



September 24, 2010

To State Chapter Presidents:

For a number of years, wolf management has been a contentious issue, particularly in the West. This is an issue that is not going away. In fact, it is likely to grow in light of a recent court decision regarding wolf management in the Rocky Mountains and the growing number of wolves in the upper Midwest.

The NWTF has adopted an official position supporting the science-based management of wolf populations. Science is the backbone of the NWTF's approach to conservation and wolf management is no different.

The NWTF has long supported the North American Conservation Model, including the management of fish and wildlife resources under the authority and responsibility of the various state agencies. Therefore, the NWTF believes that state agencies are best suited to manage wolves and other non-endangered species of wildlife inside their borders.

NWTF Position Statement on the Management of Wolves

“The National Wild Turkey Federation supports the sound, science-based management of wolves by the appropriate state agencies. The NWTF recommends that management authority for wolves remain with state agencies when wolves are no longer on the endangered species list. The NWTF further supports our state wildlife partners in their efforts to provide for a sustainable, huntable population of wolves while maintaining healthy, huntable populations of ungulates. This must work in conjunction with balancing the habitat needs and conservation of all wildlife.”

If you have any questions about the NWTF's position on wolf management, please feel free to contact me or James Earl Kennamer, Ph.D., NWTF Chief Conservation Officer (jkennamer@nwtf.net).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'George C. Thornton', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

George C. Thornton
Chief Executive Officer
gcthorton@nwtf.net

cc: Board of Directors
NWTF Partners
NWTF Staff

National Wild Turkey Federation

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