Defenders of Wildlife

Protect America's Wildlife (PAW) Act



Alaska's Hunters Speak Out

Ed Davis, Ester, AK

"Airborne hunting undermines both the concept of fair chase and the political climate for sport hunters across the country. Real hunters will vote to reclaim our integrity as outdoorsmen by banning aerial wolf hunting. Other "hunters" who are incapable of, or unwilling to, pit their wilderness skills against the instincts of their prey, should just stay home - during hunting season and on Election Day."

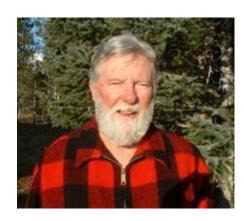


Dave Haas, Juneau, AK

"I have hunted and been an adventurer in Alaska for 30 years. I've been fortunate enough to see wild wolves a few times. I value those experiences as the essence of being an Alaskan and an avid outdoorsman. While I depend upon venison yearly, I would never choose to have wolves shot or trapped to try and increase the deer population. I'll take what I can naturally get out there. I don't need or want any help from a posse in a plane. Predators keep it natural and make it valuable. There aren't many places in the world where you have that."

Bill Brown, Gustavus, AK

"Aerial hunting of wolves is akin to the medieval demonization of wolves. A wolf howling at night is symbolic of wilderness. Killing an alpha wolf can disorganize an entire pack. I used to be a hunter, but I'm completely against the aerial hunting of wolves."



Nick Jans, Juneau, AK

"Without wolves, deer and moose numbers explode in unsustainable numbers, then crash, over and over. Wolves, too, are a valued resource on which trappers and subsistence hunters depend. Beside that, blasting wolves from airplanes reflects horribly on the state's image. Aerial predator control is a smoke screen for special interests. It's un-Alaskan, based on shaky science, and just plain wrong. Predator control subtracts from, not adds to, my wilderness experience and, in my opinion, doesn't improve my odds of hunting success."