

WOLF VISIONS

THE PERIODIC NEWSLETTER FROM MISSION:WOLF

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We all miss Rami's gentle disposition and happy soul.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Hello and welcome to Wolf Visions, our periodic newsletter about living life with wolves. The last two years have been full of memorable events that continue to shape our future and inspire us to push forward.

In the end, we dream that

places like Mission:Wolf will become obsolete as people learn to respect wild animals in their natural habitat. As this happens, we will allow nature to thrive with diverse and balanced ecosystems around the world.

The continued return of

wild wolves across the US is a good sign our visions may be realized. I wish to thank all the generous and caring people who continue to help keep M:W and the wolf bus running.

- Kent Weber

Visit us on the web at:

[-www.missionwolf.com](http://www.missionwolf.com)
[-www.youtube.com/missionwolf-sanctuary](http://www.youtube.com/missionwolf-sanctuary)
[-www.youtube.com/tracyane-brooks](http://www.youtube.com/tracyane-brooks)
[-http://apps.facebook.com/causes/beneficiaries/30372](http://apps.facebook.com/causes/beneficiaries/30372)

Featured Wolves: Soleil & Orion



Soleil was a youngster when she arrived at the refuge in September 2005. Her mile long legs quickly earned her the nickname "Stilts."



Orion came to the sanctuary as a puppy in October of 2005. Staff named him for the star constellation that was overhead when he arrived. Photo Monty Sloan

Mission: Wolf - Education vs. Extinction

A non-profit 501(c)3 organization created in 1988

Wolf Sanctuary

Born into cages and imprinted by humans, the wolves and wolf-dog crosses who come to the refuge cannot be returned to the wild. Located in the remote Rocky Mountains of Southern Colorado, Mission:Wolf provides a quiet home far from pavement and people. They are given room to run in large natural enclosures with diverse terrain. We feed them raw meat on a feast and famine cycle. Males are vasectomized so the wolves can perform natural courtship rituals without producing puppies. The refuge also houses a horse rescue facility where a few abandoned or neglected horses can get a second lease on life. Habitat expansion is a continual process dependent on the availability of land, labor, funds, and fencing.

Wolf Education Tour

Mission:Wolf operates a national education program that allows thousands of people across the U.S the chance to meet a live wolf. This experience often instills respect for wolves, wildlife, and nature. Our unique and informative program featuring Ambassador Wolves annually reaches over 50,000 people and has been viewed by millions via media specials. Our focus is to dispel the many myths and fears associated with the wolf, to promote an understanding of the wolfs' key role in the ecosystem, and to show why wild animals do not make happy pets. To set up an Ambassador Wolf Program in your area, please visit our website and fill out the Program Request Form.

Sustainability

Visitors to the refuge can learn many ways to leave a light footprint on the earth. Mission:Wolf is completely off the grid. Solar power provides electricity and powers our water pump and well. A gravity-fed spring supplies water. Xeriscaping* reduces water consumption. Organic greenhouses provide fresh produce. Composting and recycling minimize waste. A home-built processor converts used vegetable oil into bio-diesel fuel. All buildings are designed to use passive solar heating and cooling and are constructed with local, recycled, re-used or discarded materials.

* Xeriscaping: : a landscaping method developed for arid and semiarid climates that utilizes water-conserving techniques.

Conservation

With the help of caring volunteers and generous donors, M:W has secured 200+ acres of protected land, including a three acre village for visitors, 50 acres of fenced habitat, and 150 acres placed in conservation for native wildlife. Additionally, the wolves enjoy a buffer of more than 240 acres owned by friends of M:W. With education and understanding we hope one day wild wolves and people will co-exist and that sanctuaries for captive wolves will be obsolete. When that day comes we intend to tear down the fencing so generations can enjoy a 200 acre nature center overlooking the Sangre de Cristos and San Isabel National Forest.



Experiential Learning

Built and operated by volunteers

Wolves attract many diverse people who have a common goal: they simply want to help and in return gain personal experience.

Visits to the Refuge

The isolation of the M:W refuge provides the resident wolves with a peaceful sanctuary. It also means that to visit the refuge we simply ask people to come prepared for the mountain weather. Any interested visitors that arrive between 10:00 am and 6:00 pm will be offered a tour of the refuge (30 min. to 1 hr., depending on interest). We recommend the refuge for children 6 years and older. After the tour, individuals may observe the wolves, explore resources and gifts in the visitor building or volunteer to help on a project. Camping and extended stays are welcome. The rules are simple: as long as you do not place a burden on the staff or the wolves, you may camp out and enjoy the howls.



Volunteers at the Refuge

M:W provides camp sites and limited cooking facilities to self-motivated volunteers and student interns. Projects range from wolf education, feeding, fence maintenance, cabin construction, to computer input and paperwork. If you have a positive attitude with energy to spare, we are in need of help on countless projects. **Two hours or two weeks:** Bring your own tent and food, camp out near the wolves, and volunteer on projects as your time and energy allows. **Two months +:** As space allows, we provide you with a tipi and food. **Six months** As space allows, we provide you with a sleeping room, food, transportation and some expenses.

Caretaker of the Year: Dennis Weber

In 1986 when I purchased the refuge property and asked my brother Dennis to help get a trailer and fence moved in, little did he know what was in store for him! While building the very first enclosure, we tumbled a 300 pound roll of fence end over end down a steep hill. The fence grabbed Dennis' coveralls by the neck and hurtled him 30 feet down the hill head first, burying him in 2 feet of fresh snow. He survived but years later asked how long I was going to live in the woods and take care of wolves before moving back to town to make money. Many Winters

later he understood that this was going to be a way of life for me. For two decades Dennis has helped with the building of many structures. As a professional mechanic, he has helped teach many volunteers how to re-build the various cars, trucks and buses that have served the refuge for years. In 2005, as Maggie and Raven were en route from Arizona through the Navajo reservation, the bus had an electrical meltdown. I walked a mile to the top of the nearest hill, got a weak cell signal, and called Dennis who looked up on his electrical schematic

diagrams and told me what wires to cross to override the shorted electrical systems. We got the bus running long enough to get the wolves to safety. In 2007, the wolf bus blew an engine on the Kansas border transporting two wolves to educational events in Denver. A professional shop quoted \$15k and 10 days of work to fix the problem. Dennis once again found himself taking a week off work to fix the bus in half the time at half the cost. Dennis and his family have supported M:W for many years and millions of miles. We offer Dennis a BIG howling

thank you and recognize him as our Wolf Caretaker of the Year.

-Kent Weber

photo Kathy Bennett



Dennis and Kent take a break from bus mechanics to visit Luna

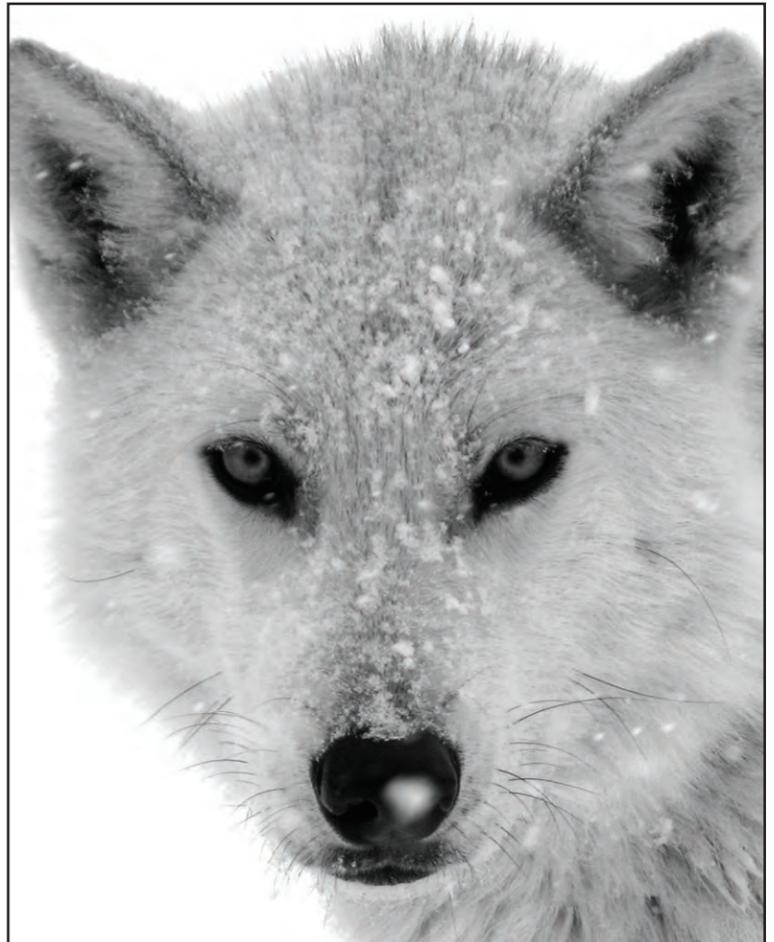
Featured Wolves: Soleil and Orion

We first heard about little Soleil (French for "sun") in July 2005; a blonde wolf puppy living on a 30 foot chain in someones West Virginia back yard. She originally came from an exotic animal breeder in Ohio who was selling wolves and bears as family pets to passers-by. Soleil's owner bought her because he was fascinated with wolves, was convinced she could be turned into a great pet, and wanted to breed her with a malamute to produce more puppies to sell in the future. However, after months of watching her run to the end of her chain when anyone approached, he brought in a professional dog trainer for help. The dog trainer took one look at Soleil and ran for the door. A friend of Soleil's owner soon convinced him that this was a bad idea.

