

Wolf Print

The UK Wolf Conservation Trust

Issue 49 Summer 2013



Project Update: Orphan wolf pups rehabilitation programme

Conservation in Action
2013 seminar details

WOLFWEAR©

UKWCT clothing
brand launched

■ NEWS ■ EVENTS ■ MEDIA AND ARTS ■ REVIEWS



Editor's Letter

After the very cold spring, during which we lost our lovely Lunca – the last of the European wolves born at the Trust in 1999 – to cancer (see page 7), the wolves have moulted late this year. They still had the majority of their winter coats for our first open day of

2013 at the end of May. This allowed the visiting photographers to take some images of them in all their finery. We have three more open days planned for 2013 – details on page 31. I do hope you can join us for one of them.

With summer finally here we are often asked how the wolves – especially the Arctics – cope with the heat. Wolves have an amazing ability to adapt and can manage well with extreme cold or sudden summer sun. The wolf's fur plays an important role throughout the year. The guard hairs, which are the wiry hairs on the surface of the coat, have two functions – they protect the skin and also act as a raincoat. This is especially important in the winter as it keeps the thick undercoat dry, helping the wolf to stay warm. During spring and into early summer it is this thick undercoat that they moult so that they can stay cool in the summer. With the current warm temperatures here at the Trust our ambassador wolves follow the same patterns as their wild cousins in their efforts to keep cool. Their activity levels reduce, especially during the heat of the day, when they will also seek out a cool, shady place to rest, usually in the shelter of the mature trees in their enclosures.

The two largest enclosures here at the Trust have large ponds with waterfalls; the most recent in the top enclosure was only finished at the end of June. The wolves do enjoy a paddle and occasionally a swim; they also play with the water as it cascades down the falls. The water has two effects: it cools the wolves down and helps them escape from some of the biting insects like horseflies that particularly like the warm, humid weather. Both the smaller enclosures contain large water troughs that the wolves can submerge themselves in to cool off.

Wolves also have the ability to drop their body weight slightly during the summer. Then as winter approaches they regain the weight to help insulate them during the colder months.

To help the wolves stay cool in very hot weather they are given special treats. Meat or fish-flavoured ice lollies, and cold watermelons stuffed with meat are some of their favourites.

Even with the sun shining our thoughts have already turned to Autumn and plans are falling into place for both Wolf Awareness Week and for our Half Term Halloween fun. I am very much looking forward to our annual seminar, this year entitled 'Conservation in Action.' We have four fantastic speakers again visiting from all over the world; details can be found on page 32.

Vicky Allison

Education Officer / Assistant Senior Wolf Handler / Wolf Print Editor



Tala enjoys a cooling ice lolly, by Tara Armstrong

Cover picture: Tundra, by Danny Kidby-Hunter

WOLF PRINT Issue 49

Editor

Vicky Allison

Tel: 0118 971 3330 Email: education@ukwolf.org

Assistant Editor

Julia Bohanna

Editorial Team

Angela Barrow

Pete Haswell

Lynn Kent

Danny Kidby-Hunter

Tsa Palmer

Denise Taylor

Patrons

Martin 'Wolfie' Adams

David Clement-Davies

Cornelia 'Neil' Hutt

Desmond Morris

Marco Musiani

Michelle Paver

The UK Wolf Conservation Trust Directors

Nigel Bulmer

Anne Carter

Charles Hicks

Sue Hull

Linda Malliff

Tsa Palmer

Specialist Advisors

Alistair Bath

Garry Marvin

Kirsty Peake

Claudio Sillero

Denise Taylor

The UK Wolf Conservation Trust is a company limited by guarantee. Registered in England & Wales. Company No. 3686061.

The opinions expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the publishers or The UK Wolf Conservation Trust.

All rights reserved throughout the world. Reproduction in any manner, in whole or in part, in English or other languages, is prohibited. The work may not be photocopied or otherwise reproduced within the terms of any licence granted by the Copyright Licensing Agency Ltd or the Publishers Licensing Society Ltd.

Aims of the UK Wolf Conservation Trust

- To increase public awareness and knowledge of wild wolves and their place in the ecosystem.
- To provide opportunities for ethological and other research that may improve the lives of wolves both in captivity and in the wild.
- To provide wolf-related education programmes for young people and adults.
- To raise money to help fund wolf-related conservation projects around the world.

Download Wolf Print, including back issues, from www.ukwolf.org

Design and artwork produced by Business Pluspoint: www.businesspluspoint.co.uk | 01305 457084

Printed by: Pensord, NP12 2YA. www.pensord.co.uk on FSC paper from sustainable forest sources.

This magazine is fully recyclable. By recycling magazines you can help to reduce waste and add to the millions of tonnes of paper already recycled every year by the UK paper industry. You can recycle paper through your home recycling collection scheme or at your local recycling centre. Visit www.recyclenow.com and enter your postcode to find your nearest site.



contents

REGULARS

- 2 Editor's Letter
- 14 Life and Behaviour of Wolves
Pete Haswell: the practicalities of reintroduction
- 20 Making Tracks
Book reviews from Julia Bohanna
- 23 Wolves of the World
Wolf stories from around the world
- 26 Merchandise – introducing WOLFWEAR©
New and exclusive gifts and souvenirs

NEWS FROM THE TRUST

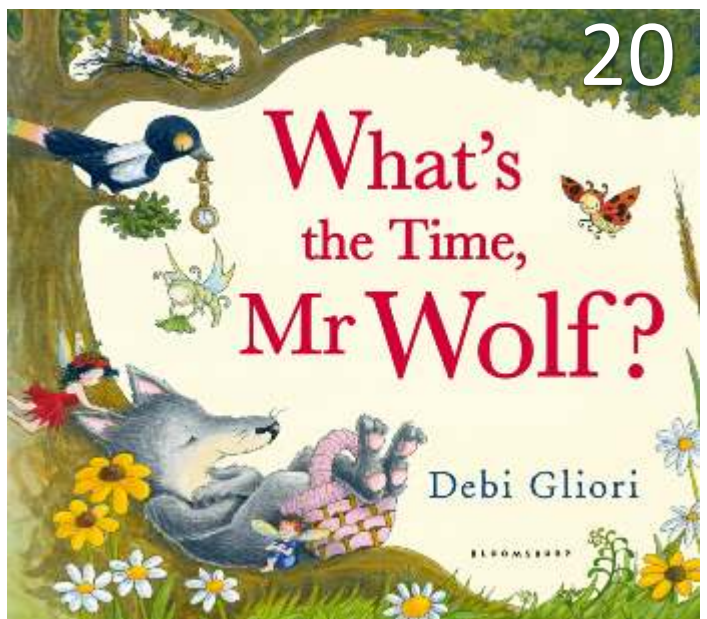
- 4 Trust News and Director's Letter
Donations, Kids' Den, Sir David Attenborough and more
- 8 Update on the Trust's wolves
Including a new pond for year-round entertainment

FEATURES

- 7 Lunca – a True Character
Our tribute to this wonderful wolf
- 10 The Wolf Issue – repercussions of a single death
Kirsty Peake reports from Yellowstone National Park
- 16 The UKWCT 2014 Calendar
A sneak preview of our stunning A4-sized planner
- 18 Project Update from Russia
The Orphan Wolf Pups Rehabilitation Programme

WHAT'S COMING UP

- 30 Events at the Trust
Open days, holiday activities, howl nights and more
- 32 Wolf Awareness Week 2013
and the Annual UKWCT Seminar



Trust News



New look Kids' Den

Over the last couple of months a few changes have taken place on the children's section of the website. The format has changed slightly and there is now a mascot to guide you through the information available, and to make it a more interactive experience. The wolf guide is called Alo (which means "Guide"

in Native American) and he appears all over Kids' Den. He also made an appearance at our May Open Day to say hi to some of his young fans.

There is now even more content exclusively for you: our Wolf Cub (Junior) members' area, which can be accessed with your password. It is the first place

to announce quizzes and competitions, and our children's events also get listed here first. If there was a Wolf Chronicle article you enjoyed reading about you'll now be able to log on to the members' section to read even more on the subject!

NEW POND CREATES ENTERTAINMENT FOR WOLVES AND HUMANS ALIKE



The first pond at the Trust was built in the bottom wolf enclosure in the summer of 2007 and was a great success with wolves and people alike, allowing some fantastic photo opportunities whilst watching the wolves interact with the water during the warmer months and the ice during the winter.

Earlier this year the go-ahead was given for the top enclosure to have a pond dug, and during June the earth was broken and the new feature created. It has been located opposite the viewing window in the observation room so will hopefully give those watching a good view of the wolves when they are interacting with the new pond whatever the weather is doing. As you can see, the Trust's Arctic wolves Pukak, Sikko and Massak have been taking full advantage during this recent period of warm weather.

An evening reception for Sir David Attenborough and presentation of the Lowell Thomas Award Medal

The UK Wolf Conservation Trust were honoured to be invited to attend a presentation evening and interview with Sir David Attenborough on Monday, 29th April at the National History Museum in London. The evening was organised by The Explorers Club, British Chapter.

UKWCT supporter, Jim McNeill led the interview, showing memorable clips from Sir David's extraordinary 60-year career.

The Explorers Club, which presents the award to individuals who have distinguished themselves in the field of exploration, recognised Sir David for his mindfulness in exploration and for creating awareness of the crucial need for conservation. Over the past 60 years Sir David has brought the many wonders of the planet straight to our living rooms, introducing us to whole new worlds. He has been a pioneer in the conservation movement, changing our perceptions and attitudes towards the environment.

The evening was a celebration of his lifetime achievements and a chance to hear his views on the state of the world.



He shared with us unknown anecdotes of his wild encounters which delighted the audience. As the evening drew to a close, Jim presented the audience with an opportunity to have their own questions answered by the legendary presenter. This was then followed by the presentation of the Lowell Thomas Award Medal and a standing ovation from the audience.

It was a memorable evening and an honour to be in the presence of such an inspirational figure in the world of conservation.



► DONATIONS

As the UK Wolf Conservation Trust is a not-for-profit organisation, the money we raise is donated towards conservation projects worldwide that help and support wolves in the wild. These donations can be vital to some projects, so we donate as much as we are able. Below are the donation amounts to the organisations that the Wolf Trust has chosen as this spring's organisations to help. Full details about each of the projects can be found on the Trust's website.

- Croatia: Zagreb Veterinary Institute, Josip Kusak – £4,000
- Ethiopian Wolf Project: Claudio Sillero/Born Free Foundation – £4,000
- Portugal : Project Grupo Lobo – £2,000

► PROJECT OF THE MONTH

Each month the UK Wolf Conservation Trust will pick one of the many projects that we support to highlight and draw attention to. If you wish to help support this project you can donate to the UK Wolf Conservation Trust by using our donation link. During each project's "month" we will use this page to provide in-depth information about projects and why the UKWCT supports them, along with details on their most recent conservation efforts.

► CHILDREN'S MEET & GREET

Now that the youngest wolves at the Trust are quickly turning into mature adults it has been decided that they will no longer do children's (6 to 11 years) meet-and-greets as from September 2013. Children over 6 years will still be able to walk with the wolves and view them out of their enclosures during children's events.

► 2013 UKWCT SEMINAR

There is still time to book your seat at our 2013 seminar, 'Conservation in Action,' this year running on two dates – 19th and 20th October – due to popularity. Full details can be found on the back page of this issue of Wolf Print.

Open day a huge success

Our first open day of 2013 was a huge success with approximately 2,200 visitors coming to the Trust to enjoy a sunny day out in the company of the wolves. As always, the Karluk huskies were a popular pit stop for all of our guests, everyone enjoyed taking photographs of the wolves from the viewing areas and the Education Centre was buzzing with activity. As it was such a lovely day, lots of people took to the field and sat amongst the buttercups to enjoy their picnics while watching the birds of prey flying demonstrations. The wolves loved their special wolfy birthday cake and the kids certainly had a blast acting as Junior Wolf Trackers and racing against the clock to win prizes. The new Wolf Trust mascot Alo also made an appearance and cut the wolves' special birthday cake this year for them all to enjoy during the day.

A few quotes from visitors are:



Trust mascot Alo cuts the wolves' birthday cake

"Yet another fantastic day spent at the UK Wolf Conservation Trust with the huskies!"

"Thank you for a fantastic day out, we all enjoyed ourselves"

"Thanks for a great open day today! Weather great, wolves' really active, brilliant day!"

"Thanks for the great day"

"It was a great family day out... thanks to all the hard workers and volunteers!! We had a really lovely day out"

We have two further open days planned for 2013. Please go to page 30 for full details.

