



The Wolf Print



Northern Lights Wildlife Wolf Centre

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Mo's Update

Moab is a playful member of our pack, whose growth has finally slowed down. In the wild, a puppy his age would be learning how to hunt, and even participating in the hunt. Mo shows a keen interest in any small, moving objects like cats and furry boots – fitting for a developing predator! During a session of rough-housing early in the new year, Mo hurt his shoulder, and the photo below shows his fur is slow to grow back. His healing, however, was speedy... he was bouncing around the day after his visit to the vet. Mo has his own update page, so continue to visit us on the web for the most current info.



Mo at play with Aspen, and then sprinting along the frozen Columbia River.

disposal of garbage, proper storage of pet food, and clean up of fruit-bearing trees and shrubs. Bear-proof garbage bins and education are key factors in not attracting bears to our community for an easy meal and a future “problem”.

Currently, the Town of Golden has committed to purchasing approved bins, and we are applying to the Ministry of Water, Land, & Air Protection to receive funding for continued efforts.

We will also be promoting the use of Karelian Bear Dogs & Bear Shepherding as an alternative to destroying bears. Golden, like many BC communities, does not practice relocation of “problem” bears – which does not work anyway. Since 2001, Golden has destroyed 13 black bears and 1 grizzly...that we know of.

Ultimately, we would like to see all of our communities achieve BearSmart status, and our Wildlife Act amended to include the use of trained teams of Karelian Bear Dogs to teach those bears that may fall through the cracks.

Be Bear Smart

The Northern Lights Wolf Centre and the Kicking Horse Grizzly Refuge are joining forces to bring our town of Golden closer to BearSmart status. Being BearSmart means proper

A Year in Print

It is the one-year anniversary of our quarterly newsletter... and the weather is helping us celebrate with unseasonably warm temperatures and brilliant sunshine.

Highlights of the past 12 months:

- * Adoption of Moab the wolf pup
- * Expansion of enclosure to 1.25 acres
- * Construction of new interpretive centre to open in July 2005
- * Cooperation with Raincoast Conservation Society to help wolves
- * Cooperation with Kicking Horse Grizzly Refuge to make Golden a BearSmart community

Good Question!

Q: How many wolf pups in a litter?

A: First of all, it is usually only the Alpha pair that breed in a pack. The subordinate females are prevented from breeding through dominance behaviour by the Alpha female, and it is also thought she may emit hormones that prevent these females from fully going into heat. A wolf has only one heat cycle, and pups are born in April/May, after a gestation of 60-63 days. Average litter is 5-6 pups, but less than half are expected to survive the first year. How many pups she has depends on fat levels. Plentiful prey means higher fat levels = higher estrogen = more pups, as many as 12! The opposite is also true.

We are posting a trivia question monthly on our website, and correct answers will be entered in a contest to win a new youth t-shirt. Visit our website for more info!

APRIL 22, 2005 IS EARTH DAY!

Take a moment out of your busy day to appreciate the living earth around you... slow down... Here are some things you can do:
tell a friend about Earth Day ● recycle more, throw out less ● don't let your taps run – save water ● sign a petition to protect wildlife!

Fun Facts About WOLVES

A wolf can leap up to 5m (16ft)

An average wolf can eat up to 9kg (20lb) of food in one meal – the equivalent of 80 hamburgers for an average person!

A wolf pack in Norway was recorded to have travelled 200km (125mi) in one day

What we now call the Milky Way was known to the Blackfoot tribe as the Wolf's Trail to Heaven

Wolves by Lauryn – age 9



Conservation Issues

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service has released the annual Yellowstone wolf report for 2004. The numbers of wolves in Yellowstone National Park remained stable at about 170, indicating that a plateau has been reached. Including the area around YNP, there are over 300 wolves, with an overall increase of only 7% over 2003. As the wolf population has expanded, so has the potential of conflict with humans. The FWS confirmed 91 sheep and 35 cows were killed by wolves, the most recorded since the reintroduction. Defenders of Wildlife, the conservation group that pays ranchers for losses to wolves, paid out \$138,000 last year, a record high for the 17-year program. The FWS consequently destroyed 85 "problem" wolves. Currently, there is controversy over whether to downgrade the wolf's status from endangered to threatened.

Be a Pack Member

You can help promote wolf awareness, help to educate people, and help change legislation to protect our wilderness.

Annual membership includes quarterly updates via our Wolf Print news, pictures, and special discounts and offers.

This is how it works:

\$ 100 = Alpha Member
\$ 75 = Beta Member
\$ 50 = Omega Member
\$ 20 = Puppy Member

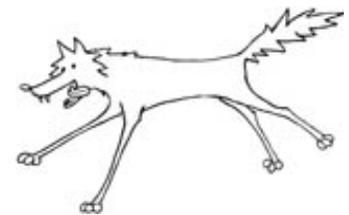
Be an ongoing member of our pack and you'll also receive the eternal gratitude of Aspen, Maya, Tuk, Wiley, & Moab!

Photographer's Forum



The photo on the left was taken by Robert Berdan, who recently accompanied Tuk & Wiley on a photo session. Robert is a professional photographer from Calgary whose company is Science & Art Multimedia (scienceandart.ca).

The light conditions were spectacular that day, with low clouds moving quickly through the valley and brilliant white light playing across the landscape.



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