



Living with Wolves  
CHANGING HEARTS AND MINDS  
2017 ANNUAL REPORT

Dear Friends,

It is our pleasure to share with you our determination to secure a future for wolves. This year, with your help, we have made many exciting advances in educating even more people about wolves and their ecological importance, as we work together to protect them in a challenging world.



**What we have accomplished:**

- Our National Geographic photographic wolf exhibit is entering its fifth year on display at the Detroit Zoo
- We just installed the Colorado version of our photographic exhibit in Aspen, Colorado's airport
- We're about to present an exciting state-of-the-art, online, interactive experience on our website
- A successful first year of "Wolf Week" in Yellowstone National Park
- And our new book, *The Wisdom of Wolves*, is being published by National Geographic

Wolves have so much to teach us about loyalty, cooperation, friendship, and forgiveness, and by helping to ensure their future, we are preserving this iconic species for generations to come.

As you know, our goal at Living with Wolves is to transform the way humans see, treat and think about wolves, making the world a safer place for them. With misinformation and the continued hunting and trapping of wolves, we face many challenges in helping to foster coexistence between humans and wolves.

This year, Garrick Dutcher, our Program Director, played a key role in putting an end to the proposal by Idaho's Department of Fish and Game to bait wolves in order to draw them in to be shot. Once we learned of this proposal, we took immediate action to mobilize a coordinated opposition. Find out in this report how your support and public outcry helped stop this proposal and save countless wolves.

Our work would not be possible without your generous contributions, helping to educate and inspire people about wolves. In the following pages, we celebrate your support, and highlight our constant efforts to create a world where humans and wolves will peacefully coexist.

**Jim and Jamie Dutcher,**  
Founders, Living with Wolves



We thank Living with Wolves' Board of Directors member Jean Greene and her husband John, whose generous gift enabled us to create The Living with Wolves Endowment. Contributions like these are essential in helping to protect wolves and secure their future in America - please contact us for more information.



Cover: MATSI - Blackfoot for "Sweet and Brave."  
Beta wolf of the Sawtooth pack.

Above: KAMOTS - Blackfoot for "Freedom," alpha  
and benevolent leader of the Sawtooth Pack.

# WOLF NEWS – A YEAR IN REVIEW

## Some Important Developments for Wolves, and New Challenges as of November 2017

To encourage the public to kill more wolves, in spring of 2017 Idaho proposed introducing a **wolf-baiting season**. Much like the unethical, although legal, practice of bear-baiting, wolf-baiting would allow people to establish baiting sites, which they would regularly restock with any kind of bait, food, or scents, to lure in wolves and acclimate them to a predictable food source. Once the wolves have grown accustomed to the easy food source, the baiter stakes out the bait station and shoots the wolves once they return.

When Living with Wolves received notice of this proposal, we alerted several like-minded organizations, assembling a coalition to develop a counter-strategy, including a public outreach campaign and attending and participating in public meetings on the proposal. Most importantly, we, and the coalition, called upon the public and all of you, our supporters, to voice your opinions in opposition to wolf baiting, generating more than 20,000 comments. The Idaho Department of Fish and Game reported that 95% of the comments they received were strongly opposed to the proposal, and in August the proposal was dropped.

Your voice was heard!

- Delivering a significant setback for wolf recovery in the Northwest, over the past six months **Oregon and Washington** have issued several lethal removal orders for wolves thought to have attacked livestock. As a result, state officials have already killed at least seven wolves, and many more wolves are still slated for lethal removal. Livestock producers have been fully compensated for their losses, including unproven or suspect losses attributed to wolves. The two-state population of 227 wolves is slowly recovering but is still fragile, and both states remain under increasing public scrutiny for a recent increase in the lack of transparency in their management of wolves.

- Due to a court ruling in April, after three years of protection, **Wyoming's wolves are being hunted again**. Once again subjected to the state's ultra-aggressive wolf management plan, wolves in 83% of Wyoming can be killed many different ways at any time, without a permit or license. In the small portion of the state where wolf hunting is actually regulated, within the first two weeks of the hunting season 25 wolves were killed, mostly around national parks. About 350 wolves currently live in Wyoming, but their numbers are quickly dropping because of these practices.