Run for wolves

One of the UKWCT volunteers, Rohit Wadhvani, recently took a sabbatical from his role at the Trust to travel to Africa to work at the Tacugama Chimp Sanctuary. Whilst there Rohit decided only two days before it was due to take place to run the Sierra Leone marathon. Although Rohit regularly runs he had done no training for this event and in his words 'it was one of the hardest things I

have ever done.' It was 30 degrees on the day of the race and 80% humidity. Rohit finished in just over five hours which is a real achievement. Rohit said 'running through the little villages and seeing places I would have never seen otherwise, I'll do it again if I am in



Sierra Leone next year – with a bit more training though!' Rohit managed to raise £60 for the UK Wolf Conservation Trust by running the marathon; thank you from all of us here at the Trust, especially the Wolves.

DIRECTOR'S LETTER

WELCOME TO another edition of Wolf Print. It was very sad having to say goodbye to our two oldies over the last few months. Both Lunca (see tribute opposite) and Duma are very sorely missed but we still have ten beautiful wolves to show off, all of whom seem to be thoroughly enjoying life despite the weather this spring being absolutely awful.

Looking beyond our shores, the Trust is currently trying to raise the profile of the various conservation and research

would be little point in the Trust existing. Indeed we would simply be a “wolfy” theme park! In particular, we want to raise the profile of the heroes of the wolf world. Yes, heroes! The people that spend years and even decades tramping through the wilderness in all weathers, tracking, measuring, recording, indeed securing all the mountains of data that form the basis of the science of predator conservation. While we are cosily tucked

up in our warm and civilised surroundings they are out in the snow and rain in conditions that are often far from glamorous. They come into conflict with local people whose lives are impacted by large carnivores in a way that we can never be in this country. They wrangle with governments for

whom economics and politics are bound to take first place and yet our “wolfy” heroes are often the only reason that we still have wild wolves in many parts of



Sue Hull with Wolf Park's Wolfgang

the world. As a species, our anthropocentric viewpoint on life means that we often fail to recognise that the “real world” is the natural one that has existed for the last 4½ billion years. Simple lessons from the Yellowstone ecosystem in the USA show us that top predators are vitally important for everything lower down in the system, affecting everything from the vegetation to the invertebrates. It is no longer acceptable to say that these environments can do without the large carnivores that have evolved there. So yes, from Ethiopia to the forests of Russia, from the Balkans to the deserts of Mexico, these really are my heroes.

Sue Hull



06F resting on the banks of the Lamar river in Yellowstone

projects that it supports. I personally feel very strongly that this is one of the most important facets of the work that we do here, as without wild wolves there

Project of the month

On our website we are currently celebrating “project of the month” and the month of June was dedicated to our Ethiopian wolf hero, Claudio Sillero-Zubiri. Claudio is currently Chair of the IUCN Canid Specialist Group and for many years he has worked tirelessly in support of the endangered Ethiopian wolf which as many of you know is an elegant and beautiful canid that lives in the highlands of Ethiopia.

When I first became involved with wolves back in the early 1980s these animals were more usually referred to as Simian Jackals as their slimline shape, thin pointy snouts and red

coloration seemed to suggest that they were related to the jackals that are common in Africa. It was not until it became possible to compare the DNA of the various African and Asian canids that it turned out that they are more closely related to grey wolves than they are to Jackals. Only around 450 of these stunningly beautiful wolves are left – compare this to the human population of your local town! With no populations in captivity Professor Sillero's work to save them is of the greatest importance, not only for the wolves themselves but also for the endangered and rare Afroalpine habitat in which they live. The newly formed Ethiopian Wolf Project recently attended one of the Trust's open days in order to raise money for the programme of vaccinating the wolves and the local dog population against the ever present threat of rabies as well as canine distemper. If you want to support June's hero Claudio Sillero in his fight to save one of the world's most beautiful wolves go to our Facebook page or to the Trust's website where you can read more and donate to the project.



Ethiopian wolf – Will Burrard-Lucas, EWP

Photo competition

A quick reminder to those of you that haven't yet entered, the UKWCT photo competition closes to entrants on 5th August. Everyone from six years up can enter and be in with a chance to win a spot on an exclusive winner's photographic session here at the Trust and a spot on a wolf walk. You have to be in it to win so download the entry form from the website and email your **'BRITISH WILDLIFE'** photograph to us now.

LUNCA 1999–2013

LUNCA WAS destined for fame the moment she was born – along with her sister Latea and brother Alba they were the first European wolves born in the UK for over half a millennium. Hand reared, she grew into a feisty and mischievous puppy (aren't they all?) and on her first public outing



Danny Kidby-Hunter

managed to be rather travelsick in the back of the car, then rolled in it. Despite being distinctly sticky and smelly Lunca was an immediate hit with an

admiring audience.

Lunca, maturing along with her brother and sister, entered into the summertime events circuit with enthusiasm – they were completely unfazed by things like steam engines, a flyover by WWII military aircraft or a battle re-enactment – though she never did like hot air balloons, morris dancers or bagpipers. Unlike Duma and Dakota – who loved ice cream as an end-of-event treat – Lunca never really understood that ice cream should be eaten, instead preferring to roll in it (and then being cruelly pestered by wasps for the rest of the day).

Lunca was a TV star

As well as visiting shows and going out on walks with visitors, Lunca was a TV star, travelling to Scotland to appear in episodes of "Monarch of the Glen." On walks all three of the European wolves loved to splash around in whatever water they could find this included water troughs which upon jumping out Lunca in particular would shake and soak all those walking with her.

As an adult wolf, Lunca was the dominant female – seemingly gaining the role by virtue of being physically larger than her sister. This, however,

changed after some years – Latea deposing Lunca from the 'alpha female' role – but Lunca never totally submitted and Latea was continually having to show her authority by 'beasting' Lunca. This led to it sometimes being hard for Lunca to receive affection from her small circle of

We had to put her on a diet!

human friends. She took her reduced status with great stoicism and whether it was 'comfort eating' to compensate, or something else, we will never know but Lunca became seriously food-focused and would often steal and eat food from the other wolves as well as eating her



Pat Melton

usual portion. Becoming somewhat barrel-shaped as a result, we had to put her on a diet!

In her later years her eyesight began to fade, but her nose worked as well as ever and she still loved to go for walks where she would happily paddle in the stream or snuffle around in the hedgerows and roll in the most disgustingly stinky things she discovered there. She also loved those occasions when we moved the different packs of wolves between the enclosures, as she would then spend a happy afternoon discovering and devouring the – often very 'mature' – items of food cached by the enclosure's previous residents. She could also often be seen carrying pieces of food around and walking up and down the fence separating her enclosure from the other wolves – I guess she liked to see their reaction to this taunting.



Vicky Allison

With the death of her brother and sister, Lunca moved in with Duma (whose sister Dakota had also died) and both lived out a graceful retirement without the pressures of having to work with the public. As well as her eyesight, Lunca began to show signs of arthritis which was treated with various anti-inflammatories but which somewhat curtailed the length of her weekend recreational walks, but not her desire to eat or her willingness to roll over and receive extended tummy rubs from her favourite handlers.

When Lunca started to go off her food, which was a worry so the vet was asked to come and examine her. She had to be sedated for the vet's visit as he was not at all her favourite person. During an extensive examination and scan, it was found that Lunca had advanced liver cancer so it was decided to let her go peacefully under anaesthetic to save further suffering.

Lunca was a true character

Lunca – you were a true character: feisty, affectionate with those you considered your 'inner friendship circle,' mischievous, resolute – and you'll truly be remembered by us all.

Pete Morgan-Lucas



Neil Langford

UPDATE ON THE TRUST WOLVES

THE BEENHAM PACK

In spring, the Beenhams swapped enclosures with the Arctics, giving them a whole new area to explore and to make their own. The chance of finding a buried bone or piece of rather old food is high because wolves will cache or hide their food if they want to save it for another time. The Beenhams are now two years old and well on their way to full maturity.

NUKA is usually the last to find any buried treasure and follows his sisters around, trying to steal any morsels they may have found. In other words, he is letting them do the hard work for him! Nuka remains the charming, affectionate wolf to those he meets on a walk and people love his stunning looks and inquisitive nature. In late Spring he achieved a milestone – raised leg urination – a sign that he is maturing fast. Male wolves and indeed dogs can indicate their status by the height the scent mark reaches on a tree or other object. Nuka is mischievous, sometimes naughty and loves to get dirty, a typical boy. However, he is quite capable of reprimanding his sisters if they go too far in rough play.



Nuka, Tala and Tundra, by Tara Armstrong

TUNDRA established herself as dominant female during the breeding season and seems to have gained confidence from her new status. Although she still does not want to do meet and greets with visitors, she now walks at the side of the group calmly and confidently, still keeping a distance but near enough to keep an eye on what's going on. If her siblings decide to play in a muddy puddle she is happy to join them and our visitors get a wonderful view of her pretty face, although it may be covered in mud! Tundra is still hugely affectionate to those she knows and is a delightful wolf in every way – but maybe Tala doesn't see it that way....

TALA, having been demoted to subordinate female, seems to be content in her new role but will still occasionally tell off her sister, especially when there is food around. Tala had a little wobble recently when she wasn't sure if she wanted to do meets and greets, but it was short lived and she's back to normal now, happy to meet her public. Tala is getting quite protective of her handlers when they visit in the enclosure ... when Nuka becomes a little over-boisterous in greeting his humans, out of nowhere will come Tala, fast and furious, bowling over her brother like so much tumbleweed. Once he settles down and behaves, Tala is happy. She certainly hasn't been cowed by her demotion!

MAI AND MOTOMO

Mai and Motomo continue to enjoy each other's company. **MAI's** coat colour seems to change on a weekly basis and is now more silver than black. This just enhances her magnificent appearance and she regularly draws gasps of admiration from visitors. Mai and Motomo do not take part in public walks but Mai enjoys regular outings with her special handlers and it is a great privilege to interact with such a confident and beautiful wolf. Mai still loves to be scratched and petted through the fence by people she knows; she regards this as a right and considers herself to be the new Queen of the Wolf Trust!

MOTOMO is not too pleased with the attention that Mai receives and is getting

to be very bold and protective of her. From being a wolf that hid from people at every opportunity three years ago, he now bounds up to the fence during Mai's petting session and the handler who is currently enjoying some quiet time with Mai will suddenly be faced with a pair of glowing amber eyes looking straight into theirs, as if to warn that person away. It is wonderful that Motomo feels protective towards his



Motomo and Mai by Tara Armstrong

mate but as he is our only unsocialised wolf great care must be taken. We are very glad of our sturdy fencing.

MOSI AND TORAK

MOSI AND TORAK are well and happy together. **TORAK** especially loves to come out on his regular enrichment walks with Mosi and their special handlers. Since he retired from public duties, Torak is very relaxed about coming out and really makes the most of the walks, sniffing everywhere and investigating mole hills to see if there is anything living in there. Torak is a big, strong wolf but is a delight to walk and very polite on the lead. He has always been wary of large crowds and of people he doesn't know; this will not change because he is now fully mature.

MOSI could take a few lessons from Torak when out on their walks! She pulls like a train, always eager to get to the next smell, puddle or anything she feels should be investigated. If her sister Mai has been out just before then it is a



Mosi and Torak, by Danny Kidby-Hunter

matter of great urgency for Mosi to cover every scent mark with one of her own. In Mosi's mind, this indicates dominance over the sister for whom she has no love whatsoever! Mai however, does exactly the same thing and the two females are in constant dispute about

who is boss. This rivalry extends to the enclosures when Mosi and Mai will run the length of the dividing fence at full speed, snarling insults at each other and raising their tails high. Mosi is a great character and is afraid of nothing.

THE ARCTIC PACK

MASSAK treats the pond in the enclosure with a little caution and has never been seen to go in very far. He likes to paddle around

with legs all over the place before he will let them put his collar on. This behaviour has earned him the nickname of 'My Little Pony' and he is certainly large enough to warrant it. He is a magnificent looking wolf and has no trouble keeping his siblings in order.

SIKKO, the smallest of the three Arctics, has also earned herself a nickname, Princess Sikko. She is very

delicate and feminine and likes things to go her way. Sikko is still a little wary of people she doesn't know and is usually the last to come and greet her handlers. Sikko has a special way of greeting which consists of much squeaking, licking and gentle nibbling. Although she lives up to her nickname she is more than capable of holding her own with her two large brothers and, because she is more

nimble, can often duck and dive to get out of their way. She loves the pond and will spend a lot of time in the water, nosing around to see if there is anything interesting living there.

PUKAK is the most forward of the three wolves and usually the first to greet handlers. He doesn't have a specific role within the pack and because of this he must be watched when interacting with humans. He needs a job and can sometimes decide that this should consist of trying to get the better of handlers, either by trying a sneaky grab at clothing or an 'air snap' in someone's general direction. However, he is a great favourite with visitors and handlers alike because of his tendency to play to the crowd, making people laugh with his antics, and he can be very affectionate. Pukak loves his food, which has led to yet another nickname, but it is not very complimentary!

