

Wolf Visions

THE PERIODIC NEWSLETTER FROM MISSION:WOLF

Volume 26, Number 1



Aria, an Arctic wolf at Mission:Wolf, focuses his gaze on a Magpie perched in a bush nearby.
(Photo by Courtney Hoyt)

A MISSION:IMPOSSIBLE BECOMES MISSION:WOLF

When Kent met his first wolf-dog cross in '82 he saw the need to help. By '84 a Canadian wolf at a roadside attraction was in need of a home. After months of work with government agencies, Kent obtained special permits and built fences required to care for a true wolf. In '86 the need to care for nearly a dozen homeless wolves and wolf-dogs lead Kent to find a remote spot, far from people, where he could live simply with solar power and create a peaceful refuge.

During the frigid and frozen Colorado winter of '88, with nearly a dozen wild canines to feed, the task seemed impossible. At 3am with a broken truck in the middle of a snowdrift, miles from anywhere, with two wolves in the back and the fence for their home in rolls on top of it, any hope of survival was far from reach. It seemed like a scene right out of Mission:Impossible. Irritated and scared, Kent let out a reluctant smile when he realized he was living a real life scene of Mission:Wolf. They survived that cold bitter night in a truck and eventually made it home.

Twenty-eight years later, Mission:Wolf is now a world renowned non-profit wolf sanctuary visited yearly by thousands. Through hands-on experiential education our mission is to educate people why wolves belong in the wild, why they don't make happy pets, and how their survival, ultimately, ensures our own.

For 26 years Mission:Wolf has traveled coast to coast, sharing our message of Education vs. Extinction. At the refuge, we care for 36 wolf and wolf-dogs incapable of re-release into the wild due to human imprinting and their inability to survive on their own. Daily maintenance is cared for by dedicated staff and volunteers. Run strictly on donation, our 3 acre human community, 50 acres of fenced in land for the animals, and over 250 acres of land conservation would not be possible without your support.

Inside, you will meet a few of our resident wolves. Whether young, old, or somewhere in between, our resident wolves share their message of compassion, love, and the circle of life. See

Mission:Wolf
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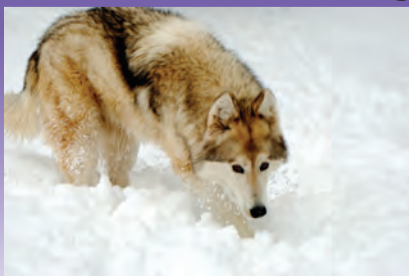
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what projects we have completed, are currently working on, and where we hope to go in the future. Learn ways you can help both M:W and wild wolves at home.

Whether we see you at the sanctuary, on the road, hear from you by phone, mail, or email, we appreciate all you do for wolves here and in the wild. Thank you for your continued support!

FEATURED WOLVES: AURORA, DAISY, LUNA, & NOKONA



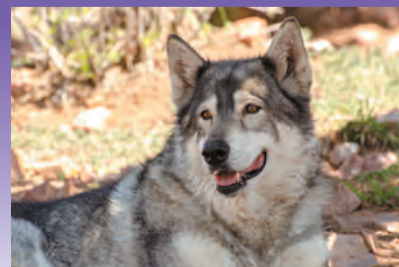
Aurora

(Archive Photo)



Daisy

(Photo by Courtney Hoyt)



Luna

(Archive Photo)



Nokona

(Photo by Courtney Hoyt)

The Mission at MISSION:WOLF

Mission: Wolf connects people with nature using hands-on experiential education. Through volunteer internships and national traveling education programs, we inspire individuals to become stewards of the earth. While providing a home for rescued wolves and horses, we create opportunities for growth through community service and personal interactions with animals. We value education, sustainability, and improving relationships and reducing conflicts between people, animals, and the world around them.

Sanctuary

Mission: Wolf is first and foremost a remote sanctuary for wolves and wolf-dogs in the Wet Mountains of southern Colorado. We strive to provide shelter to the unplaceable, captive wolf and wolf-dogs that other facilities cannot handle.

Born into cages and imprinted by humans, the animals at our refuge cannot be released to the wild. To prevent more captive born and encaged animals, we spay, neuter, or vasectomise our animals. They are given large, natural outdoor enclosures with diverse terrain and are fed raw meat on a feast and famine cycle to simulate the wild.

The sanctuary also houses a horse rescue facility where abandoned or neglected horses get a second lease on life.

Our committed staff members live on-site year round, caring for the wolves and helping visitors of all ages understand wild animals.

Education

Mission:Wolf began when there were only an estimated 800 wild wolves left in the lower 48 states. Today, there are over 6,000. Ecosystems, such as that found in Yellowstone National Park, are thriving thanks to the reintroduction of wild wolves. Our goal is to dispel the many myths and fears associated with the wolf, to promote an understanding of the wolf's essential role in ecosystems, and to show why wild animals do not make good pets. In a world where nature can be hard to come by, at M:W visitors are engulfed in a sustainable community and learn to appreciate nature through visual and hands on experiences.



Resident wolf pair Farah and Apollo

Sustainability

A big part of sustainability is using what you already have. We work to prolong what we have, recycle what we can, and apply eco-friendly practices to our life. Completely off the grid, M:W relies on the sun for power and heat. Two of our vehicles are powered by recycled vegetable oil donated to us by local restaurants. Seven on site ecofriendly tipis provide visitors and staff with an alternative living experience. We are constantly working to limit our environmental footprint.



Ecofriendly tipi

Conservation

Our main goal is to see M:W's need as a wolf sanctuary for homeless wolves to become obsolete. As the need to shelter captive wolves decreases, the facility will, in the future, become an educational nature center and safe haven for wild animals where we would hear wild wolves roam across our hillsides.

In addition to our three acre village, forty acre farm, and fifty acre fenced wolf sanctuary, M:W has over 300 acres of conservation land set aside for humans and wildlife to co-habitate and enjoy.



A little slice of heaven (Photos by Hoyt)

Pupdate

Last year we introduced you to Rosie and Tiger. They celebrated their first birthday in March of 2014 as part of our Ambassador Pack. Under the guidance of adoptive Mama Maggie and Daddy Abe, Rosie and Tiger blossomed into social butterflies and greeted visitors on a daily basis throughout the summer. While Tiger is by far more outgoing, running up to visitors with powerful face licks, Rosie's natural wolf instincts make her more reserved and selective. She will pick one or two on the outskirts of a crowd and lick their hand while cautiously watching everyone else. If she decides she likes you, though, be prepared for her rays of love to shine!

In their downtime, Rosie and Tiger enjoyed picking on Uncle Zeab, rolling and chewing on each other in the dirt. Abe had to be very

stern when things got too out of control for his liking, especially with Tiger. Tiger is almost twice Abe's size now. His growth spurt over his first year of life left Tiger clumsy last spring as he tried to figure out exactly how his long legs and tremendously large paws and head work. After spending months stumbling over himself, he can now gracefully bound and dart across his hillside.

As an Omega, Rosie played a vital role in her pack as peace-keeper. When things got too heated, she could be seen whimpering and submitting to the wolves in disagreement, distracting them, thereby preventing larger fights from breaking out. When no one was looking, though, Rosie could also be seen cuddling up to Zeab who gazed upon her with longing eyes.

At 19 months old, Rosie and Tiger demonstrated their desire for independence.



Tiger and Rosie gain confidence with each other and are seldom far apart. (Photos by Hoyt)

With the return of Abe, Maggie, and Zeab from a six week tour across the country, Rosie and Tiger decided they wanted their own pack without Mom and Dad. They now have their own enclosure separate from the others.

Tiger and Rosie have grown into two stunningly handsome and beautiful wolves, respectively. Visitors marvel at their splendor and playful nature and leave with a smile on their face when they have been so lucky as to have received a greeting from one or both of the pups.

For now, Tiger and Rosie continue to work daily with staff to improve their manners and may be part of our Ambassador Program for years to come.



M:W is first and foremost a sanctuary for wolves. We care for wolf and wolf-dog crosses unsuitable for wild release or in home placement. Every animal at M:W was born in captivity. Human imprinting and lack of learned hunting skills due to being fed by humans makes them unsuitable for wild release. Their independent nature makes them unsuitable for homes. At the refuge, shy wolves get a sanctuary, while bold ones are our teachers. Our motto is Education vs. Extinction. We work to educate the public as to why wolves are not man eating varmint, why they rarely make happy pets, and illustrate their importance to healthy ecosystems.

Our Shining Stars

Under a clear, star filled sky in the Wet Mountains of Colorado, you may be so lucky as to hear wolves howling. If you do, one of them could be Orion. Named after the constellation, Orion is a member of the M:W pack. After spending 5 months in a home, Orion's owner realized they could not provide him proper care and contacted M:W. Virginia and Jenny Finigan-Carter, friends of M:W, transported him to us. Upon arrival he met his life partner, Soleil, meaning 'Sun' in French. The two have proven to be inseparable just as the sun and the stars are to the sky. They have spent the past nine years as a highlight for visitors on tour. On a daily basis, visitors and staff alike admire Orion for his gentleman personality and silver gray coat. Soleil's exuberance and stark white coat can be seen by his side.



Orion
(Photo by Hoyt)

In August 2014, Orion had a baseball size tumor removed from his left back leg by Dr. Bill Hancock and his team. They worked quickly and flawlessly and handled Orion with great care. The tumor was sent away to be tested and Orion was returned home. After a few hours in confined recovery at M:W, Orion was back on his feet, seemingly as if nothing had happened. A few days later in our outdoor recovery enclosure, Orion could be heard howling back and forth with his mate. M:W kindly obliged in his desire to return to Soleil.



Soleil and Orion share a moment
(Photo by Kent Weber)

When Orion's test results returned, he was diagnosed with stage 3 soft cell sarcoma. This advanced form of cancer has potential to rapidly spread and Orion was given 6-12 months to live.

Through late summer and into fall, we also watched as Soleil's eyes began to fog over. Again, thanks to the keen eye of Dr. Hancock, she has been diagnosed with Pigmentary Keratitis, Anterior Uveitis, and degeneration of the retina, a common genetic problem in Arctic wolves. Ultimately, no matter the treatment, this will lead to blindness. M:W staff gives daily medical treatment to both Soleil and Orion to help slow their degeneration.

As M:W staff keeps a watchful eye, Soleil and Orion continue to live and share their message of independence, love, and hope to all who visit. Lighting up M:W, they are our shining stars.

The Senior Pack

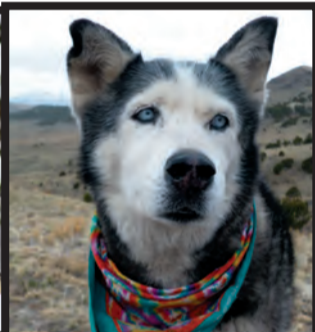
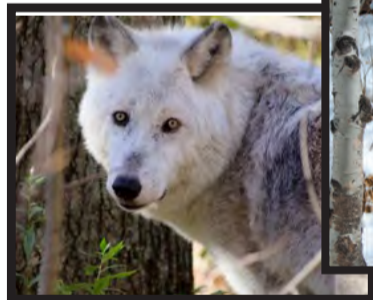
In the wild, wolves are lucky if they live to be 6-8 years old. While human hunting is historically the number one cause of wild wolf deaths, parasites, starvation, and injury also play a critical role. In captivity wolves receive unlimited food and vet care and, although rare, can live to be twenty years old. At M:W, the oldest wolf was eighteen. Currently, we house seven wolves twelve years or older.

Magpie, age twelve, just finished her 11th tour on the M:W bus. Her sister, **Raven**, retired from the Ambassador Pack seven years ago. She spends her days lounging with her mate, Illiamna. Although much older than young Illi, the two can be seen wrestling and playing with each other on their hillside.

Daisy, age twelve, is a highlight on tour. As one of our few leash-able animals and although almost completely blind, she enjoys long walks outside of her enclosure. She relies on her other senses of smell, hearing, and touch to maneuver around.

Kona, age sixteen, was rescued from a husky puppy mill where she was constantly impregnated. She was a foster mom for many wolf pups at M:W. She is now the M:W house dog. Staff enjoy walking Kona and snuggling up with her on her own personal couch in the community building.

Luna, age twelve, traveled on the M:W bus, met thousands of people at the refuge, and fostered pups before she was retired to the M:W farm in 2003. She is a content house dog who loves to sleep in her cushioned chair.