- No longer can people evade prosecution by claiming "mistaken identity" when they kill endangered species. In June 2017, the U.S. Court of Appeals overturned the **McKittrick Policy**, known as the "**I thought it was a coyote rule**," that had been in place since 1998 after Chad McKittrick shot a federally protected wolf in Montana. The original rule resulted in the unprosecuted killings of many endangered species, including wolves, grizzly bears, condors and whooping cranes. This ruling is especially important for the Mexican gray wolf, whose leading cause of mortality is illegal killing.

- Within two months after a federal court ruled to maintain Endangered Species Act (ESA) protections for the wolves of the Great Lakes, no fewer than **five bills** attacking protections for wolves and the ESA have started making their way through Congress.

- In April, the federal government **reversed the Alaska National Wildlife Refuges Rule**, which was put into place under the Obama administration to protect wildlife living on federal refuge lands in Alaska.

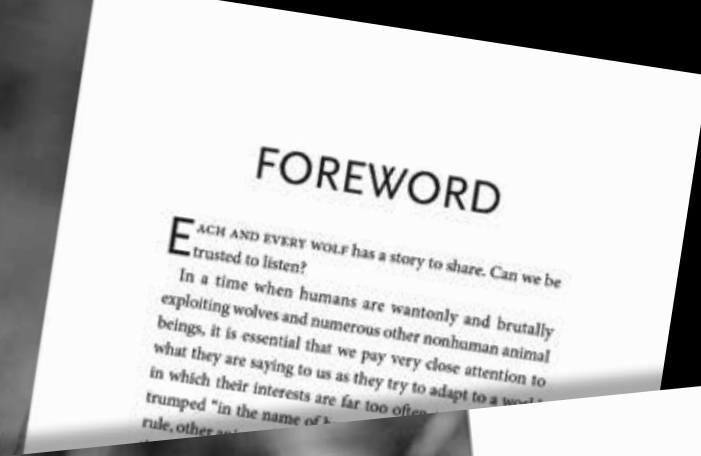
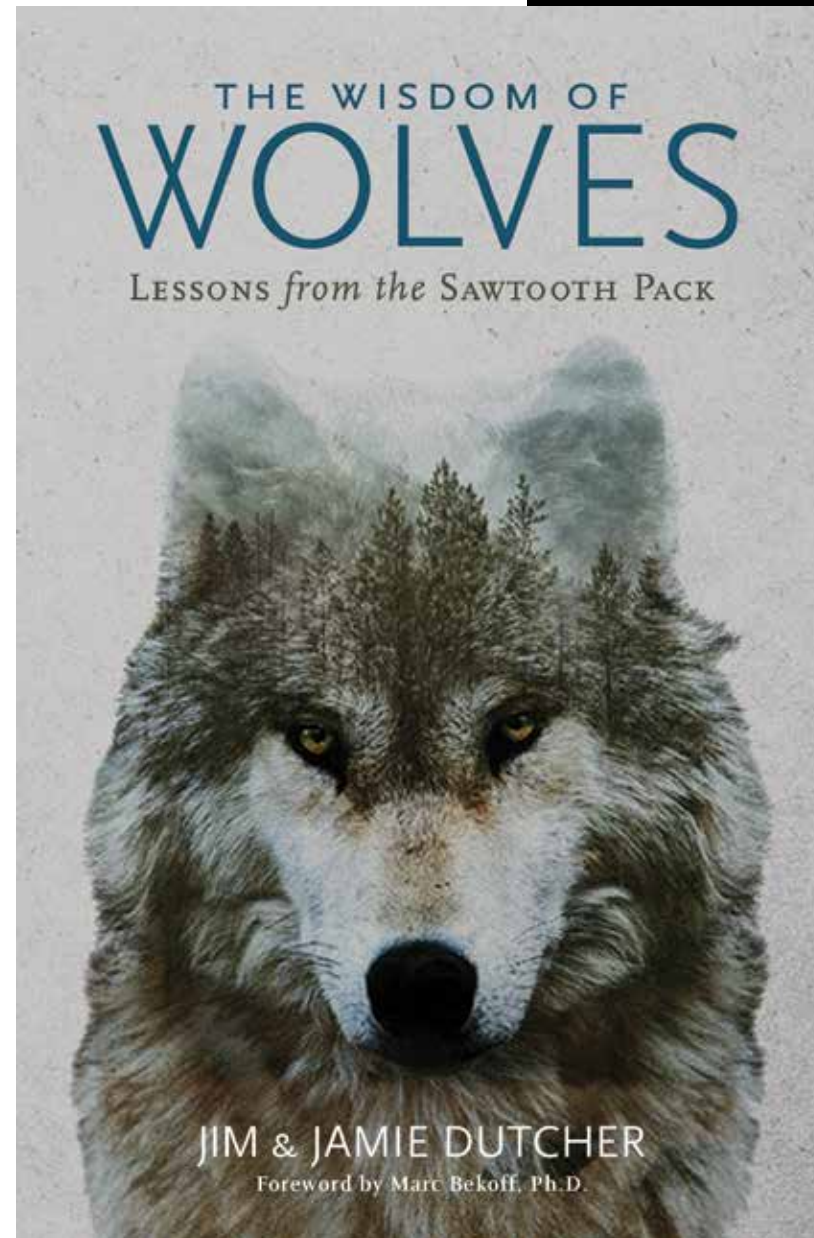
- On a positive note, California welcomes a second new family of wolves. **The Lassen Pack** had four pups this spring, as wolf recovery is just beginning in the Golden State.

