

NE Washington county maintains 'defensive' posture toward wolfpack

Sheriff waits for wolves to regroup

By DON JENKINS
Capital Press

The Ferry County Sheriff's Office will monitor the remnants of the Profanity Peak pack in northeastern Washington, watching to see whether the wolves come into conflict with livestock, people or pets, according to Sheriff Ray Maycumber.

Maycumber in an email Oct. 20 confirmed that his office was taking a "defensive position" now that the state Department of Fish and Wildlife has stopped hunting for the pack's surviving adult and three pups.

The pack's movements have been disrupted and it probably won't establish new behavior patterns until hunting season ends and fewer people are in its territory, Maycumber said.

The sheriff said he will



Courtesy of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife has killed several members of the Profanity Peak wolfpack. The hunt has now been suspended.

deputize a trapper and will consult with state wildlife managers about the threat the pack poses "as the situation unfolds."

"We are also gathering information on other wolf sightings not attributed to the Profanity Peak pack, which have been close to residences and school bus routes," Maycumber said.

WDFW announced Oct. 19 that it was ending the hunt for the pack after shooting six adults and one pup between Aug. 5 and Sept. 29. An eighth wolf, another pup, presumably died of natural causes, according to WDFW.

WDFW had planned to eliminate the entire pack, but the adult and pups were elu-

sive in the rugged and heavily forested region, WDFW wolf policy lead Donny Martorello said.

WDFW officials say they will resume the hunt this year if the pack attacks more livestock, but they rated the chances of that as low.

Investigators have not confirmed an attack on cattle since Oct. 3, and cows are coming off grazing allotments in the Colville National Forest, where most of the attacks have occurred.

Ferry County Commissioner Mike Blankenship said Oct. 20 he is frustrated that WDFW didn't eliminate the pack, as planned.

"I just don't see the department's fortitude there," he said.

Commissioners in August raised the possibility of challenging the state's authority over the state-protected species by passing a resolution authorizing Maycumber to spend the resources to remove the entire pack.

WDFW calls off hunt for Profanity Peak wolfpack

Eight wolves dead; four remain

By DON JENKINS
Capital Press

Washington wildlife managers have ended their hunt for the Profanity Peak pack, unless the surviving wolves attack more livestock, according to the Department of Fish and Wildlife.

WDFW suspended the search for the pack's lone surviving adult and three pups with the start of hunting season last week in Ferry County.

The department clarified that it does not plan to come back after hunting season ends.

Investigators have not confirmed an attack on livestock since early October.

With cows coming off summer grazing grounds in Ferry County, the likelihood of depredations in the near future is low, according to WDFW.

"If we see this pack con-

tinue to prey on livestock this year, we'll go back," WDFW policy lead Donny Martorello said in an interview.

WDFW halted the operation after killing seven wolves — six adults and one pup. Another pup in the pack presumably died of natural causes, according to WDFW.

Martorello said it's unknown whether the pack's survivors will link up with another pack.

Counting the Profanity Peak pack, there are 15 documented packs in the northeastern corner of Washington.

"There are lots of unknowns. We don't know what will play out in the coming months," he said.

The hunt for the Profanity Peak pack began Aug. 4 and proved to be another flash point between wolf advocates, wildlife managers and ranchers.

WDFW says the pack has attacked at least 10 cattle and probably at least five others since early July.



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Research That Matters

Society grants have supported Mary-Claire King's groundbreaking work in genetics.

When Mary-Claire King, PhD, now an American Cancer Society Research Professor at the University of Washington, discovered the genetic mutation that's responsible for 5–10% of all breast cancers, the world was changed. Women who had suspected a genetic cause for the increased risk within their families had an answer, and the scientific world was enlightened to the link between genetics and other cancers and diseases—leading to more advancements in research.

King's two decades of work (1974–94) culminated in her discovery of BRCA1, the "inherited breast cancer gene." In 1995, the Society encouraged her continued work by naming her an American Cancer Society Research Professor, a status made possible with an endowment by the Walt Disney family.

"I was overwhelmed to be selected," says King. "The funding has allowed me to strike out in ways that are far more risky than federal funding would permit. Private foundation support, in general, celebrates risk-taking. I think that's why I was selected in the first place. And Society support has been an important part of that."

King's recent work has focused on "inexpensive, complete, accurate ways of finding and characterizing every mutation in every known breast cancer gene—now there are about 20—and

ensuring testing is available to women in general." She adds, "I've been able to keep going and it's been enormously successful; we're saving tens of thousands of lives."

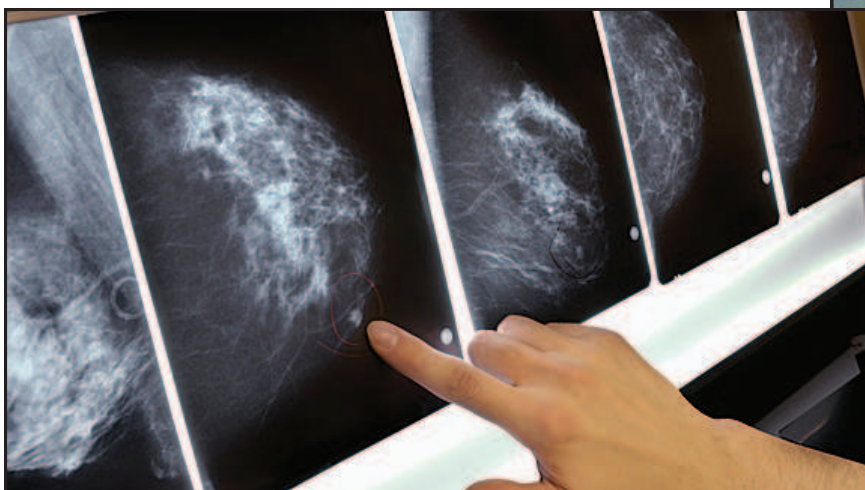
In 2013, moviegoers in select theaters across the United States and Canada could see how King's findings translated to real lives via *Decoding Annie Parker*. The film ties King's work to Parker's real-life experience with BRCA1, which included the loss of her mother and sister as well as her own diagnosis.

It's a dramatic, traumatic story, but one with a glimmer of hope that conveys the nature of research: "If we have learned anything in the history of science in the Western world, it's that science is immensely beneficial to solving problems of health, but that does not happen quickly," says King. "And research grants matter enormously—we couldn't get anywhere without donors."

"I think of Society grants the way I think of money that I earn," continues King. "Every dime, every dollar is accounted for, is used very frugally and goes to research that matters."

by Susan Newell

For more on the types of research being funded through Society grants, visit cancer.org/research.



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