Agenda Summary Report (ASR)

Franklin County Board of Commissioners

DATE SUBMITTED: August 20, 2019	PREPARED BY: Derrick Braaten
Meeting Date Requested: August 27, 2019	PRESENTED BY: Derrick Braaten
ITEM: (Select One) Consent Agenda	☑ Brought Before the Board Time needed: 15 minutes
SUBJECT : Open Public Hearing: To garner public Wildlife Wolf Post-Recovery Plan Development, Element Public Hearing: To garner public Wildlife Wolf Post-Recovery Plan Development, Element Public Hearing: To garner public Hea	c input regarding the Washington Department of Fish & nvironmental Impact Study Scope
FISCAL IMPACT: None	
County Commissioners regarding wolves in Washistated that the Federal Government was proposing indicated that the State's Wolf Management & Corthe management of wolves in Washington, was a rappear to have "recovered", and it will be necessary On August 1, 2019, Franklin County received notic for Comments regarding the proposed scope of the State Department of Fish & Wildlife (WDFW) Wolf	ce of the Determination of Significance (DS) and Request e Environmental Impact Study (EIS) for the Washington Post-Recovery Plan. This is a request for the public, nments regarding, in part, what the Wolf Post-Recovery
substantive comments received, either in writing or response. To be included in the official response, s The public can also comment directly to WDFW, vi	ng as Franklin County's SEPA Lead Official, will compile r verbally at the public hearing, and prepare an official such comments must be submitted by September 2, 2019. In an electronic portal, in writing, or by attending one of 14 open-house is scheduled in Pasco on September 25, are due November 1, 2019.
RECOMMENDATION: Hold the public hearing.	
COORDINATION: Public Notice was posted in the required locations, on August 22, 2019	e Franklin County Graphic and Tri-City Herald, and
Recovery Plan Development); (2) Franklin Presentation to BoCC regarding wolves in	Request for Comments on Scope of EIS (Wolf Post- County Clerk Notes from May 14, 2019 WDFW Washington; (3) WA Gray Wolf Conservation & ummary (4) Franklin County Notice of Public Hearing

HANDLING / ROUTING: (Once document is fully executed it will be imported into Document Manager. Please list <u>name(s)</u> of parties that will need a pdf)

To the Clerk of the Board: None

To Planning: Copy of Meeting Minutes (Public Hearing); any written comments submitted regarding wolves in WA.

I certify the above information is accurate and complete.

Source Derrick Braaten

Washington State Wolf Post-Recovery Plan Development Notice of DS and Request for Comments



State of Washington DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 43200, Olympia, WA 98504-3200 • (360) 902-2200 • TDD (360) 902-2207 Main Office Location: Natural Resources Building, 1111 Washington Street SE, Olympia, WA

DETERMINATION OF SIGNIFICANCE AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON SCOPE OF EIS

Name of Proposal: DS/Scoping 19-044: WOLF POST-RECOVERY PLAN

DEVELOPMENT

Description of Proposal: Historically, gray wolves (*Canis lupus*) were common throughout much of Washington, but due to high mortality from government-sponsored predator eradication programs, wolves were extirpated from Washington by the 1930s. Confirmed reports of dispersing wolves in northern Washington from growing populations in Idaho, Montana, and British Columbia, Canada began to increase after 1990, but the first resident pack in the state since the 1930s was not documented until 2008 in Okanogan County in north-central Washington. Since that time, wolves have continued to naturally recolonize the state by dispersing from resident Washington packs and neighboring states and provinces.

In 2007, anticipating dispersal of wolves into Washington from surrounding states and provinces and the likely formation of resident packs, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) initiated development of a state Wolf Conservation and Management Plan for Washington (available at https://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/00001/). Assisted by an 18-member working group comprised of stakeholders, the plan was adopted in December 2011 by the state Fish and Wildlife Commission and has been the guiding document for wolf management in the state to date.

Since 2008, Washington's wolf population has grown by an average of 28 percent per year. As of December 31, 2018, wolf numbers in Washington have increased to a minimum of 126 individuals, 27 packs, and 15 successful breeding pairs, marking a population increase for the 10th consecutive year and the highest counts to date. Not only is Washington's wolf population growing, but its distribution is also expanding westward in the state. In 2018, Department biologists confirmed the state's first wolf pack west of the Cascade crest in the modern era, and the number of packs in the North Cascades recovery region increased from three to five and the number of successful breeding pairs from one to three. The Department is confident that Washington's wolf population is on a path leading to successful recovery.