The Arctics continue to do public walks with small groups of people and are progressing well.

Angela Barrow



Vicky Allison

the edge and the feel of the water sends him into a frenzy of play, dashing about the enclosure like a very large puppy! He and his siblings had their second birthday in March but it seems like yesterday when they arrived as young cubs. Massak has established himself as dominant male and, as such, feels it is his duty to play up his handlers when it is time to go for a walk, prancing about,



The Wolf Issue

Kirsty Peake reports from Yellowstone National Park where the death last year of a dominant female wolf outside the park's protection has had a significant impact on the park's wolves' dynamics.

755M scavenging, by Kirsty Peake

One bullet...

Whether one of the breeding pair is removed from a pack by either natural or unnatural events it can have a devastating effect on the rest of the pack. This happened on 6th December, 2012 when 832F, the breeding female of the Lamar Canyon Pack, was legally shot during the 5% of the time they spent outside Yellowstone National Park. This is what all wolf packs are now facing in Montana, Wyoming and Idaho.

They had followed the deer and elk out of the Park on their migration to winter grazing land. With no wolves out there to stop them travelling further out, they just carried on. When she and another member of the pack were shot they were in a Trophy Zone. 832F was the final wolf allowed to be shot in that area. Had they been in a Wyoming 'Predator Zone' more of them could have been shot as any wolf can be killed in any way in those zones.

The effect of this killing, the news of which went worldwide, changed the pack forever. After the loss of 832F it

was not until 11th December that 755M (her mate) led them back to the Park. One of their daughters from their first litter had taken on the role of breeding female. The dynamics were already beginning to change; 755M would not breed with this wolf as she was his daughter, as were all the other females in the Pack.

Their first 'test' came on 13th December: they were howling from the north side of Lamar Valley then suddenly on the opposite side of the valley there was a multiple howl in answer. We surmised that this could only be the Junction Butte pack. On the following day the Lamar Canyons were once again bedded in Lamar Valley. The new female leader appeared restless. The pack moved off and travelled all the way down Lamar Valley. Little did we know that this would be the last time we would see the pack with 755M as the breeding male.

On 29th December three returned to Lamar Valley: 755M, the new breeding

female and one of her sisters. By 6th January we heard that two more wolves had been shot in a Wyoming Predator Zone and that possibly one of them had been a Lamar Canyon pup. There was still no sign of the remaining seven members of this pack and they were in complete disarray with the loss of 832F.

On 20th January 755M came back, alone. He had obviously left the pack and the hope now was that it had a new

breeding male. We were delighted to see 755M but also sad to see him on

his own. He had started, with 832F, one of the most watched wolf packs in Yellowstone in 2010 and now he had to start all over again. One bullet had changed his life.

On 25th January 755M was approached by a dispersing female from the Mollie pack. If this proved successful then 755M was about to start another pack.

755M and his new mate were left in peace in Lamar Valley until 12th March until the rest of the Lamar Canyons came

The last time with 755M as the breeding male



The Lamar Canyon Pack have a face-off with a grizzly, by Kirsty Peake

back – with two new males, both from the HooDoo pack. The first thing the pack did was to find the scent of 755M and his new mate and scent-trail them. Soon these two were running for their lives. The females in the Lamar Canyons caught the new mate and she went down under them. She got away but we could see the blood on her hindquarters.

The pup was torn between the main pack and 755M

What was tear-jerking was that the black pup realised that there was 'Dad' and rushed up to 755M. What a reunion these two wolves had. The pup was torn between the main pack and 755M. Finally he went back to the main pack – his chances of survival were better with them than with 755M.

After the clash 755M went to where his new mate had bedded and then moved out, heading west. Two days later the mortality signal on her collar kicked in. After the body was retrieved, the necropsy revealed that she had just one pup. That would have been enough if she had given birth to that pup – 755M, the only wolf to have started two packs in Yellowstone.

We were all stunned and again felt desperately sad for 755M who had lost another mate, albeit this time to natural causes. The following day the Lamar Canyon Pack left the Park to return to Wyoming.

On 18th March the Lamar Canyons came back again. The pack was successfully killing elk in Lamar Valley and all nine of them appeared to be settling in. The new breeding male is nicknamed Tall Grey. His chunky subordinate is a laid-back wolf indeed. The pack killed three bull elk in 48 hours.

The Lamar Canyons once more and 755M was again heading west, now

pursuing the third ranking female of the Junction Buttes, trying to entice her away from the Pack. He was doing a lot of howling and she was howling back, as was the breeding male of the Junction Butte. Whenever the Junction Buttes moved there was 755M scent trailing them!

At the beginning of April 755M was on his own again. He found a carcass down by the Blacktail ponds and was making good use of this. Also in the area was a grey appearing now and then. On 3rd April the grey was on the carcass and 755M was close by. It was obvious that these two had been meeting on and off over the previous few days. They appeared to be teaming up. The behaviour displayed by the grey made us a feel that this was a female. This was a different kind of relationship to that with the Mollie female. 755M was rejuvenated with this grey. Both of them were flirting with each other and playing together.

Back in Lamar Valley things were happening again. An 'unknown' grey was trying its best to bring down a yearling bull elk. When we got there the wolf was bedded and the elk was standing in the water. The wolf was Middle Grey from the Lamar Canyon Pack. Another female thrown out by the new breeding female: her sister?

Middle Grey finally despatched the elk during the night. The next morning revealed a black on the carcass, Middle Grey's younger sister. When the two met it was Middle Grey who was the submissive wolf and the black that dominated. They moved off to a winter kill carcass. Middle Grey would go off into the sage as if looking for something, at one point she even stood up on her hind legs to have a look around.

The following day showed us the reason. Yet another grey male arrived

Yet another grey male arrived

accompanied by a very heavily black pregnant female but not a Lamar

Canyon. This was the only time she was seen and we assumed she denned that night. The single female reappeared from the Gardiner area and joined this group of Big Male, Middle Grey and Black Female. The tables were turned as far as Middle Grey and the Black were concerned. Middle Grey was now very much the dominating female. For two or three days we watched this group arrange themselves and become comfortable with each other. It was good that the 'single grey' and Middle Grey (both looking in pup) had other wolves to help them. Additionally, there was the other black female presumably denned. Then the Lamar Canyons came back again and blew this little group apart. Once again, the single grey took off, as did the Lamar Canyon pack back to Wyoming.

...caused all this

What next for the wolves?

If they stay out in Wyoming the hunting will resume in September for that Trophy Zone and they will be vulnerable again. On the other side of the Park in Montana they also appear to be pushing for a stronger hunting season. If you have read Professor Garry Marvin's book 'Wolf' you will have read about lupophobia. This is alive and well in Montana, Wyoming and Idaho. I urge you to read on the UKWCT website the article by Norman Bishop which counteracts all the arguments as to why the wolves should be eradicated. Make no mistake; this is what these states want to do: eradicate them completely.

Kirsty Peake

DipCABT, CABP, MAPDT681

Kirsty holds an advanced diploma in Companion Animal Behaviour and Training. She also holds an advanced diploma specifically in dog behaviour. She is a COAPE Association Behaviour Practitioner. Kirsty has a great interest in wolves. She regularly gives talks on the Evolution of the Modern Dog and other related topics



Ethiopian Wolves

Wolves? In Africa? This is often the first thing a person says when they hear about the Ethiopian wolf. Throughout the 1980s, if asked if Africa had wolves, most scientists would have answered with a resounding No.

But, as Jaymi Heimbuch explains, advances in DNA research have revealed that there are, in fact, two wolves on the continent.

Africa's two wolves are the recently reclassified African wolf (formerly considered to be an Egyptian jackal – news article on page 23) and the Ethiopian wolf. A highly adapted predator, the Ethiopian wolf is one of the most endangered carnivores on the African continent and the single most endangered canid on the planet.

While not well known, the Ethiopian wolf has been in the country's highlands for tens of thousands of years. Mistaken for most of that time as a jackal or fox because of its lanky build and solitary hunting strategies, it was only recently proven that the Ethiopian wolf is actually related to the grey wolf. It is theorised that a common ancestor to both the grey wolf and Ethiopian wolf travelled down from Eurasia, made it to the Rift Valley and stopped moving south. Instead, they moved up – far up into the country's highlands.



Mole rat, by Will Burrard-Lucas

At 14,000 feet, rodents are the most abundant prey. So, the wolves evolved to be smaller and leaner, with longer snouts perfect for snatching a mole rat retreating into its burrow. Their colouring shifted to a rusty golden hue to match the summer ground cover, with white accents on the chest, chin and belly, and a short, bushy black tail.



Rebecca R. Jackrel | www.ethiopianwolfproject.com

Why are there fewer than 450 members of the species left?

While Ethiopian wolves hunt alone instead of in packs like their grey wolf cousins, they have not changed their highly social tendencies. They live in tightly knit packs, with all members helping to raise new litters of pups and patrol the edges of their territories. They maintain a clear hierarchy within each pack and have ritualised greetings.

The wolves are at the top of the food chain, there is little persecution from humans, and prey is relatively abundant. So why is it that there are fewer than 450 members of the species left?

The most immediate threat causing the species' decline is the presence of two diseases that have been under control in the US for decades: rabies and canine distemper virus (CDV) spread by domestic dogs.

The humans with whom wolves share their ecosystem are herders, and the goats and cattle are less a source of food or income as they are a status symbol. The more animals one has, the wealthier they are. So it is only expected that as the number of people in the area increases, the space where the animals can graze reaches farther and farther into wolf habitat. Compaction of the earth by hoofs and overgrazing are both significant issues that affect the wolves because they affect the prey on which they feed. But there is another more pressing problem that has arrived with the humans. The closer humans come

with their herds, the closer they bring their dogs.

The dogs of herders are semi-feral, used more as an alarm system against



Will Burrard-Lucas | www.ethiopianwolfproject.com

leopards and spotted hyenas than as shepherds. While they belong to the herder's family, they are not spayed or neutered, nor vaccinated, and they are left to their own devices to find food and water. Unfortunately, that means they head out to hunt the same rodent prey as the wolves, bringing the predators in contact with each other.

Coming into contact with infected dogs, or with the remains of infected animals, can mean death for not only one wolf but the entire population in that area. If one member of a pack picks up rabies while out hunting, it can spread to the rest of the pack in a matter of days. If that pack comes in contact with other wolves during morning patrol of territory boundaries, then the disease can quickly spread into more packs.

Researchers with the Ethiopian Wolf Conservation Programme (EWCP), founded in 1995 by Professor Claudio Sillero of the Wildlife Conservation

A 23-strong pack reduced to two by rabies

Research Unit of Oxford University, keep watch on specific “focal” packs to understand the population changes among the species. The Meggity pack is one of these focal packs and is an example of the devastation disease can cause. It was 23 members strong in 2008, but with one intense bout with rabies, it was reduced down to just two females. Three males from the neighbouring Alandu pack then joined them to form a new pack but shortly afterward a CDV outbreak hit. Only one male and one female survived. The pair had a litter of five pups during the 2011 breeding season, four of which are believed to still be alive as of this writing. If they make it to adulthood, the pack will have an even better chance at raising successful litters in the coming years.

Rabies has been effectively wiped out among domestic dogs in the United States, and CDV is also under control in most areas, so there is little doubt of the potential for vaccinations to help bring the Ethiopian Wolf back from near-extinction. However, it is far easier said than done.

“Over twenty years of field experience and three rabies outbreaks in the past decade have given the EWCP team the knowledge and skills to respond quickly and efficiently to try to stop this disease in its early stages. By swiftly vaccinating wolves living in key corridors to other wolf ranges we created critical ‘barriers’ to stop rabies in its tracks, eventually curtailing it from spreading to other wolves,” states Professor Sillero.

In 1989 domestic dog density in the Web Valley, a small region of prime wolf habitat within the Bale Mountains, was estimated at 0.7 dogs per square kilometer, an average of 11 dogs per settlement. While there is no current estimate, numbers have grown as more people have moved into the mountains. The EWCP vaccinates 5,000 domestic dogs yearly in the hope of slowing the disease.

This is no small task. Keeping 5,000 dogs vaccinated yearly is in itself a monumental effort, including raising the funding for the programme as well as educating the herders on why

vaccinations are important. EWCP has been able to vaccinate over 65,000 dogs to date. But paramount to the group’s goal of saving the species is administering vaccinations to the wolves themselves.

“Swift vaccination in a cordon sanitaire has helped protect the wolves from rabies outbreaks in the past, but our aspiration is to prevent rabies from affecting the wolves altogether,” states Professor Sillero.