A volunteer pilot with an organization called Flying Paws (www.flyingpasw.org) picked Soleil up in West Virginia and flew her half way across the country. Flying Paws is an amazing group of big hearted pilots who spend their time flying homeless animals to their forever homes. The pilot met one of our staff members in Illinois and handed over Soleil. From there, Soleil made the long 18 hour drive back to the refuge, the rest of us waited in excited anticipation.

Just after sunset on Sunday, September 25th Soleil arrived at her new home. As she took her first timid steps around our vet building, we all fell in love with her. Soleil's boisterous personality won us all over. We could tell that she really wanted to make friends with the staff, but couldn't quite bring herself to trust humans yet.

Then, in October 2005, we took in another wolf puppy named Orion. He was born in the spring of 2005 in Tennessee to a longtime breeder and comes from a long line of pure wolves bred in captivity. He may be related to Maggie and Raven. Orion was terrified of humans from birth and continued to become more afraid as he aged. At only a few months old, he was rescued by a lady in Vermont and lived with a couple of wolf-dogs in her back yard. Due to his skittish and wolfy behavior, Orion's owner realized that she would not be able to socialize him and keep him. She contacted Mission: Wolf and friends of Mission: Wolf accompanied Orion on his flight across the country from Vermont to Denver. Our staff drove to Denver, picked him up and brought him to Mission: Wolf.



It didn't take long for the two pups to bond with each other and start rough-housing together. They have been inseparable ever since. As they matured Soleil and Orion became more aloof and shy around humans, which is common for most wolf puppies. We tried to separate them and introduce them to older wolves for guidance, but they wouldn't hear of it. Both Soleil and Orion revolted against their mentors while still less than a year old, something that we've never seen before. In short order, Soleil and Orion were back together looking to each other for the courage to meet visitors.

Now four years old, Soleil and Orion rule the roost from their hill-top enclosure. Soleil spends her days showing off to Maggie through the fence and occasionally sniffing a visitor's hand. Orion has grown into a stunning black adult with an intense gaze and a seemingly serious demeanor. But when he doesn't think we're watching, Orion will twirl, pounce and tumble with Soleil, revealing his clownish side.



photo Annie White

The Ambassador Wolf Program

"I forget what I hear - I remember what I see - I understand what I touch."

photo Glenn Oakley

In response to continued requests from Americans seeking a chance to connect with nature and learn about wolves, the Ambassador Wolf Program continues to travel across the country each spring and fall. In a busy twelve weeks, the wolf bus will cover more than 15,000 miles and reach over 50,000 people from the Idaho Rockies to the forests of New England. After two decades of nationwide education, the Ambassador Program has witnessed the return of wild wolves to twelve states. Now that wolves have returned to the wild, the need for public education and Ambassador Wolf programs is greater than ever. Since Gray Wolves have been removed from the Endangered Species List, some states have released permits for wolf hunting, it is all the more important for people to

understand what wolves really are, and how to co-exist with them. People are slowly recognizing the benefits of having large predators in our ecosystems and how this will improve their future. To witness our society's attempt to adjust to living with large predators again is an inspiration to millions of people. Many Americans desire to possess the things they cherish. As public interest in nature increases, so does private ownership of wild animals. Today, there are more wolves confined to life in a cage than one can find living in the wild of the United States. Ex-pet wolves and wolf-dog crosses are being cast away at alarming rates. Many end up homeless or are simply destroyed before they reach three-years-old. Mission:Wolf takes in all the wolves and wolf-dog crosses

that we can, however, we turn away homeless animals each week and have turned down over 6,000 requests over the years. The overall message of the Ambassador Wolf Program is one of respect for all things wild and free. Direct interactions with live wolves illustrate wolf behavior, the differences between wolves and dogs, and the need for wolves to return to the wilderness areas of the world. Experience has taught us that the stare of a live wolf relates this message louder and stronger than words ever will. The Ambassador Wolves of Mission:Wolf have visited over 1,000,000 individuals in formal programs. Each program is structured to accommodate individual audience



needs and interests. Our approach is straight forward and focuses on common-sense biology and sociology. To set up an Ambassador Wolf Program in your area, please visit our website and fill out the Program Request Form online. Due to limited time and resources, we can only respond to about 20% of

these requests, so please be patient and persistent. Planning usually needs to start months in advance, so don't wait too long. And remember... the more programs that can be setup in your area, the more likely it is that we can come. For questions, please write, email or call the refuge:

P.O. Box 1211, Westcliffe, CO 81252 Wolf Bus Cell Phone: 720-320-7410 www.missionwolf.com Email: info@missionwolf.com

Meet Our Ambassadors

MAGPIE THE WOLF, ABRAHAM THE WOLF-DOG, AND INTRODUCING:
ILLIAMNA THE ARCTIC WOLF PUP



Magpie

"Magpie" was born in 2002 to be an actor wolf in the movie "Julie of the Wolves." When the trainer rejected her, she and her sister Raven came to live at M:W. At 4 months old the sisters climbed on the wolf bus with their adopted mother Rami to learn how to be Ambassadors. At first, Magpie wasn't too sure of anything: she was startled by stairways, loud noises, shadows, and just about everything else that came her way. Put her in front of an

audience though, she soaked up the attention and happily greeted everyone. As the years went on Magpie gained confidence in herself, by the time she was 3 years old she was the alpha of the Ambassador wolf pack. Now an adult, Magpie has completely grown into herself. She has met over 100,000 people and has traveled from Maine to Florida to Oregon. She's swam in both the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, looked over the edge of the Grand Canyon, and howled with

wild wolves in Yellowstone. She continues to teach people across the U.S. what a wolf is really like and helps instill a profound respect for nature in everyone she meets.

Abraham

As a puppy, "Abe" was found on the streets of Salt Lake City. When

the animal shelter identified him as a wolf he was scheduled to be euthanized, since by law he could not be put up for adoption. At the last minute Abe was saved by a friend of M:W and was soon on the way to the refuge. Only 4 months old when he arrived at the sanctuary, Abe already loved to meet visitors. As Abe grew and started to chew on everything and anything, we moved him in with Magpie to teach him some manners. She was delighted to meet such a happy pup and

they hit it off. Every day the staff grew more surprised by Abe's gregarious and outgoing nature, and when it came time for Magpie to climb onto the Ambassador bus and travel across the country, Abe followed right behind her. Now all grown up, Abe is maybe half wolf, but he charms visitors and audiences alike with his goofy antics and eagerly helps demonstrate the differences between wolves and wolf-dogs.

Illiamna

Illiamna and his siblings were born in the spring of 2009 and were part of a baby animal petting zoo. When nobody bought them they came to live at M:W. He is very curious, brave, outgoing and seems to have bonded well with his surrogate parents Magpie and Abe. He is joining them for his first time on the wolf bus to learn how to be an Ambassador Wolf.

photo by Shanna Lewis
719-783-4288



2009 Fall Tour Schedule

Celebrating our 21st consecutive year of nationwide educational experiences, the wolf bus has been renovated for another year of service. Ambassador wolves Magpie and Abraham completed a Spring '09 tour to Oregon to celebrate the return of their first pack of wild wolves in 70 years. Sold out events at the High Desert Museum in Bend, Oregon signaled the excitement of this historic occurrence. Oregon is one of the few states whose own government has chosen to protect the wolves, unlike that of Utah and Colorado. Other programs were held in Utah and across Colorado. Our annual fall tour to New England has a new addition: wolf puppy Illiamna. Illiamna is an Arctic wolf pup that was born at a safari wildlife park. She was transported to Mission:Wolf at 4 months of age and adopted by ambassador wolves Magpie and Abraham. Wolf handlers, chauffeurs and interpreters, Kent and Tracy, anticipate reaching over 20 thousand people across 5 states in a 6 week tour. The conclusion of our 21st year of Education vs Extinction message is at the Defenders of Wildlife Carnivore Conference in Denver. A big thank you goes out to the hundreds of friends, caretakers and volunteers who continue to support our educational efforts and help run the refuge while we travel.