# A NEW BOOK ABOUT WOLVES

We are excited to announce that our new book, *The Wisdom of Wolves, Lessons from the Sawtooth Pack*, will be available March 6, 2018.

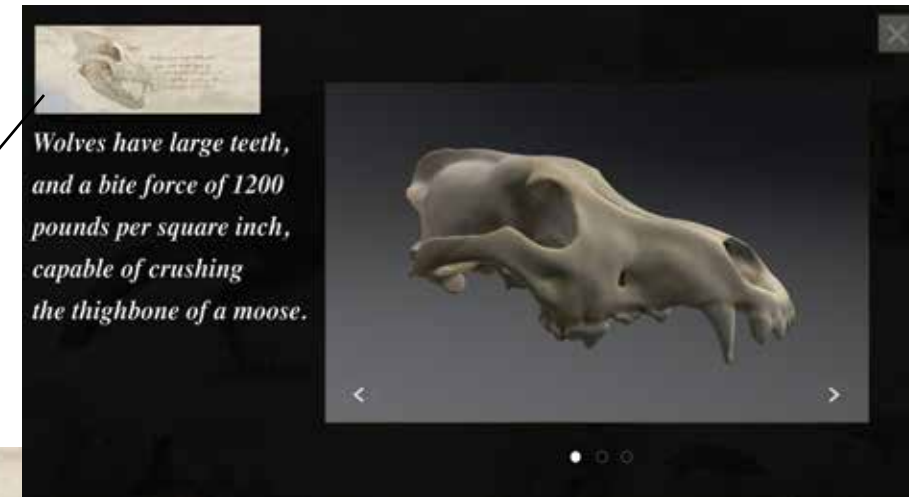
Featuring knowledge and life lessons Jim and Jamie learned from six years spent living with and almost 30 years working for wolves, the book offers powerful and surprising insights about these fascinating creatures. Published by the National Geographic Society and endorsed by Jane Goodall and Robert Redford, the book has received incredible support.

Each chapter highlights a specific message: earning trust, the importance of play, respecting the old, and finding compassion, and features stunning black and white photography of Jim and Jamie's Sawtooth Pack. Each lesson is enhanced by personal stories witnessed firsthand by the Dutchers, or retold by them from researchers, symbolizing the ideals of emotional behavior seen in wolves that Jim and Jamie believe humans should try to emulate. With a strong capacity for empathy, a need to belong to a family, and a unique position for every member of the pack, wolf families are so very similar to our own.



