

# From Our Readers...

Editor's Note: Letters are from our readers and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Huckleberry Press or staff. To submit a letter visit [www.huckleberrypress.com](http://www.huckleberrypress.com) or write an e-mail to us at: [ads@huckleberrypress.net](mailto:ads@huckleberrypress.net)

## Dependency of Politicians

When corruption becomes universal, it appears normal.

Our elections seem normal. Few question the legitimacy of a government whose politicians are dependent on billionaires. The people get to vote, so everything seems fine.

Yet, it is the dependency of the politician which dictates who is master of governmental power.

If the politician feels that the party has placed

him or her in power, then the politician will do as the party dictates. The party, of course, is a hierarchy with billionaires at the top. Once the party taps a politician, then billionaires from around the country pour money into the politician's campaign fund. With all that outside money, the viable competition for office narrows to only party cronies.

So we have an oligarchy that is veiled in a democracy. Everything is fine and normal. We get to vote. The politicians, media, and schools tell us we are in charge. Half the people are getting a government handout or a government contract, so they will not rock the boat. So the politicians give away our currency to private, so-called federal reserve, bankers; they put the country \$17 trillion

dollars in debt (perhaps it will be \$18 trillion when this goes to press); they wage wars of aggression; they spy on the people; they search people without probable cause; they infringe upon the right of the people to keep and bear arms; they tax us without representation, for truly they do not represent the people. Yet everything is just fine because we get to vote for one or the other puppet of some faction of billionaires.

The dependency of the politicians is the key.

Do you acquiesce to a government in which the people are not truly represented? Or do you tell your neighbors that you oppose this farce of a democracy?

Roger Whitten  
Deer Park, WA

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The family of Joe R. Hudspeth would like to thank family, friends and neighbors for flowers, cards and prayers in the death of our beloved father. Services for our dad were very well attended. Dad would have been thrilled at how many lives he had affected. A special "Thank You" goes out to The Fruitland Bible Camp and The Enterprise lady's club for the delicious meal and setting prepared after the services.

We all love you Dad!

-Your Loving Family

## Cattlemen Call for Better Wolf Management

The Stevens County Cattlemen's Association (SCCA) has applauded a recent decision by the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission to remove the grey wolf from the Oregon Endangered Species list.

With constant wolf attacks in Eastern Washington and no sign of relief for ranch families, SCCA advocates that wolves should also be removed from the Washington State Endangered Species list, providing better management options.

In Washington State, wolves are still federally protected in two thirds of the state so for those who want wolves in Washington, SCCA noted that removing them from the state list would not necessarily be a game-changer.

"One of the things that the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) said when wolves started coming back into the state was the social tolerance of wolves from affected communities was critical to wolf recovery," said SCCA President Justin Hedrick. "But what we are seeing is that as wolves cause more damage and hardship in Eastern Washington, WDFW is distancing themselves from making any decisions or sharing information about wolf killings. That's not management."

The status of the wolf in Oregon is much like the status of the wolf in Washington State, with the wolf still listed as federally endangered in two-thirds of the

state and the state only managing the Eastern portion. If Washington State removed the wolf from the state ESA list, wolves would still have federal protections until they are delisted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services, but Eastern Washington ranchers could experience some relief from the oversaturation of wolves.

Hedrick noted that since 2012 wolves have been attacking livestock operations in Eastern Washington, with severe activity in the summer months ranging from cattle attacks near the Canadian Border, cattle kills near the Colville Valley, in grazing areas near Chewelah and at a sheep operation near Springdale. In 2015, wolves from the Dirty Shirt pack killed cattle near Chewelah; the Huckleberry Pack mauled a guard dog near Hunters and the Smack-out Pack killed a calf, despite years of non-lethal deterrents and "range riders."

In response, WDFW hired an \$850,000 consultant to work with the pro-wolf heavy Wolf Advisory Group and is trying to form an advisory group to decide which ranchers should receive compensation. WDFW has also stopped making any lethal management decisions, demurring to the Wolf Advisory Group to decide when wolves should be removed. Governor Inslee also recently killed a provision from the Fish and Wildlife Commission that would have allowed for more cougar tags to be issued in 14 areas of the state to help alleviate pressure from predators.

For more information, visit [www.stevenscountycattlemen.com](http://www.stevenscountycattlemen.com)



Wild turkeys from up in the mountains of Methow. Photo by Tanja Thomas, Methow, WA. #huckleberrycountry

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