Ambassador Tour Schedule:

October 12 – Rochester (Mumford), NY – Genesee Country Nature Center (Columbus Day) for the public – 2 PM & 7 PM – (585) 538 -6822
 October 13 – Elmira, NY – TV News program taping – 2:30 PM
 October 14 – Corning, NY – Corning Community College – 12:00 Noon - Nancy Agan
 October 14 - Corning, NY – Union Hall – 7:00 PM - (607) 936 – 6966 Wayne Caden
 October 15 – Ithaca, NY – Cornell University sponsored by Ecology House Dorm 7:00 PM – (607) 255 – 1094
 October 17 – Turners Falls (Greenfield), Mass – Great Falls Discovery Center – for the public – (413) 863 – 3676 Sara Beyilacqua
 October 20 – Harwich (Cape Cod), Mass – Harwich Conservation Trust – 2 evening – (508) 362 – 3422 – Mike Lock
 October 22 – Jamestown, RI – Melcrose @ 9:45 AM, Lawre Ave @ 1:00 PM, University of Rhode Island @ Evening.
 October 23 – Southington (Hartford), Ct – Briarwood Community College – 5:30 & 7 :30 Pm – (860) 628-6187 – Betty Stanley
 October 25 – Tarrytown, NY – Stone Barns Center
 October 27 – Poughkeepsie, NY – Marist College – 9:00 PM sponsored by SEED (Roberta) – (845) 575 – 3297/ Stu Activ
 October 28 – Phoenicia, NY – Phoenicia Elementary School for the Public – 6:15 & 7:30 PM – (845) 688-5580
 October 29 – Delhi, NY – SUNY Delhi – (607) 746 – 4568 – Marty Greenfield
 October 31 – New Paltz, NY – Mohonk Mt House – 10:30 AM – (845) 255 -1000
 November 1 – New Paltz, NY – Mohonk Mt House - 10:30 AM – (845) 255 -1000
 November 15- Defenders Of Wildlife Carnivore Conference - Denver

Northeast Coordinator, Pamela Brown – (845) 679-7519 wolfteacher.com 166 Wittenberg Rd, Bearsville, NY 12409

“Wolf Teacher” Pam Brown

In the 1970's Pam Brown met John Harris and a wolf named Slick. She joined their work delivering the Clem and Jethro Lecture Service educating the public about wolves. Through the late 70's and early 80's Pam travelled with John. In 1985, John passed, leaving Pam with two wolves who were placed in sanctuaries. In 1987, Pam and Mission:Wolf crossed paths at a wolf event in New Mexico and started a partnership that has lasted two decades. Pam now resides in New York state and continues to provide educational programs to schools and universities in her region. She also schedules Ambassador Wolf programs for Mission:Wolf across 20 states and has helped us reach over a million people. Pam travelled with Mission:Wolf and captured many images of Ambassador Wolf Shamen and others as they worked across the Southwest to help restore the Mexican wolf. She then created a video called Wolf Teacher based on the story of wild wolf recovery and to honor John's legacy. Pam is known to thousands as the 'Wolf Teacher.' Artist Susan Seddon Boulet, in partnership with the creators of Elf Quest Wendy and Richard Pini, created a beautiful poster titled 'Wolf Teacher' as an educational and fund raising tool for Pam to continue her educational efforts. To support the 'Wolf Teacher' Pam Brown, you can contact her best by phone at 845-679-7519 or address 166 Wittenberg Rd, Bearsville, NY 12409. To order her 'Wolf Teacher' video, see page 19



Pam Brown with Ambassador Wolf Magpie

photo Jeff Kollbrunner

Huge Accomplishments...

Gene's Kitchen



There's a saying: all good things take time. Construction of our new 1200 sq foot sustainable community building started in 1998 and is finally complete 10 years later. For 20 years the staff crowded into a little old trailer house to prepare meals and perform daily tasks. The new building includes a spacious kitchen where staff

cook and eat meals as a community, a food pantry, a laundry room, a loft viewing area, a greenhouse where fresh vegetables and herbs are grown year round, and Mission: Wolf's first flush toilet with a hot shower and bath. Hundreds of volunteers donated their time and energy to build this structure

from the ground up. The building was crafted with materials donated by Valley Ace Lumber, Hough Electric, Valley Pipe-works, Solar Wood, Metro Solar, Al & Simone Stucco, Boulder Glass, and Solar Solutions. Above all, this effort could not have been completed without the generous contribution of Eugene S. Principe Jr. This

wolf-head shaped building signals the completion of a dream come true: a sustainable facility that operates with minimal resources, providing a useful and needed shelter and community center for our staff.



Eugene S. Principe Jr.

The Playpen



The summer of 2008 brought the long awaited completion of our Wolf Playpen. Countless generous donations of materials, funds, and of course the volunteer labor of dedicated individuals and groups, made this not only possible but a huge success! This 20 acre wolf-proof enclosure has been a dream come true for all of us up here at the refuge and especially for the wolves! This new playground will serve as a "time-share" for all the wolves here at Mission:Wolf. Using a virtual maze of corridors between wolf enclosures, countless "guillotine" wolf gates, and definitely some generous raw meat baiting techniques, the staff now has the capability to peacefully and safely get any and every of our wolves up to the top of the hill for playtime! Sprawling above the sanctuary to the east, directly under the rising sun, the playpen will allow our wolves here to run and frolic like never before! They will surely find plenty of critters to chase, new smells and most importantly the ability to get an even closer taste of the wild life. This dedication to giving the wolves the best life possible behind a fence has led to a sanctuary full of happy, healthy and stress free animals that are able to educate all visitors and volunteers about the beauty of the natural world and the desperate NEED we have for animals like the wolf to thrive in the wild and NOT behind fences!

The New Barn



During August of 2009, six young women from Belgium, Germany, Italy and Japan from the SCI (Service Civil International) camp volunteered with the wolves for three weeks. They built a brand new barn at the farm under Kent's direction using their newly learned carpentry skills and a lot of elbow grease. Even Colorado's intense and shifting weather was not enough to keep the team from finishing the roof. The barn was named Blue SCI (pronounced "sky") Barn in recognition of their hard work and determination. A great big thank you goes out to Kyle, Christian, Mike, Klara, Nao, Momo, Annie, Anna, Flow, and Charles.

Refuge Life

Summer at the refuge

Summers at Mission: Wolf bring to mind the sprawling metropolis of an ant hill. Hustling and bustling, M:W can have as many as 50-60 campers in a night, and scores more in daily visits. Without these productive volunteers and tours the refuge just wouldn't be the same, and the we would be far behind on projects and chores. Road Less Traveled (RLT), Boy Scouts, Science Disco(very), SCI (Service Civil International), Monarch Center, Cottonwood Institute, and multiple schools such as Casey Middle School, D.C. Oaks High School, and Colorado College to mention just a few, attack projects like piranhas. Some of the groups might run away, however, at the mention of our number one summer chore...altogether now: FIREWOOD! Preparing for the winter requires many trips for the gathering, splitting, and piling of the fiber of warmth. Another ongoing project is fencework which includes upper mesh, ground mesh, rasta staking, and hog ringing. There is much excitement over the now functional 12 and 20 acre playpens, ready for bounding wolves! RLT and others also worked in several enclosures clearing fallen trees, covering ground mesh with dirt, cleaning out dens and water tanks, shoring up fire bunkers and much more. And let's not forget the most popular M:W activity: cutting up animals for wolf food!

We've learned at MW that gender, size, and sometimes age, play no part in how well you can do. No matter if vegetarian or omnivore (none of us human beings are carnivores you sillies!), the extraordinary biology lesson coupled with the satisfaction of feeding the wolves is enough to get most kids excited and slicing. Watch a 13 year old girl triumphantly hold up a bloody roast fit for a wolf, and you know you've seen the essence of "I can do things."

On the less squeamish side of life here are the visits with Maggie, Abe, and the pups, Orion and Soleil, Talon, Mama Spirit, and their wolf-doggy pups. And the sound of a bunch of kids singing "All You Need Is Love" around a campfire is enough to give anyone pause for reflection and appreciation. So much good work and play by the groups! And the counselors and all their energy-thanks!

We can't talk about the summers without mentioning the thousands of visitors that brave the roads to get here. Thank you for your interest, your financial participation and your ability to renew our sense of privilege at being here.

M:W is more than the wolves. People of all makes, models and moods, from all over the world come together in common cause to figure out how to do what they may not know how to do to help the wolf. To all the people from all over the world that put so much into Mission:Wolf this summer and others...

Muchas gracias, domo arigato, merci boucoup, donka shein, gratzi and THANK YOU!



International Volunteers

Each year Mission:Wolf hosts one or two international work camps. These camps are organized by Service Civil International/International Voluntary Services (SCI/IVS) around the world as a means of promoting global peace and understanding.

Our job as a host is to provide local transportation, food, shelter and a project with tools, materials and leadership. The international campers' job is to provide their own transportation to the local bus depot in Walsenburg and to come equipped with tent, sleeping bag and warm clothes. In the back of our trucks every summer, we haul several road weary travelers up the dirt road to M:W.

For three weeks a dozen individuals led by a M:W staff volunteer tackle tremendous jobs including wolf enclosure expansions, feeding wolves, building cabins, cutting firewood, improving visitor paths and other refuge projects. In the process, hundreds of M:W visitors and staff become intertwined as language barriers transform into comical charades. At the end of three weeks of working and eating as a community, a family emerges full of pride at the amazing accomplishments that can be made by a small group of individuals.

2009 marks our nineteenth year hosting SCI/IVS Camps. International participants in past camps ranged from a 13-year-old girl from Austria to a 63-year-old grandmother from Germany. Over two hundred individuals have become a part of a huge extended family that stretches worldwide. Each summer, visitors find M:W buzzing with unique accents and friendly people from many far places.