*The Wisdom of Wolves* is an important, heartfelt book that will inspire readers, and motivate them to help celebrate and protect this complex and highly social animal.

# A NEW WAY TO LEARN ABOUT WOLVES



Drawn by National Geographic Senior Artist Fernando Gomez-Baptista, viewers will be able to click on various hotspots within the image, and dive deeper into the life of wolves.

We are pleased to announce the creation of a groundbreaking online interactive experience, *The Hidden Life of Wolves*, where viewers will learn about wolves and their history, physical characteristics, and the similarities we share with this incredible keystone species.

Highlighting the biology, social structure, and cultural perceptions of wolves, the online exhibit is the first of its kind, informing people about the true life and nature of wolves. Working with wolf biologists and software designers, we are excited to create and present a new platform for wolves, remaining both current and innovative in this technology age, and reaching a younger and broader audience.

## Our Colorado exhibit debuts in Aspen

The airport in Aspen, Colorado is currently hosting the Living with Wolves Photographic Exhibit. In support of our partnership with the Rocky Mountain Wolf Project and its efforts to restore wolves to Colorado, we have recreated our photographic exhibit specifically for a Colorado audience to generate awareness and excitement for the prospect of returning wolves to Colorado. Set to tour the state through 2020, the exhibit was installed at its first venue in the airport in Aspen this October. An earlier version of this travelling exhibit first appeared in the Russell Senate Office Building Rotunda in Washington D.C., then traveled to Chicago's esteemed Field Museum, and remains on display at the Detroit Zoo. We are honored to have our mission and images continuing to impact the world and foster coexistence between wolves and human beings.



Colorado resident John McBride views our new exhibit at Aspen's airport.

# A NEW WAY TO EXPERIENCE WOLVES



Helicopter flights escort guests to and from the gates of Yellowstone.



Cozy guest cabins at Lone Mountain Ranch.

For more information about Wolf Week contact Heather, 406 579 9084, [reservations@lonemountainranch.com](mailto:reservations@lonemountainranch.com)

“Wolf Week,” hosted by Living with Wolves and Lone Mountain Ranch, was launched this past April.

Part of the National Geographic Unique Lodges of the World collection, this historic and beautiful ranch is near the town of Big Sky in Montana’s Rocky Mountains. The ranch served as headquarters for guests, hosting presentations by Jim and Jamie, Yellowstone Senior Wildlife Biologist Doug Smith, and Yellowstone Wildlife Biologist Kira Cassidy - all experts in the field of wolves. This week-long adventure lets guests experience the beauty of nature at the ranch, watch evening presentations, and participate in activities including a helicopter flight over the mountains to the gates of Yellowstone National Park, in search of wolves with Jim and Jamie and Living with Wolves’ Yellowstone wolf experts.

Join us this spring for Wolf Week 2018 to experience first-hand the true nature and lives of this incredible animal in a fun and intimate atmosphere, and for what we hope will be an annual event. By joining Wolf Week, you will build knowledge and connections with leading scientists and Jim and Jamie, becoming ambassadors for wolves and supporting their success in our world.



Wolf Biologist Kira Cassidy, at work in the Lamar Valley.



The Dutchers with park biologist Rick McIntyre and guests, in search of wolves in Yellowstone.



Evening presentation at Lone Mountain Ranch.



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#### OUR MISSION:

Living with Wolves is a 501c3 non-profit organization dedicated to engaging the public worldwide in education, outreach and research to promote truth and understanding about wolves, while encouraging coexistence and inspiring people to take action to protect them.

#### LIVING WITH WOLVES

Box 896

Sun Valley, Idaho 83353

[www.livingwithwolves.org](http://www.livingwithwolves.org)

*Above: Five-month old pups Wahots and Wyakin are siblings who remained close their entire lives.*