In 2011, the EWCP team was given permission by the Ethiopian government to start a pilot programme testing oral vaccinations for the wolves. The team

used a baiting strategy with an oral attenuated live vaccine,

which has been used successfully in bait drops in the United States to eradicate rabies in wild populations of coyote and raccoon. The vaccine is held within a packet hidden inside the bait. As the wolf bites down, the vaccine coats the mucus membranes in the wolf’s mouth and is absorbed into the system. If EWCP can get even just 40% of a pack vaccinated for rabies that can boost the pack’s survival chances by as much as 90%.

The pilot project by EWCP revealed that this strategy for administering the rabies vaccine is indeed effective, and now the organisation is devising a plan for ending CDV outbreaks and expanding the rabies vaccination program.

“The pilot study is well advanced and we hope to roll out the vaccination campaign in the not too distant future,” says Professor Sillero.

In the meantime, one might ask why the effort matters so much.

Why should we care about saving the Ethiopian wolf from extinction? Most of the world doesn’t even know this species exists, so why fight with tooth and nail to save this species when we have polar bears and pandas and penguins to worry about? The answer comes down to one of the most intense and immediate problems across Africa as a continent today: water.



Administering vaccinations, by Will Burrard-Lucas

Ethiopia is the source of water for many of its neighbours and is often referred to as the “water tower” of eastern Africa. In the north, water from the Simien Mountains feeds the Blue Nile River, one of the two major rivers feeding the Nile River and the source of most of its water and fertile soil. In fact, nearly 90% of the water and 96% of the sediment in the Nile River originates from Ethiopia. Additionally, precipitation from the Bale region in the south of the country is the water source for Kenya and Somalia, primarily via the Dawa and Omo Rivers flowing into Kenya and the Shebelle and Jubba Rivers flowing into Somalia. The care of the highlands is of tantamount importance for humans as well as wildlife – and the Ethiopian wolf is the iconic species that can help spur that stewardship.

The wolf is an endemic species, found nowhere else on the planet but here in Ethiopia’s highlands. Protecting these wolves means protecting the habitat in which they live, and protecting the habitat does more than just boost the odds of wolves surviving, it also protects the water source for 85 million people.

The next major war will be about water, and the wolves are a flagship species for an area that is so key to Africa’s water supply.

Jaymi Heimbuch

The EWCP is on the ground every day working to save these wolves through research, education and of course vaccination. Visit their website at www.EthiopianWolf.org to learn how you can support their efforts. Information on the recent documentary conservation project by wildlife photographers, Will Burrard-Lucas and Rebecca R Jackrel, can be found at EthiopianWolfProject.com.

Life and behaviour of wolves: The practicali

With the recent reintroduction of beavers to the Highlands and the myriad of re-wilding projects being conducted in Continental Europe, it is no surprise that the idea of reintroducing a large charismatic species to the Scottish Highlands captures interest and was recently debated on Earth Day in Lochinver, Scotland. To celebrate his tenth article for Wolf Print, researcher Pete Haswell thought it time he attempted to give an overview of the rather complicated issue he is most commonly asked about: reintroduction of wolves to the UK.



The UK is encouraged to consider the feasibility of restoring species that have become locally extinct by article 11 of the Bern Convention, article 9 of the Convention of Biological Diversity and under the EC habitats directive 92/43/EEC. The aim of any reintroduction should be to establish viable free-ranging populations in the wild that require minimal long term management. It is important to consider the factors involved in the animal's extirpation and those involved in its reintroduction, as well as the consequences before any animal is reintroduced. In fact, recommendation R(85)15 of the Council of Europe on the reintroduction of wildlife species suggests that reintroduction projects should be preceded by ecological and socioeconomic research and should proceed only after the causes of the species' disappearance has been remedied. It is also worth noting that the UK Conservation (Natural Habitats, etc.) Regulations 1994 takes a present-day view of those species whose natural range includes Great Britain and do not include any extinct mammals.

Wolves are believed to have been lost to the British Isles by the late 1600s. The Scottish Highlands, having a lower human population and higher wild ungulate prey density than in parts of Europe where large carnivores survive, are generally considered the only viable UK region capable of supporting a stable wolf population. With recent news articles covering the growth in deer populations, it is no surprise some would welcome the wolf's return. Red deer populations are thought to be close to the food-limited carrying capacity across much of the Highlands and high deer densities hamper reforestation, degrade habitat, decrease bird densities, collide

with traffic and compete for grazing pastures with livestock.

Unlike many parts of Europe, there isn't the economic demand for deer products, preventing control from being cost-efficient. Some simulations suggest that reintroducing wolves is likely to generate conservation benefits by lowering deer densities and freeing deer estates from the financial burden of costly hind culls, earning estates an extra £250 per 10km² per year. However, other simulations suggest wolves are unlikely to have any significant impact on the high density deer populations now living in Scotland. It is possible that wolf activity could have similar

stabilising ecosystem service effects to those seen elsewhere, maybe even providing scavengeable food sources for threatened species like pine martens and the wild cat as well as birds of prey. Eco-tourism would no doubt provide economic value and the cultural benefits of the species are reflected by the generally positive attitudes found in studies of the Scottish public towards the idea.

So is it reasonable? There is no easy answer; reintroduction would require in-depth study as well as an incredible amount of preparation and continued management. Like the rest of the UK any introduced animals would require strict

ities of reintroduction

management. A key question is: can we truly predict the ecological implications wolves will have on other sensitive species or habitats? Even once the environmental benefits and costs are weighed up, ecological models and habitat feasibility studies completed, there would be a wealth of management complications to contemplate. The human element cannot be considered enough. The potential for conflicts with livestock farmers would require preparations and outreach to provide knowledge and tools for the husbandry techniques needed to protect livestock, as well as considering how best to approach compensation schemes for losses. The use of livestock guarding dogs would also require cultural change and engagement for other landscape users. Wolf conflicts with recreational users, dogs, hunters and even encroachment on refuse sites and areas of human habitation would all need to be considered and managed. Without public and stakeholder support, engagement and consideration, any reintroduction effort would likely be a disaster. An adaptable management plan considering the needs of all interested parties would be essential.

Problems arise even in the seemingly more simple issue of obtaining wolves for reintroduction. Where will the wolves come from? Will they be wild caught or captive bred? Will wolves raised in captivity be able to survive and will they be habituated to people – leading to conflicts? How many will be introduced and with what level of genetic diversity? Will they be socially bonded? Is it fair to upset social groups

and pack dynamics? One of the most pivotal questions for the entire idea of reintroduction is: will inbreeding depression and genetic diversity pose a problem? Being an island population, will it be possible to obtain enough diversity to sustain a stable population

Can we truly predict the ecological implications wolves will have on other sensitive species or habitats?

without welfare implications, or will it constantly need to be rescued with mainland stock?

Another problem arises when you consider the wolf's roaming capabilities. What are the management options when populations expand to fill available territory and migrate into inappropriate areas? How will the population be managed and will those in favour of reintroduction be happy with this? Hybridisation with domestic dogs, traffic collisions and conflicts unacceptable to the public are big risks with wolves expanding into areas outside any proposed reintroduction zone. Can a reintroduced population truly be considered self-sustaining with such a high level of future management and interference?

Fenced reserves have been proposed by some as a means to provide ecosystem services, protect endangered species and prevent many potential conflicts posed by a truly wild release. Such enclosures are used in South Africa to preserve African wild dogs. These populations are artificially dispersed with their gene flow managed and frequency of exchange between enclosures based on the reproductive lifespan. These animals have however begun to alter behaviour, utilising fences

to gain a somewhat unfair advantage in prey capture. Some key questions of this approach must be asked: can human interference truly replace complex social dynamics and migratory behaviour? Is the welfare of the enclosed animals truly upheld? And, realistically, would enclosures provide ecosystem services and scientific opportunities or simply serve as little more than a tourist attraction?

Attempting to answer the popular question of wolf reintroduction to the UK, one simply comes across more questions. This is the crux of the issue: it is incredibly complicated, with too much to be considered to answer accurately without many years of in-depth study. It is likely that there are many considerations I have also neglected to recount. Will we see wolves roaming Britain again in our lifetime? Unlikely, but I suppose we can never be too sure. As sad as the loss of many charismatic mega-fauna is to the British Isles, we have a great abundance of wildlife that we should be proud of, enjoy and continue to protect. Lessons have hopefully been learnt and we should be careful with our delicate islands, as we do not have the fortune that the mainland has in having our mistakes rectified easily.



Pete Haswell, BSc Hons Environmental Science (Biodiversity and Conservation), is collaborating with Professor Josip Kusak on a project the UKWCT supports in Croatia. You can read more about his work on his website <http://petehaswellwolfresearch.wordpress.com/>

UK WOLF CONSERVATION TRUST



2014



© Daisy Kirby Innes - America



© White Moon - USA



© Lisa Armstrong - Texas and Idaho



© Florida State Park - America



© Tracy Annas-Dugan - Alaska and Idaho



© Gary Armstrong - Canada



© Alex Rogers - USA



© Aaron and Neil - Alaska



© Amanda Steele - Australia



© Darren Prescott - USA



© Pat Adams - Alaska and Idaho



December 2014			
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28
29	30	31	

© Jackson & Kirby Innes - America

UK WOLF CONSERVATION TRUST 2014

Registered Office and Correspondence Address:

UK Wolf Centre, Butlers Farm, Beedham, Reading, Berks RG7 5NT

Telephone: 0118 971 3330 e-mail: info@ukwct.org

Web: www.ukwct.org

Front Cover to Daisy Kirby Innes - America



Designed, Published & Printed in the UK

UKWCT 2014 Calendar

- 13 stunning pictures of the Trust's 10 wolves
- Includes Massak, Sikko and Pukak – the first Arctic wolves in the UK
- A4 opening to A3
- Supplied with mailing envelope for you to send to a friend or relative

£8.50 from
www.ukwolf.org

UKWCT
Exclusive



October 2014

September 2014
M T W T F S S
1 2 3 4 5 6 7
8 9 10 11 12 13 14
15 16 17 18 19 20 21
22 23 24 25 26 27 28
29 30
October 2014
M T W T F S S
1 2 3 4 5 6 7
8 9 10 11 12 13 14
15 16 17 18 19 20 21
22 23 24 25 26 27 28

Wednesday
1

Thursday
2

Friday
3

Saturday Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur)
4

Sunday
5

Monday
6

Tuesday
7

Wednesday
8

Thursday
9

Friday
10

Saturday
11

Sunday
12

Monday
13

Tuesday
14

Wednesday
15

Thursday
16

Friday
17

Saturday
18

Sunday
19

Monday
20

Tuesday
21

Wednesday
22

Thursday Diwali
23

Friday United Nations Day
Hindu New Year (Vikram)
24

Saturday Islamic New Year (Muharram)
25

Sunday British Summer Time ends (clocks back)
26

Monday Holiday (Rep. Ireland)
27

Tuesday
28

Wednesday
29

Thursday
30

Friday Halloween
31

© Darren Prescott - Moss

Project update: Orphan Wolf Pups Rehabilitation Programme



Pictures by Vladimir Bologov

The research on wolves in the Central Forest Nature Reserve was started by Viktor Bologov in 1974. His son, Vladimir Bologov, continued his work in the reserve from 1984 and as a researcher from 1993. He studies wolf ecology, wolf control methods and aspects of the wolf/human conflict. Vladimir set up volunteering opportunities in the reserve to help raise funds and gain assistance with data collection.

The UK Wolf Conservation Trust has been supporting the research since 2006 with £27,941 in donations to-date.

Laetitia Becker is from Strasbourg and first came to Russia as an eco-volunteer in 2004 and since then has been working with wolf pups, observing them and preparing them to return to the wild. Laetitia brings us this update.

According to official data, about 40,000 wolves currently live in Russia. The average density is about two wolves/1000 km². From time to time, we hear about wolf problems in the media (attacks, rabies, etc.) but usually the people who report these stories do not have the scientific proof to support the theories they put forward. The general idea is that there are too many wolves and that they kill too many game animals. But in fact, nobody knows what is meant by “too many” and there are too few field specialists left to provide objective data about the wolf population.

Nowadays, the trend in the European part of Russia is for a decrease of the wolf population which may be due to the development of methods of communication. Today, even in the remotest places in the countryside and the forest, there is mobile phone connection and people can receive information about the location of wolves very easily and quickly.

Big packs of wolves attract more attention and the

interest of people. There are always people interested in killing wolves, especially hunters who consider that the more wolves they kill, the more game animals there will be for them to hunt.

Wolves are not protected by law or considered a fur-bearing game species. When the winter hunting season closes on 1 March, the wolf remains the only species that can still be hunted. Officially, it is also forbidden to use techniques with engine (skidoo, helicopter, etc) to track animals, but eyes are closed for such use with wolves. The methods most commonly used are fladry, shooting, traps, snares, and den hunts. Every year, up to 10,000 wolves are killed, mainly in winter (75% in November to March).