Magpie (Archive Photo), Raven (Archive Photo), Daisy (Photo by Hoyt), and Kona (Archive Photo)

Nokona, age twelve, and **Aurora**, age thirteen, are two of our more reserved wolves and were retired to the M:W farm this spring, where flatter enclosures aid in their mobility and comfort. Aurora's howls for attention can be heard as she hops around on her three legs, waiting for breakfast and dinner. Her front, left leg was shot partially off by a farmer when she

was a pup because she got into domestic turkeys. The remainder of her leg was surgically removed. Nokona was rescued from a dog shelter in Iowa. Rambunctious at times with neighbors Zuko and Luna, he enjoys his peace and quiet and one on one attention from Kent and Tracy.



Luna (Archive Photo), Nokona (Photo by Hoyt), and Aurora (Archive Photo)

The Horses of M:W

M:W is home to seven horses. Our horses aid us in hands on experiential education. Quadruped body language is universal and is our greatest tool for teaching personal space, social skills, emotion, and conflict resolution.



Kate gets a taste of what it's like when a horse mirrors a person's movement. Young Batal pictured here, watching Kate's legs as she moves. (Photo by TAB)

A Walk In Connection - A Non-Fiction Book by Tracy Ane Brooks



Tracy has walked wolves into schools, universities, museums like the Smithsonian Institute, through challenging studio sets like the Today Show, the Mr. Rogers Neighborhood set, and presented wolves to countless audiences across the US for over twenty years.

Tracy has been instrumental in building Mission: Wolf, a captive wolf sanctuary located in Colorado, her main focus, the wellbeing and contentment of the wolves. Tracy is one of those unique people who possess a deep understanding of her instinctual and intuitive connection to animals. After spending ten challenging years working hands on with wolves, a horse came into her life.

Tracy embarked on a study of horse training, desiring to discover the magic behind horse whispering for herself. What she learned was to listen to the horse and mirror its natural behavior. Tracy wondered if she could use what she learned from horses on wolves. After all

predators and prey all have the same foundation of behavior, flight, fight or freeze.

Tracy learned to mirror a horse named Ikus and resolved his run-away behavior in a simple, natural, non-evasive way. Ikus reminded her that these abilities to work with animals were within her all along. What followed was an intensive study of mimicry or mirroring wolves and horses. Many years of groundwork had paid off when Tracy had an opportunity to mirror Illiamna, a feral wolf that she presented to over four hundred people at CU in Boulder after only fourteen hours of moving with him. The icing on the mirroring cake was to work with a troubled wild caught mustang.

"A Walk In Connection" is based on Tracy's life learning to connect with animals. Her personal stories are intended to inspire and contribute to the greater global understanding of communication with other species of life in an empowering way.

To purchase a copy of Tracy's new book, please visit our website at

www.missionwolf.org.

To purchase Dragonfly coffee please visit their website at:

www.dragonflycoffee.com

Student Chooses Tracy To "Mirror" In School's Wax Museum Event

It has been a long and bumpy road completing "A Walk in Connection." The journey was filled with many curves, roadblocks, and delays. Ideally I would have loved for the book to have been published years ago, but that was not meant to be.

Along the way, I found myself inspired by many animals and people, too. One inspiring young lady surprised me. I was contacted by Jen Torrey on behalf of her young daughter Katie. Katie had chosen to portray me in her school's "Wax Museum" event.

The students were asked to choose a person of interest to them, and create that person's likeness and make a display representing the person's life. When I saw Katie dressed up like me in the photo, I was tickled at how much Katie did resemble me, a "mini me" if you will. I also loved the display she created.

I cannot help but want to share this with you today, because for me this was such a special event. Katie and her mom communicated with me via email, wanting as much

information about my life with animals as I had time to share.

In addition to the questions, I sent them a copy draft of my original manuscript. At the time "A Walk in Connection" was twice the size of the now published version. (Several chapters were eliminated.) And to my surprise Jen and Katie read it and sent feedback too, which was encouraging!

In Jen's words; "It is full of incredible stories that come to life on the pages. We have enjoyed reading it! Katie is truly inspired by what you do and is thrilled to get to become you at the school "wax museum."

I walked around that day excited. It made me happy to know that my life's story had inspired this young lady. And what Katie was doing with the wax museum event inspired me too. It gave me hope that the work I was doing was worth all the bumps and was another story of mirroring.

I want to send out a special thank you to Jen and Katie Torrey, and I hope to see Katie in the future.

-TAB



- Co-Founder and President of Mission: Wolf. She has worked with wolves and horses for over 20 years.
- She initially became involved with Mission: Wolf through donating her art work and jewelry.
- She and her partner, Kent, rescue captive wolves to keep them from dying. Mission: Wolf is a sanctuary for wolves as well as a nature center for people. It is also a traveling education program called Ambassador Wolf Tour.
- Tracy is also a trained Horse Whisperer.
- Tracy is in charge of the care of wolves and horses at Mission: Wolf. On trips, and when they have wolves in public, she keeps wolves calm and happy.
- Tracy and Kent travel across the US with Ambassador Wolves to visit schools, universities, museums and other public facilities.
- Tracy has created her own gentle way to work with animals. She teaches staff members at Mission: Wolf how to communicate with animals with their body language. She is writing a book about her techniques of communication with animals.

-Katie Torrey

Volunteer

A Day in the Life of a M:W Staff

Hola! My name is Marco and I came all the way from Spain to volunteer at Mission:Wolf for a year. I arrived on September sixteenth and I have done so many things. Maybe you are wondering what a typical day is like for a volunteer. The truth of the matter is that each day is completely different. However, I can certainly try to give you a picture of how we live and work day to day.

M:W staff care for our facilities and animals. Our goal is to provide our wolves a sanctuary and give their lives purpose via educating visitors. This requires daily care and maintenance as well as a "Big Picture" view of the future.

I wake up at 7 AM in my warm, comfortable tipi and go straight to the community building to have breakfast. The community building is where the staff cook, eat, and hang out together.

Around 7:30 AM we prepare the wolves breakfast and feed them at 8:00 AM. We give them food every morning to check on each wolf and to give supplements and vitamins to the older ones. I personally find this moment magical because it is when man and wolf find themselves alone with each other.



Tiger and Zeab enjoy their breakfast.
(Photo by Hoyt)

Under the guidance of Kent, M:W is run by countless individuals from around the world. This year alone, we hosted volunteers from the US, Canada, Japan, The Netherlands, Spain, England, Italy, Belgium, and France. M:W offers volunteers a chance to expand their leadership, business management, handyman, and social skills through daily maintenance, visitor tours, expansion projects, and community living.

Short Term volunteers offer their time for up to two weeks. We say if you do not scare the wolves you can stay for the day. If you do not scare the staff and can care for yourself, you can stay for up to two weeks. Many school, boys and girls club, scout, rehab, and family groups visit for up to two weeks. They assist on projects led by staff to further the success of M:W.

Long Term volunteer staff members offer their time for over 2 months. These individuals are given room and board provided there are enough resources left over after taking care of the wolves. In return, they are responsible for the daily care and maintenance of the wolves, the facilities, and the visitors. Many long term volunteers stay for 6 months or longer.

After feed, we go to work on different projects, such as creating needed items and repairing old ones, cleaning and tidying up the facilities of the refuge, making wolf fur bracelets to sell in our gift shop, or working with financial data.

An important part of our job is to guide visitors around the refuge. This is our opportunity to spread our message of Education versus Extinction.



Aster Wijsman gives a tour.
(Photo by Hoyt)

On Wednesdays and Saturdays we feed the wolves with large amounts of meat. Wolves in the wild eat on a feast and famine cycle, so we try to imitate nature by feeding our wolves only twice a week. Although chopping big pieces of meat is a lot of work that takes much effort and time, it is always worth it to see the wolves satisfied with their meals.

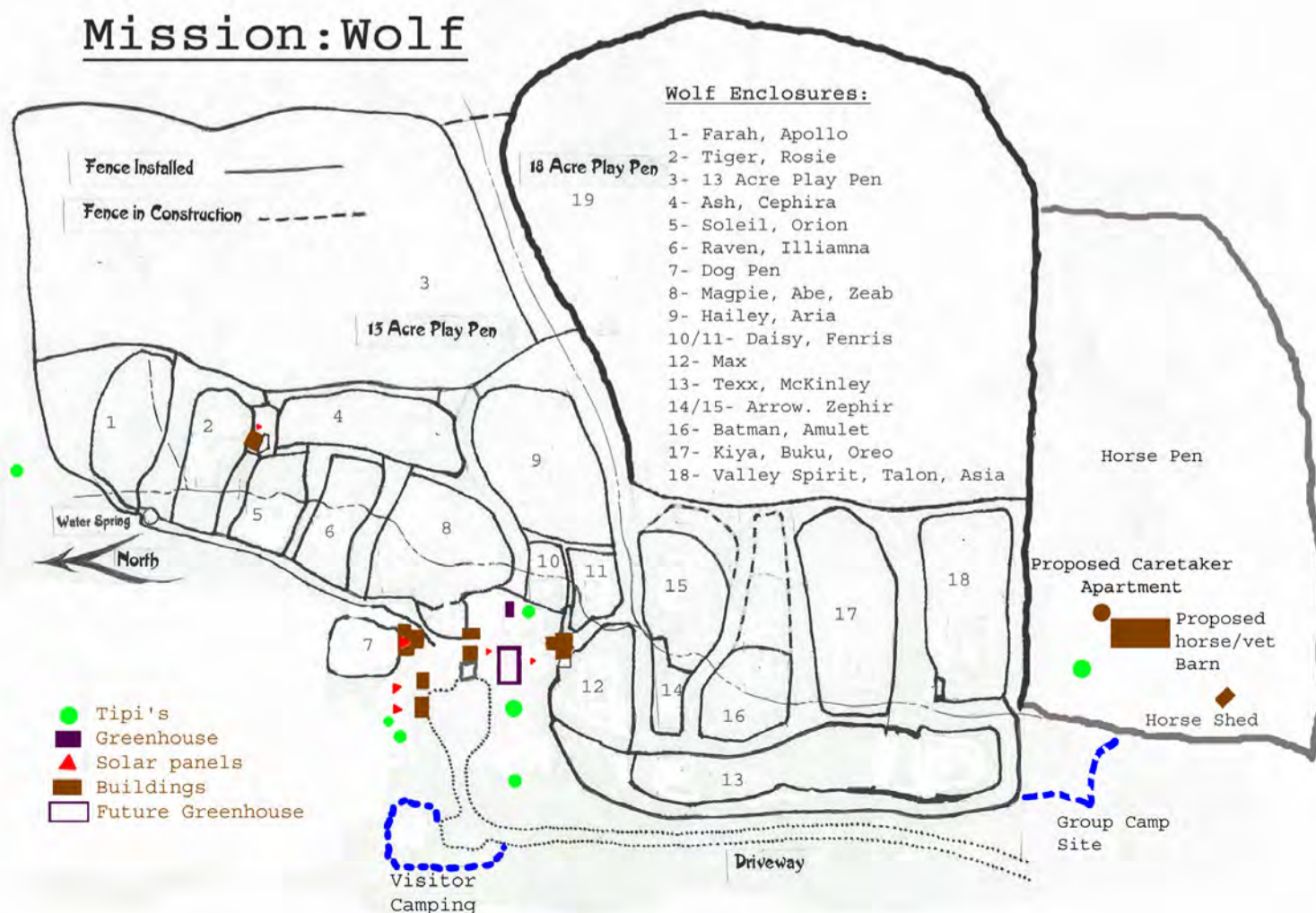
After work is finished, we all eat dinner together. This is a moment to share our thoughts and affirmations with the rest of the community.

After dinner it's time to clean up and enjoy ourselves by playing card games or watching a movie on a computer, since we do not have a TV or cable on site. We go to bed very early here because we are so exhausted after long days of work, and we don't have energy for much more. It is really nice going to bed feeling I have contributed to the goals of Mission:Wolf and to the conservation of the wolves and the wilderness they embody.



Marco Valera, Christian Hatt, and River Dougherty work on insulating an office cabin roof. (Photo by Hoyt)

Mission:Wolf



On Site

Staff live in a three acre sustainable community right next door to our wolf enclosures. Staff live on site, which gives us 24 hour wolf monitoring capability. Living deep in the mountains, this is vital to our wolves survival. Sometimes the roads are snowed in. It is also beneficial to have staff on hand in case of animal injury or immediate wolf enclosure repair (from the wind blowing down trees or flash floods washing debris on fences).

