

# LOBO LINGO



Conservation through education



## Wolves & Humans: Where Do We Go From Here?

*Chad Janowski*

Just as the wolf's howls echo once again in Wisconsin, wolf speaker's messages are echoing the halls of the University Center this fall. Wolf Week '98 (November 30 - December 4) ascended on the UW-Stevens Point campus, bringing with it a week full of speakers, discussions, and workshops for local students in elementary and secondary education.

The week's activities got underway Monday evening with a presentation from the author of the book *The Timber Wolf In Wisconsin: The Death and Life of a Majestic Predator*, Richard Thiel. Thiel was hired on as the state's first wolf biologist when the endangered eastern timber wolf was discovered to have recolonized the state. Yes, that's right. They came back on their own, contrary to the popular belief that they have been reintroduced by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR). Thiel told a group of 25 students how the wolf recovery has gotten us to the point where we must make decisions about down-listing the wolf to threatened and eventually remove it completely from the Endangered Species List.

The return of the wolf to the Northwoods, and now the Central Forest Region of Wisconsin, has taken only a little over 23 years. In the state last winter, biologists predicted that approximately 180 wolves roamed the state. In central Wisconsin alone there may be as many as

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Mission Statement: The purpose and objectives of Timber Wolf Information Network shall be to increase public awareness and acceptance of the wolf in its native habitat, and its ecological role in the environment.

# The Scent Post

Events of the Board of Directors meeting on October 9-11, 1998 at Pigeon Lake Field Station, bring several items to report:

TWIN Webmaster Jason Warzinik reported that there have been 52,000 visitors to our web site. If you want to learn more about wolves or keep updated on wolf news, check it out at [www.timberwolfinformation.org](http://www.timberwolfinformation.org). TWIN thanks Jason for his dedication and hours of work to help increase awareness and understanding of wolves on a worldwide basis.

Due to concerns over the effectiveness of our winter tracking surveys conducted by the membership for the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the Board agreed to pay weekend expenses for an extra person to accompany the workshop groups in January and February to serve as tracking people for the survey block. This would ensure that the survey block is being completed and we are fulfilling the requirements of the DNR program.

TWIN is excited to announce two new wolf workshops at the Sandhill Outdoor Skills Center in Babcock, WI. TWIN will be cosponsoring these one-day workshops along with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. The dates of the workshops are January 16 and February 16, 1999. If you cannot spare the time to attend a weekend workshop at Treehaven in Tomahawk, WI, this is a great option for you. For more information call the Sandhill Outdoor Skill Center at (715) 884-2437.

TWIN's annual winter wolf workshops held at Treehaven in Tomahawk, WI have been set for: January 8-10, 1999; February 19-21, 1999; and March 12-14, 1999. We only allow 30 students per class and they fill very quickly. We usually have a waiting list to get into a workshop every year, so call Treehaven at (715) 453-4106 and reserve your spot now. We are also offering a special teacher/student workshop on April 9-11, 1999. Teachers interested in bringing students should call Treehaven for more details.

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# Wolf Workshops 1999

## Wolf Ecology Workshops

January 8-10  
March 12-14

February 19-21  
April 9-11 (student  
workshop)

*If you are interested in attending a workshop, please contact Treehaven Field Station at (715) 453-4106 for reservations and pricing information.*



## Timber Wolf - Winter Tracking Clinic

January 16

February 16

Timber Wolf Information Network's Timber Wolf - Winter Tracking Clinic - 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The timber wolf has returned to Central Wisconsin forests. Join Timber Wolf Information Network members for a discussion of wolf recovery progress and a field trip in search of wolf sign. \$25.00 fee covers instruction materials and bus fare into the hinterlands. BYO own lunch and refreshments.

Register by January 8 for January 16 workshop, and January 29 for February 16 workshop. Limit is 25 people per workshop. To register, send check made out to DNR-Skills Center along with names of each participant, address and day-time phone number. Mail to: Sandhill-DNR, Outdoor Skills Center, Box 156, Babcock, WI 54413. Registration is by first-come, first-served basis. All unsuccessful applicants will have their checks returned.



Waupaca Field Station, E110 Emmons Creek Road  
Waupaca, WI 54981

<http://www.timberwolfinformation.org>



## The Scent Post continued from page 2

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The Board is also considering the purchase of an antenna, receiver, and radio collar for educational workshops and field research. This will be discussed at the next yearly budget meeting.

Chris Giese, TWIN's membership chair, happily announced that our membership is on the rise with approximately 200 members. We hope that this continues, so spread the word and get your friends involved.

The next board meeting has been set for January 30, 1999 in Pine River, WI. We invite all members to attend and bring their cross-country skis or snowshoes for after the meeting. Directions can be provided by calling (920) 987-5466.

