The Truth About Wolves

Wolves have been trapped, poisoned and hunted to the brink of extinction on behalf of the livestock industry, and received little popular defense because of age-old prejudices against these amazing but misunderstood animals. Unfortunately, movies like *The Grey* perpetuate negative stereotypes of wolves by portraying them as vicious monsters out to hurt human beings. *Nothing could be further from the truth*.

Please balance the images in the movie with the facts about wolves below.

- Wolves are native to much of the United States, but most were wiped out early in the 20th century by a government extermination campaign.
- Wolves are generally shy of people and make every effort to avoid contact with them
- You are more likely to be killed by lightning than by a wolf.
- Wolves are "family oriented" social animals. They live in extended families called packs.
- Each member of a pack helps, from hunting to caring for pups.
- Wolves are very beautiful and intelligent animals with emotions.
- Wolves help create and maintain a strong and healthy ecosystem.
- Over \$35 million is generated by wolf-related tourism around Yellowstone each year.
- Wolves get a bad rap because of the many myths associated with them in books and movies.



Mexican wolf artwork courtesy of Sarah Rose

You can learn more at these websites:

- www.mexicanwolves.org
- www.gcwolfrecovery.org
- http://www.Wolfwatcher.org
- www.westernwolves.org

Thank you for taking the time to educate yourself and your family about wolves.