Our staff is blessed with tipis, warm buildings, indoor plumbing, hot water, and a fully functioning kitchen thanks to our kind donors through the years!

M:W Accomplishments

This year, volunteers ranged anywhere from 6 to 80+ years of age. One of the unique and useful things about M:W is our ability to give absolutely anyone who wants to help a project to further our success.

Over 50 organized groups, 150 short term volunteers, 30 long term staff, and countless drop-in day helpers totaled 50,000+ hours of work this year.

A common theme for projects was fire prevention and preparedness. Dead trees were cleared from and around wolf enclosures to be used as firewood or terrace logs. Terrace logs keep hillsides from eroding as wolves roam and run across them by catching and holding dirt. Removing dead trees helps limit the threat of large fires affecting the refuge. Firewood

gathered and processed by volunteers sustains winter staff and enables the constant care of M:W.

We would like to say a huge thank you to ALL who helped. Whether you contributed \$5, 5 minutes, 5 hours, or 5 days, we greatly appreciate all you do for us. Your kind hearts and helpful hands give us not only skills, but motivation, to keep going. **Thank you!**



Above: Terrace logs placed parallel across hillsides collect dirt and vegetation as wolves walk, run, and play. Tiger and Rosie put our staff and volunteers hard work to good use as they play hide and seek and chase.



Left: Orion chews on a bone. Our wolves eat about 1,000lbs of meat, hide, and bone each week processed by staff and volunteers. (Photos by Hoyt)

Animal Care
Provided multiple means of wolf enrichment
Developed stronger security in wolf enclosures
Expanded wolf enclosure fencing
Cared for nine horses with the help of volunteer mucking
Safely transported Orion and Kona to the vet and back
Processed thousands of pounds of wolf food
Increased animal safety in wolf enclosures
Successfully moved over 20 wolves to new enclosures
Constructed & installed over 10 guillotine door kennels
Practiced crate training with seven shy wolves
Implimented fire evacuation procedures with all wolves
Gathered and stored 1,200 bales of hay for horse food
Safely transported Rosie and Tiger to be spayed/neutered

Education
Trained over 30 staff to care for visitors and lead volunteers
Completed our 26th annual Wolf Education tour to New England
Shared our message of Education vs Extinction with thousands of visitors
Worked with over 50 groups and 150 short term volunteers
Created three new educational posters in the Visitor Center
Increased newsletter distribution to over 50,000



Campers from RLT help prepare upper mesh fencing. (Photo by Gayle Nosal)



A little down time to play in the woods and oceans of New England on the Fall Educational Tour 2014. (Photos by TAB and Rebecca Bose)

Refuge
Improved roads with drainage and grading for driver safety
Gathered and processed firewood
Revamped old hand rails and steps along paths
Completed foundation, partial concrete floor for fire barn
Completed arch assembly and are ready to stand up fire barn
Converted our second veggie powered town vehicle
Rebuilt the engine of our veggie powered truck
Began exterior revamping of our visitor building
Successfully transported the original M:W trailer house out
Provided two porta-potties for our visitors
Built a handicap accessible path
Bought two used, reliable trucks to haul meat and supplies
Installed new water line system for wolves and horses

Sustainability
Weeded out invasive species detrimental to native species
Planted and watered 50 new baby trees and shrubs
Worked on refuge landscaping projects and revegetation
Increased greenhouse food production
Installed four new electricity solar panels on custom built array
Laid over 100 terrace logs in wolf enclosures
Completed fire mitigation projects (dead tree removal)
Rebuilt three eco-friendly tipis
Processed hundreds of gallons of veggie oil
Repaired passive air heater in the Visitor Building
Utilized donated building materials for updates and repair
Leveled a new green house site



Volunteers from Colorado College help with firewood and clean-up after big feed. (Photos by Blaise Yafak)



SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainability plays a vital role in the preservation of wild wolves. The less we take away, the more there is for wild plants and animals. We are constantly working to use what is already produced and produce new from recycled materials.

Tipi's require less material, can be taken down and rebuilt, and are less detrimental to the land they sit on. Recycled veggie oil runs our vehicles and allows us to utilize what is already produced. Solar power also uses what is already available and does not require extraction. Our expansive solar power system supplies us with electricity for our buildings, well-water pump, power tools, and hot water system. The sun also supplies our specially designed south facing, earth-bermed buildings with heat in the winter.

We are constantly working to improve our everyday and long term sustainable practices to preserve what has been so graciously donated to us by our supporters.



Before: A hail storm destroyed two tipi canvas's (Photo by Hoyt)



After: Two new Nomadics tipi canvas's are displayed (Photo by Hoyt)

Recycle & Repair

This year we rebuilt three of our on site tipi's. Constant exposure to the elements caused one staff tipi to fold in when a rope holding the poles together rotted. A hail storm in the summer destroyed two of our tipi canvas's. Thanks to Nomadic Tipi Makers, we were able to rebuild quickly and efficiently.

With so many helping hands this year, we were constantly using solar power. Four new electric solar panels gave us the extra boost we needed. Two were purchased by the wolves and two by Paul Byron in exchange for using our tractor.

Our animals require 1,000 lbs of meat a week. Our off site meat storage freezer requires more power than we are able to supply at M:W. Thanks to the Chop Shop in Westcliffe, we are

Right: Kent excavates a drainage system with the new tractor. (Photo by Hoyt)



Above: Aaron works on the Veggie Mercedes. Even the snow won't stop him! (Photo by TAB)



Above: Jason fills the newly refurbished veggie truck with fluids. (Photo by Hoyt)

able to store our wolf food nearby. Unfortunately, after fourteen years of constant use, this summer our old freezer broke. In order to keep

wolf food readily available, we had to splurge on a new \$10,000 freezer while the old one was sent away for repair.

Located over 30 miles from the nearest town, working vehicles are a necessity. Staff member Aaron Young converted our Mercedes car into our second veggie oil run vehicle this spring. Volunteer Jason Stewart installed a rebuilt motor in our veggie oil truck when, after 250,000 miles, it broke.

With your generosity, we were able to buy two trustworthy used trucks this fall. M:W also purchased its' first tractor thanks to long time donors Ed Kraynak and Jane Cane. This tractor has allowed us to complete projects faster than ever. It has also aided in road repair for staff and visitor safety.

Thank you to all of our generous donors who have kept us running for over a quarter century. We greatly appreciate your support.

Help Wolves At Home

In addition to providing a safe and loving home for rescued wolves, M:W strives to minimize our personal impact on the environment in order to protect wolves in the wild. We have done this by implementing sustainable practices at the refuge and within our community. Completely off grid, we rely on our way of life for survival. In the 'real world' it is easy to forget your environmental impact because resources are readily available. Here are some ways you can help wild wolves at home:

Recycle your grocery bags. Using paper or fabric totes instead of plastic and buying in bulk saves non-compostable packaging material.

Know where your food comes from and/or grow your own. Buying local for meat and vegetables not only supports your community, but lets you know where and how it was produced. Factory Agriculture Production is inefficient and costly. There is a list of certified goods and producers at www.predatorfriendly.org.

Conserve water and electricity. It is easy to forget water and power sources, such as coal and wood, are taken from the wild, destroy habitats, and pollute air and water.

Know where your lumber for building or firewood comes from. Clear cutting destroys entire sections of habitat and runoff and machinery fluids pollute waterways.

Use what you already have or is already produced. Hand me down clothes and second hand stores can be alternatives to pricy new products. Used cars and houses are not only more affordable, but save natural resources. Decrease in production aids in less pollution costs.

Read labels before you buy. Use eco-friendly products to prevent water pollution. Everything that goes down your drain ends up in our soil and water.

Know where your trash goes. Recycle at home or at a recycling plant. Humans hide trash in garbage hills or dump it in rivers and oceans so we don't have to see it.

Be creative! Think of alternative uses for things you already have instead of throwing them away (ex- plastic bottles as plant starters, clothes no longer wearable as rags, empty containers as cups or tupper ware).

Education! Do you know your state's policy on wolves? Currently 13 states have experienced the return of wild wolves. If we do not have equality across the country, wolves cannot expand, limiting genetic diversity, habitat, and prey sources. Hunting and trapping wolves reverses our efforts of reintroduction. Talk to your local politicians and fight for wolves! Your voice is important!

Above, Arrow and Right, Orion, show off their smiles. (Photo by Hoyt)





Mission:Wolf Land Conservation Project

A western view from the parking lot of M:W gazes upon the Sangre de Cristo Mountain Range (Photo by Hoyt)

Kent Weber placed 35 acres of private land in the wolves' name as Mission:Wolf on Jan 7, 1988. The original 35+ acre lot is one of 500 on an old ranch that was subdivided in the 80's. The sanctuary is located on the farthest corner from the highway and next to National Forest and state land. Thanks to Dave and Peggy, longtime M:W supporters, this year M:W acquired another 36.5 acres which brought us up to 6 lots (226 acres). A few other folks have purchased adjacent lots (186 acres) that serve as a buffer to the sanctuary. The land is at 9300' elevation and at the base of Greenhorn Mountain. A few miles above us lies the Greenhorn wilderness area and 20 miles across the valley are the Sangre de Cristo Mountains. Our nearest neighbors are about 2 miles away.

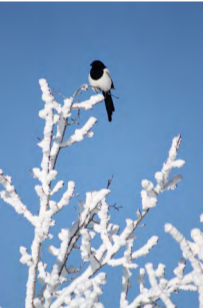
M:W ended up close to \$500k in debt in the early 90's in an effort to secure the property before others bought and developed it. Today our land debt is down to around \$200k. Once the debt is retired we will work to secure more land. Any donation made to M:W is tax deductible and can be specified for use by the donor. Supporters can simply offer a check, cash or bank transfer and upon receipt M:W will provide a tax deductible receipt. Adjacent lots are available on the private market and range from \$1,000 to \$2,000 per acre - depending on water resource, view, and location to National forest. We encourage our supporters to buy one if possible and keep it for personal family use and thus help us slow down local development and potential threats to the sanctuary.

The need to respond to individuals that wish to visit and volunteer has overwhelmed our resources. Last summer alone we logged in more than 50,000 hours of community service and have had to turn away many groups and individuals due to our lack of facilities (water, toilet and staff oversight). To accommodate the need we have created a plan to add a new camping area with a well, public toilet and a horse/wolf vet teaching barn - we own most of the land and have 25% of the needed materials to build it on site but the foundation, well, septic and other infrastructure needs must be funded and installed first.

To help us build a legacy of conservation, contact us at 719-859-2157 or email us at info@missionwolf.org.



M:W is home to many permanent and migratory species, such as Aspen trees, Prickly Pear Cactus, Sterling Jays, and Magpies. (Photos by Hoyt)



Fire Prevention & Evacuation Plan

Year round, M:W is plagued with the constant threat of wildfire danger. This summer, the rains smiled upon us and our fire threat for most of the season was low. Controlled burns nearby were a reminder, though, of just how dangerous and detrimental fire can be. At the refuge, we prepare our

staff and animals for fire evacuation. Our wolves undergo daily crate training during breakfast. Newly designed guillotine crate doors built by volunteer Norm Hanne offer staff a safer and more efficient method for animal capture and restraint. Two staff members attended a chemical immobilization

course this November to aid in the safe removal of our animals was it to come to that.

This summer we were fortunate to have Tom Davis, a certified dog trainer and animal First Aid/CPR trainer visit M:W. Twelve staff members were certified in animal First Aid/CPR.

This training taught staff how to physically restrain, perform CPR, and monitor temperature, pulse, and respiration on various size canines.

Fire barn erection progressed this summer at the farm with the construction of a concrete floor. The 4,000 square foot metal barn will be

large enough to house all of our animals, people, and records if we need to evacuate M:W. In order for it to be functional, we need to install the remainder of the floor, walls, electricity, doors, and ventilation, as well as put in twenty-four 7'x8' kennels where we could temporarily house our wolves.



A controlled burn is performed one mile from M:W. (Photo by Hoyt)

Evacuation Wish List	
Barn erection, labor	\$20,000
Electricity installation, labor	\$5,000
Doors, labor, & material	\$7,000
Kennels, with doors	\$5,000
Kennel installation	\$3,000
Ventilation, labor, & materials	\$3,000
Floor, labor, & materials	\$5,000
Staff training	\$5,000



Staff and volunteers help pour and level concrete for the fire barn floor. (Photo by Gayle Nosal)

Wild Wolves

Wild wolves used to roam across all of North America, numbering in the millions. When Europeans came to America, they saw wolves as a threat to their livestock and families. Fairytales of the big bad wolf eating pigs and grandmas led to strategic extirpation. Wolf hunters used traps, poison, and guns to rid this pest. Habitat and prey were decimated as human numbers grew and expanded.