In Russia, each region can decide how to manage its wolves. In general, the attitude towards wolves is never positive, only negative or neutral. Hunting associations claim that there are many problems with wolves as an argument to receive supplementary money in their budgets to fight the species.

Rehabilitating captive-born wolves

In 1993 the game biologist Vladimir Bologov created a shelter for wolf pups coming from hunters in the Tver region (400km north-west from Moscow). With his knowledge of wolf biology and ecology, Vladimir tested different methods of rearing, depending on the behaviour displayed by pups: in an enclosure; free in the forest; with foster parents. Year after year, he acquired experience and know-how necessary to rear and rehabilitate any wolf pup sheltered in the centre.

With his successful experience with wild-caught animals, Vladimir was rapidly contacted by zoos. Indeed, wolves breed well and every year, a new litter of pups is born in captivity. Due to lack of space, surplus animals build up in zoos. In the context of their conservation programmes, it is clearly the intention of zoos to place these animals in the best possible situation: reintroduction into the

wild. Vladimir started working with captive-bred pups in 1995.

For 18 years, a total of 65 wolf pups were reared in the region of Tver, and amongst them 57 were successfully rehabilitated.

Despite the success of these methods, Vladimir was looking for a more natural way, without fences. His past experience showed that the less human contact and the more freedom the animals have, the better their chance to successfully return to the wild.

In 2011, Vladimir led expeditions to find a good place for this. One of the best sites appears to be the Republic of Karelia (1,000 km from the Tver region) in northern Russia, a region with wide lakes and plenty of large islands. The low human density and little infrastructure on



the one hand and the unspoiled forest and high density of prey species on the other, confirmed the good conditions of the area.

Over two years, nine wolf pups were released on islands. Zoos also offered bears and lynx. Three bear cubs and one lynx were also rehabilitated following similar methods.

Research principles and objectives

The project starts each year with the birth of baby carnivores in April to May in zoos and ends in March to April of the following year with the return of animals to the wild. There are three main steps:

1. Behavioural trait assessment

In May-June, when the animals are about four to six weeks old, they are transported from zoos to the Tver region. During the first four weeks, they are kept in large enclosures. The enclosures provide protection from predators and ensure that the animals eat and grow well. At the same time, their behaviour will be observed and each individual will be assessed to give its general profile and to monitor its behavioural skills before release.

2. Free-rearing

At about three months old, the animals are moved to the Republic of Karelia, and released onto islands. The islands are about 200 hectares, covered by virgin forest and bush. Many birds and mice living on the islands constitute the first prey. Fish and duck living in and on the waters surrounding the islands provide further prey items. The wild berries (bilberries and cranberries) are additional sources of food. To supplement this food, large amounts of meat is left at feeding points equipped

with photo traps. Despite the difficulty in seeing them, the animals are observed as often as possible to monitor their behaviour. Scat is collected and analysed to identify their diet on the island.

3. Post-release monitoring

At the beginning of winter, before the lake completely freezes and the animals disperse further, they are caught, anaesthetised, marked with an ear-tag and fitted with GPS/Argos collars. From November to April, their positions and movements are followed, thanks to the locations sent by the satellite collar every day. The positions are checked in the field where the staff look for tracks (footprints, scat, remains of prey, etc). Every clue found is collected for future analysis.

The objective is to have the following information for every animal: DNA profile, behavioural profile, frequency of feeding at meat point, diet on the island, movement on the island, post-release diet and post-release movement.

By relating the post-release success to the pre-release profile, we hope to find out the characteristics needed for captive-born carnivores to be successfully returned to the wild.

The right choice

Despite all the logistic problems (transport, food and financial) that this new site in Karelia brought, Vladimir is convinced by the relevance of his choice. During his expeditions in 2011, there were no wolf tracks in the wild. Two years later, on the releasing site, wolf tracks can be found. It's not only Russian Karelia that has a problem with its wolf population. On the other side of the border, in Finland, the wolf population is quite small and still at risk. And farther in Sweden, the problem is the lack of fresh blood due to an isolated population. In this context, the work of Vladimir Bologov seems to have found a good place.

Author: Laetitia Becker (PhD in biology, working with Vladimir Bologov)

N.B.: The project is mainly supported by the Lupus Laetus Association (www.lupuslaetus.org) and the UK Wolf Conservation Trust.



Making Tracks

wolves in the media and the arts, brought to you by Julia Bohanna

THE HIDDEN LIFE OF WOLVES

Jim and Jamie Dutcher, HB, 192pp, 254 x 178mm, National Geographic, RRP £16.99 from the UKWCT online shop at ukwolf.org. See also page 27.



'Wolf camp was an ever evolving project... our heat came from firewood, our shower water came from the creek or melted snow, and our light and cooking flame came from candles and propane.'

In Jim and Jamie Dutcher's previous book *Living with Wolves*, readers shared the Dutchers' deep and spiritual love for the habituated wolf pack, The Sawtooth Pack of Idaho. The Dutchers have always been quick to admit that they are not scientists but many of those observations, made during such an intimate and long-running project, were fascinating and valuable.

Now, in *The Hidden Life of Wolves*, the Dutchers analyse canus lupus' ambassadorial place in society, from a position of wisdom and experience. Quoting from biologists such as the late Gordon Haber gives the work weight

and balance: 'Wolves have been known to make social calls on parents and younger siblings in their old pack.' This conjured to me (forgive the blatant anthromorphism) a wolf in a scarf ringing a doorbell while the other relatives hide because Auntie is here again.

However, there is a serious point. Replace the word 'wolf' in the text with 'man' or 'human.' When the Dutchers describe the lupine propensity for play, love – even sacrifice and mourning, we could be talking about the humans quite easily. As the Dutchers put it: 'If we are to share the landscape with them, we need to understand how wolves learn and develop patterns of behavior.' Themes of hierarchy, territory, travel and dispersal are not simply animal preoccupations.

In *The Hidden Life of Wolves*, we learn about wolves' hunting strategy, bonding rituals, conflict with humanity. But the truly unique element of the book is the unbridled delight the Dutchers so clearly have: noting wolves' obsession with ice for example, or more specifically, with bubbles trapped within and the constant reinvention of water into something more magical but really, just as refreshing!

The photography is magnificent, creating a perfect sense of place. But this is more than a book of beautiful images – it feels very intimate, deeply connected to nature. We have previously followed The Sawtooth Pack, through birth, play – even tragedy. Wolves we learned to love through the Dutchers' eyes – Kamots, Lakota and the gang. *The Hidden Life* teaches us more, without being blatantly didactic. It will always be a story of compassion. Compassion so often demonstrated by wolves to one another. Isn't it time for man to follow their example?

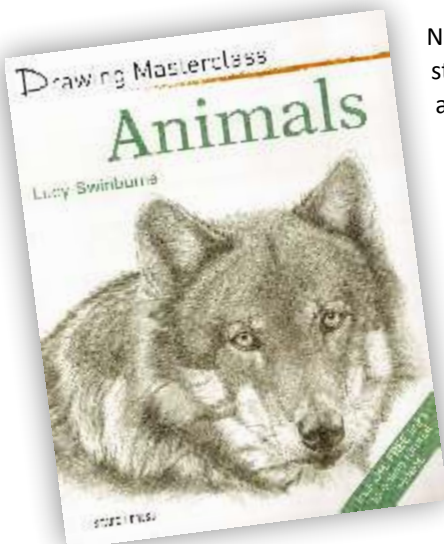
Over 20 years, Jim and Jamie Dutcher have studied and documented wolf behaviour. Their award-winning films previously featured beavers, cougars, and marine ecosystems. Their wolf documentaries earned them various Emmy Awards.

In 2005, they founded Living with Wolves, a nonprofit organisation dedicated to raising broad public awareness of the truth about wolves. Jim served as a consultant to the Yellowstone National Park grey wolf reintroduction project. The couple now travel across America to share their experiences.

Available from UKWCT – see page 27

DRAWING MASTERCLASS – ANIMALS

Lucy Swinburne, PB, 99pp, 216 x 280mm, Search Press, RRP £12.99 ISBN: 978-1-84448-772-1



NO ONE can put a book together like an artist. This is no exception. The wolf on the cover is stunning, an indication of the work inside. There is an initial chapter on the history of drawing animals, with diverse reference to great artists like Cecil Aldin and Leonardo da Vinci.

Not only beautiful, this also a logical book – covering the materials needed and how to start planning your artwork. For anyone who may be daunted by the whole process, it makes it easy to be organised.

The first animal is of course the wolf, Lucy Swinburne's favourite creature. What I particularly love is that the book feels very personal, from the heart – which makes it engaging. It is not only a great guide, but a very interesting read. It profiles for example a lovely rescue dog called Poppy – so we not only see the stages of drawing Poppy, but we also hear her story. Ditto a cat called Tom.



THE LAST WILD

Piers Torday, PB, 320pp, Quercus Books
RRP £6.99 ISBN: 978-1-78206-403-9

TALING COCKROACHES, a feisty wolf cub with father issues, a cigar-smoking redhead named Ma and a silent boy who has been mysteriously institutionalised for six years. Oh and a talking flock of pigeons. Did I mention pigeons? If that all seems wonderfully inventive and engaging – it truly is. However, we need to rewind. In 'The Last Wild' we initially meet a sad and depleted world where animals have been hunted down after they are victims of an allegedly contagious disease humans call the 'red-eye.' Food is pink flavoured slop that would make Pot Noodle seem like a Masterchef creation and auburn-haired Kester Jaynes – our narrator – sits in his room at Spectrum Hall, bemoaning the fact that 'sitting on your bum and sleeping,' is pretty much his life. A life that does indeed appear bleak.

But there is more than one hero in The Last Wild. Hope is coming. There is also – beyond the truly awful Spectrum Hall – a world where The Last Wild is fighting for survival. It's a truly pertinent conservation message. Ultimately this is a quest: 'You can tell your fellow men that the last wild still lives and bring us a cure.'

The Last Wild has a lesson (without ever being overtly didactic) about mankind's responsibility to the planet. The story can also be funny and wise, as well as showing us the human capacity for destruction and selfishness. The animal characters are vivid, such as the pigeon: '...the feathers on his scalp are skew-whiff like he just got out of pigeon-bed.' Captain Skuldiss – an appropriately and nastily-named human – is a version of Chitty Chitty Bang Bang's The Child Catcher – who takes a little too much pleasure in destroying animals who are liable to infect humans.

Will Kester find Professor Dawson Jaynes, his own father – and ultimately get him to help with a cure? Will the stag and the others survive? Will the dancing mouse be OK? What happened to the disappearing cat? So many animals and so much at stake. There are also so many lyrical touches – rivers are called 'fish roads' and there is a lovely enigmatic phrase that '...animals only believe in two things – calls (songs) and dreams.' Also, a parachute composed of live pigeons. Gorgeous.

The wolf-cub is also brave and a great role model. His story is heartbreaking. We should all encourage our children to read this book. It's about a possible future if mankind keeps being foolishly anti-conservationist. Our children are



the future and their strong bonds and feelings for other species, will be more vital than ever.

Piers Torday has worked in theatre and now works in TV, having previously invented the gameshow 'Come and Have A Go If You Think You're Smart Enough.' He now also works with Beanstalk (beanstalkcharity.org.uk) to encourage young readers on their literary journeys. 'The Last Wild' is his first novel. www.pierstorday.co.uk/me/

Piers will be running one of the two creative writing workshops for children during this year's Wolf Awareness Week. See page 32 and ukwolf.org

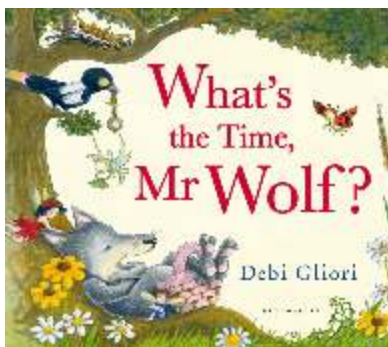
WHAT'S THE TIME, MR WOLF?

Debi Gliori, PB, 32pp, 245 x 274 mm, Bloomsbury Children's,
RRP £6.99, ISBN 978-1-4088-1940-1

SO MANY times I pick up illustrated wolf books – particularly children's books – and groan. Weighted by negative PR, the wolf usually

emerges as the demon: a sly, evil predator who is all paws and claws, without redeeming features. A hairy scary face snarling out at a young child is rarely a good introduction to a species.

But not this time. Mr Wolf is truly an adorable character, who we first see clutching a blue teddy bear in bed. It weaves through – with exquisite illustrations – many familiar characters



from fairy tales such as the *Three Little Pigs* and even *Red Riding Hood*, the latter of whom is cleverly reinvented as a postgirl.

Mr Wolf, for a young person's storybook, is quite a defined character. He is full of bluff, a little bit grumpy in the morning

and superficially, initially quite macho. He is particularly annoyed by all the (desperately cute) characters asking him the time all day.

