



## The Alberta Fish & Game Association

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### ***AFGA Asks Alberta to Stop Use of Poison in Wolf Cull***

#### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

(Edmonton April 8, 2015)... The Alberta Fish and Game Association (AFGA), Alberta's first and largest conservation organization, asks the Alberta Government to stop the use of poison in culling wolves in an attempt to save the woodland caribou. The AFGA realizes this is a complicated situation, however the indiscriminate effects of poison has wide ranging impacts which will directly affect other vulnerable species such as grizzly bears and wolverines that may come across poison-laced carcasses. Other non-targeted scavenger species such as eagles and hawks will also suffer. Notwithstanding this, the carcasses that are being poisoned are generally, and otherwise healthy, big game animals which in itself is a travesty.

"The AFGA supports the culling of wolves in areas where there are species at risk of extirpation due to high populations of wolves" said AFGA President Wayne Lowry, "however the Association does not support the use of poisons nor the killing of healthy ungulates as part of the program."

"We are already receiving reports from hunters familiar with the area that they have noticed a lack of blue jays, ravens, and coyotes as well as finding carcasses of weasels and bear at or near wolf-baiting stations", he continued.

Wolf management continues to be a sensitive issue, however it is one that must be addressed before the resulting reduction in ungulate and other wildlife numbers becomes irreversible. AFGA urges the Government of Alberta to relax restrictions on the traditional hunting and trapping of wolves as a more ethical and effective means of managing the wolf populations within Alberta.

The Alberta Fish and Game Association is a not-for-profit volunteer organization proud to serve Albertans in the promotion of the wise use of our fish and wildlife resources and the conservation of their habitats. The AFGA has been active since 1908 in working towards these goals and has a province-wide membership of more than 24,000 individuals spread among 90+ Clubs.

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