With the loss of the wolf, many ecosystems became unhealthy. Prey became overpopulated, habitat and food sources were destroyed by uncontrolled native and invasive animal species, and waters became dirty and warm.

Our fear of the wolf was replaced with a fear of losing all that is wild. In 1995, wolves were reintroduced to Yellowstone National Park and Idaho and a trophic cascade fell into place.



Above: Aria howls at sunrise to the fresh fallen snow from the night before. Below: Rosie shows just how powerful a wolf's stare can be. (Photos by Hoyt)

The Trophic Cascade

Wolves play a vital role in an ecosystem. It is something we have learned the hard way. As wild wolves were killed across the United States and human habitation spread, we watched entire ecosystems collapse. Trees began to die, water temperatures rose to unlivable temperatures, herbivore populations exploded and became unhealthy, and coyotes decimated rodent and bird populations. Nesting birds no longer had trees, streams dried up, birds of prey and felines who rely on rodents had nothing to eat, and herbivores devoured entire fields and streambeds leaving nothing but dirt and destruction.



foraging too long in one spot, allowing streamside trees to grow. As the trees thrive, they provide homes for birds and shade for streams. Cool, shaded stream water attracts fish, beavers, and rodents, which in turn provide habitat for everything from insects to bobcats. **It is almost unbelievable that wolves can bring so much life to the world simply by chasing prey from place to place.**



Wolves not only help balance ecosystems--they also make human spaces more livable. In the wild, bears will often track wolves in order to scavenge on their kills. Without wolves to follow, our garbage cans may take the place of prey. Another



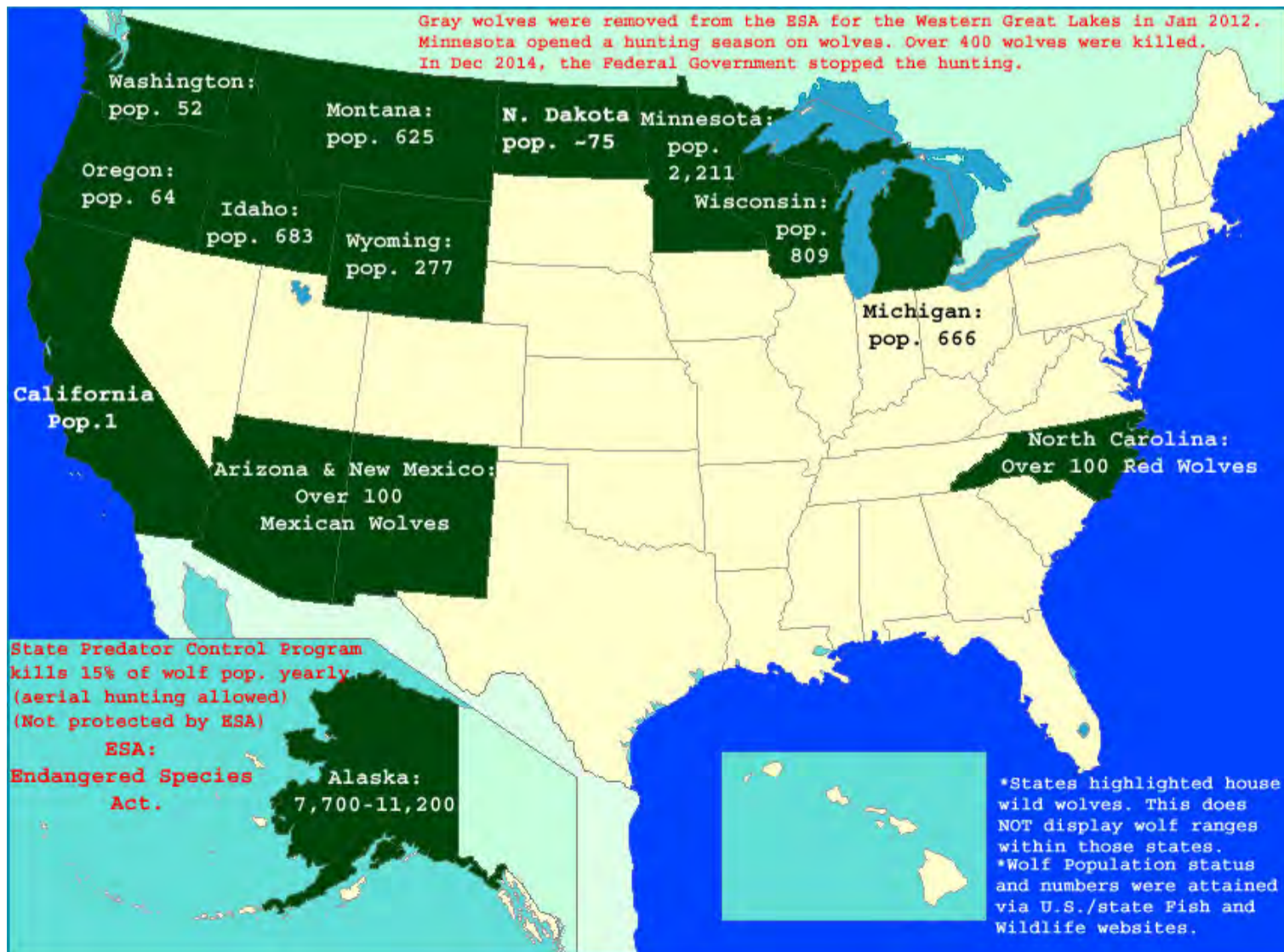
visitor to our backyards, the coyote, can become overpopulated. One of the main differences between wolves and coyotes is their view of man. Coyotes are not afraid and will come up to your front doorstep if enticed with food scraps. Although they too want nothing to do with humans, as scavengers by nature, they will not pass up an easy meal and can be destructive to our garbage cans and family pets. Wolves control coyote populations because they are seen as food thieves and competition.

This year marks the 70th anniversary of wild wolves being gone from Colorado. For other states, it has been much longer. In such little time, we have watched streams dry up, wildlife numbers drop, and a space where you are truly in nature become few and far between. We have watched ecosystems deplete locally and across the globe.

We have also witnessed the importance of balance in what nature we have left. We are constantly asking for your help in land conservation to preserve a space where nature can be wild. In the future, we hope to transform M:W into a nature center without fences. Visitors could observe wildlife, including wolves, in their natural habitat. Animals, streams, forests, and fields would return to their rightful place here at M:W.



Current States in the U.S. Experiencing Wild Wolf Recovery



An Eye To Eye Experience That Is Not Forgotten Ambassador Education Through The Years 1986-2014

In 1986, A 3rd grade teacher asked us to bring a wolf to her school for an educational experience. When the wolf entered her classroom, a silence seldom experienced in a room full of 10 year olds left an awkward moment where we all just looked at each other. Soon the wolf was exploring the room, greeted the teacher, investigated a few students and allowed us 30 minutes of discussion before he walked out of the class. The teacher said her students learned more and became more engaged in a few minutes face-to-face with the wolf than she could achieve in two months full of books, lectures, and videos combined. **That day I learned the impact of an eye-to-eye experience.** Word spread quickly and, within a few weeks, we had requests to provide an educational experience to schools and groups in several different states.

By 1990, program requests turned into demands. In an effort to support wolf recovery in Yellowstone National Park, we took our eye to eye experience right into federal and state government offices. Kent's experience living a ranching, mining, and logging lifestyle provided the ability to ground many political and fear based arguments. Walking a wolf into rooms full of Idaho cowboys, Oregon ranchers, and venues full of men that have the sole goal to assure no wolves are ever allowed back into the United States is intimidating to say the least. It is fascinating to see each room, often noisy with arguments and anger, fall into the awkward silence similar to what we experienced in our first school classroom years prior as the wolf enters.

Whether it was in a classroom of children, an auditorium of high school gang members, or a room full of cowboys, the wolfs reaction was always the same. As we allowed the wolf to walk freely on leash around audiences, time and again the wolf would go up and greet the most confident, obnoxious, timid, or outspoken individual in the room. Most often the wolf crawled up on their lap and was met nose to nose with wide eyes. Then, as the wolf offers a gentle lick of the tongue, the whole room sighs in relief. **The individual who was so nervous before starts to smile.** The attitude changes instantly and instead of arrogant arguments many choose to talk rationally. Wolves have the ability to break down prejudice and offer an equally stimulating experience to all.

After 9/11, a shift in politics and media altered our ability to educate. Fear, buy outs, and tunnel vision of our political leaders placed more emphasis on personal agenda and a need to win. Paranoia spread throughout the country. The hope instilled in us years prior visiting our politicians was now replaced with efforts often in vain and met with resistance. We have also learned more about state and federal rule inconsistencies that one could ever imagine. During our journeys, we learned the importance of direct communication and open discussion. An argumentative reaction warrants a defensive response and does not allow one to talk freely and openly. **As we move forward, we return to our origins – Education vs. Extinction.** For the last decade we have focused on education of the public and have focused on the primary challenge- **to get people to care about nature.**

In 2014, the wolves completed their 26th annual tour to the New England area. This included twenty five presentations in five states over six weeks time and 10,000 miles on the wolf bus. We want to extend a great thank you to those who helped make this possible! These people include but are not limited to those who helped set up and organize programs, fuel the bus, feed the wolves, feed the staff watching over the refuge, and provide overwhelming support and encouragement along the way. A HUGE thank you goes out to Pam Brown who has set up events for years. As our program shifts in content to teach people direct communication skills and focuses on reconnecting people with nature, we will be parking our old Tour bus. In the future the wolf bus may be available for individual public events no sooner than fall of 2016.

To help all wildlife requires a change in human behavior. After three decades working with wolves and horses we have developed a program that allows individuals to learn how to reduce conflict via direct and clear communication skills. These behaviors combine simple lessons that guide how we play, ignore, use intent, and practice mirroring and mimicry to create an awareness. We work to avoid winning arguments – If one wins what does the other one do? Lose!! With this logic we are all doomed – It is time to demonstrate that play is for learning and winners only create losers – a result that has no place in our world. To survive requires a cooperative society, not a competitive one.



1990
Kent and Tracy bring two wolves, Shaman and Sila, into school for an educational experience. (Photo by Jeanne Filler Scott)

1990-91
In a single week, the wolves of M:W met several Washington, DC leaders and employees with the USFWS, NPS, NFS, BLM, Smithsonian, Merchant Marine, and even the National Cattleman's office. Presented events in multiple state wildlife offices. Reached millions of viewers on NYC morning talk shows like The Today Show and network features.

1995
The wolves experienced a room of 150 Idaho Cowboys, attended the state guided stakeholder roundtable discussion in Oregon, visited the Judges Chambers, and entered Capitol Hill buildings under guarded supervision.



1994
Below: Returning Home and unloading- Tamas, Tracy, Kent, Sila & Rami (Photo by Catherine LeRoy)



1998
Above: Tracy Ane Brooks watches over wild wolf pups of #67, Nez Perce Pack. Tracy completed an internship with the wolf project in YNP. (Photo by TAB)

1996-2000
The M:W Ambassador tour traveled coast to coast across America bi-annually sharing our message of Education vs Extinction and giving thousands of people an eye to eye experience in schools, museums, and public outreach programs.



Maggie leaves her footprints in the sand.



2005
Above: Maggie playfully stalks her fellow Ambassador Wolves.



2011
Below: Through our hands on experiential education program, Tracy and Magpie give students a moment they will never forget.



2014
Above: Kent demonstrates how big Zeab's paw is. (Photos by Rebecca Bose)

2014
M:W completes its 26th Annual Ambassador Tour. Our focus for the future will be providing inspiring experiences to help foster an appreciation of nature and aid in conflict resolution to help both animals and people alike.

1988: The wolves get their own land & M:W is founded as a non-profit 501-c-3.

91-95: M:W works in 30 states with massive public outreach.

1995: Wolves are reintroduced into YNP and Idaho.

1999: Mexican wolves are reintroduced into Arizona.

2000's: Public demands for a hands-on experience fuels the need to increase refuge staff.

9/11: The wolves calm many groups near NYC only weeks after the tragedy.

2011: Wolves are back until they are removed from the endangered species act in Idaho and Montana.

2015: Wolves relisted on the endangered species act.

1989
Take a wolf into the Federal building in Denver. Present to top USFWS Biologists. Take a wolf to Washington DC to meet our political leaders.