In addition, on March 15, 2019, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service published a proposal to federally delist gray wolves in the lower 48 states. Under the proposal, wolves in Washington statewide would be federally delisted and management authority would be returned to the state, except for tribal reservations and national parks.

Given the pace of wolf recovery and in light of potential listing status changes, WDFW proposes to develop a post-recovery conservation and management plan for wolves to guide long-term wolf conservation and management under state authority once wolves are considered recovered in Washington and are no longer designated as state or federally endangered.

Proponent/Applicant: Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)

Contact: Julia B. Smith

P.O. Box 43141 Olympia, WA 98504 (360) 902-2477

Julia.Smith@dfw.wa.gov

Location of Proposal, including street, if any: Statewide

Lead Agency: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)

EIS to be Prepared: WDFW has determined that this proposal may have a significant impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c).

Scoping: WDFW is seeking public input throughout the EIS process. More information regarding the proposal can be found at https://wdfw.wa.gov/species-habitats/at-risk/species-recovery-planning. We are conducting a survey designed to help identify major topics and issues the plan should address. You may participate in the survey online at https://wdfw.wa.gov/species-habitats/at-risk/species-recovery/gray-wolf/post-recovery-planning/public-input/survey. The survey allows you to input additional questions or comments as well. General information about wolves in Washington is available at https://wdfw.wa.gov/species-habitats/at-risk/species-recovery/gray-wolf.

Agencies, affected tribes, and members of the public are invited to comment on the scope of the EIS. You may comment on alternatives, mitigation measures, probable impacts, and licenses or other approvals that may be required. We must receive your comments within 92 days of the date of this letter. The comment period and survey will close at 5:00 pm on November 1, 2019.

Method of Comment:

The following procedures shall govern the method to comment on agency SEPA proposals. Comments received through these procedures are part of the official SEPA record for this proposal. Please provide the title of this proposal and your name in the subject area of your comment.

You can submit your comments any one of the following ways:

- Online at https://wdfw.wa.gov/species-habitats/at-risk/species-recovery/gray-wolf/post-recovery-planning/public-input/survey
- Submit a written comment in person at one of the public open houses listed below.
- Mail a written comment to the address below.

Responsible Official: Lisa Wood

Position/Title: SEPA/NEPA Coordinator, WDFW Habitat Program, Protection Division

Address: P.O. Box 43200, Olympia, WA 98504-3200

Comments must be received by 5:00 pm on November 1, 2019.

After the comment period closes, applicants may view the updated status of this proposal on the WDFW SEPA website: https://wdfw.wa.gov/licenses/environmental/sepa. Once the status is posted as final, applicants and permittees may take action on the proposal.

If you have questions about this DS/Scoping or the details of the proposal, contact Lisa Wood at the address, e-mail, or fax number above; you can also call her at (360) 902-2260.

DATE OF ISSUE:

August 1, 2019

SIGNATURE: Right Wood

SEPA Log Number: 19-044.ds/scoping

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) has scheduled public scoping open houses across the state Sept. 3 - Oct. 30 and will take comment on wolf planning through 5:00 pm on November 1, 2019.

The public scoping open houses will be held at the following locations and times:

Spokane – Sept. 3 - 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Spokane Community College (SCC), The Lair Student Center, Building #6, Sasquatch and Bigfoot Room 124 & 124C, 1810 Green St., Spokane, WA 99217

Colville – Sept. 4 - 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Agriculture & Trade Center, 215 S. Oak St., Colville, WA 99114

Clarkston – Sept. 5 - 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Quality Inn and Suites, Half Mahogany Room, 700 Port Drive, Clarkston, WA 99403

Chelan – Sept. 11 - 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Chelan Fire Station, 232 E. Wapato Ave, Chelan, WA 98816

Pasco – Sept. 25 - 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Franklin PUD auditorium, 1411 W. Clark St, Pasco, WA 99301

Selah – Sept. 26 - 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Selah Civic Center, 216 S. 1st St., Selah, WA 98942

Mt. Vernon – Oct. 7 - 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Padilla Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, 10441 Bayview-Edison Rd., Mt. Vernon, WA 98273

Issaquah – Oct. 8 - 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Eagle Room, City Hall, 130 E. Sunset Way, Issaguah, WA 98027

