



C. L. "BUTCH" OTTER
GOVERNOR

November 8, 2007

Dear Friends,

We in Idaho have been involved for more than a decade with one of the most polarizing events in modern wildlife management: the release of wolves into our State.

The initial 35 wolves released into Idaho by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have multiplied to a population well over 700. Federal and state wildlife managers now agree that wolves are biologically recovered and occupy most of the suitable habitat in Idaho. The reality is that wolves are here to stay.

The wolf population in our state is a part of Idaho's landscape, and it is time they are managed like other resident wildlife. I believe it is time we move beyond rhetoric to on-the-ground action. Our Idaho Department of Fish and Game has an excellent track record of managing wildlife to provide viable populations that are appreciated by all wildlife enthusiasts. I am confident it will do the same for wolves.

The Idaho Wolf Population Management Plan details how wolf populations will be managed to assure their niche in Idaho's wild places into the future. Thank you for your continued interest in Idaho's wildlife. I hope you take the time to review the plan and comment to the Idaho Department of Fish and Game.

As Always – Idaho, "Esto Perpetua"

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "C.L. 'Butch' Otter".

C.L. "Butch" Otter
Governor of Idaho