1992-1994
Made many return trips Washington DC to meet Congressmen, Senators, Judges, Attorneys, Ambassadors, and public agency leaders. The wolves of M:W graced the cover of the Washington Post and the Boston Globe on the same day.



1996
"I forget what I hear, I remember what I see, I understand what I touch"
-- quote from a 4th grade classroom
Left: Merlin in school. (Photo by Joel Sartore - National Geographic)

2000
Left: Black Beaver of the Nez Pierce Nation joins the wolves for several unforgettable and inspiring events.

2002-2014
With political education efforts often in vain now, we are motivated back to our origins - Education vs. Extinction and focus on motivating the public to care about and conserve nature. The M:W bus continues to travel across the country to schools and public events.



1989
Left: Kent carries a wolf over his shoulders. This was enjoyable for the wolves because they had something to cling to. It also allowed everyone to be able to see the wolf in large crowds.



1994
Left: Jay Gore of the USFW meets Peaches and Passion outside the Washington Monument. Tracy leads Peaches and Tamas Christman is with yearling wolf Passion.



2000
Left: Black Beaver of the Nez Pierce Nation joins the wolves for several unforgettable and inspiring events.



2010
Left: WOOOOO!! That water is scary! Maggie jumps away from the tide. Ambassador wolves find enrichment by big views and get a chance to swim in oceans, lakes, streams, and rivers.



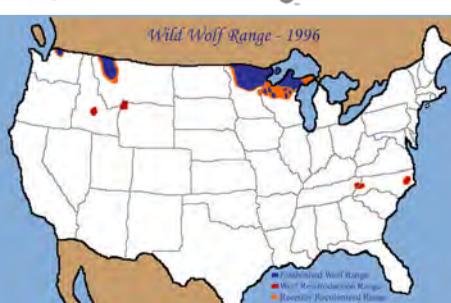
2014: Tracy, Abe, Maggie, and Zeab enjoy the fall colors of New England. (Photo by Kent Weber)



PAST:
Pre-European expansion, millions of wolves roamed across all of the United States.



DECLINE:
Wolf populations were decimated by human expansion and purposeful extermination across the United States.



RECOVERY:
Under human protection laws, natural wolf recolonization and reintroduction programs began to increase wolf population numbers.



TODAY:
Today, wolves can be seen in the wild in fourteen states. Wolf recovery programs have been successful, but continue to need public and state/federal support to ensure their longevity.



FUTURE:
In the future, we hope to see the continued growth and expansion of healthy wolf populations where applicable and connect wolf populations with corridors.

Enrichment

Have you ever been so lucky as to see a wolf in its' natural wild habitat? Maybe you have in the roaming landscape of Yellowstone National Park, on a trip to Alaska, or along a bank in the Finger Lakes. If you have, you are very lucky indeed. Most people who have seen a wolf have a chain link fence between them and these magnificent creatures. These wild animals are caged up, unable to roam across a mountain ridge, swim across a river, or feel the adrenaline pulse through their veins in a high speed chase for prey.

One of our primary missions at M:W is to educate people why wolves don't belong in cages. Over 250,000 wolves and wolf-dogs can be found in cages today in the United States, whether it be in peoples homes, zoos, or sanctuaries like M:W. For these animals, life can be short, boring, and meaningless. Here, we strive not only to provide a happy and peaceful home to just a handful of these unfortunate wolves, but to give their lives excitement and meaning. We provide enriching, stimulating activities for all of our wolves through enrichment logs, bloodcicles, watermelons and pumpkins, orange peels, new habitats, and human interaction.

Enrichment logs are blocks of logs, no longer than three feet, with baseball sized holes drilled in them. When placed in an enclosure, wolves not only have to search out these logs, but claw and lick at the holes which have been packed full of meat. Resident wolf Farah is happy to carry off one of these 25lb logs to go gnaw on away from her mate Apollo, just as she would an elk leg in the wild.



Left: M:W staff member Rachel Milburn packs meat into an enrichment log she created.

Below: Can you find the hidden meat for Max?



Bloodcicles are a wolf's chew toy in the cold winter months. Old frozen juice containers are filled with meat juice and blood and placed in our freezer. Some have hidden meat pieces inside as a special reward. Once frozen, these bloodcicles are tossed to every wolf, who proceeds to either chew and swallow right then and there or run away to enjoy their treat in peace.

Another special treat our wolves receive, especially in the summer months, is watermelon. Yes, wolves LOVE watermelon just as much as we do on a hot summer day. Come autumn, they are really spoiled with pumpkins. They enjoy carving pumpkins, but, instead of a knife, they use their sharp teeth.

Tiger enjoys a pumpkin treat for Halloween.



Wolves rely strongly on their sense of smell for survival in the wild. They can smell out sick animals from a herd, track down prey, and identify wolf territory boundaries to prevent entering areas they are not welcome. They will also scent roll on prey to take a message back to the pack of a kill. Here, our wolves love scent rolling on orange peels hidden in their enclosures. This strong scent makes them smell fruity for days.

In the wild, wolves can roam across hundreds of miles. Here at M:W, we try to provide large enclosures with lots of natural habitat. Just like humans, sometimes wolves need a change of scenery, though. This year alone, 20 of our residents have been switched to new enclosures where they are free to explore and make their own. For two of our most shy resident wolves, brother and sister Fenris and Amulet, this change has stimulated them to come out of their shell. In their own respective enclosures, both Fenris and Amulet used to run and hide in their fire bunkers at the first sight of people, even staff



Amulet, although still camera shy, poses for a quick shot.

with a bucket full of food. Now, Amulet runs up to the fence to greet her breakfast server. Fenris has become brave enough to come within twenty feet of complete strangers who are on tour without a single fear bark or darting to hide.

For some of our most social resident wolves, we give them even larger areas to explore outside of their enclosure. Daisy loves to be leashed and walked down to our shady, cool aspen grove. Abe, Maggie, and Zeab travel coast to coast with our Ambassador Program, exploring oceans, lakes, grassy fields, and tree laden paths throughout the country.



Animal Caretaker Mike Gaarde takes Daisy for a walk.

One of the most enriching programs M:W has to offer, for both wolves and humans, is our wolf visits. The wolves that are not fearful of people find visitors to be a treat to meet. When possible, visitors who come to M:W have a chance to enter a wolf's home and be greeted face to face by one of our Ambassador wolves. Fifteen of our wolf friends receive visits from staff and/or visitors. This is our greatest tool in teaching appreciation for this beautiful and gentle creature. In return, the wolf has countless new smells to decipher and new friends to scratch just the right spot they themselves couldn't reach.



Abe, Tiger, and Rosie line up for scratches as they shed their winter coats in spring.



M:W staff member James Newman gives Abe belly scratches. Abe is a low content wolf-dog who tends to act more doggie than wolfie, as seen here with his desire for cuddles & prolonged pets. (Photos by Hoyt)

So You Want a Wolf as a Pet?

Many people admit to wanting a wolf as a pet due to their wild, free, loyal, and majestic nature. If all dogs are descendants of wolves the two must not be that different, right? **WRONG.**

While wolves and dogs do share a common ancestor there is one simple factor that separates the two, their behavior towards humans. **Wolf behavior originates through instinct. One of which is their natural fear of humans; they run away.** Dogs were domesticated by humans and modify their behavior to please us. Wolf-dogs, shaped by breeding wolves and dogs together, are a common choice for wolf wanting owners. They believe the animal will look like a wolf, but act like a dog. Unfortunately, these animals are notoriously confused because they do not know whether to run away from people as a wolf would, or run up to them as a dog would. Such confusion often leads to frustrating and potentially dangerous situations.

Wolf puppies are almost completely grown physically at

six months old. In the wild, this is when they begin traveling with the pack and exhibiting pack behaviors, such as scent marking their territory. In order for a wolf or wolf-dog to feel comfortable in their environment it must smell like them. Trying to tell one of these animals not to pee and poo all over the house goes against all instinct.

Just as human infants have boundless amounts of energy, so do wolf pups. With a brain one-third larger than dogs, wolves are highly intelligent creatures and get bored easily. This added intelligence is vital in the wild, as wolves must be able to capture their own food if they want to survive. Wild wolf packs are also capable of traveling 100 miles a day. A pup's high level of energy enables them to keep up with their pack. In a home, being stuck in the same place constantly will eventually create a need to get rid of excess energy. There are many ways to alleviate it, the most popular being tearing up the backyard through digging and chewing on or through anything (including dry wall), until finally they begin to escape.

While they may be destructive at six months old, wolf pups are typically still loyal. **Around two years of age, roughly equivalent to a human teenager, their independent, and often times rebellious, nature begins to show.** In the wild, this is when pups venture out on their own, submit to their higher ranking officials and fall into order, or aggressively rebel against their superiors for a leadership spot. Wild wolf packs are in a constant flux, whereas human homes typically try to remain constant. This can lead to scary and sometimes dangerous situations for both human owners and wolf pets.

The sad reality of wolves and wolf-dogs as pets in the U.S is that every year thousands of animals are euthanized. Roughly two-thirds of M:W's inhabitants were taken in through shelters after they were picked up by animal control or dropped off after failing to live happily within a human home. Due to their wild nature, any animal identified as having some wolf content cannot be adopted out through shelters. Rescued animals must either be sent to sanctuaries or be

euthanized. **They cannot be released into the wild no matter how 'wild' they seem due to human imprinting.**

We make it our goal to try and educate as many individuals as possible about why wolves and wolf-dogs do not live happily within human homes. Yes, there is the occasional positive story of wolf-dogs as 'pets.' But, if it worked out perfectly even half the time, M:W would not exist and we would not be turning down hundreds of animals a year.

For those of you that may be wanting a wolf-dog as a pet, or know people that are considering it we ask that you pass along this information. There are many wonderful dog breeds that look and behave similarly to wolves without the ingrained instinct. They most importantly want to be around people and can be trained. If you want a wolf-like dog breed, to the right person who has ample time and space, we recommend Malamutes, Huskies and Shepherds. We also recommend extensive personal research before committing to the care of any animal.

M:W Resident Examples

BUKU, OREO, BATMAN & ASIA

Buku, Oreo, Batman, and Asia are our resident pit-wolves. Their mother, Valley Spirit, gave birth to these puppies on transport to M:W. As puppies, they looked like floppy eared labs. As adults, their physical appearance is very much pit bull. All four carry very different personalities, but one thing they all have in common is their attitude towards people. Asia spent her first two years in our community building as a potential rehabilitation animal. Her wolfie nature, however, forced us to return her outside to her pack as she matured and became territorial. Asia and her brothers are some of our most confused animals. They bark when the rest of the wolves howl. Their aggressive doggie nature makes them run towards fear, whereas a wolf would run away. Despite their appearances, they would by no means be suitable for in home placement.

(Below: Asia looks like a pit bull even though her mother, laying down, is very wolfie. You can never predict what you are going to get when you breed a wolf and a dog together. Photo by Annie White)



MINIGAN

Minigan is our residential Belgian Shepherd house dog. His appearance confuses many visitors who mistake him for a wolf. He has a very shy and independent personality. At five years of age, he knows how to sit, shake, and lay-down and is very obedient to the staff, unless there is an open butter dish nearby. He loves going on long walks and does very well on a leash obeying directional commands. While timid of newcomers at first, once he gets to know you, he will sprawl out in your bed and cuddle on cold winter nights. Minigan is a prime example of a great pet!

(Above: Minigan's physical appearance is often mistaken for a wolf. He always wears a pretty bandana for his safety. (Archive Photo)



ABE

Abe came from the streets of Salt Lake City, Utah. Picked up by dog control as a puppy, he showed physical signs of being a very wolf like pup. As he grew, it became more evident, both in personality and physical appearance, that Abe was more dog than wolf. His love of people allows visitors to have hands on experiences.

By nature, dogs are more aggressive. This attitude allows Abe to dominate much larger pack mates, such as Zeab. Although he enjoys occasional belly scratches, he is most happy spending his days outside in a large enclosure with his fellow pack mates. (Above: Abe shows his dominance over Zeab by engulfing Zeab's snout in his own, causing Zeab to lick submissively. Abe receives belly scratches from staff member Michaela Pitri. Photos by Hoyt)

New Arrivals - WELCOME HOME!