Kelso/Longview – Oct. 9 - 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Red Lion Hotel and Conference Center, 510 Kelso Drive, Kelso, WA 98626

Morton – Oct. 10 - 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Lyle Community Center, 700 Main Street, Morton, WA 98356

Olympia – Oct. 15 - 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Natural Resources Building (Room 172), 1111 Washington SE, Olympia, WA 98504

Goldendale – To Be Announced – 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Goldendale High School cafeteria, 525 Simcoe Drive, Goldendale, WA 98620

Port Angeles – Oct. 29 – 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Peninsula College, House of Learning (Longhouse), 1502 E. Lauridsen Blvd., Port Angeles, WA 98362

Montesano – Oct. 30 – 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Montesano City Hall, 112 N. Main St., Montesano, WA 98563

May 14, 2019 WDFW Presentation to BoCC Regarding Wolves in WA Franklin County Clerk's Notes

Time	e Speake Note	
9:00:21 AM		all here
***************************************	order	
9:00:48 AM	Approva	
	I of minutes	cities
	HIMIUMES	
9:01:35 AM		Approved
9:01:39 AM	Koch	intro to Mike Livingston
9:02:13 AM	ML	Intro for who he is.
9:02:35 AM		wolves, 2008 - 2011 guide. 3 different zones, in the 10-11 yrs
		rapid growth , canada oregon. 28% a year. most are in NE wa
		near spokane. 5 paks nW Put collars on and track. about 126
		wolves min. count. highly mobile.
9:05:01 AM	***************************************	paks pin down location. new in kititas co and skagit co, some
3.33.3.7.2.		in the blue mt. 27 paks identified.
9:05:48 AM		sucessful breeding paks. at least 1 is collared. 15 breeding pr.
	HH4411MPP-041110-1-1-1-1111-1-1-1	they can identify
9:06:39 AM		2 layers of protection- federal and state. Delisted in Eastern
9:07:40 AM	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	WA./ 395/17 Endangered in W wa. leathel tool for WWa is not available. can do in EW but very
9.07.40 AN	***	strict rules. removed about 2% due to trouble. W Wa is only
		none leathal still
9:09:10 AM		March 15 trying to delist endangered wolves
9:09:35 AM		upcoming Public Process- June meeting delayed until Sept.
9:10:05 AM		Status review - list state endangered. Population viability
9. 10.05 AW		analysis - give recommendation-
9:11:13 AM	***************************************	2018 state evaluation of wolf translocation, Directed by 2018
		legislature\
9:12:15 AM		roll two items together- post delisting managemnet plan to
0.40.44 484		prepare for state delisting
9:12:41 AM		3 yrs to complete translocation and delisting will happen at the same time.
9:13:00 AM	*********************	
9:13:21 AM	Dools	we had some in Franklin. Whitman and Grant
9:13:50 AM	Peck	you removed 2% of wolves that have gotten into trouble.
9:14:16 AM	ML	2% of the total population due to getting into trouble
9:14:47 AM	PEck	any in FC now?
9:14:56 AM		no
9:15:01 AM	Koch	in trouble with livestock- buy back from federal?
9:15:26 AM	ML	hazing and rideing
9:15:57 AM	Didier	I have cattle but I wont take them down, sightings in wallula and 395 they are here. We have Elk around, looking at paper great
		article. worked in the dept of ecology, work between church and
		state
9:17:49 AM		person in the audience- lost 70