Actually, his macho front belies the fact that he is quite happy to go shopping with his pink straw basket, eat cake and, like most of us, he struggles to keep up with his life and sort out his timekeeping!

There is a lovely surprise for Mister Wolf in Debi Gliori's story, organised by his friends – which I won't ruin for you or any young children you might want to entertain with this book. The bold, vibrant colours and sense of incredible mischief will make this a fantastic story to read and share with children of about 4-6 years old. It is also, refreshingly, a lovely gentle and positive portrayal of *canis lupus*.

Debi Gliori (debiglioribooks.com) is well known for both her children's picture books and novels. She has twice been shortlisted for the Kate Greenaway Award and the Scottish Arts Council Award. Other books include No Matter What, The Trouble With Dragons, Stormy Weather and The Scariest Thing of All.

T Delene Beeland, Clothback, 272pp, 24 illus., 2 figs., 2 maps., bibl., index, University of North Carolina Press
RRP \$28.00 ISBN 978-1-4696-0199-1

THE ENIGMATIC and shy red wolf (*canis rufus*) is undoubtedly a fascinating study for a book. Is it a species or subspecies? The result of coyotes mating with grey wolves? Or something entirely different? Whatever the truth of the newest genetic theory, T. Delene Beeland wanted to produce a 'current, comprehensive general-audience' book about this lesser-known lupine, that would unravel its struggle for survival. Over one season Beeland followed several Fish and Wildlife Service biologists, then added her own research, to present this account. Considering the harsh statistics – that there are approximately only about 100–120 red wolves left in the wild – it is important to bring their plight to people's attention. There are also only 200 captive red wolves, spread throughout forty-one breeding facilities in the United States. Places like the deeply appropriately named Point Defiance Zoo in Tacoma, Washington.

The first surprise to many might be that the red wolf is in fact not red at all – but actually tawny beige black. At

between 55–85lb it falls size-wise between a coyote and a grey wolf. It may sound odd but the Red Wolf is like an onion – layer upon layer of facts and data has slowly revealed itself during careful field observation. But the true engagement I felt with this book was in the talent of the writer to immediately capture an acutely poignant sense of place, in the Albemarle Peninsula in North Carolina, this beautiful creature's natural stomping ground. An area rich in wildlife, there is a vivid lyricism to the 'luminous golden-brown iced tea pocosin lakes' and the 'woodpecker drums a rat-a-tat tune that reverberates in the surrounding woods.' I thought I was fairly adept with words but this had me scrabbling to find the definition of pocosin, which is an upland swamp of the coastal plain of the southeastern United States.

In fact I was learning sentence by sentence, particularly more in depth about the Red Wolf Recovery Program, which we have previously featured in Wolf Print. The programme (or program, as you like it) is now 26 years old and

there are still struggles and harsh realities aplenty for the species, which is so human-averse that when caught it often defecates in fear. Other problems include mating and dilution with coyote populations, being mistaken for coyotes, mange, heartworm etc.

The Red Wolf clearly may be a victim but this book presents an intelligent and detailed insight into its world and hopefully will stir more awareness, so that even more money and heart can be invested in its continued growth and survival. It truly felt like a privilege to have this door into a secret world opened.

T DeLene Beeland is a nature and science writer living in Asheville, North Carolina. www.delene.us



A FLAME-HAIRED little wolf that can be caught and calmed under a blanket. A landscape of exquisite colour that is dream-like in composition, particularly with this dazzling standard of photography. Welcome to Ethiopia's highlands, home to the endangered Ethiopian Wolf. Perhaps only 450 of these creatures still remain (please repeat that out loud) and even in their prime, their numbers were always relatively low. 'As of this writing, only six small populations of Ethiopian wolves remain, with the largest

THE ETHIOPIAN WOLF – Hope at the Edge of Extinction

Jaymi Heimbuch; Photographs: Will Burrard-Lucas and Rebecca R Jackrel, HB, 152pp, 361 x 282mm, Lobelia Press, San Francisco, RRP \$50.00, ISBN 978-0-9815813-1-6

population of about two hundred individuals living in the Bale Mountains.' In such a crisis of existence, this book has never been more needed.

Ethiopian wolves have a number of problems, all of which are highlighted in Heimbuch's account. In such a small intensely bonded group of wolves – disease will always blight lupine populations. Anyone attending any of founder of Ethiopian Wolf Conservation Programme (EWCP), Professor Claudio Sillero's lectures at the UK Wolf Trust's seminars – and reported in previous editions of Wolf Print – will be well aware of the continuing fight against rabies and canine distemper virus. Keeping vaccinations cool in such a melting climate and rounding up dogs (and persuading owners) to vaccinate, are huge challenges for biologists.

This pretty long-eared wolf may be small, but it still has to maintain its body weight. That means either chomping its way through four to five grass rats (60-180 g) each or preferably one giant mole rat that weighs 930g. A giant mole rat takeaway can be partly eaten and even some of it buried for later retrieval. But the wolf often has to sometimes work hard to burrow out a mole who is as canny as it is ugly. This toothsome beast '...keeps one eye on the sky and one on its breakfast of sweet Lady's Mantle.' If the soil has been impacted during human transit or development, the wolf's life becomes more difficult.

So far, it seems bleak. Awareness has to be raised. But this book is also celebration of a country, its people, its wildlife. It talks about focal packs that

wolves of the world

THE AFRICAN WOLF

Camera traps deployed by scientists have captured images of the African wolf “Canis lupus lupaster,” an uncatalogued species on the list of Moroccan wildlife and confused for a long time with the golden jackal. “The wolf has never been reported in Africa. There is confusion between the golden jackal in Africa and the wolf. But now we have proof that it is a true wolf.”



This scientific discovery was made as part of a study of mammals in the region of the Atlas, initiated in 2009 by the University of El Jadida, the Spanish University of Alicante, the Center for Wildlife UAE (Emirates Center for Wildlife Propagation) and the High Commission for Water, Forests and the fight against desertification.

According to the literature, the existence of African wolves was

suspected by a famous Spanish zoologist in the 1920s. This was the distinction between a gray jackal (which is the golden jackal) and a “great jackal” that Europeans called “wolf.”

According to surveys conducted in the field, wolves co-exist peacefully with the local people, because they have a wealth of resources (rodents, civets, etc.) After the discovery of the African wolf in Morocco, two other similar findings have

been reported, one in Algeria and one in Senegal. These findings show that there is a population of African wolves. To understand the mysteries of the appearance of this wild species in Morocco, the research team will explore further in the autumn.

For the full article (in French) go to: <http://tiny.cc/smazyw>

PREDATOR AND PREY – A DELICATE DANCE

The National Park Service is expected to decide this autumn whether to save the Isle Royale wolves – a decision that will test our ideas about wilderness and our relationship with nature. This is because the park is also a federally designated wilderness area, where, under federal law, “the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain.”

If we intervene to save the wolf, will we be undermining the very idea of not meddling that, since the passage of the Wilderness Act in 1964, has been the guiding principle behind the protection of 109 million acres of federal land?

The park service has three options: conserve Isle Royale’s wolf population by taking new wolves to the island to mitigate inbreeding, an action known as genetic rescue; reintroduce wolves to

the island, if and when they go extinct; or do nothing, even if the wolves disappear.

As the lead researchers in the study of wolves and moose, we favour conservation or reintroduction. But more important than our view is the reasoning behind it.

See the full article at <http://tiny.cc/abbyzw>

◀ The Ethiopian Wolf– Hope at the Edge of Extinction



were studied such as the Meggity pack. But it spans wider – the charming Ethiopian coffee ceremony, the people and the efforts made by EWCP to teach species protection in schools and villages. Coexistence is the keyword here. Science and photography blend beautifully in capturing digitally not only wolves but a sense of other wildlife that makes this region worthy of preservation. This book is about African hope, beauty and sheer bloody-mindedness. A determination to ensure that these images will not be the only thing we have left of a unique and elegant species of wolf. Hope is the key word here. It’s the one always left there in the box.

www.EthiopianWolfProject.com

Jaymi Heimbuch (<http://jaymiheimbuch.com/>)

Jaymi writes on technology, wildlife conservation and water issues. Her writing has appeared on TreeHugger.com, Discovery.com, PlanetGreen.com and in BBC Wildlife Magazine.

www.Burrard-Lucas.com

www.RebeccaJackrel.com

Reaction is mixed to federal government blanket delisting of gray wolf

A PLAN by the federal government to end protection for gray wolves received mixed reactions from environmental groups to ranchers. EarthFix reporter Aaron Kunz obtained a copy



of that draft report and explains what it means for the Northwest.

The US Fish and Wildlife Service has drafted a plan to remove Endangered Species Act protections for gray wolves in the lower 48 states. That would leave the states in charge of wolf management.

Ramona Phillips, a rancher in Joseph, Oregon, says even if the federal government ends protection for wolves, she's not optimistic that things will get any better for her and other ranchers if states take over management of wolf

populations. Phillips: "I absolutely don't think it will impact us at all and I think it is a way for the federal government to not have to spend any more money or time on the wolves here."

Cattle ranchers in the northeastern portion of Oregon have to live with the Imnaha wolf pack. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife released its official count earlier

this year. It estimates there are six breeding pairs and a total of 46 wolves in the northeast section of Oregon. Don Barry with Defenders of Wildlife says delisting the gray wolf could impede reintroduction of wolves beyond their current range in the West.

Barry: "Wolves are still not recovered in key parts of their range. Delisting at this point could preclude the return of wolves in Utah or California or Colorado."

The US Fish and Wildlife Service did not respond to our request for

comment. But we did get a copy of the draft report.

The draft rules say that the gray wolf species, known in the science world as "Canis Lupus" is too broad a term. It says much of the wolves' historical range and habitat no longer exist. That's why the service says, it's no longer valid to treat all gray wolves as a single species when it comes to the Endangered Species Act. Instead, the federal agency decided to break them up into four sub-categories. In all but one of these groupings, the Fish and Wildlife Service says gray wolves are not at risk of extinction. The one exception: Mexican wolves in the southwest, which the service is proposing their protection under the Endangered Species Act.

The service will remain open to listing additional subspecies of wolves if populations are determined to be in danger of extinction.

<http://tiny.cc/xodyzw>

Photo: US Fish and Wildlife Service

Convention rejects Swiss wolf protection change

A SWISS proposal to change wolves' "strictly protected species" label has been rejected by the international Bern Convention on wildlife. It had sought to re-classify the animal's status to better manage a growing Alpine wolf population.

At its annual meeting in Strasbourg, France, the permanent committee of the Bern Convention – a Council of Europe accord on wildlife and natural habitat conservation – turned down the proposal. It said that the current protection status for wolves in Europe is enough to address problems tied to wolf management in Switzerland and the rest of the continent.

The Swiss had proposed bringing the wolf to a protection level of "strictly protected fauna species", the same status that is currently applied to the lynx. The change would make it easier to kill wolves that were causing damage to livestock and property.

Switzerland last ratified the Bern Convention in 1980, when there were no wolves present in the country; today, there are believed to be several hundred

roaming in Alpine areas, including Italy and France. According to Christine Hofmann, deputy director of the Federal Environment Office, there are currently about 15 to 20 wolves in Switzerland itself.

As its proposal at the Bern Convention was refused, parliament must now decide whether Switzerland will retire from the convention and come up with revised suggestions before taking part again, as its recent motion mandates.

In any case, Hoffmann tells [swissinfo.ch](http://www.swissinfo.ch) that parliament must now re-examine Swiss wolf politics against the mandates of the Bern Convention and come up with workable solutions, most likely involving increased protections for vulnerable livestock herds.

The Federal Environment Office's current wolf management strategy states that "the wolf belongs to Swiss native species, and its return is natural." It also states that the wolf is protected, but that special cantonal permits may be obtained to kill a wolf if that animal is causing major damage.



Photo: Vladimir Bologov

Environmental groups welcomed the proposal's rejection at the Bern Convention but also cited the need for more herd protection.

"Much more funding is necessary to protect herds and to promote the political will necessary to find constructive solutions," said Mirjam Ballmer, project manager of nature conservation policy at the environmental group Pro Natura.

Wolf protection has been a hotly debated topic in Switzerland since the animal started making a comeback a decade ago. Many sheep farmers have reported wolf attacks on their livestock and continue to advocate for better wolf management measures.

Veronica DeVore, [swissinfo.ch](http://www.swissinfo.ch)
Full article at <http://tiny.cc/yqkmpw>

AFTER CENTURIES OF ABSENCE, BIG BAD WOLVES HAVE RETURNED TO GERMANY

A RECENT surge in the canines' presence is dividing farmers and conservationists.

Wolves have been absent from Germany for nearly a century, hunted out of existence by the end of the 1800s. But over the past ten years, they've made a comeback as packs from Poland and Russia have migrated into the sparsely populated eastern German state of Brandenburg. Today, some 160 wolves in 17 packs rove south and east of the capital Berlin, occasionally wandering into the city.

