wolf biology will make Lolo Forest personnel better able to respond to the needs of the public. Even in small communities that might be somewhat "anti-wolf", I think it's important for our agency to collect all the information available on wolf management and behavior. Consequently, I strongly endorse your program.

Let me know how we can help in any future environmental education issues dealing with wolves.

Sincerely,

CRVILLE L. DANIELS  
Forest Supervisor





Reply To: 2670

Date: 8-21-92

Mr. Lewis Nash  
Project Coordinator  
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation  
1120 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.  
Suite 900, Bender Building  
Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Mr. Nash:

It is with pleasure that I heartily recommend a cost sharing grant with the Wolf Education and Research Center Ambassador Wolf Program. I have personally worked with Ms. Tucker on other Northern Rockies Wolf Recovery educational projects and know her to be a highly competent, motivated person that has excellent rapport with all types of audiences. Her program, especially in accompaniment with a wolf, will greatly assist agency wolf recovery efforts.

The recovery team developing the 1987 edition of the Northern Rocky Mountain Wolf Recovery Plan knew the importance of an informed public to support wolf recovery. A major recovery section, recovery paragraph five, outlines information/education needs. With limited funds and political constraints, state and federal agencies are only able to address wolf information/education needs in a limited way. It is vital that private conservation organizations like the Wolf Recovery Foundation, the Defenders of Wildlife, and WERC step forward and assist agencies.

The proposed budget for the Ambassador Wolf program appears reasonable with the exception for the amount allotted for wolf food. I would think that feeding a wolf for a year would be more than \$1500!

This program, and wolf recovery overall, has wider ecosystem applications. The wolf is a predator at the top of the ecological food chain. Its presence indicates the health of its habitat. Returning the wolf to select areas in the Northern Rockies will re-establish and assure a more healthy ecosystem.

This project needs your financial assistance. Views stated above are my own and do not represent the position of the Forest Service.

Sincerely,

JAMES F. GORE  
Assistant Program Leader  
Threatened, Endangered, & Sensitive Species



Yale University *New Haven, Connecticut 06511*

SCHOOL OF FORESTRY AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

October 16, 1992

*Sage Hall  
205 Prospect Street*

Ms. Jan Roddy  
The Wolf Education and Research Center  
Post Office Box 762  
Ketchum, Idaho 83340

*(203) 432-5100  
Telex: 5101012363 Yale FES  
FAX: (203) 432-5942*

Dear Ms. Roddy:

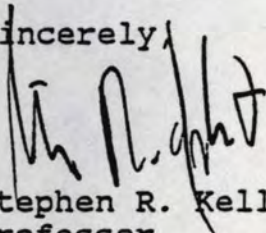
It is my great pleasure to support with enthusiasm and considerable interest the establishment of The Wolf Education and Research Center. I am certain this center will have a major positive impact on public understanding and appreciation of the wolf and, thus, greatly enhance this species recovery in the Northern Rockies region and other parts of North America.

As you know, I was involved in the initial development of the higher successful International Wolf Center in Ely, MN and currently serve on its Advisory Board. I am certain this and your center serve as an important basis for public education and scientific inquiry about wolves, and wildlife and the natural environment, more generally. The establishment of the Wolf Education and Research Center will be a major educational addition to the Northern Rocky Mountains region and be of great interest and appeal to both local residents and visitors to the area.

I am, therefore, very pleased to offer my strongest support for the development of this center. I would also be interested in assisting with the development of educational programs, including the conduct of possibly needed research on public attitudes and understanding of the wolf and its conservation in the Northern Rockies region.

Best of luck with your important venture and please convey my strongest support for this effort to appropriate governmental officials and potential funding sources for this project.

Sincerely,



Stephen R. Kellert, Ph.D.  
Professor