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9:18:05 AM		fed listing if it is delisted state takes over. I have a hard time
3. 10.00 AIVI		believing there is not more than 15 breeding pr.Name changing
		and shifting, change location and breeding pr.
9:19:35 AM	7140-111601647511-11161511-11161	not fully aware of this.
9:19:50 AM	CD	why have we not relocated wolves to WWa?
9:20:47 AM	CD	range rider carry?
9:20:59 AM	ML	some do some dont- Grant caught in the act and was shot
9:21:32 AM	CD	does the media support?
9:21:42 AM	ML	it depends on where in WA is.
9:22:01 AM	CD	word association. Terrorist used as a lone wolf. we are putting terrorist in the hills.
9:23:06 AM	Ppeck	defer
9:23:31 AM	Glenn Mc Erven	Ranch Diamond M ranch
9:23:41 AM		1908 first time. 70 head a yr is lost now. I have kept the population
9:25:11 AM		how did you come up with 2%
9:25:20 AM	ML	this is occuring in an different department so I will explain best I can.
9:26:10 AM	Glen	when our first attack happened FWdept said they cant tell that it was wolves
9:27:04 AM	**************************************	it was out of control. they take out 1 wolf and say they did good job. They will completely eat a cow except the lower jaw
9:28:05 AM	Peck	2011 plan wolves coming in from Cananda, oregon, Idaho? did we start this population in NE WA
9:28:09 AM	ML	not sure why they are filling in NE was before going to other regions. Idaho and canada wolves in large # abundance.
9:30:29 AM	PEck	translocation to WWA why not?
9:30:44 AM	ML	will depend on the process . Do you pick up and move wolves to other places that cause problems.
9:31:59 AM	Peck	in any public do you have resistance from WWA residents?
9:32:25 AM	ML	my counterparts are gathering information and I dont have the data
9:32:54 AM	Clint	when wolves were brought in?
9:33:53 AM	ML	no they are from here
9:34:07 AM	Clint	wolves had a killing spree. didnt eat? What is the goal and how many is enough? NE WA has their full
9:34:48 AM	ML	a public process, once delisted state and fed. then they will be able to keep
9:35:34 AM	Clint	a farmer has 3 wolves attacking and they could only shoot one.?

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0.26.02 444	i s.ai	not gure of the meeter-l
9:36:03 AM		not sure of the protocal
9:36:16 AM	PECK	lived in N and never saw or heard of wolves. with collars are their any that are near person and attacked by a wolf.
9:37:56 AM	ML	worker last yr was rescued by helicopter.
9:38:47 AM	Rocky Mullen	I have questions on your data. I had a calf bitten and the FW was not going to mark it as wolf
9:40:17 AM		had a cow down and calf missing- FW said it wasnt a wolf kill and didnt mark it. didnt test for myappothy.
9:41:34 AM		how are we suppose to protect our herds and people? If I shoomore than 1 it is a felony, what is the protocal
9:43:00 AM	ML	I feel your stress and we have to follow protocal and I hope we can be clearer on what you can do to protect your herds.
9:44:04 AM		I am just getting to know about the wolf department. There is a lot of conflict and the sooner we can delist the better. Ranchers are bearing the brunt of this.
9:44:58 AM	Rocky	we calf out here in FC and go to the rented
9:46:11 AM	Didier	do you consider cattle free range a help with forest management?
9:46:48 AM	ML	yes
9:46:57 AM	Didier	cattle help manage our forest and there needs to be management on the wolves in E WA
9:47:34 AM	Peck	I think the gov needs to look at the problem. Who do we need to contact to to get name for FW to deal with the wolves. is there are specific person to contact.
9:49:34 AM	ML	yes Director and AG office
9:50:17 AM	Peck	the gov mandates rules but does not supply personal and property defense.
9:50:54 AM	Glen	we are over 1mil dollars in last 10 years. translocation will not solve E wa it does not address our problem. fed delisted . our problems esculate under state laws. FW doesnt follow their own rules
9:52:55 AM	Peck	relocation. the power to change this problem lies in Olympia.
9:54:10 AM	Koch	Hemp moritorium ord
9:54:47 AM	Derrick	potentially big production but has no regulations as of yet. no rules associated with it. request a 6 month moritorium to give time for state and local standards and how we want to address it. hopefully we can have a draft.
9:58:11 AM	9-4-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-	public hearing in 60 days to hear from public- hemp is a cannibis that carries less TCH and is not halusinigentic. products as CBD oil for medical and industrial use in ropes etc.

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WA Gray Wolf Conservation & Management 2018 Annual Report Executive Summary

Washington Gray Wolf Conservation and Management 2018 Annual Report

Category: Non-Game Management and Conservation

Published: April 5, 2019

Full Report can be found at:

https://wdfw.wa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/02062/FINAL_2018%20WDFW_WOLF_R EPORT 11April2019.pdf

Pages: 54

Executive Summary

Overview

Each year, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) submits a report to the federal government for section 6 activities, which details the results of its annual gray wolf population survey and summarizes wolf recovery and management activities from the previous year.

Washington's wolf population was virtually eliminated in the 1930s but has rebounded since 2008, when WDFW wildlife managers documented a resident pack in Okanogan County. Since then, the number of wolves has increased every year, to a minimum total of 126 in 2018. Most packs range across public and private land in Ferry, Stevens, and Pend Oreille counties in the northeast corner of the state, but increasing numbers are present in southeast Washington and the north-central region.