Patrick Arndt  
TWIN Chairperson



## Help Wanted

Three years ago, I read a plea for help in TWIN's newsletter, the *Lobo Lingo*. An editor for the newsletter was needed. I didn't know anyone in TWIN and never edited anything before in my life. I was, however, looking for a way to become more involved in the organization so offered to give it a try. I am very glad that I did. I got to try my hand at desktop publishing while getting to know some wonderful, dedicated individuals.

It is time for someone else to have the opportunity to serve as editor. If you think you might be interested or if you would like more information, please contact me (address on page two). Thank you! It has been a pleasure serving you...

Marilyn Leffler



**Wolves & Humans**  
continued from page 1

**Mark Your  
Calendar...**

**Next TWIN Board Meeting:**  
January 30, 1999, 10:00 am  
in Pine River, WI (pot-luck)  
Call 920-987-5466 for  
directions.


**TWIN's Wolf Workshops at  
Treehaven:**

January 8-10, 1999  
February 19-21, 1999  
March 12-14, 1999  
Also: April 9-11, 1999  
(Teacher/Student  
Workshop)

Treehaven is located in  
Tomahawk, WI. Call 715-  
453-4106 for more  
information.

**TWIN's Wolf Workshops at  
Sandhill Outdoor Skills  
Center:**

January 16, 1999  
February 16, 1999

The Sandhill Outdoor Skills  
Center is located in Babcock,  
WI. Call 715-884-2437 

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30 to 38 wolves in 7 different breeding areas. Modeling done with Geographic Information System (GIS) analysis has indicated that Wisconsin can support between 300 to 500 wolves. However, Thiel indicated that figure may be closer to 300 when the human tolerance of wolves is included in the calculation.

Significant changes have taken place in the attitudes humans have had towards wolves over the years. Jodi Wolff from the International Wolf Center in Ely, Minnesota, indicated in her talk on wolf ecology Tuesday night, that our feelings of hatred have come from our ancestors who brought their ideals with them from Europe. However, over the years the feelings of hatred began to fade and some acceptance of the wolf developed. In the early 1990s it seemed as if a culture of wolf enthusiasts became obsessed with multitudes of wolfish things, from clothing to posters.

Yet, the wolf has still not been accepted back into its native home by all members of society. Farmers and ranchers in northern and central Wisconsin still lose an occasional sheep or cow due to wolf depredation. Hunters that use dogs are now facing the threat of losing their dogs when they train or hunt in wolf country. Try explaining to a man in tears, who lost his \$1000 hunting companion, that the wolf should be accepted back into the state.

Thiel said that hunters should be aware of the areas that wolves exist and understand the inherent risks that they face when letting their dog loose in wolf country. Wolves are extremely territorial and will often kill other canines in their territory. To them the dogs are probably viewed as other wolves with some really screwed up genetics. The WDNR currently compensates confirmed losses of livestock and dogs. Yet, when the wolf is delisted and federal funding is cut it will probably be more difficult for the state to pick up the tab when Fido gets chewed up.

There is still an obvious need for continued education about wolves. Some generations today have seen the wolf eliminated by the government, promoted by the government, and possibly someday, controlled by the government. Of course it may seem like that's just the way that the government does things, but convincing some to accept the wolf has proven to be a challenge.

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# rendezvous site

## Wolves & Humans continued from page 4

### A Day in a Life of a Wolf Pup

Abby Fagan

The rock-gray wolf pup watches his prey. Silently, finally, his mother motions "okay." Together they pounce on the unaware deer, The tired buck's eyes, glaze with fear. The victim's legs buckle, and give way, The pup yips, and nips, happy he caught his prey. After the wolves' meal, they race to their den. The wolves sleep well that night, and then, The rock-gray wolf pup watches his prey. Silently, finally, his mother motions "okay."

Convincing the wolf enthusiasts that wolves will have to be controlled in some areas, is again proving to be another challenge.

Jodi told us about all of the opportunities that the International Wolf Center offers for education. Many other organizations like the Timber Wolf Information Network provide other educational opportunities. However, are these programs reaching the right audience? 🐾

### Death Toll Mounts in Wolf Reintroduction Plan

## Fighting For Wolves

"There are no wolves free in the wild in Arizona today."  
— Tom Bauer,  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



This female Mexican wolf is one of two released last week into a holding pen in Apache National Forest near Alpine, Ariz. Others released before her have been shot, apparently by opponents of the wolf reintroduction plan. (AP Photo/Jeff Robbins)

By Michelle Rushlo

The Associated Press

**P H E O N I X , Nov. 25 — Wolves are no longer roaming free in Arizona, less than a year after 11 of the animals were released in a highly touted reintroduction effort. At least five are dead.**

Investigators found an 18-month-old male wolf dead Monday after radio collar signals indicated he had stopped moving for several hours, said Tom Bauer, spokesman for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Albuquerque, N.M.

