



February 12, 2009

The Honorable Sarah Palin  
P.O. Box 110001  
Juneau, AK 99811-0001

Dear Governor Palin:

On behalf of the U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance and the listed conservation organizations supporting this letter, we want to publicly endorse your wolf management policy. We believe the recent public relations blitz initiated by the Defenders of Wildlife grossly mischaracterizes your Administration's wolf management policy.

After years of research, it is recognized by practically all state and federal wildlife officials that predator management is a prerequisite for guaranteeing stable populations of prey species. Given that many Alaska residents rely on moose, caribou, and other wildlife species for food, it becomes imperative that those species not be decimated through lack of predator management. The Alaska wolf management program accomplishes this. It does so through a rigorously regulated, scientifically based system targeting *only* those predators in areas where wildlife populations are not able to reach adequate levels of sustainability in the program's absence.

As each of our organizations works within the conservation movement, we understand the critical importance of science in wildlife management. It is evident that the Defenders of Wildlife attacks are part and parcel of a well orchestrated publicity stunt meant to achieve maximum exposure and minimum discourse.

The future of effective wildlife management necessitates that emotional pleas not substitute for reasoned analysis.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Walter P. Pidgeon, Jr.".

Walter P. Pidgeon, Jr.  
President and CEO  
U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance

Protecting &  
Advancing  
America's  
Heritage  
of Hunting,  
Fishing &  
Trapping

Jay McAninch,  
*President and CEO*  
**Archery Trade Association and Bowhunting Preservation Alliance**

Steve Mealey,  
*Conservation Policy Co-chairman*  
**Boone and Crockett Club**

John J. Jackson, III,  
*President*  
**Conservation Force**

Ben Carter,  
*Executive Director*  
**Dallas Safari Club**

Lawrence G. Keane,  
*Senior Vice President and General Counsel*  
**National Shooting Sports Foundation**

Brian Bachman,  
*President and CEO*  
**North American Bear Foundation**

Mike Schlegel,  
*Conservation Committee Chairman*  
**Pope & Young Club**

Kirby L. Brown,  
*Vice President of Public Policy*  
**Texas Wildlife Association**