M:W has provided a day of work from each camp to support community projects in both Custer and Huerfano Counties. Projects include helping to construct and maintain a local food store/co-op to installing road signs for our local home owners' association. We also expose each group to the beauty of hiking the Great Sand Dunes National Monument and the romance of the American Cowboy at local rodeos. The staff of M:W looks forward to meeting the new international volunteers each summer and offers a huge thank you to all the individuals that continue to make this project a success.

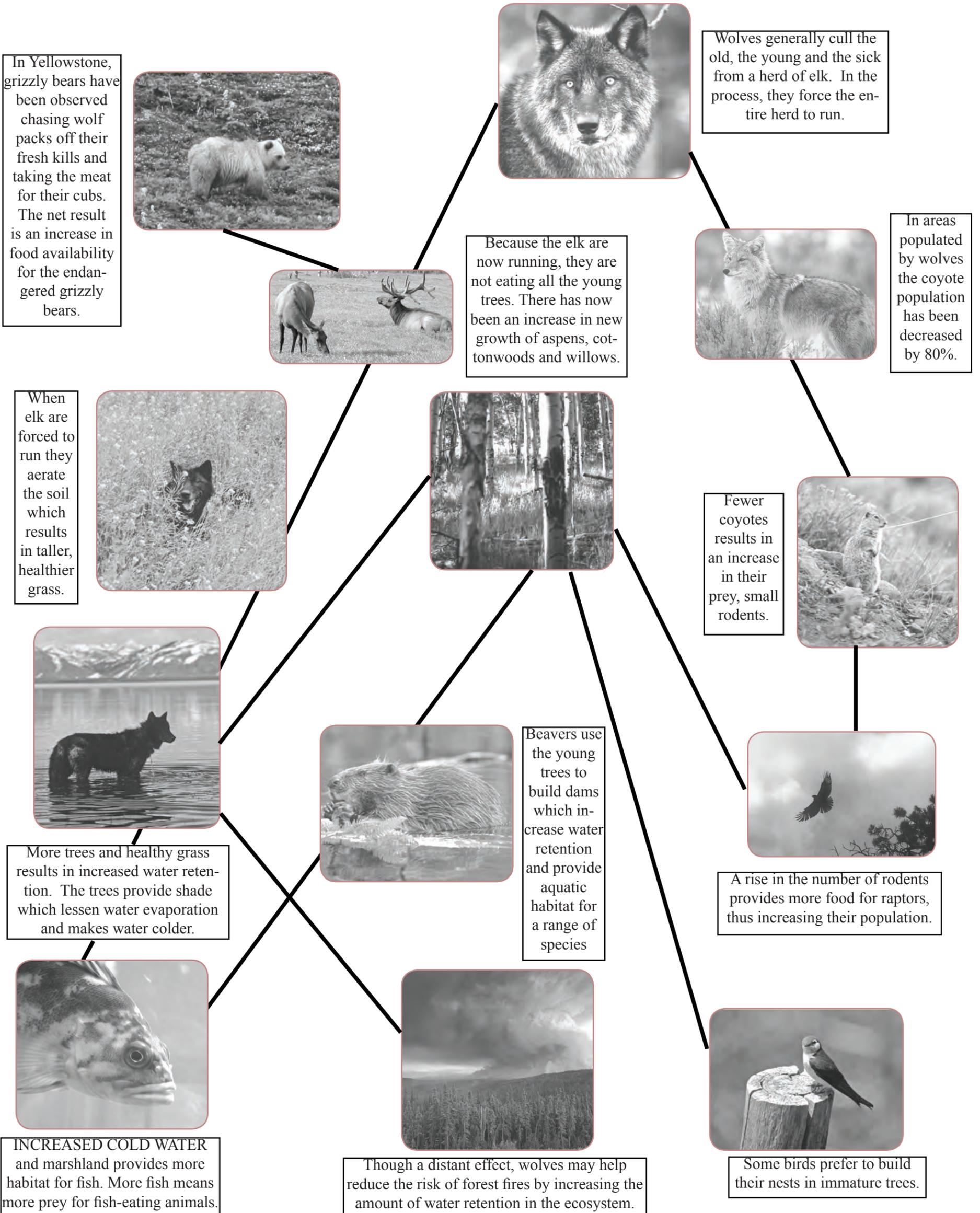
Kona

Hello all, my name is Kona and I'm the resident dog here at Mission Wolf. I thought after living here since 2004 I'd introduce myself to you all. I came to Mission Wolf in the summer of 2004 after being rescued by one of the volunteers here. I've been told Dogs don't usually do well here. Being a purebred Husky it is easier for me than some of the humans who live here. I've got a great winter coat and I've done my best to understand and learn from my ancestor the wolf and I have learned a lot. Although from time to time I still get confused about what the humans want. The Wolves and me have come to live in harmony, me knowing not to get too close to the fence. I even raised some of them as puppies teaching them the two leggers are not to be feared. Since those wolf puppy raising days I've, moved indoors to the staff Kitchen where I love lying on my couch getting belly rubs. Kent tells me what a good thing I do here for the people, that the wolves can't. I give them a dog they can snuggle and hug and they can't do that with the wolves, lucky ME. When I'm not laying on my couch you can spot me trotting down to the horses with one of the volunteers. My favorite way to help the humans is to clean the meat pad especially before they get to help. All in all I have a great life here at the Refuge. I watched a lot of friends come and go, both two and four leggers. I have got to meet people from all over the world. I love my job of keeping the humans company here and love being able to get to know where I came from. Aunty Carol, the Membership Director, has even made it possible for people to sponsor me now. WOW I feel honored I am now part of the Pack. Well I'd better get off this computer I have a meat pad to clean. Hope to see you all at the refuge soon. Howl,



How Do Wolves Give Fish Cold Water?

The **Trophic Cascade** refers to the “cascade” effect seen after the reintroduction of wolves to Yellowstone National Park. Previously it was believed that an ecosystem is built from the bottom up. For years, in accordance with this belief, scientists tried to restore damaged ecosystems from the bottom. First they would grow the right grass and then add the correct insects and so on until the population of large herbivores would increase. Only then would they consider returning a top predator. After studying this method for decades, they discovered it was a slow process and would take eons to totally restore an ecosystem. The reintroduction of wolves to Yellowstone has resulted in a re-evaluation of these beliefs. Since the reintroduction in 1995 and 1996, the ecosystem is recovering at a remarkable pace. This has lead scientists to believe that ecosystems are built from the top down, starting with large predators. The widespread effects of the wolf, referred to as the trophic cascade, are being seen on a diverse group of species that extend from the grasslands to the trees and even includes the grizzly bears. Some of these effects are as follows:



WOLVES—chase elk—allow trees to grow—feed bears—aerate grass—increase water retention—establish population levels for most other species.

Learn More About Wolves...

www.missionwolf.com
www.youtube.com/missionwolfsanctuary
www.youtube.com/tracyanebrooks
<http://apps.facebook.com/causes/beneficiaries/30372>

US Fish and Wildlife Service grey wolf status report:

www.fws.gov
www.r6fws.gov/wolf
www.r6.fws.gov/endspp

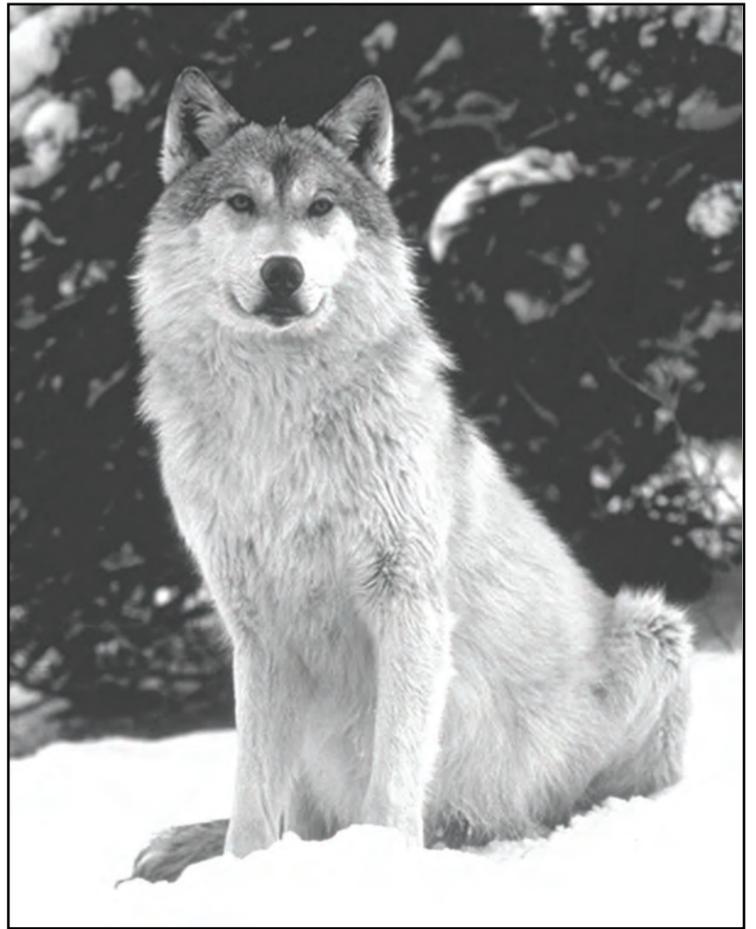
Plan a Trip to Learn More About Yellowstone's Wild Wolf Packs:

www.nps.gov/yell/nature/animals/wolf/wolfpup.html
www.forwolves.org/ralph

How You Can Help Wild Wolves:

US Fish & Wildlife Service has recently delisted wolves from the Endangered Species List. As a result, Wyoming, Montana, and Idaho all have wolf hunting seasons and other states may consider taking similar actions. Please explore the following sites for more information:

www.nwf.org
www.nwf.org/wolves/nwefforts.html
www.fws.gov
www.defenders.org



How You Can See A Wild Wolf...