Zuko

In all the years I have worked with wolves, one of the most frequently asked questions people have after meeting me is –how can I buy a wolf as a pet? Really? I think to myself, I just described the challenges of what it is like to care for wolves! And you still want to bring one into your home? In most cases it is illegal to own a wolf regardless, and it does little to help with the over all recovery of wild wolves and wilderness habitat protection. What does work is going to a local shelter or rescue and adopting a Northern dog breed. Many of these large Malamutes, Huskies and mixes look and act like wolves do.

Enter Zuko, a young ten-month-old male Malamute cross in need of a home. Moonsong Malamute rescue in Idaho transferred him to Arctic rescue in Utah. Kent and I drove to Utah last March, and for Kent's birthday adopted Zuko. The two immediately hit it off, and Zuko came home to live with us.



Zuko loves to perch on his rock
(Photo by Tracy Ane Brooks)

Luna, who after twelve years of guessing what her breed is, held a striking resemblance to Zuko and after seeing the two of them together, made me think she has more malamute in her too. Zuko and his playful, happy energy exploded into his new world of elders including Mr. Good, the cat who is thirteen years old. Like a child in a retirement home, he promptly found himself the center of attention with lots of scolding.



Zuko gives his best smile
(Photo by Tracy Ane Brooks)

Fast-forward several months and Zuko has settled in nicely, is a sweet heart of a soul and part of the family. His outgoing nature has allowed us to take him out to meet people. During the summer when the Ambassador wolves were called out to meet the Wounded Warriors at a local event and could not make it, it was Zuko who filled in for them. We repeatedly told people he was a Malamute dog, and they kept telling us he was a wolf. See? That's what I am talking about when I say get a Malamute, German Shepherd, or Husky as a pet! All dogs are from wolves, in essence they all are wolves that we have bred into different forms, to suit our different needs. –TAB
<http://www.moonsongmals.org/about/about.html>

I remember how cold and snowy it had been, at least fourteen inches of new snow had fallen over night, and we were expecting more. That morning I got all dressed up and walked outside to feed the horses, when I discovered a black horse standing outside of the horse barn. I thought that was odd, and wondered where he had come from. As I made it to the parking lot the horse came over with a frantic look in his eye, hobbling as he walked. I was immediately struck that there was something wrong with this horse. I had seen a neighbor out riding a black horse weeks earlier and called. His owners immediately showed up to get him and walk him home. I remember feeling bad for them and the horse, as I watched them walk out of sight into the blizzard. I thought there was a chance the horse might not make it.

It snowed nearly twelve additional inches that night, and as I got outside that next morning and looked around, nothing but a huge snow field lay in front of me, cars were buried, fence, rocks and the wood pile had vanished under all the snow. I made my way out to the barn, to my shock there was the black horse again, standing, hidden around the backside of the barn. Once he saw me,

Black Jack



Black Jack shows off his sleek black coat
(Photo by Tracy Ane Brooks)

he immediately approached me with that same intensity of something wrong, like the day before. A real 'help me' approach if you will. I thought he was in trouble, but knew if I started to feed him, that he would become a nuisance, both to his owners and me. That morning I tried to send him away. He would walk out and away from the barn and then turn back around. I decided to ignore him and go about my daily routine. Every time I would walk out there he was, desperate.

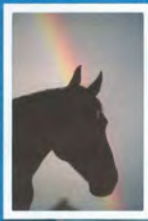
I did not call his owners that morning because, even if I did, there was no way for them to come get him. The snow was

too deep and the roads were closed. When noon came, I walked out to feed again, this time Black Jack was digging at something in the parking lot and eating it. I walked over and found that he was eating the frozen manure from the last time the neighbor's horses had been over. That was it! I thought. Once I saw the deep, desperate nature of this horse, I was obligated to feed him. After being led back home many times only to break out to come back to the MW barn, I offered to buy Black Jack from the neighbors. Once he officially became a Mission:Wolf horse, we could start to amp up the care and feeding.

The first day a few of us put our hands on him trying to figure out what was wrong and found a tick. It was February, deep winter, and I could not remember if I had seen a tick on an animal during this time before. One tick after another came off of that horse. No wonder he was acting so strangely. He was covered with ticks. When the final ticks came off of him we had counted over seventy five. The next few months were spent building his blood back up and a couple rounds of antibiotics helped Black Jack calm down and feel better. Now he is a companion for Grinder, keeping the volunteers busy taking care of him. -TAB

IN MEMORY OF LADY BIRD

"She's A Crafty Lady," "LB,"



"Over the Rainbow"



To an Incredible Horse

Lady Bird a thoroughbred mare who lived as a teacher, inspiration, companion and all around amazing horse at the MW horse barn was dearly loved, she will be missed.

Rest In Peace Sweet Girl,

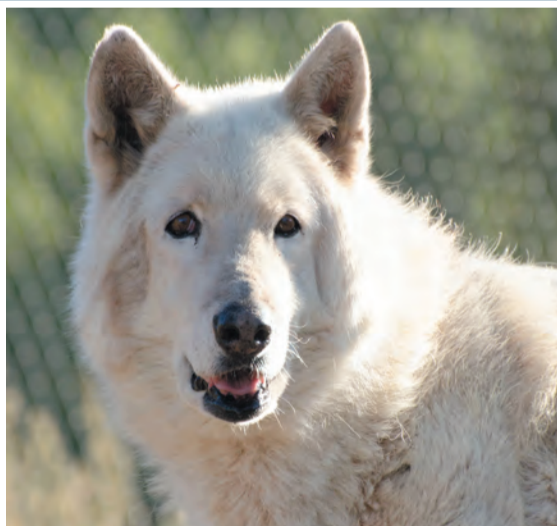
October 9, 2013

Lady Bird, May 5th 1987 to Oct 9th 2013

Lady Bird

1987-2013

Horses from around the state of Colorado tend to find us in their final "twilight" years. Lady Bird was no exception. This special, thoroughbred horse was in her late twenties when I saw her running in a neighbors pasture and worked to buy her. I thought she needed a job as a companion for the horses at the barn and to help teach horse behavior. A dark bay beauty, Lady Bird often appeared true black. She was delicate and feminine, small for her breed, but big in her movements and energy and huge heart. Lady Bird became the matriarch of the teaching herd for many years. She could be unruly and temperamental in the



Moutain Spirit: May 1999-Feb 2014

Mountain Spirit came to M:W from a tennis court she had been abandoned on. Her wolfy appearance, but sweet doggy demeanor is why she was selected as a candidate to create more "good" wolf-dogs. Spirit arrived in May of 2003 and stole the hearts of those that cared for her. Her calm and quiet attitude made her a great teacher for staff walks around the refuge.

Sangre came to M:W in October of 2007 after having multiple homes prior. We agreed to take in a "wolf" only to

MEMORIALS

blink of an eye, and then the gentlest love, even nuzzling the hair of a child, in the next.

Lady Bird inspired many people but, for me, one of the biggest lessons I learned is how fragile the back of the horse is. I don't know if it was due to her age that she did not want anyone to ride her, or put weigh on her back, but she made it clear that she was not to be ridden by anyone.

When I learned of this I had to admit my disappointment; I had a dream to ride her. More importantly I could see it caused her pain. That was when I realized horses do not always come to us to fulfill ideas of what we think they should be, sometimes horses need us to listen to what's best for them, not us. To treat them like they have real meaning and not as a throw away pet because they can no longer be ridden.

A diamond in the rough, after she passed away I did research on her bloodlines and discovered her grandfather was the great War Admiral and her great grandfather was none other than the legendary Man O War. Rest in peace sweet horse. - TAB

Passion

2002-2014

A great teacher passes on, RIP to Passion who came to M:W at 10 months old in 2002. For those of you who knew Passion the horse, you remember the one thing that stood out, her attitude. Known as a problem horse, she had an attitude towards everything and was often unruly and aggressive towards people. If there ever was a "grumpy horse" it was Passion. But there was a reason she was called "Passion" and that was because she had so much passion towards everything she did in life.

As a horse, Passion was a teacher of compassion and patience. She had an intensity that instilled the importance of free will and independence for all creatures into my mind, I discovered this realization was already in my heart. It felt right to keep Passion, where others may have put Passion to death, due to dangerous behavior.

I really believe that animals have more to teach us than we have to teach them, and Passion reinforced this belief. One of the lessons I took away from Passion's stubborn and independent lifetime is that horses are not meant to be perfect.



Passion shows off her beautiful spotted coat as she runs through her pasture (Photo by Tracy Ane Brooks)

Problem horses can have profound lessons to teach and mirror images of what we believe about ourselves. I experienced tremendous growth and understanding during my years working with Passion. Horses can help people break out of emotional shells; Passion broke my need to ever think I was somehow elevated as a human being to a status that was higher or above hers and that I never had the right to judge her. Against traditional horse training, the only breaking I would do would be to break out of the norm and to follow my own heart when working with her.

Passion had developed serious skin cancer and after many months of working to treat her, the challenging decision to put her to death this past spring, 2014, came. In gratitude for the life of this horse. -TAB

Moutain Spirit & Sangre

discover he was a classic Husky cross with bad manners. His tendencies of male and fence aggression learned from his previous owners led Sangre to be declared unfit to live with humans. With the expertise and patience of the directors and staff, Sangre made a complete behavior turn-around and was frequently a favorite of the staff, ironically the male staff, for his loving personality.

Sangre and Spirit were introduced to each other in 2009 after Spirits first mate passed away. The two hit it off almost immediately and were an amazing couple. As time wore on the staff began to notice Spirit becoming less and less active. She got a serious ear infection and was becoming slightly senile. To keep a better eye on her, staff made a difficult decision to separate the couple so Spirit could receive more attentive care.



Sangre: Jan 2005-Feb 2014

With her neighbor, Nokona, Spirit lived out the rest of her days in the pen above the staff building, well-loved and completely spoiled. Sangre was moved to the lower half of the sanctuary and was given the young energetic Amulet as his new partner.

While both Sangre and Spirit were happy in their new homes they never forgot each other. Most nights you could hear them howling to each other across the refuge. Both Spirit and Sangre passed peacefully in their sleep in February of 2014.

HOW TO HELP OUT - THE MISSION:WOLF WISH LIST

In-kind donations are a huge help in keeping our daily operations going. Here is a short list of items we can use.

Thank you for your help!

Wolf Food Supplies:

Frozen chicken and beef
Deceased livestock
Expired or freezer burned meat (No pork or spices)
Meat-based dog food (canned or dry)
Boxes of rubber gloves
Galvanized water tanks 12-15 gal "Wash-Tubs", 30-80 gal, 100-200 gal
5 gallon buckets
High quality butcher knives (non-serrated)
Coveralls (for meat processing)

Vet Supplies:

My Active Dog (amazon.com)
Fish and flax seed oil capsules
MSM/Glucosamine supplements
Vitamin A, B, C and E supplements
Devil' Claw
Vetricyn
Horse Bute
Heart monitor
Blood O2 monitor
Drip lines
General antibiotics
Rimadyl or Novox
XL & XXL airline kennels
Stainless steel wolf-proof kennel
Frontline large breed flea/tick
General wound care supplies (gauze, wrap, etc.)

Sustainability Items:

Golf cart/marina batteries or solar system batteries
Solar panels
Sprinklers
Seeds for greens, herbs, and vegetables
Greenhouses or greenhouse glazing
Gardening trowels
Organic fertilizer

Tools:

Rechargeable Ni-MH Batteries AA, AAA, C & D
Battery powered tools - Drills, Sawzall, Circular saws
Work gloves (all sizes), coveralls, jumpsuits
4WD trucks
Large flatbed trailer
Shovels, pick-axes, rakes, pitch-forks, and other hand tools
LED headlamps
Duct Tape, Gorilla Tape, etc.
Repair handles for axes, shovels, rakes, etc.
Landscaping rakes
Garden Hose (3/4 inch)
Hose repair (splitters, couplings, valves)
Old steel horse trailers for emergency evacuation

Building Supplies:

Chain link fence (9 ga., 8 feet tall)
2" diameter steel poles (10' long)
Cut lumber, treated or untreated (warped wood is OK)
Solar landscaping lights
Flagstone brick
Log poles (especially lodgepole pine) for handrails
Exterior wood siding and trim
Plywood
Rebar, sheet metal, angle iron, etc.
Roofing
Nails and screws
Exterior wood sealer
Exterior enamel paint
Hardwood flooring
Concrete block
Paint pens and paint brushes
Landscape timbers

Educational Materials for our Wolf Bus:

Wireless microphones
Wolf books to donate to school libraries we visit (new or used)
Sleeping bags and blankets
Chew toys for wolves
Foam pads for beds

Office Supplies:

Printer paper (standard 8.5 x 11)
Stamps (old stamps work too)
Ink cartridges: Canon PG-210XL, Canon PG-211XL, HP-564XL & HP-60XL
Standard letter envelopes
#10 mailing envelopes (4 1/8" x 9 1/2")
Pens!