Gray Wolves' Legal Status

Gray wolves have been classified as endangered in all or part of Washington since federal lawmakers enacted the U.S. Endangered Species Act (ESA) in 1973. In 2011, the federal government ended the protection for wolves in the eastern third of the state but preserved it for those in the western two-thirds.

Under state law, wolves were listed as endangered in 1980. They retained that classification throughout the state in 2018, regardless of their status under federal law.

Within this legal framework, WDFW had lead wolf management responsibility in the Eastern Washington recovery region, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service had the leading role in the other two recovery regions in 2018. Wolves that inhabit tribal lands in the Eastern Washington recovery area are managed by those specific tribal entities.

Washington State's wolf recovery activities are guided by the Wolf Conservation and Management Plan, adopted in 2011 by the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission. Under the plan, Washington contains three recovery areas: Eastern Washington, the Northern Cascades, and the Southern Cascades and Northwest Coast. In addition, criteria set forth by the WDFW-approved protocol, specifies strategies for the department to collaborate with livestock producers to minimize conflicts with wolves.

Wolf Recovery and Management in 2018

Key developments in 2018 included:

- The state's minimum year-end wolf population increased for the 10th consecutive year. As of December 31, the state was home to at least 126 wolves, 27 packs, and 15 successful breeding pairs. These numbers compare with 122 wolves, 22 packs, and 14 breeding pairs one year earlier. Because this is a minimum count the actual number of wolves in Washington is likely higher.
- Pack sizes (number of members) ranged from two to 11 wolves. Most packs contained three to five individuals.
- The wolf count reflects the results of field surveys conducted during winter months by state, tribal, and federal wildlife managers. Information is collected from aerial surveys, remote cameras, analysis of wolf tracks, and signals from radio-collared wolves. State, tribal, and federal wildlife managers captured nine wolves (six new wolves and three recaptures) from eight packs during the year and monitored a total of 20 unique radiocollared wolves from 15 different packs.
- As in past years, survey results represent "minimum counts" of wolves in the state, due to the difficulty of accounting for every animal especially lone wolves without a pack.

- Since the first WDFW survey in 2008, the state's wolf population has grown by an average of 28 percent per year.
- Six packs formed in 2018 including the Diobsud Creek, Butte Creek, Nason, Naneum,
 OPT, and Sherman packs and one pack (Five Sisters) disbanded due to unknown causes.
- The state's first wolf pack in Western Washington in the modern era was confirmed.
 Wildlife managers determined that a single wolf found and collared in 2017 in Skagit
 County was traveling with a second wolf in late 2018, enabling them to confirm the existence of the two-member Diobsud Creek pack.
- Each year's population total reflects population losses as well as population gains. WDFW documented 12 mortalities during 2018, including four removed by the department in response to wolf-caused livestock deaths; six legally killed by tribal hunters; and two other human-caused deaths that remained under investigation when this report was prepared.
- Wolf populations are managed to ensure progress toward the recovery goals established in the department's 2011 Wolf Conservation and Management Plan (https://wdfw.wa.gov/species-habitats/at-risk/species-recovery/gray-wolf/management-plan). The plan requires the department to minimize the loss of cattle and other livestock without undermining the long-term prospects for the recovery of a self-sustaining wolf population.
- WDFW investigators confirmed 11 cattle and one sheep as being killed by wolves during
 the year. Another 19 cattle and two sheep were confirmed to have been injured by wolves.
 Additionally, one injured cow and one mortality of a calf were considered probable
 depredations by wolves after investigation. Five packs (19 percent of the packs known to
 exist at some point during the year) were involved in at least one confirmed livestock
 mortality.
- WDFW spent a total of \$1,217,326 on wolf management activities during the 2018 fiscal year, including \$257,421 in reimbursement to 31 livestock producers for Damage Prevention Cooperative Agreements Livestock (DPCAL) non-lethal conflict prevention expenses (range riding, specialized lighting and fencing, etc.), \$241,010 for eight contracted range riders, \$7,536 to five producers for livestock losses caused by wolves, \$5,950 to one producer for indirect losses, and \$705,409 for wolf management and research activities.

Suggested citation

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Confederated Colville Tribes, Spokane Tribe of Indians, USDA-APHIS Wildlife Services, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 2019. Washington Gray Wolf Conservation and Management 2018 Annual Report. Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Ellensburg, WA, USA.