The wolves' return has pitted conservationists against farmers, who are angry that the wolves are eating their sheep, other livestock, and sometimes even household pets.

"We're not against wolves, but we want them to stay on government-owned lands. When they leave these territories, we want to be able to shoot them," said Lutz-Uwe Kahn of the Brandenburg Farmers Alliance.

Wolves have killed some 360 sheep and other livestock since 2007. Though the state of Brandenburg has created a fund to compensate farmers for their livestock losses, Kahn said some members of his group have waited up to a year for reimbursement. Farmers have also encountered red tape when attempting to tap into a fund that supports the building of livestock pens and the training of sheep dogs.

Wolf expert Gesa Kluth of the Lausitz Wolf Office in Rietschen is a strong proponent of the wolf's return. She hopes their comeback could mark the

regeneration of an ecosystem that hasn't existed in Europe for 200 years. But she is worried that old biases against wolves could kill them off again just as quickly as they've returned.

"Poland is an example we should follow," Kluth said. "They have about 700 wolves – an impressive number for this part of Europe – and the numbers are growing. They don't want to hunt them. Rather, they are taking steps to protect their sheep and goats from wolves."

Unlike North American wolves, which travel in larger packs to improve their hunting success, wolf packs in Germany usually consist of parents and offspring. When food is scarce, a mother wolf might venture into a small town and forage for food in garbage containers.

Several such incidents have been reported – and this has angered farmers like Lutz-Uwe Kahn, who are banned from shooting wolves on their own land because the wolves are on Germany's endangered species list.

"The wolves aren't dumb – they're going to seek out the easiest places to find food. And they'll start to feel more comfortable around people, lose their natural shyness, and attack people," Kahn explained.

Veterinarian Oliver Krone dismisses this, however. He and his team of wolf experts at the Leibniz Institute for Zoo and Wildlife Research in Berlin say



Photo: Vladimir Bolgov

attacks against people are exceedingly rare.

Yet Krone is worried that farmers are ignoring the ban on killing wolves. Numerous bullet-pocked wolf carcasses sit in freezers around his lab, but the majority were mowed down by cars.

"It's easier to kill a wolf this way," Krone said sarcastically. "You can't stop and get out your rifle. But if you know the road is fenced on both sides, you just accelerate, and kill the wolf."

Lutz Uwe-Kahn of the farmers group denied that he and his members are running over wolves with their cars.

"If wolves were killed by cars, these were simply accidents."

Wolf conservationists remain sceptical of the farmers' claims and are worried that they might lose the battle to save Germany's wolves. Their argument goes like this: if Europeans don't protect their wolves, Europe loses the moral authority to tell African and Asian nations not to hunt their own large carnivores.

Full article at <http://tiny.cc/11fyzw>

MICHIGAN GOVERNOR OKS BILL THAT COULD ALLOW WOLF HUNT

MICHIGAN COULD become the sixth state to authorize hunting wolves since federal protections were removed over the past two years in the western Great Lakes and the Northern Rockies, where the animals are thriving. Hunters and trappers have killed about 1,100 wolves in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Montana, Idaho and Wyoming. Officials estimate the remaining population at roughly 6,000.

<http://tiny.cc/rjgyzw>

WOLF V MOOSE: MOTHER FIGHTS TOOTH AND NAIL TO SAVE NEWBORN FROM KILLER'S CLUTCHES IN THE ALASKAN WILDERNESS

INCREDIBLE PICTURES show the scene as a titanic life-and-death battle unfolded between a mother moose defending her calf and a ravenous pack of wolves.

The enormous moose dwarfs her attackers in this thrilling sequence of images taken in the Alaskan wilderness as they attempt to kill her newborn.

As she makes her stand in a small pond in the chilly tundra the mother fights ferociously to save her youngster from the hungry predators.



Photo: Patrick Endres / Caters News

<http://tiny.cc/kggyzw>

WOLFWEAR®

The UK Wolf Conservation Trust

NEW!

We are delighted to introduce our new WOLFWEAR© brand, featuring a range of exclusive T-shirts, all with the new logo printed on the back.



UKWCT Vintage "I've Walked with Wolves" T-shirt **£12.00**

The text on these T-shirts have a deliberately distressed look to the "I've Walked with Wolves" adjacent to the walking wolf picture. From Fruit of the Loom these 100% cotton T-shirts come in four colours: brick red, khaki, Kelly green and steel blue – all with white text except the khaki option which is printed in black. All feature the WOLFWEAR© motif in black on the upper back. **Sizes:** S (35"–37"), M (38"–40"), L (41"–43"), XL (44"–46") and XXL (47"–49").



UKWCT ladies' fit Three Heads Ambassador T-shirt **£17.25**

These styled T-shirts feature an illustration of our three ambassador wolves, the Beenham Pack – Nuka, Tundra and Tala. Each has their name next to their face so you can easily identify them. "The UK Wolf Conservation Trust" is also printed to the front and the WOLFWEAR© motif is printed on the upper back. 100% cotton. Available in light blue, white and moss green.

Sizes: S (size 10),
M (size 12), L (size 14),
XL (size 16) and
XXL (size 18).



UKWCT standard fit Three Heads Ambassador T-shirt **£12.00**

These 100% cotton T-shirts from Fruit of the Loom also feature our three ambassador wolves, the Beenham Pack: Nuka, Tundra and Tala. Available in white and grey.

Sizes: S (35"–37"), M (38"–40"), L (41"–43"), XL (44"–46") and XXL (47"–49").

Arctic Wolf in a Storm T-Shirt

£18.00

Piercing amber eyes and a black nose...all you'll see of an Arctic wolf in a snow storm! Exclusive UKWCT design on this 100% cotton Fruit of the Loom T-shirt with the WOLFWEAR© logo on the reverse. White only.

Sizes: S (35"–37"), M (38"–40"), L (41"–43"), XL (44"–46") and XXL (47"–49").



UKWCT Baseball Cap

£11.99

Exclusive UKWCT black cotton baseball cap with orange trim along the solid peak. Embroidered motif in white and orange. One size with adjustable back.



UKWCT Beenham Mug **£7.50**

Exclusive UKWCT mug featuring a wraparound picture of our beautiful Beenham cubs Nuka, Tundra and Tala together with "THE UK WOLF CONSERVATION TRUST". The perfect souvenir of our ambassador wolves.



UKWCT Padded Smartphone Case **£9.75**

This padded neoprene protective case is ideal for mobile phones and iPods, and its universal shape means that one size should fit all. Now you can represent the Wolf Trust while protecting your phone, with a beautiful photo of Nuka (left) or Sikko (right). It has the UKWCT logo printed on the bottom left. Size 12cm x 8cm approx.



UKWCT HANDSOME WOLF HANDY JOURNAL **£6.75**

This handsome wolf is printed on both covers and the front is also textured, highlighting fur, nose and eyes. The lined pages have a tinted forestry background. The UKWCT logo is printed on the top left corner, and pages can be marked with either the elasticated wrap or ribbon provided. Size 8.5cm x 13.5cm.

UKWCT WOLF PLAY NOTE BOX **£5.00**

This magnetic note box can sit on your desk like a regular stack of notes, or it can be attached to metallic surfaces such as fridges, making it a super handy stack of notes. Contains three sets of die-cut note sheets (around 200), each set with a different lightly printed wolf image. The UKWCT logo is also printed on the box. Size 9.5cm x 9.5cm x 2.8cm.



UKWCT WOLF IN WINTER JOURNAL **£7.00**

Both sides of this beautiful journal feature a photograph of a stunning white wolf in winter, with the UKWCT logo on the front, and is protected by the translucent hard outer covers. Approx. 100 lined sheets with a tinted green forestry background. Size 21.5cm x 145.5cm.



UKWCT POCKET PALS **£4.00 each**

Pocket-sized notepads in a hard cover with magnetic closure. UKWCT logo. Approx 75 perforated sheets printed with a tint of the cover image. Available as Handsome Wolf (left) or Wolf Holler. Size 10cm x 7.5cm.

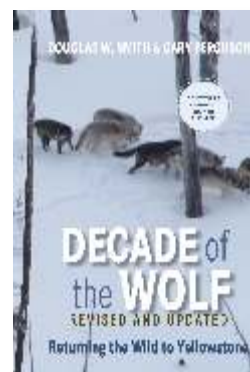
UKWCT WOLF STICKY NOTES WITH PENCIL **£5.00**

These neat little 6cm x 9cm sticky notes (approx 120) are printed with a tint of the picture that is featured on both sides of the hard cover and come with a little pencil in its own holder. The UK Wolf Conservation Trust logo is printed on the front cover. Size 9.5cm x 7.2cm x 2cm.



DECADE OF THE WOLF Douglas Smith **£11.20**

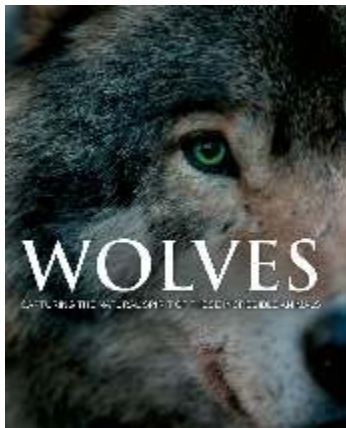
This definitive book recounts the years since the wolves' return to Yellowstone. Award-winning writer and leader of the Yellowstone Wolf Project, Douglas Smith has studied wolves for decades and has worked on their reintroduction into Yellowstone since its inception. This **updated and revised** edition includes additional wolf profiles, new information on the effects of climate change and disease, and a retrospective on what the scientists have learned during this extended study. PB, 256pp, 229 x 150mm.



THE HIDDEN LIFE OF WOLVES Jim and Jamie Dutcher **£16.99**

In this captivating book the authors share their unique experiences living among the Sawtooth Pack and try to set the record straight about wolves. Today's wolves are still demonised as evil predators to be eradicated and Jim and Jamie Dutcher touch on the myths and misconceptions that they endure. See review by Julia Bohanna on page 20. PB, 192pp, 254 x 178mm.

**SEE OVER
FOR MORE
WOLFY
TREATS!**



WOLVES – CAPTURING THE NATURAL SPIRIT OF THESE INCREDIBLE ANIMALS **£10.00**

This hardback book features more than 200 stunning photographs of wolves from photographers such as Monty Sloan, coupled with detailed observations about their behaviour to help form a true impression of the wolf and dispel the myths about this magical creature. "Wolves" is written and illustrated by two wolf experts who have spent hours watching and tracking wolves and offers a tantalising glimpse into the private life and world of the wolf. HB, 336pp, 180 x 230mm.

DUFFLE BAG **£4.25**

A large black, pull-string fabric bag with a striking grey wolf image on one side and a blue 'moonlit' version on the other; you choose which colour you decide to display! Size 52cm x 39cm.



CANDLE HOLDER **£9.00**

A beautiful printed glass candle holder, featuring "Cries of the Night," designed by artist Julie Fain, with solid wooden base. Its semi-transparent sides make it the perfect way to display your tealights. Tealight included. Ideal for battery-operated candles, too! Overall size 12.5cm square x 11cm high. Supplied gift boxed with protective moulded polystyrene inner.



'SAVE THE WOLF' LAPEL PIN

£4.50

Heed the call of the wild and show your support for the protection of wolf habitat. Made with a high-grade pewter in the USA 2cm diameter.

THREE WOLF MOON

THERMAL TRAVEL MUG **£9.99**

Travel mug featuring three wolves howling at the moon, the design beneath a protective clear high impact acrylic outer shell. The inner and rim is made from high grade stainless steel. 25cm high x 7cm diameter approx.



PIECES OF NATURE MATCHING GAME

£8.00

This is an enjoyable memory game for 2 to 4 players. There are 24 wonderful images in matching pairs of wolves in the wild. Pieces are 53mm square and beautifully presented in a magnetised flip-top box (125mm square) with the rules printed on the back.



LEADER OF THE PACK: a range of gifts with artwork from an original pencil drawing by Anthony Wyatt.

The prints are supplied in card mounts (ivory for A and B, dark khaki-grey for C) and the card (D), which is blank inside, is supplied with an envelope. All are presented in sealed cello bags.



A Large Print **£18.00**

30cm x 40cm

B Medium Print **£10.00**

20cm x 25.5cm

C Mini Print **£4.00**

10cm x 12.5cm



D



D Greeting Card **£2.00**

10.5cm x 15cm



Keyring

£2.00

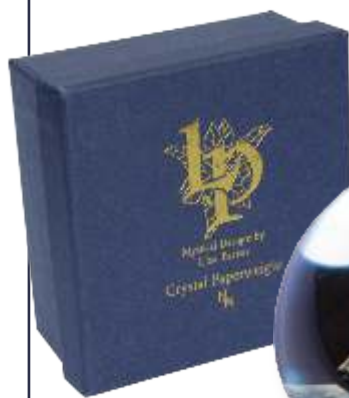
6.5cm x 4cm

Magnet **£2.50**

7.5cm x 5cm



QUIET REFLECTIONS: a range of wolf-themed gifts, each featuring a picture by Lisa Parker of a wolf lying by a lake at night under a full moon.