Food & Volunteer Supplies:

Bulk food! We feed 8-20 volunteers each day and use food in huge quantities
Warm wool socks
Toilet paper
Cleaning supplies (we prefer to use non-toxic cleaners: Dr. Bronners soap, vinegar, and baking soda)
Dish Soap (environmentally friendly)
Laundry Soap (environmentally friendly)

Horse Care Supplies:

Clean Grass Hay
Purina Strategy Healthy Edge 50 lb. bags
Progressive Grass Hay Mineral Powder
Salt Blocks, Red Mineral Blocks, and Redmond Salt Blocks
15-18 Gallon Black Rubber Feeders
Horse Trailer
Hay Trailer, Hay Tarps, Hay Shed



2013 Financial Report

M:W has been open to the public free of charge for nearly three decades. Our goal is to operate our sanctuary and programs in the simplest and most efficient manner and to keep overhead costs at an absolute minimum. We offer people an opportunity to help as little or as much as they feel is fair.

In 2013 we utilized over one million dollars in volunteer labor. Most of the meat we feed the wolves is donated by our generous local ranchers and many other materials are donated by other supporters. Still, it takes money to pay for transportation, supplies, land acquisition, and insurance.

We want to offer a heartfelt thank you to Nancy, our book keeper at Sangre Solutions, for helping prepare these numbers. All profit goes towards reducing our land debt.

	Income:	
	Cash	In Kind
Donations	\$215,270	
Donated Materials		\$52,995
Membership	25,431	
Grants	27,500	
Program Fee	2,435	
Sales	43,467	
Interest	340	
Restricted Income	3,117	
Volunteer Labor		1,059,065
Subtotal Income	\$317,560	\$1,112,060
	<i>cash</i>	<i>volunteer</i>
Total Income	\$1,429,620	

	Expenses:	
	Cash	In Kind
Transportation	\$20,550	
Facility & Depreciation	89,069	
Cost of Sales	15,746	
Staff Expense	27,395	
Volunteer Supplies & Food	44,350	
Animal Care	77,107	
Wolf Education	41,058	
Operating – fuel, taxes, etc.	2,930	
Volunteer Labor		\$1,059,065
Subtotal Expense	\$318,209	\$1,059,065
	<i>cash</i>	<i>volunteer</i>
Total Expense	\$1,377,274	

Age: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Name: _____

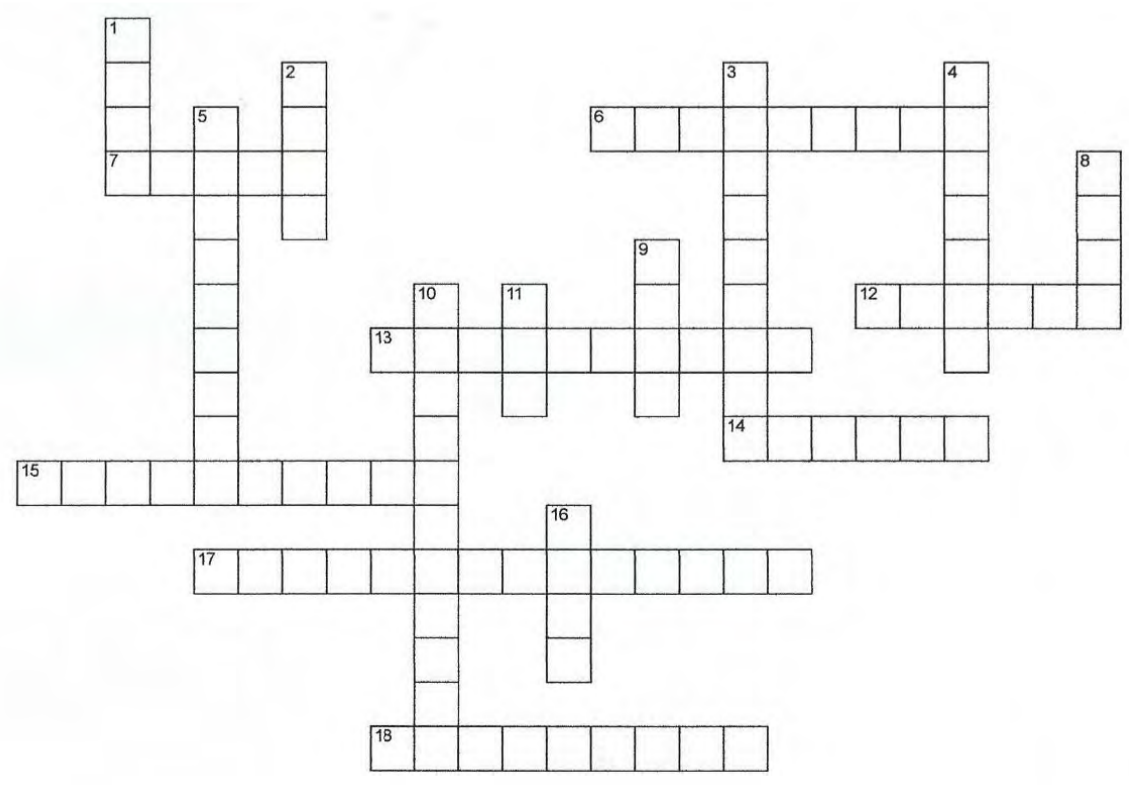
Address: _____



Original artwork by C. Hoyt

First Annual M:W Coloring Contest! You could win a Caretaker Packet (1st), an authentic wolf fur bracelet (2nd), or a 3x5 photo (3rd) of the wolf of your choosing. Your work will be judged by volunteer staff and three winners per age category will be selected. Age categories are as follows: 0-6,7-12, 13-18, and 18+. Please submit your best work to: Mission:Wolf, PO Box 1211, Westcliffe, CO 81252
 Submission Deadline: May 15, 2015 Winners will be notified by June 1, 2015

MISSION:WOLF



ACROSS

- 6 What humans did to wolves they feared
- 7 A constellation, or M:W wolf
- 12 M:W is a sanctuary for these
- 13 M:W is run by these
- 14 French for sun
- 15 Gray wolf; scientific name
- 17 Theory of top down ecosystem management
- 18 Two M:W vehicles run on this

DOWN

- 1 New canine member of M:W
- 2 How wolves acquire food
- 3 A threat to M:W
- 4 How you can help wild wolves at home
- 5 Age when a wolf pup is almost fully grown
- 8 Wolves don't make happy ____
- 9 At the top, a wolf is this type of predator
- 10 To tame
- 11 Powers M:W
- 16 Wolf family

*Hints can be found throughout the Newsletter!

Thank You's

Mission: Wolf thrives on the generous contributions of countless people and organizations. We only have space here to name a small selection of those who have helped us this year. We would like to sincerely acknowledge all of our supporters, donors, volunteers, and partners.

Mission: Wolf Staff: Hailey Adams, Robyn Pike, Matt & Tara Ash, Kathy Bennett, Pietro Castelli, Mike Gaarde, Hilary Hastings, Benjamin Hoffman, Carol Kennedy, Dan Kennedy, Alan Korth, Julie Kreutzer, Dave Kreutzer, Bruce Kreutzer, Mike Lydon, Shiloh Mortimer, Sora Nakao, Micaela Petrini, Dave Phillips, Paul Ross, Connor Schmitz, Jeff Wagner, Jenny Wagner, Annie White, Aaron Young, Courtney Hoyt, Nate Perkins, Kia Bridges, Will Koh, Alex Liethen, James Newman, Alan Korth, Aster Wijsman, Rachel Milburn, Carolyn Munro, Chad Lindsay, Allie Flaherty, River Dougherty, Blaise Yafack, Melanie Joseph, Martin Merlo, Francine Aart, Sam Linder, Marco Valera, Shea Trujillo, Cynthia Giard-Guillou and Melanie Roussy, & Mathias Langley, and Pam Brown

Assistants & Volunteers: Builder Bob, Matt Coker, Kristen Harshenin, Jorge Roman Family, Sierra Hemming, Kaitlyn Carey, Jason McMullen, Bill Slinger, Evanne Seelig, Jennifer Parson, Chelsea Lupkey, Chris and Stewart, Bryan Tinbry, Christy Brennan, Darby Kooney, Kirsan & Richard, Zuzana Gedeow, Timoni & Ticia, Loraina and Alani, Ryan & Harrison, Emma Harris, Charlotte Roehm, Krystal & Alaina, Norm & Marlena Hanne, Elizabeth & Anisa, Cynthia Chilfolo, Jesse Brynildsen, Jessica McCrea, Nick and Brooke, Lauren & Danelle, Dante & Vitaliy, Megan & Kimi, Zachary Young, Kathleen & Barbara, Kemble, Divan, Meniska, Maeve & Patrick, Devera and Emily, Gabriella Najmy, Jeff Mehle, Danielle Dobias, Sarah Baughman, Galen, Pat, & Will, Todd and Jack, James Flynn, Christ & Annika, Meg Brown, Jeff Matthews, Dan Chasewhelchel, Katherine Lane, Veronica & Birgit, Anne & Robin, Paige and Tom Funkhouser, Gatto's, Tanya White, Nikki & Kathleen, Zach & Meggie, Izaak Vanderbrug, Alyson Miker, Saul Carrillo, Anni & Zach, Thomas Nielsen, Clint Augustson, Don & Isabel Bowling, John Keever, Sara & Brandon, Deborah & Nikki, Will, Robyn, & Parker, Gina Dermigny, Harry & Iris, Peter Southerland, Dylan & Sarah, Gussie & Dearing, Ryan Covington, Alex and Brittany, Amy Porter, Dave and Family, Jason and Eileen, Alex & Lidy, Chad Teesdale, Jameson Clark, Christian Hatt, Nicholas Hoeh, Saul Carrillo, Jason Stewart & family, Ben Steinberg, and Tom Davis

Volunteer Groups: Rice University, Horizons Exploratory Academy, Colorado College, GALS, Littleton Academy, S.C.A.T., DC Oakes, Cottonwood - Littleton Academy, Boy Scout Troop 658, Cottonwood Institute- The Logan School, Northwestern, Colorado Academy, Living Well Transitions, Boulder ICO, Telluride Academy, RLT, Jaywalkers, AIM House, Tania Henderson, Fire Mountain Program, MPEC, Global Leadership Forum, Fire Mountain Program, Boulder ICO, Road Less Traveled, RLT 5280, Mountain Park, Third Way Center, Rocky Mountain Youth, Girl Scouts, The Van Stulb Group, KORU, GST 256, & PPCC Animal Behavior

