

Wolves are "keystone species". Rather than vote to kill even more wolves, it would be wise, rational and ethical to address human behavior. And whatever methods are used to destroy wolves, it is never humane to kill them before their natural lifespan. A vote for a wolf kill is a vote for scapegoating, rather than responsible action.

**Please see my letter to the Editor- Below. Many thanks, and Best.

It's arrogant to think we can 'manage' wildlife. Whitehorse *Star*, May 13/11.

Re: "Communities want input into wolf management", (*Star*, May 6).

Apparently, killing wolves from Aug. 1 to March 31 every year isn't enough killing for special interest groups in the Yukon.

Trappers have no limits to the number of wolves they can shoot and trap on their traplines.

Wolves can be shot, baited and trapped, etc.; all the technology under the sun is used to destroy the lives of wolves and other wildlife.

Alpha male, alpha female, pregnant wolves and pups are all fair game (targets) – and are used as scapegoats when over-hunting by humans has put huge pressures on wildlife populations. How can they possibly claim it isn't enough killing already?

Big game outfitters ("head hunters", as I've often hear them called) see wolves as competition, so they want more wolves killed.

Recently, big game outfitter Tim Mervyn claimed the government "took the tools out of the tool box" – and this has limited the killing of more wolves (*Star*, May 6).

Mr. Mervyn: Why don't you consider how your own actions impact wildlife populations, instead of expecting natural predators to stop doing what they have done for thousands and thousands of years, and what they must do to survive?

In the same article, the chair of the Teslin Renewable Resource Council, Sandy Smarch, commented that other wildlife is managed and therefore wolves, too, must be managed (killed).

What we all need to realize is that *humans* have upset nature's balance, not wolves. The best way to fix that problem is to minimize our impact, instead of trying to find balance through more killing.

Human beings cannot peacefully, successfully manage themselves, and it is a tad arrogant to think we can manage wildlife.

Maybe we should try to manage our own greed and bloodlust instead.

Wolves are not the problem.

People are.

Mike Grieco, Whitehorse