

November 26, 2018 (GOLDEN, BC)- On November 23rd, [CBC reported the BC forest ministry saying that caribou herds are stabilizing where wolves are being killed](#). But conservation group Wolf Awareness urges people to ask more questions about the program, asserting that *the ends don't justify the means*.

On November 20th, Wolf Awareness was one of two NGO's from B.C.'s Columbia-River-Revelstoke constituency that saw a Petition to End the Wolf Kill Program submitted into Legislature during a meeting of the Assembly.

The petition was submitted in an appeal to prevent the inhumane program from re-starting this winter and ultimately to remove predator killing from the toolbox of options being considered [as new recovery plans are being developed for caribou](#).

Killing is NOT conservation, states Sadie Parr, Executive Director of Wolf Awareness. *It's not just about whether it works, but whether it is even conscionable to begin with. Attempting to sanctify killing large numbers of predators for any reason is highly disturbing. I strongly believe that 'Just because you can, doesn't mean you should'.*

Parr claims that there is a *critical moral dilemma not being addressed regarding the killing of wolves (and other animals) under the guise of conservation, especially when humans have put caribou in this situation, and continue to wreak havoc for the species.*

Tax Payers Petition B.C.'s Inhumane Wolf Kill Program

Millions of tax dollars have been spent since 2015 to kill more than five hundred wolves - sentient animals - using inhumane methods; namely aerial gunning and killing neck snares, both which lead to prolonged suffering before death. *Petitioners from across the province don't want to see their taxes funding this inhumane program*, explains Parr.

Dr. Paul Paquet, an ecologist and recognized authority on mammalian carnivores' states: *The time has come to seriously examine our relation with top predators. The question is not whether killing wolves is "sustainable" as wildlife managers are always trying to assert. The question is whether it is ecologically, ethically, or even economically defensible to kill large numbers of predators anywhere. The answer on all counts is no.*

The South Selkirk caribou herd became functionally extinct despite four years of killing wolves. The remaining animals are being moved to north of Revelstoke in Mountain Caribou Recovery Planning Unit 3A, where tax-funded wolf killing is slated to continue this winter as well as in the South Peace.

The petition is also seeking real protection for identified caribou habitat. 29 wolves were killed in the Revelstoke unit the past two winters, [while industry and recreation continued to carve up caribou range](#), trumping species preservation and ecosystem health in a morally bankrupt display that may tarnish British Columbia's "natural and wild" legacy forever.

Years of 'talk and log' consultations have turned into 'talk and kill', as industry continues unchecked, notes Parr. *Meanwhile, there are permit applications and [projects underway for resource extraction that will further degrade and destroy the land that caribou require to survive](#).*

Wildlife management and conservation practices should be ecologically and ethically sound. Wolf killing programs are neither and as such should be abandoned, Parr reflects, referring to the [Policy Position on Experimental wolf reduction programs underway in western Canada](#) the conservation group recently developed in light of this practice expanding.

About Wolf Awareness Inc

Wolf Awareness is a team of conservationists and scientists whose primary goal is to foster awareness and appreciation of wolves, wolf ecology, conservation and co-existence.

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Key Information:

Lack of caribou habitat protected in Revelstoke leads to wolf killing:

<https://www.revelstokereview.com/opinion/letter-protect-habitat-dont-kill-wolves-to-save-caribou/>

New industrial development in area identified as caribou habitat:

Columbia Caribou Range: Imperial Metals mine developing in headwaters of Upper Seymour Provincial Park which is caribou migratory route and near the maternal pen project.

<https://www.imperialmetals.com/projects/ruddock-creek/overview>

http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/bcparks/explore/parkpgs/up_seymour/

Revelstoke mayor tells media does not want to protect caribou habitat because it will hurt the economy: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/caribou-protection-plan-threatens-revelstoke-economy-1.4704283>

Before the wolf kill expanded to Revelstoke in 2017, scientists involved in caribou recovery admitted in a Government planning document: *[In Planning Unit 3A, forest harvesting still occurs in the critical habitat of Southern Mountain Caribou.](#)* Mechanized recreation is listed as an additional concern affecting caribou. Document also states *there are no humane methods to directly reduce wolf numbers.*

-Note: also details the plan to continue "primary prey reduction"...ie. killing moose, deer, etc. as well as wolves and cougars.

Wolf Awareness Policy Position on Experimental wolf reduction programs underway in western Canada: <https://www.wolfawareness.org/policy>