Have you ever wanted to catch a glimpse of a wild wolf? If the answer is yes, you're in luck. With the amazing recovery wolves have made in the US over the past 10 years, it is now easier to find them than it has been in over a century. Thousands of people every year have the privilege of seeing a wolf in its natural habitat. Now remember, that doesn't guarantee that you will find a wolf whenever or wherever you look. It takes dedication, persistence and the right equipment to be successful.

The most likely place to find wild wolves is in the Northeastern corner of Yellowstone National Park. Since being reintroduced, the Druid Peak Pack has moved into the Lamar Valley and spends most of the year rearing their pups, hunting and socializing within a couple of miles of the road. When you reach Yellowstone, ask a Ranger where you might find the wolves, and then keep a keen eye out for large groups of people with spotting scopes. The best months to spot wolves are December through March when less foliage and snow make tracking easier. The most opportune time of day to see the wolves are dawn and dusk. Be sure to take warm clothes, sunscreen, water, binoculars, a spotting scope if you have one, and lots of patience. The most important thing to remember is to respect the wolves and other wildlife and not to feed any animals. They need lots of room and you probably won't get closer than 1/2 mile away from them.

So, go out and enjoy! Some of the M:W staff's fondest moments with wolves have been in the wild. Come to the refuge, get a close look at their eyes and learn about their personalities, then go see them in the wild where they belong. For the first time in our history, any individual with a bit of patience and the ability to travel may gain a personal experience with a wild animal. There are many organizations with expert guides that provide education while leading people in search of wildlife.

Land Update

In 1986 Kent signed the papers on 36.5 acres of the most remote land available with the goal of creating a solar powered home and wolf sanctuary. By 1988 the home was overtaken as the need to provide refuge for homeless wolves and public education increased. To ensure the long term success of the refuge and to help reduce fragmentation of the wild land adjacent to the refuge, M:W created a three phase land project known as the Mission:Wolf Wilderness Preserve.

Phase I, the first priority is dedicated to the future of the wolves of M:W. We hope to create a 490 acre nature center adjacent to National Forest and State Trust lands, surrounding the existing 50 acre wolf refuge.

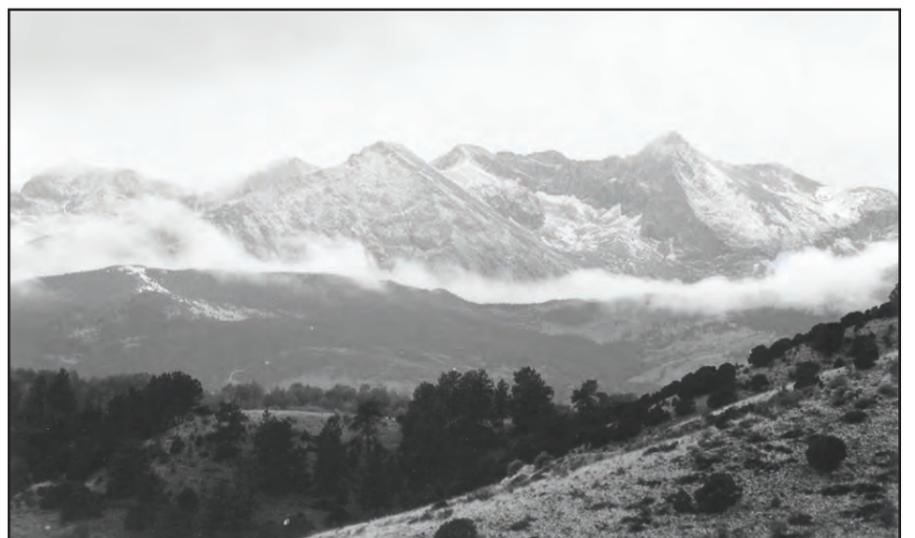
Phase II includes nearly 1,300 acres of private, subdivided land bordering the San Isabel National Forest. This land, known as the Promitory Divide, lies south of the refuge and provides watershed for five drainages into the national forest. It also serves as a wildlife migration corridor between the Sangre de Cristo and Wet Mountain ranges.

Phase III is a 1,000 acre land conservation project designed to preserve the partially developed Williams Creek Drainage north of the refuge.

At this time we only need to secure one critical lot to complete Phase I. Unfortunately the owner is reluctant to sell and we have maxed our credit limits to secure what we have. Our current land debt exceeds \$175,000 and not until we pay this off will we be in a position make a good offer on our last piece. You may help Mission:Wolf secure vital land by getting involved in several ways. One is to simply donate (or find a good friend who can) the money to help pay off our current land debt. Another is to donate the land itself or the money to buy a specific parcel (\$25,000 to \$75,000 per parcel). A more complicated yet feasible way for M:W to achieve this goal is to simply encourage individuals to purchase the available land, and to retain title and use of the property while protecting future wildlife with the benefits of a tax deductible conservation trust plan.

For several years our nearest neighbor lived seven miles away. Today that distance is less than two miles.

If you wish to become part of Mission:Wolf's Land Project; contact Kent at 719-859-2157 or e-mail info@missionwolf.com



A CELEBRATION OF LIFE



Rami crossed the country in her travels with The Ambassador Wolf Program. She played in the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, splashed in the Great Lakes, and stood on the rim of the Grand Canyon.

Kevin's devotion to the conservation of imperiled species took Kevin all over the West. He worked as a natural resources specialist in Oregon, a fisheries biologist in Alaska, and a bighorn sheep biologist in New Mexico. Then, in 2000, Kevin became the Swift Fox recovery project leader in South Dakota for the Turner Endangered Species fund. For the past eight years, Kevin worked tirelessly to ensure swift foxes a place in the wild.

Kevin Honness and Rami



Kevin first came to Mission:Wolf in 1990 to help out for a few days and ended up staying for years. He adopted all the staff and volunteers into his extended family and welcomed visitors with an enthusiastic smile. In his time at M:W, Kevin raised many of the pups who went on to define the refuge for a generation of visitors, including a tiny little girl he named Rami. In her life, Rami went on to meet a quarter million people across 30 states, teaching them all that there's no such thing as the big bad wolf. Even the shyest wolf-dogs at the refuge adored Kevin.



Rami reached millions of people in her lifetime. She taught everyone from children to Senators, spreading understanding for wolves and instilling respect for wildlife.



In 1997, Kevin's interest in wolves took him to Yellowstone, where he worked with the Wolf Project as a biologist and researcher. He spent many a night watching wild wolves from the famous "wolf hut."



Rami had a unique ability to interact with people of all walks of life. Time and again she picked out gang leaders, those with cancer, outcasts, and people of influence.



Despite the distance that often separated Kevin from his friends across the country, he was always in our thoughts. Now, as he begins an adventure where we cannot yet follow, he is still close to our hearts. We hope that Kevin, his little Rami, and all the wolves whose lives he touched are together once again, running wild down a forest path.

Memorials



Ghost Dancer

1/2/90 - 6/11/08

Ghost Dancer, nicknamed "Ghosty" was born in January of 1990. She came from a breeder who had spent 12 years selectively breeding to create the perfect cross: an animal that looks like a wolf and acts like a dog. Ghosty was the perfect example of this not being the case. She could never live in a house and was a very independent animal. She acted like both a wolf and a dog. Even with people who knew and raised her, she would bite half of the time and lick half of the time. She lived most of her life with her sister Dancin' Bear and a wolf named Shaman. She spent the end of her life at the M:W Farm with Kent and Tracy. She passed away in July of 2008.



Kestrel

4/11/95-8/26/08

Kestrel was born April 11, 1995 as part of an unexpected litter. She was one of the smallest wolves at the refuge. Although she was wary around strangers, she enthusiastically greeted people she knew and trusted. Kestrel was known for hitting speeds up to 35 mph. For a long time she lived with a large male wolf named Zephyr. When Zephyr passed away Kestrel lived with a large white wolf named Polar Bear. They were happy together until he passed away. She spent the rest of her life with a male named Aspen and passed away in August of 2008.



Aspen

4/26/93-1/7/09

Aspen was one of six pups born April 26, 1993. He had a social,

loving nature and seemed to enjoy life. For his first five years he lived with a large, older, alpha male wolf named Zephyr and a female his age named Whisper. She paired with Zephyr and together they picked on Aspen making him the scapegoat. One year later he challenged Zephyr and took over leadership of the pack. Zephyr was relocated and that left Aspen and Whisper companions. They spent their days together until her death in 2006. Aspen moved in with a little female named Kestrel and passed away in January of 2009.