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Wolf Recovery and Management in 2018

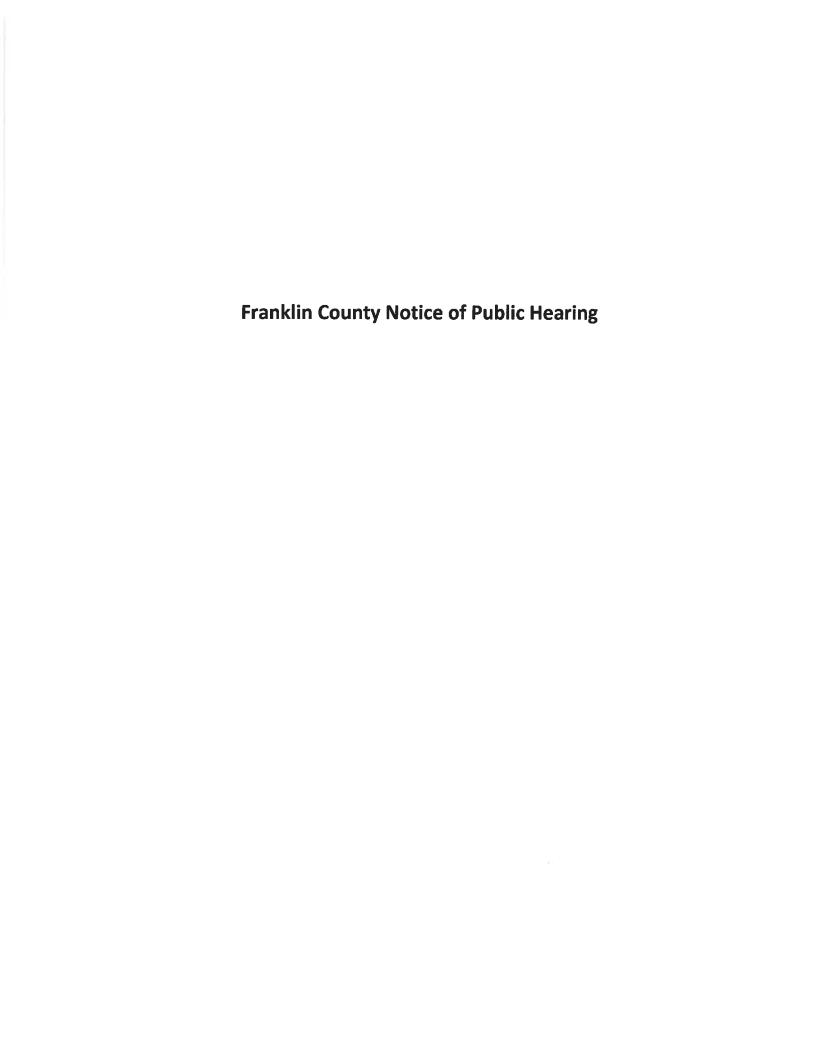
Key developments in 2018 included:

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 (https://wdfw.wa.gov/species-habitats/at-risk/species-recovery/gray-wolf/managementplan). The plan requires the department to minimize the loss of cattle and other livestock
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Suggested citation

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Franklin County, Washington, will be holding a public hearing regarding a notice of "Determination of Significance & Request for Comments on Scope of EIS" from the Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife for the Washington State "Wolf Post-Recovery Plan Development" scope. This is an opportunity for members of the public to provide comment, to the Franklin County Board of County Commissioners, regarding the proposed scope of the environmental impact study for the State's wolf post-recovery plan. Substantive comments received may be included in Franklin County's official response to the request for comments.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that there will be an open public hearing on August 27, 2019, at 7:00 p.m., in the Franklin County Courthouse, Commissioners Meeting Room, 1016 North 4th Avenue, Pasco, WA 99301. All concerned may appear and present comments regarding the proposed scope of the wolf post-recovery plan's environmental impact study. Written comments are accepted prior to the public hearing, and after until September 2, 2019. Written comments shall be submitted to the Franklin County Planning Department, 502 W. Boeing Street, Pasco, Washington 99301.

Additional information regarding the State's proposal can be obtained at https://wdfw.wa.gov/species-habitats/at-risk/species-recovery-planning.

DATED AT PASCO, WASHINGTON ON THIS 19th DAY OF AUGUST 2019.

Dorrich Graaten

Derrick Braaten, Planning & Building Director