Caretakers and Educators: Meridian Elementary 3rd Grade, Richard Adele, Doug & Marsha Allen, Diana & Scott Allensworth, Carol & Robert Allison, Bill Altman, Kris at PPCC Animal Behavior Class, Laura Ashton, John & Crystal Babos, Betty Backes, Susan Barr, The Barrettes, Karl Beilstein, Sal Bellofatto, Mark & Cindy Blaser, Bonnie Boex, Kaler Bole, Boy Scout Troop No. 685, Dell And Dixon Brooke, Nelson Brooke, Jacqueline Bullette, Carolyn Buongiorne, Karen Byington, Victoria C Peberry, Wayne Cadden, Chris Cain, Jane Cane, Adrian & Molly Castelli, Third Way Center, Beaver Lake Nature Center, Bielawski Family Charitable Fund, Joey Chase, Ken Oliver & Angela Nomellini Charitable Fund, Chevron Corpoation, Ann Clayton, Susan Colby, Ann Collins, Wet Mountain Valley Community Foundation, Inc., Peggy Cook, Kevin Cyr, Imogen & Corcoran Kellogg, Corning Foundation, William G. Crockett, James & Melanie Cypher, Tom & Lisa Davis, Darryl L. De Mara, Barbara Dick, Dots Diner, Advanced Equine Dentistry, Dr. Scott Marx, Loraina Drucker, Judy Druelinger, Terry & Becky Escamilla, Merrick Fahrenwald, Toft Family, Tye Family, Gray Family, Jacquemin Family Foundation, David And Jean Farmelo, Mary-Christy Fisher, Wilson B Flick, Stephens Foundation, Aetna Foundation, Koru Foundation, Paige & Thomas Funkhouser, PJ Garafola & Emily, Joe Gatto, Jerrica Gaudreau, Linda Giers, Kelly Gorham, Pat Grey, Peter Grojean, Kristen Gurzick, Halliburton, Bill Hancock, Michael Harris, Nona Hattan, Judith P. Helm, Karl Hemmerich, Colleen Henry, Donna Heyse Kirk Jensen & Buck, Katherine Hinnant, James Holcomb, Sarah Hostetter, Marcia Huber, Ted Hubbard, James N. Cost Foundation, Suzanne Johnson, Dave Nora & Peggy Kavookjian, Louise & John Kearns, Anita Keefe, Laurie Kennedy, Jeff Kessler, Elaine Kessler, Kim Kezman, Ben Kinder, John Korth, Ed Kraynak, Irene Larusso, Scott Lamorte, William Lasalle, Jean Crisler, Lava Yoga, Robert Lavalley, Carol Lebidzinski, Missy Lee, Living Well Transitions, Mary Loftus, Tom & Susa Luchka, Steven & Cynthia Magidson, Nora Maloney, Keith Marcotte, Darryl Marshall, Christine McBride, Amy McCarthy, Virginia McDonald-Sorenson, Allora McEnroe, Bridget Mcguane, Kate McKenzie, Steve Mclaughlin, Julia & Will Mehle, Daniel Melvin, Evelyn Mercer, Gay Davis Miller, Ernie Miller, Milford Lake Nature Center, George Newell, John Nichols, Energy Solutions of Ill, Inc., Sander & Deb Orent, Charles Palmer, Norman H. Pearson, Perkins Family, Bob Fulton, Lara Pike, Larry Pitt, Anita & Steve Pregel, Joan Rauch, Mimi Reed, Martin & Judy Reiner, John And Judith Rinas, Road Less Traveled, Christopher Ross, Homer Russell, Rita & Richard Savage, Priscilla Seimer, Joe & Harrison Selle, Steven Shaffer, Barry & Erin Sharaf, Mo Sparks, Deborah Spring, The Colorado Springs School, Elizabeth, Ruth, & Jessica Stanley, Tianne Strombeck, Rose Sweeney, Becca Tananbaum, The Sontag Family, Christopher & Pamela Thomas, Joann Thompson, Sandy Thomas, Susan Traylor, Nancy Turnbull, The Fidelity Charitable Grant, Van Beuren, Brad and Jennifer Vanderbrug, Alice Victor, David & Vickie Vogel, Patricia Walker, Nicholas & Joann Wargo, Time Warner, Katherine & David Warren, Elizabeth and Anne Warren, Cynthia Wayburn, Leah & Larry Westmoreland, Mary Williams, Norman R Williams, Linda Wood, Cliff & Pam Wren, Steve & Lisa Young, & Linda Zapalac

Generous Local Support: Colorado Mountain Bank, The Feed Barn, Paul Biron, Ron Blattel, Jeff Briggs, Sky and Linda Clark, John Johnson at the Courtyard, John @ Challenger Electric, Hough Electric, Phil and Heidi Ensley, The Curtis family, Enos Yoder and family, Jane and Elton of Sunflower Natural Foods, Harold and Lisa Frank, Fine Line Graphics, Mario at Affordable Heating, Jeff and Karen Wilson - La Plaza Hotel, The Springs Inn, Jo and Potato Jim, Jason and Lexi Lawrence, Paul and Hope at Valley Ace Lumber, Bob at Creative Minds, Julie at NAPA, local Huerfano and Custer County ranchers and neighbors, local restaurants who donate used veggie oil, Westcliffe Petroleum, Paul and Sherry Nielsen at REI, Dragonfly Coffee Roasters, Mountain Mail Salida, Jeff and Jane at The Chop Shop, Metro Solar, Solar Solutions, Nancy and Jerry at Sangre Solutions, Mt. Princeton Hot Springs, Paint Stain and Stucco, Westcliffe Supermarket, Bill Tezak, Western Tire, Wet Mountain Tribune, and Toledo Glass.

Board of Directors: Board of Directors: Tara Ash, Matt Ash, Tracy Ane Brooks, Tamas Christman, Julie Kreutzer, David Kreutzer, Tracey Schwartz, Jeff Schwartz, Kent Weber, Randy Woods, and Sarah Woods.

In Memory: Alda West, Karen Atkins

A special thank you to Dr. Mara DiGrazia and New Hyde Park Animal Hospital for donating hundreds of doses of tick and flea preventative medicine worth thousands of dollars. Special thanks to Jeff and Anna Kollbrunner for making this possible!

Caretaker Of The Year - The Rudes!!

Mission:Wolf has flourished and grown over the years thanks to all of our supporters and contributors. Without all of the helping hands visiting the refuge or those willing to donate from afar, Mission:Wolf would not be where we are today. As we look back, we see many people who inspire and motivate us to look forward. Two such supporters who have gone above and beyond year after year are George and Leona Rude.

George and Leona Rude have been caring for Mission:Wolf since the early 90's. Each and every year they sponsor a new wolf and every month they contribute to our continuance and preservation through our donation program.

In the mid 90's George and Leona donated M:W several truck loads of building materials. The dream house addition they never realized has become known as the M:W office where staff have a warm and comfortable office space to carry out M:W business. Additionally, we created our own "Generation Station" with sixteen solar batteries and equipment that powers the sanctuary.

During this time, visitor and vet buildings were also under construction. With this gracious donation, vet building was given a loft extension, which houses our animal caretaker. This allows for constant monitoring for sick and injured animals housed below.

We ask all of our friends to let out a howl of thanks to George and Leona!!



The office loft above our tool shop offers staff a warm and safe place to work and store important paperwork and office supplies. It also offers a great look out over the refuge to keep an eye out for visitors pulling up our driveway. In the cold winter months, this is where you will find many staff members warming up and working.

Wolf Caretaker Corner!

Since our beginning, Mission: Wolf has depended on donations from our members. With 37 hungry canines to feed, we go through nearly 1,000 pounds of raw meat each week. Your membership goes to keep the wolves healthy, educate thousands of people, feed our devoted staff, and pay for important operating costs. Please consider becoming a member of Mission: Wolf today and helping to keep our wolves happy, healthy, and well-fed. Wolf memberships make great gifts for birthdays, anniversaries, holidays, and memorials. You receive the tax-deductible receipt and your friend or loved one gets a wolf membership packet as a gift from you.

Want to sponsor a wolf? You can't take a wolf home with you, but we will send you:

- An 8 x 10 color photo of the wolf of your choice
- Your wolf's biography
- A sample of your wolf's naturally shed fur
- A personalized membership certificate with your wolf's name
- A Mission: Wolf window decal
- A subscription to the Mission: Wolf newsletter



Apollo
(Photo by Hoyt)

Feed a Wolf! Become a Caretaker at Mission: Wolf!

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

Abraham, Amulet, Apollo, Aria, Arrow, Ash, Asia, Aurora, Batman, Buku, Cephira, Daisy, Farah, Fenris, Hailey, Illiamna, Kiya, Kona, Luna, Minigan, Magpie, Max, McKinley, Mountain Spirit, Nokona, Oreo, Orion, Raven, Rosie, Sangre, Soleil, Talon, Texx, Tiger, Valley Spirit, Zeab, Zephir, Zuko

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

- \$25 Student/ Senior
- \$40 Individual
- \$100 Family, Group or School
- \$250 Contributor
- \$500 Patron
- \$1000 Feed a Wolf for a Year
- \$3000 Feed a Pack

Please send cash or check to:

Mission: Wolf
P.O. Box 1211

Wescliffe, CO 81252

Or visit

shop.missionwolf.org
for credit card orders

****All Memberships are Tax Deductable****

Merchandise

Mission:Wolf is happy to announce the launch of our new web store! Here you will find ways to support Mission:Wolf and take a little piece home with you. On the web store you will find M:W co-founder Tracy Ane Brooks' new book, authentic M:W t-shirts, home made wolf fur jewelry, stuffed toys, M:W prints, wolf caretaker packets, and links to donate straight to M:W. 100% of profits go directly to help feed the wolves, build fences, feed the staff, repair our tools and vehicles, buy new equipment, expand our land conservation program and support the future of M:W.

Please visit: shop.missionwolf.org



A Walk In Connection

Hard cover: \$33.99
Soft cover: \$16.99



Custom Shirts

Adult short sleeve: \$15
Adult long sleeve: \$20
Adult sweatshirt: \$30
Kids T-shirt: \$15



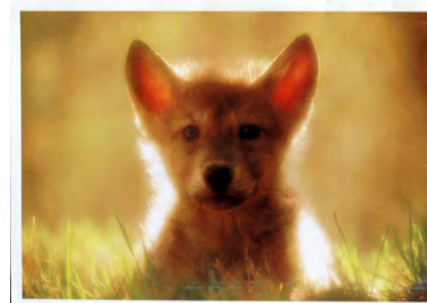
Wolf Fur Jewelry

Wolf Fur Bracelet: \$20
Decorated Wolf Fur Bracelet: \$25
Wolf Fur Necklaces: \$80-\$120



Stuffed Toys

\$10-\$40



Greeting & Post-Cards

Individual: \$1-\$3



The Legend of Rami the Wolf

Mission:Wolf is proud to endorse longtime supporter, Betty Stanley, in the release of her new children's book! "The Legend of Rami the Wolf" features Mission:Wolf past resident wolf Rami and tells of her journey as an Ambassador wolf. To purchase a copy, please visit our web store for a link to connect you directly or visit www.xlibris.com.



Dragonfly Coffee - Black Wolf Blend

To purchase Dragonfly Coffee *Black Wolf Blend*, please visit the link in our web store to connect you directly or visit www.dragonflycoffee.com.

Dragonfly Coffee donates 35% of proceeds from this coffee to Mission: Wolf.

****Prices do not include Shipping & Handling charges.**

For eBay sellers: You can raise money for Mission: Wolf through the eBay Giving Works Program called MissionFish.

You can designate that 5% - 100% of your profit from an item you sell be donated to Mission: Wolf.

For Amazon customers: By using AmazonSmile, Amazon will automatically donate to the charity of your choice.

By selecting Mission:Wolf, 0.5% of your purchase cost is donated at no cost to you.

MISSION:WOLF

Education vs. Extinction

PO Box 1211
Westcliffe, CO 81252

www.MISSIONWOLF.org

719-859-2157
info@missionwolf.org

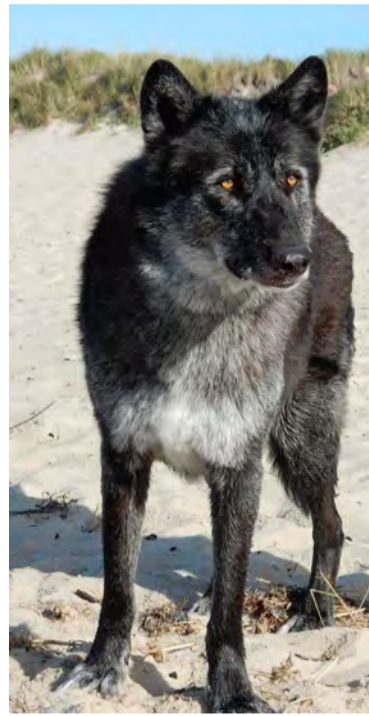
Find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/missionwolfcolorado



Cynthia Giard-Guillou carries breakfast to some of our wolves.



Hilary Hastings and Courtney Hoyt demonstrate wolf/dog behavior and training techniques with Minigan.



Zeab looks out at the Atlantic Ocean on Crosby Beach.



Tiger poses for the camera.



Mike Gaarde, Marco Valera, and Ben Steinberg haul fence in -15 degree weather to build a more secure lock off for resident wolves Ash and Cephira.



Above: Staff and volunteers help unload and stack over 1,000 bales of hay for our horses at the M:W farm.

Right: River Dougherty poses outside his newly rebuilt tipi he calls home.



Tiger is curious about the camera.



Arrow shows off his green eyes.



Farah shows off her love of snow.



Hilary Hastings gives Black Jack and Grinder grain.



Aria, a shy Arctic wolf, peers over the ridge.



Farah and Apollo play wrestle.

Photos by Tracy Ane Brooks, Kent Weber, and Courtney Hoyt.

This newsletter is printed on recycled paper and is provided by members who value a printed publication. As we change with technology, some of you may receive a hard copy that have opted not to. We are working to eliminate duplicates and merge our records into an email file, but some computers are less cooperative than wolves! Please let us know and pass this copy along to a friend and share our message. Thank you for your understanding!