Tierra Del Fuego

4/16/93 - 4/30/09

Tierra Del Fuego was born April 16, 1993. Her name is Spanish for "Land of Fire", and this fiery spirited female lived up to it. Tierra was the daughter of two M:W wolves who got together unexpectedly. As a puppy, she traveled with the Ambassador Wolf program. She was chosen because of her outgoing nature, but she proved that her courage with strangers was only temporary and the program was not for her. Although very nervous around strangers, she was affectionate with people she knew. She lived her whole life with a large male named Kawh. She passed away in May of 2009.



Merlin

4/18/95 - 7/22/09

Merlin, affectionately known as "Waffle," was born April 18, 1995. He traveled with the Ambassador Program for many years with his mate Sila, a beautiful white wolf. They were such a dynamic pair that people remember meeting Merlin and

Sila years after the program. After Sila passed away Merlin retired from the program and was placed with Jazmine. The two lived quite happily until spring of 2006 when Jazmine passed away and a young female, Amulet, joined him. He spent his remaining days greeting many visitors until he passed away in July of 2009.



Ned Ludd

4/11/95 - 10/6/08

Ned Ludd was born on April 18th, 1995. He was a little shy around strangers but was curious about visitors and came to the fence to investigate tours. He was the beta male (or second in command) in a pack that included two other males, Mowgli and Druid. In the winter of 2003, Ned and Druid ganged up on Mowgli and ousted him from the pack. The previously gentle Ned established himself as alpha. In addition to Druid, Ned welcomed a female named Katimik into his pack. He led with calm assertion until he passed away in October of 2008.



Druid

4/18/95 - 5/16/09

Druid was born April 18th, 1995. As a pup, Druid was relatively outgoing. He lived with two other wolves: Ned Ludd, the alpha, and a female named Katimik. Even though he was the omega (or bottom ranking member) of the pack, Druid always kept a positive and playful attitude. After Katimik passed away, Druid was introduced to Keechee, an Arctic female, and they lived happily together until he died in May of 2009.



Katimik

4/1/96 - 5/9/07

Katimik was born April 1, 1996 in Idaho. She spent the first seven years of her life at the Grizzly Discovery Center in West Yellowstone, Montana until the pack kicked her out. M:W agreed to take her and she moved in with two wolves, Ned and Druid. She had a sweet, gentle disposition and enjoyed being the center of the boy's attention. She was curious about the staff and would warily come up to the fence to see what people were doing. Katimik spent her days sitting on the roof of the shelter in her enclosure until she passed away in May of 2007.



Sasha

5/1/98 - 8/27/08

Sasha was born on May 1, 1998. She was owned by a woman as a pet and lived in a 12x12 ft. shed for the first 10 years of her life. While the woman loved her, she didn't have the ability to provide Sasha with needed space. When the woman passed away, her husband was left to care for Sasha by himself. He couldn't get close without Sasha panicking and throwing herself against the sides of the shed. He knew this was a bad situation and contacted the local vet about euthanizing her. The vet suggested that he look for a wolf refuge and he found M:W. Sadly, Sasha contracted an infection and died 3 months after arrival at the refuge in August of 2008.

Memorials



Sabretooth

5/2/92 - 4/3/08

Sabretooth was born May 2nd 1992 and his litter was sold for use in a documentary. When the producer only wanted three of the five pups he and his sister Passion came to M:W in July. His full name is Gandolf Sabretooth, but the staff called him 'Tooth.' As a pup he traveled with the Ambassador Wolf Program. By the age of three, Tooth and his mate Peaches retired from traveling. They basked in the attention of visitors and climbed atop our kitchen to howl. They were two of the happiest and most outgoing wolves we have ever met. Sadly, Peaches passed away from old age at Easter of 2005. He finally accepted the companionship of a 4 year old female named Raven. Tooth passed away on April 3rd of 2008.



Ahsa 4/16/93 - 10/17/07

Rasta 4/26/93 - 10/3/07

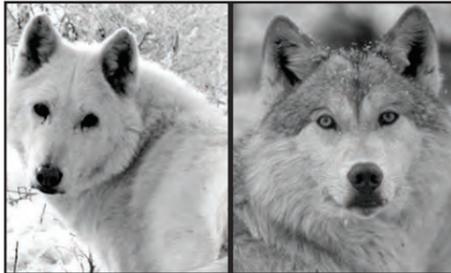
Asha was born in the spring of 1993. As a teenager, Asha was a trouble-maker and tried to take over pack leadership. Once we realized what she was up to, we placed her with a male named Rasta, another mischief-maker. Asha was very sweet tempered and shy, although she loved the occasional water hose tug-o-war if the staff wasn't paying attention. Her partner Rasta was more wary of humans and hid when visitors arrived. Rasta was born in April of 1993, part of an un-expected litter at M:W. In his prime he weighed over 100 lbs. Rasta often challenged males in adjacent enclosures but remained shy around humans his whole life. Rasta and Asha passed away very close together in October of 2007.



Polar Bear 4/4/95 - 7/30/07

Polar Bear was born April 4th, 1995 in an un-expected litter at M:W. His

pink nose soon earned him the nicknames "Po" and "Pinky." He lived in a pack with his sister Lily and brother Gizmo who quickly established their dominance. Polar spent nine years as the lowest ranking member of the pack and after living for so long as the scapegoat, he finally decided to challenge Gizmo. The staff moved him in with a female named Kestrel and the two were very happy together. He passed away July of 2007.



Lily 4/4/95 - 10/14/07

Gizmo 4/4/95 - 11/4/07

Lily Fleur. "Lily" or "Wild Flower," as staff affectionately called her, was born on April 4th 1995. Lily was a large puppy but at 9 weeks she and her brother Gizmo stopped growing and were discovered to have a mineral imbalance. After she recovered Lily wasted no time in establishing her dominance and was a powerful and confident leader of her pack. She lived with her brothers Gizmo and Polar Bear and a younger female named Kestrel. Kestrel and Polar Bear were moved to other enclosures but Lily and Gizmo spent the rest of their days together. As a pup, Gizmo resembled a tiny bear cub so he was called Grizzly, but as he grew he came to look more like a gremlin. This led to a gradual name change from Grizzly to Gizzy to Gizmo. He grew to be an authoritative and striking wolf. Lily and Gizmo died weeks apart in October and November of 2007, respectively.



Beorn

4/4/95 - 11/13/07

Beorn was born in April of 1995 to an un-expected M:W litter. A large and majestic animal, Beorn had a very impressive presence. Beorn was hand-raised by volunteers and grew up to be the strong most gentle leader of a high-energy pack of wolves known as the Driveway-Five. Beorn lived for many years with his mate Tierra, brother Skinwalker and cousins Kawh and Porini. In December 2001, Beorn's pack ganged

up on him, beating him up so badly that he had to be placed in a vacant pen to recuperate. Beorn was introduced to Nyati, and they spent their days sleeping in the sun and enjoying each other's company. Beorn passed away in November of 2007.



Skinwalker

4/4/95 - 10/18/07

Skinwalker, affectionately known as "Skinny," was the smallest pup in the litter of April 4, 1995. He was the lowest ranking of the pack known as the "Driveway-Five." Eventually Skinny challenged the alpha and was moved. After leaving the pack, Skinny acted like a goofy puppy, laying his ears flat and whining whenever anyone walked past. Skinny moved in with Rami, who had retired after 10 years as an Ambassador Wolf. Before then, neither had ever had a mate. They were a very happy couple, and loved the attention they received together. Skinny passed away in October of 2007.



Hina 4/1/92 - 2/2/08

Obediah 4/26/93 - 12/6/08

Hina was born in April of 1992 to a private breeder in Montana. She was one of the largest female wolves at the sanctuary, weighing over 100 pounds. She was the alpha of her pack, but was extremely shy around people. "Hina" means "Silver Moon Goddess," a young visitor from Hawaii named her. At one time Hina lived with a male named Fenris. Fenris had been vasectomized but to the staff's surprise two years after the surgery he and Hina gave birth to a litter of pups. Fenris passed away and Hina moved in with Obediah. She passed away in February of 2008. Obediah was born at M:W in April of 1993 after his father managed to jump the fence separating him from the females. Known

as "Obi-one" by staff, Obediah took after his father's playful and sneaky manner. Obediah lived with a female named Hina. They were great friends and were rarely found apart. After she passed away he lived alone. Visitors often remarked that his unusual howl sounded like a siren. Obediah passed away in December of 2008.



Nyati

4/26/93 - 1/25/08

Nyati was born April 26, 1993. As a pup she was the most timid of her pack and one of the shyest wolves at the refuge. In spite of her shyness, Nyati was strong-willed and took over her mother's role as alpha female by the age of three. A year after her elevation to alpha Nyati had an accident that required her rear leg to be amputated. Despite her injury she regained alpha status. She moved around her enclosure as fast as a four-legged wolf and retained her shy but dominant attitude. Nyati continued to be an alpha female until she passed away in January of 2008.