Paperweight £9.50

Crystal paperweight presented in an embossed gift box. Size 7.5cm diameter, box 9.5cm square.



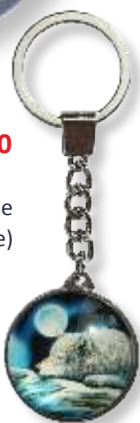
Rucksack £19.00

This rucksack has two large zipped sections: the outer zipped section with the printed design is further divided into several nylon pockets for maps, clothes and equipment. The inner section is deeper with a padded divider and layer carrying the handle and adjustable shoulder straps is also padded. There are also two, small elasticated pockets on the outside suitable for a small water bottle or sunscreen. 40cm high x 29cm wide x 10cm deep approx.



Keyring £3.00

Double-sided crystal fob (same design each side) enclosed in a high quality metal band, with key chain and ring attached. Length 10cm.



Journal – Small (14 x 21cm) £7.50, Large (20 x 25cm) £9.00

Ring-bound journal with hard cover and plain white, unlined paper.

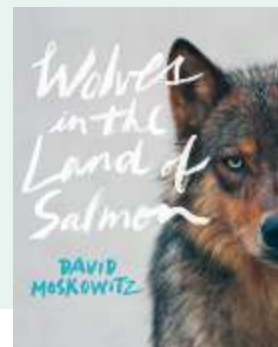


Messenger Bag £16.00

This bag has one main, large, zipped section under the printed flap. The design is only printed on one side; the back is plain black. Size 33cm approx. Adjustable shoulder strap.

WOLVES IN THE LAND OF SALMON David Moskowitz £20.00

David Moskowitz's experience and training as a wildlife tracker allows him to give true-to-life, insider knowledge about the wolves, which he willing and eager to share with his readers in the hope of greater understanding and perspective of this incredible animal. Wolves in the Land of Salmon is writing about the wolf – and nature in general – at its most successful. With his vivid imagery and firsthand knowledge it really gives a vivid illustration of just what it means to be a wolf. His bold and daring photography provides a fantastic look of these charismatic animals: of young wolves at play and striking images of the adults in their full glory. The stories that shed light on the psychological power wolves have across cultures and generations make this a true wilderness adventure. HB, 336pp, 180 x 230mm.

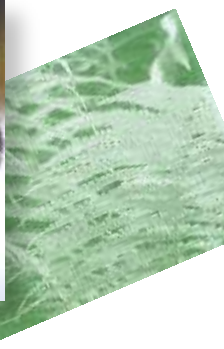


GREETINGS CARDS £2.20 each



Ideal for any occasion, these beautiful cards are blank inside for your own message and also feature an individual fact about wolves on the reverse. Size 17.3cm x 12.5cm. Supplied with a fern-printed envelope.

Left to right: Handsome Wolf, Wolf Holler, Wolf in Winter, Winter Nap, Wolf Play, Black Wolf.



ORDERING & DELIVERY

To view and order these and our other stationery, clothing, books, gifts and souvenirs, visit our online shop at www.ukwolf.org or call 0118 971 3330.

Please note: all UK orders are subject to a minimum P&P charge of £4.50. For overseas orders, please contact us.

Forthcoming events at the UK Wolf Conservation Trust

Children's Events



• Creative Writing with Michelle Paver Monday, 28th October, 12 noon to 4pm

Find out how Michelle researches her work. She will then guide you through writing a short piece of your own, gather inspiration out on a walk with the wolves and finish the day by reviewing some of the work. Michelle will also be available to sign copies of her books. Book early as this event is extremely popular! **£23 per person, 8 years + . Only one parent per child/group.**

• Spooky Halloween Pumpkin Party - Thursday, 31st October, 11am to 1.30pm

Come and help us celebrate 'Howl'oween.' Walk with the wolves and listen to them howl. Carve and stuff pumpkins with the wolves' favourite treats. Watch the wolves enjoy working out how to get the treats out of the pumpkins... they love it!
£15 per person, 6 years + Booking essential, limited parent spaces.

• Children's Wolf Walk • 30th October • 11am to 2pm

Take a walk with the UKWCT wolves. This event includes a short talk and tour of the centre.
£13 per person, 6 years +
Booking essential.
Limited parent spaces.



WOLF VIEWING & BAT WALK Saturday 21st September 7pm • £15 • Booking essential

- Tour the Trust and see our wolves up close
- Wolf photography opportunities and howling session
- Presentation by an expert on the life of bats in the UK
- Walk round the Trust at dusk to see long-eared bats flying

The Trust is home to many bats, many of which live in nesting boxes on trees



PREDATOR DAY

Sunday, 15th September, 10am to 4pm

The ultimate experience for animal and wildlife enthusiasts:

Spend a whole day with the world's most powerful and enthralling predators... wolves and raptors.

The morning includes a two-hour walk with wolves around the wolf centre in beautiful Berkshire countryside. There will be ample opportunities to photograph visitors meeting and interacting with the wolves as well as handling and flying the birds of prey in the afternoon. There will be time to see and photograph all the wolves at the Trust including the UK's first Arctic wolves, which look magnificent in their thick white winter coats.

Our **Predator Day** is the only way in the UK to walk with wolves in the morning and fly a hawk in the afternoon.

£120 per person. Minimum age 16
Booking essential Please bring a packed lunch



Wolf Keeper Experience Days

10am–4pm, maximum 6 people per day. 2014 dates t.b.a.

See behind the scenes at the Wolf Trust and shadow the keeper in tasks such as cleaning out the wolf enclosures, preparing food and feeding the wolves. Get involved in our wolf enrichment programme, walk with wolves, meet a wolf, great photo opportunities, souvenir event certificate.

Check our website for other dates, full details and to book

Friday Night is Howl Night!

**13th September, 11th October and
15th November at 7.00pm**

Feel your backbone tingle and your ears vibrate with the sound. Evening starts with a presentation on wolf communication; you will then go on a tour of the centre and have the opportunity to let out a howl and see if the wolves respond!

£15 per person. Booking essential
(Don't forget to dress up warmly for an evening under the stars).



UKWCT WOLF CENTRE OPEN DAYS – Monday 26th August and Sunday 6th October from 11am to 5pm – we've plenty to see and do!



- See our wolves up close!
- Photography sessions from the platform and holding areas
- Ask the experts about living with wolves
- Listen to the wolves howling
- Birds of prey flying demonstrations
- Quirks' Animal Roadshows
- Dog agility displays, Hug-a-Husky
- Children's activities including face-painting, nature trail and bouncy castle
- Archery
- Refreshments and picnic tables available
- Booking not required
- **FREE PARKING**
- **Sorry: no dogs on site**



ADMISSION

Adults: £8 advance or £10 on the day, Members, children (3-12), OAPs: £5, Children under 3: FREE
Family ticket: (2 adults, 2 children): £24 advance or £30 on the day.

Tickets available online or call 0118 971 3330

Pastel Workshop

with Vic Bearcroft
Monday, 16th September

Join award-winning British wildlife artist Vic Bearcroft on this special pastel workshop. Suitable for artists of all abilities, **you will learn how to paint wolves in pastel on velour paper.**

You will be painting one of the UKWCT's own wolves from a selected reference photograph, in sight of the wolves themselves.

You will also have the chance to meet a wolf at very close quarters, feel the fur and take some fantastic reference photos.

For further information and to book, email Vic Bearcroft at vicbearcroft@tiscali.co.uk or telephone 01636 651699 www.vicbearcroft.co.uk

Arctic Encounter

Saturdays, 16th November and 14th December, 2013 and
 Saturdays 11th January and 8th February 2014, 10am to 2pm.

Ever wanted to spend time with an Arctic Wolf? A half day in Berkshire includes:

- A presentation on Arctic Wolves
- Photographic opportunities
- The chance to get up close and personal with our Arctic wolves in their enclosure
- Watch the wolves being fed
- Receive a memento of your visit



£150 per person, minimum age 18, booking essential.

Arctic Amble

Saturday, 26th October, 9am to 11am

Enjoy a walk with our magnificent Arctic Wolves and the wonderful photographic opportunities they provide.

View all of the Trust's wolves and spend time getting to know the handlers who work with these amazing animals.

Afterwards, there will be time to shop for a wolfy souvenir!

Maximum 8 people. Booking essential.
£60 per person, age 18+

Photography Days (10am to 4pm)

Photograph all ten of the Trust's wolves, including our amazing Arctic trio.

Our photography workshops are held when the wolves are at their most charismatic. We start with a brief presentation setting the scene and giving you background information of the wolves and the centre. You will then have time to photograph the wolves either in their enclosures or out on a walk.

Open to photographers of all abilities and standards of equipment. Participants must be 18 years or older. Full details on the website.

Spaces are limited – so book early. **£125 per person.**

Check our website for full details and available dates.



Booking essential for all events except open days

WOLF AWARENESS WEEK – 11 to 20 OCTOBER 2013

Wolf Awareness Week is a time to dispel misconceptions about wolves and to teach about the important role these predators play in maintaining healthy ecosystems. The wolf is a striking symbol of wild nature, yet it has long been shrouded by myth and superstition. Wolf Awareness Week, which this year is from October 11th to 20th, encourages conservation efforts not only for wolves, but for all wild species. The UK Wolf Conservation Trust is once again running a full programme of events. Please note that booking is required for all events except the **Open Day**. The events are as follows:



Friday 11th October – **Howl Night**

Saturday 12th October – **Joan Paddick Photography competition winners' photo morning**

Sunday 13th October – **Members' Walk**

Monday 14th October – **School Day** – Creative Writing workshop with award-winning author Michelle Paver

Tuesday 15th October – **School Day** – Creative Writing workshop with author Piers Torday

Wednesday 16th October – **Wild Art Day Art/Photography Day** for GCSE, A, BTEC and degree level students.

Thursday 17th October – **Open Day** (see page 31)

Friday 18th October – **Photographic Day** (see page 31)

Saturday 19th October and Sunday 20th October – **Seminar: 'Conservation in Action'** 11am – 5pm. See details of speakers below.

We have two all-day seminars taking place this year with some prominent members of the wolf world joining us to speak about their experiences. Guest speakers include:



Dr Doug Smith – Doug is currently project leader for the Yellowstone Grey Wolf Restoration Project in Yellowstone National Park. He worked as biologist for the project from 1994 to 1997 and has been with the programme since its inception. Doug has studied wolves for 23 years. Doug co-wrote the book *Decade of the Wolf*, and the revised and updated edition, *Returning the Wild to Yellowstone* which was published in 2012. This will be Doug's first visit to speak about the Yellowstone project in the UK.



Dr Cristina Eisenberg – Cristina conducts research at High Lonesome Ranch in north-central Colorado and leads their long-term trophic cascades research programme there. Her research interests also involve living sustainably with large carnivores. Her first book, *The Wolf's Tooth: Keystone Predators, Trophic Cascades and Biodiversity*, was published by Island Press in 2010. Her new book about carnivore ecology and conservation, – *The Carnivore Way* – will be finished this summer.



Paul Lister – Owner of the Alladale Estate, which is home to the Alladale Wilderness Reserve, a wilderness area in the Caledonian Forest in north-east Scotland. It is being managed so as to restore it to its natural state by increasing the tree cover of the valley, reintroducing native animals which are no longer found in Britain and encouraging biodiversity. Paul is also now looking beyond Britain to Europe, having founded and endowed The European Trust for Nature (TENT). The aim is to raise awareness of the wildernesses that still exist, such as the Carpathian Mountains in Romania.

Paul will be speaking on 19th October only.



Will Burrard-Lucas – A professional wildlife photographer from the UK, his creative and innovative approach to wildlife photography has earned him international acclaim. Through his work, he aims to inspire people to celebrate and conserve the natural wonders of our planet. As a young boy, Will spent three years living in Tanzania. Embarking on the Ethiopian Wolf Project allowed Will to fulfil a long-held dream. He hopes that his images will play a part in conserving this unique, beautiful and charismatic endangered species.

Will is speaking on 20th October only.

BOOKING: Ticket prices are £40 each for non-members and £35 per person for members or registered students only. Membership number or student number must be supplied on booking. Students need to bring their ID number on the day. There will be a lunchtime wolf walk each day for a limited number of participants for which there is an additional cost of £25 per person. Booking must be made in advance.

For full details of all our planned events and how you can get involved please see our website www.ukwolf.org