Pharoh 4/8/09 - 8/13/09

Nikkolah 4/8/09 - 8/14/09

Cutie-Pie 4/14/09 - 8/18/09

On July 16, 2009 M:W prepared for the arrival of 8 wolf pups. At just 3 months old, the 4 Arctic and 4 Grey Wolves were put in with Maggie and Abe. A joyous occasion soon became our worst nightmare when 4 of the pups showed signs of Parvo combined with a bacterial disease. This is the first time M:W has ever experienced this disease. Unfortunately we lost three of the pups but managed to save the rest.

New Arrivals



Fenris and Amulet

Fenris and Amulet's mother was sent to a Michigan Humane Society when her breeder was killed in a shoot out with police. They discovered she was pregnant when she dug a den and had 4 pups. The pups were left in the enclosure with their mother for 4 months, only being handled once to spay and neuter them. The stress and trauma their mother experienced watching her owner die and moving into an unfamiliar environment was transferred to the puppies through extremely high levels of adrenaline in utero and then through her milk. Wolves only bark as an alarm call when something very dangerous is near, so the constant barking of the other shelter dogs told the wolves to be scared of everything all the time. After 4 months of constant barking Amulet and Fenris were neurotic, terrified puppies with nowhere to go. Through news reports and the outreach of the shelter staff, M:W found out about Amulet and Fenris and agreed to take them in. Amulet and Fenris spent their first months at the refuge cowering and fear barking in the very back of their enclosure. Eventually Fenris moved in with an adult female named Raven. Amulet lives with a wolf-dog named Luke who is helping her learn not to be so afraid.



Sangre

Sangre, known to some by his original name, Sarge, first arrived at Mission:Wolf in 2007. We don't know much about his past, but we do know that someone tried to keep him as a pet. We believe that he was untrained, which led him to be unpredictable especially toward men. When Sangre took his aggression out on his owner by biting hard, San-

gre lost his home so M:W agreed to take him in. Once he arrived, we realized he was a misunderstood dog who had been labeled a wolf-dog so the breeder could make more money. The refuge staff tried to rehabilitate and train him to be a house dog. We have successfully saved a few mislabeled dogs in the past, but Sangre had been neglected for too long. He is too unpredictable to be placed in a home. Sangre now lives with another wolf-dog named Daisy. They are a great match because they are both very confused animals who don't know how to act around humans or wolves. Over the months that they've been together, Daisy has helped Sangre adjust to refuge life and is slowly teaching him not to bark at the staff when they walk past.



Nokona

Nokona was born in January of 2002 and came to M:W in early spring of 2009. His background is unknown. To the best of our knowledge, he ended up in a dog shelter in Iowa and was scheduled to be destroyed as a wolf. A Colorado wolf sanctuary took him in and he lived there for six years until financial difficulties forced them to close. Nokona was delivered to M:W in the back of a truck and was placed in a large enclosure. He is timid and shy around most of the staff except at feeding time. We worked to get Nokona a new pack and placed him next to Raven and Fenris to get acclimated. All was well, and Raven and Nokona flirted a bit, but little Fenris was insecure. Just when it looked like all was well, the three ended up arguing and Nokona was moved into a new enclosure. We are still working to find him a companion. He has a very striking appearance and although he is wolf-like in appearance and behavior, we suspect that he has a touch of dog ancestry in him as well.



McKinley

McKinley was born April of 2005 in Palmer, Alaska at Wolf Country USA. She was sold to a couple

who were in Alaska on a vacation. They came back to Colorado with their puppy McKinley. They raised her for three and a half years. They brought her to Lamire Humane Society because they were getting a divorce and could not keep her in an apartment. She was handled improperly at Lamire and was transferred to Clear Creek Animal Shelter by our sister Organization WOLF. At this time we had already decided to adopt McKinley. Jennifer McCarthy picked McKinley up, drove her to M:W, and they arrived on October 29, 2008. Every morning and evening the wolves of M:W howl. Her very first night here McKinley lead the other wolves howling. She lives with a young male named Texx and is comfortable in her new home.

Texx



Texx is very tall, as shy as they come, and has lots of wolf traits. He also has markings and features that tell us he has some dog ancestry. He was born in January of 2005 and arrived at M:W after a long road trip from Texas in late 2008. We believe he was purchased as a pup and raised as a pet for an unknown time before he was either turned loose or escaped. He managed to survive while running free around Texas neighborhoods by scavenging dog food from backyards. As his presence became more noticeable, so did the neighbors concern for his safety. Texx was tricked by a clever homeowner who recognized what he was and how to use his behavior to help keep him from being shot. She found that while she walked her dog Texx would enter her dog's run and eat the food. Armed with a 100 ft rope, she set up a way to close the gate from a distance. When Texx snuck in for food, she closed the gate behind him. Knowing how well he could jump, they put a mesh top on the dog run to keep him contained. Now that he was safe, he was in need of a new home so M:W agreed to take him. Texx is very timid and not sure what to think of life in the mountains, but within weeks of his arrival we were able to get him a companion. He lives with a female named McKinley who is dominant over him and keeps him in line at feeding time. As time passes, he settles into life and has become a bit calmer. He enjoys his new life with McKinley.

New Arrivals

M:W late in 2008 from a refuge that was shutting down due to health and financial troubles. He was represented as a pure bred Arctic Alaskan, red-faced wolf, a species which does not exist. Luke was a very unusual, unsocialized and confused canine that barked and howled simultaneously. He lived in a remote and hidden enclosure and seldom saw people. Using a blow dart, we were able to sedate, capture, and kennel him for transport to our veterinarian, Dr. Hancock. During his neuter, we discovered that he only had one descended testicle. Luke ended up in surgery for over an hour to find and remove the missing testicle from his abdomen, costing over \$1000. Luke arrived at M:W with a sore and cold belly, and was placed next to our community kitchen where we could tend to his needs and watch his wounds heal. Luke seemed to be confused at the thought of humans in his space but slowly warmed up to staff. He is timid but curious. After healing he moved in with a female wolf named Amulet. He enjoys his new home and has even offered a greeting and a quick sniff to a few of the refuge staff.

was longing for puppies of her own. At just three months old, the four Arctic and four Grey Wolves were put in with Maggie and Abe. Maggie was somewhat overwhelmed but happily took them in as her own. Abe, perpetually rambunctious, was so worn out playing dad that he often fell asleep on visitor's laps! A joyous occasion soon became our worst nightmare when one pup died and four others became sick. This is the first time M:W has experienced a disease amongst the wolves and staff immediately took action. Within 48 hours the staff and several pups made runs back and forth to the animal hospitals and when all was said and done we had lost three pups to Parvo and one of the sickest ones, Aria, survived. Staff stayed with him for 36 hours straight, fed him, gave him five bags of intravenous fluids and homeopathic remedies, and within two days Aria came back to health and started tearing up the "Puppy Palace" vet building. The five puppies, Illiamna, Arrow, Zephir, Aria and Lil' Hailey Star are all doing great, Aria and Little Hailey will soon be introduced to Raven and the rest are to stay with Maggie and Abe. Illiamna has been one of the bravest and curious of the pups and will travel with Ambassadors Maggie and Abe in the Wolf Bus.



Talon and Valley Spirit

Talon and his mate Valley spirit were born in 2006 and came to M:W in spring of 2009 after a long, hard journey. They were discovered chained and padlocked in a backyard during a police raid. They were tranquilized, the padlocks were removed, and it was discovered that Valley Spirit was pregnant. They both were identified as wolves and scheduled to be destroyed. Quick action by wolf-dog rescues in Michigan and Indiana allowed them to be rescued. They were transported to a temporary facility where Valley Spirit gave birth. Sheltered by a makeshift den of straw bales, she nursed her pups and awaited transportation to M:W. With help from dog trainer Jennifer McCarthy and "The Dog Whisperer" production teams, all six were loaded and transported to us. When their carrier doors opened for the first time in three days, they emerged into their forested enclosures and let out sighs of relief. "Mama" Valley Spirit cleaned out an old wolf den and carried her pups to it. Then Talon and Mama eagerly greeted all of our staff and several visitors the following day, leaving a trail of wet kisses. Since the pups have emerged from the den Talon and Mama are occupied being parents.



Asia, Batman, Buku, and Oreo

Asia, Batman, Buku and Oreo were born to Talon and "Mama" Valley Sprit at a temporary facility en route to M:W. Mama nursed them sheltered by a makeshift den of straw bales, then once at M:W, she cleared out an old den and continued to raise them. Both parents have wolf characteristics. We believe Mama is a wolf-dog cross and she has mostly wolf tendencies. Having seen the pups, we suspect that Talon is a wolf-Pitbull cross. The pups have a short, shiny coat and dog-like tails. Three of the puppies have round Pit-bull faces with half-cocked ears and one pup has a boxy Lab face with droopy ears and long wolf legs. As they grow we are starting to see each pup's individual personality.



Luke

Luke was born in January of 2002 and came to



Aria, Arrow, Illiamna, Lil' Hailey Star, Zephir

On July 16, 2009 M:W prepared for the arrival of eight wolf pups. They traveled from a facility in South Dakota and Dave Nora of Westcliffe was kind enough to deliver them to us. Maggie had just watched a new mother with four pups arrive and

If you would like to sponsor any of these animals please visit our website at www.missionwolf.com or see the Wolf Caretaker form on page 19.

The Crimzon Fund

Mission:Wolf is reaching maturity as an organization, and so are many of our resident wolf friends. Currently over 80% of our residents are either geriatric at over age 8 or pediatric at under age 3. At these ages we experience a significant need for increased dietary attention and medical care.



Financial Update

A typical surgery costs between \$1,000 and \$3,000; each year we find ourselves in the waiting room two or three times. Less dramatic vet runs can easily cost from \$200 to \$500, depending on what the problem is and what follow-up treatment is required. While most of our veterinarians donate a portion of the cost of the various surgeries, drugs and office time, they cannot reasonably be expected to provide these services for free.

With the increased need for more vet services, we have created a fund for the sole purpose of paying veterinary bills. Contributions of cash and medical supplies for the Crimzon Fund will be used for the future medical care of all wolves living at M:W.

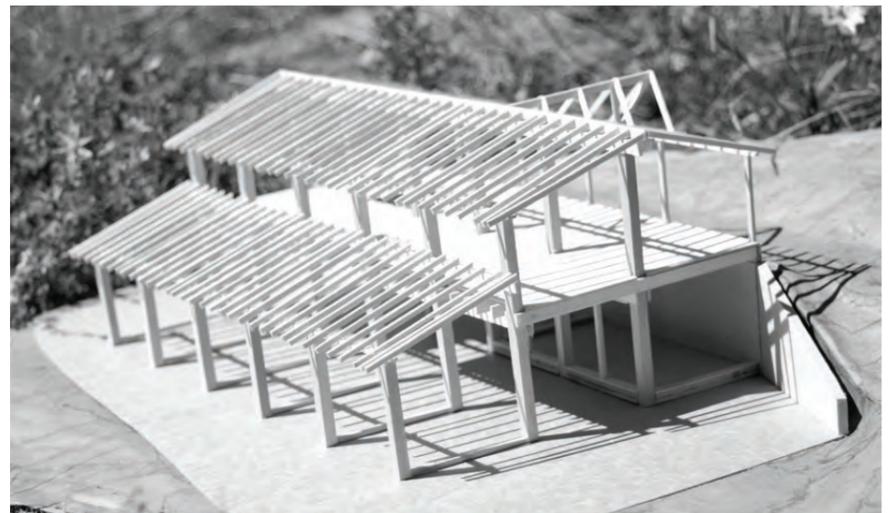


Rogue lost his eye to Glaucoma

New Horse and Veterinary Building

The Project: Create a 3500 sq foot solar-powered teaching facility that would shelter rescued horses as well as provide a proper vet room and recovery area for both wolves and horses.

Mission:Wolf continues to improve how people understand and care for animals. This structure will help the sanctuary's animals and allow us to expand our educational work with future visitors and volunteers.



Vetrinary work area, 5 horse stalls, Enclosed tack room, Rodent-proof food storage area, Equipment storage area, Animal caretaker apartment/bathroom, Hayloft.

Model by Daniel Lazarek

We own the land, have a small horse shed, and many framing materials, but we need help or money for the following items:

Roof sheathing materials/shingles
Block foundation retaining wall
Interior vet room finishes/equipment
Horse barn tools and equipment
Solar power well/solar electrical system

Floor decking
Modular apartment for caretakers
Poles 20-30 ft long
Horse fencing and gates
Hardware

Bathroom fixtures
Exterior siding
Septic System
Linseed Oil, Paint
Good quality horse trailer

Financial

A Financial Recipe for working with wolves and people with success.

We have found that people love to place expectations on everything, sometimes just so we can find failure and justify what we do not like. At Mission:Wolf I have found that by leaving the refuge open at all hours, to all people, at no cost and by not allowing people to use money to gain a personal experience that the result is overwhelming calmness and support. So many folks want to help, we need volunteers to coordinate other volunteers. When people work at something they are interested in and care about they produce fine products in short time. Nonetheless, it still takes money to keep things rolling. With many thanks to Nancy At Sangre Solutions, we have worked hard to record the last five years of work in a way that allows us to illustrate how far we can stretch a dollar. Here is a brief summary of how we utilize every dollar we receive.

2008 Financial Records for Mission:Wolf:

Income:		
	Cash	Labor
Donations	\$114,572	
In Kind Materials	\$2,152	
In Kind Labor		\$508,827
Membership	\$24,565	
Grants	\$43,713	
Program Fee	\$30,510	
Sales	\$34,336	
Interest	\$738	
Total Income		\$ 759,412

Expenses:		
	Cash	Labor (I.K.)
Transportation	\$ 17,178	
Facility & Depreciation	\$ 75,941	\$95,179
Cost of Sales	\$ 10,635	
Staff Expense	\$ 36,387	\$24,096
Vol. Supplies & food	\$ 30,512	
Wolf Care	\$ 10,429	\$ 164,656
Wolf Education	\$ 35,504	\$ 150,600
Operating – fuel, taxes	\$ 19,515	\$ 74,296
Total Expense		\$ 744,928

Color Me Wild!



"ORION'S LEAP"

Color in this scene as Soleil and Orion frolick and play while the stars shine brightly overhead.

Artwork by Holle Cole

THANK YOU!

M:W wouldn't be able to do what it does without the generous contributions of countless people and organizations. To those who help us past, present, and future M:W acknowledges you.

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Wolf Caretakers

Greetings from your Membership Coordinator. Hi, I'm Carol Kennedy. I moved here to Westcliffe four years ago after retiring from nursing. I've been volunteering at M:W for four years. In that time I have witnessed four legged friends pass on and welcomed many new animals. Membership is the heartblood of Mission:Wolf. It only takes a few minutes to sponsor a wolf (which means care and feeding of that wolf), and in return you receive an 8x10 color photo of your wolf, their biography, a Mission:Wolf decal and newsletters. We feed about 1000 pounds of meat a week to our wolves. Currently we have 35 beautiful wolf or wolf dog crosses and they all get a daily breakfast, some with medications, and a BIG feed on Wednesday and Saturdays. Your membership pays for food and medications as well as any other expenses we incur to keep our wolves healthy and safe. Memberships make a great gift for birthdays, anniversaries, or just to say to a friend, "I'm thinking about you." Over the past 2 years we have had many of our senior wolves pass away, so it is a real treat to have puppies. We don't let our wolves breed in captivity but we rescue puppies from other places and this year we got 4 wolf dog mixes and 8 pure bred wolf puppies. We lost 3 to Parvo but the other five survived and are doing well. Come visit Mission:Wolf and see these beautiful puppies grow and be happy.



Since puppies born in captivity cannot be rehabilitated and returned to the wild, we provide them with a lifelong home. By purchasing a membership you can help us care for these wonderful animals. **Below is a membership application, keep one for yourself and make a copy for a friend. Thanks for all you do to help our wolves.**



Become a Wolf Caretaker

One of the best ways you can help out Mission:Wolf is to become a **Wolf Caretaker**. With over 30 hungry wolves to feed, we go through nearly 1,000 lbs. of raw meat each week. While most of the meat comes from deceased livestock donated by local ranchers, this is still a daunting and expensive prospect. The money to pay for this and to operate the refuge comes from our wolf caretaker program. Please consider becoming a member of Mission:Wolf today, and helping to feed our wolves.

Which wolf would you like to sponsor? (please circle)

A one year membership includes:

- * An 8x10 full color photo of your wolf
- * Your wolf's biography
- * A sample of your wolf's naturally shed fur
- * A Mission:Wolf logo sticker
- * A subscription to the Mission:Wolf newsletter

Abraham, Amulet, Aria, Arrow, Asia, Aurora, Batman, Buku, Daisy, Fenris, Guinness, Hailey, Illiamna, Kawh, Keechee, Kona, Luke, Luna, Leo, Magpie, McKinley, Mowgli, Nokona, Oreo, Orion, Raven, Rogue, Sangre, Selway, Soleil, Spirit, Talon, Texx, Valley Spirit, Zephir

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

<input type="checkbox"/>	\$25.00	Student/ Senior
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$40.00	Individual
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$100.00	Family, Group or School
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$250.00	Contributor
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$500.00	Patron
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$1000.00	Feed A Wolf For A Year
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$3000.00	Feed A Pack

Please send cash or checks to: Mission:Wolf P.O. Box 1211 Westcliffe, CO 81252

For credit card orders and other gifts including shirts, tote bags, posters and more, please visit our online store.

100% of all profits from the Mission:Wolf online store support the refuge:
www.missionwolf.com/store

As a small sanctuary, we're not able to purchase and stock many gifts. Now, thanks to Cafepress.com, you can purchase hundreds of different items with your favorite Mission:Wolf resident wolf on them.

20% of Cafepress profits go to Mission:Wolf:
www.cafepress.com/missionwolf

For E-Bay Sellers: Opportunity to raise money for Mission:Wolf
 E-Bay Giving Works Program, MissionFish.

You can designate that **5% - 100%** of your profit from a given sold item can be donated to Mission:Wolf through MissionFish.

Mission: Wolf



Come grow and learn with us!



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