Officials were awaiting tests to determine the cause of death.

Of the other wolves released earlier this year, four were shot to death, five were recaptured and one is missing and presumed dead. Federal officials have offered a reward for information in three of the shootings; the fourth wolf was shot by a camper, who was not prosecuted.

### Populating Arizona

A week ago, Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt and environmentalists gathered to jump-start the reintroduction program by releasing two new female wolves into acclimation pens in the Apache National Forest.

Two of the recaptured animals, both males, have been paired with the new arrivals. They will spend several weeks in the pens before they're set free, Bauer said Tuesday. "There are no wolves free in the wild in Arizona today," he said.

The program has been heavily opposed by ranchers and some rural residents. Federal officials have said they expected some deaths and insist the program isn't failing.

"The program is working," said Stephanie Hanna, a Babbitt spokeswoman. "There are terrorists that are trying to sabotage the program. It is our intention to find them and prosecute them."

She and environmental groups say the wolves have adjusted well to the wild and even produced pups on their own.

"All the problems that have come up so far are human caused," said Craig Miller, Southwest representative for Defenders of Wildlife. "Wolves are very adaptable. All that needs to happen is people not shoot them."

Students met Wednesday night to discuss some of the controversial issues surrounding wolf recovery and management. It is clear that there is no easy answer. Where wolves and humans require the same basic needs of food, water, shelter and space, the wolves will always be limited by human-determined use of the limited space on the planet.

Awareness of issues surrounding the wolf is essential if the wolf is to survive in this human-dominated landscape. Ultimately, the human population has decided what our tolerance of the wolf has been, is now, and will be in the future. On Friday, the student chapter of The Wildlife Society held workshops for local students so they could gain exposure to accurate information about wolves so that when the time comes for them to make decisions they will be guided by fact rather than misconception.

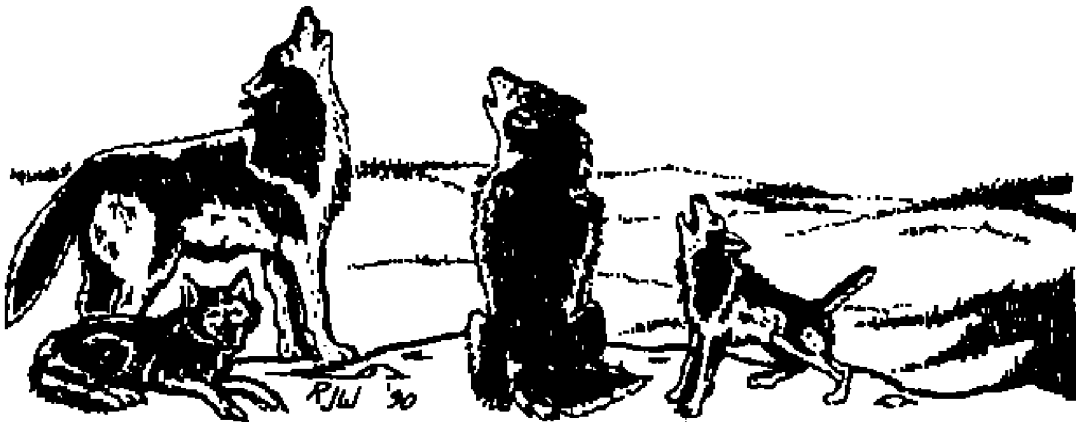
These issues are not only limited to Wisconsin and the Great Lakes region. Wolves have existed and are currently found in all corners of the earth. Being 🐾



# TIMBER WOLF INFORMATION NETWORK

## *Interactive*

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### ■ ONLINE

#### **Join the Pack Online: Web Page Update**

■ Online Catalog and Resources — The Timber Wolf Information Network has joined up with Michael P. Frase a nationally known wildlife artist to bring to two limited edition, signed, and numbered wolf prints. Best of all 50% of the proceeds will go directly to the ecological wolf study being conducted on Isle Royale. For the unbelievable low price of \$19.95 these 11" X 17" prints will go fast. To order your own, go to TWIN's online catalog "Northern Howl" today!!

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### ■ FOR INFORMATION

**Homepage:** [www.timberwolfinformation.org](http://www.timberwolfinformation.org)  
**E-mail:** [twin@timberwolfinformation.org](mailto:twin@timberwolfinformation.org)

■ Member's Only Section — In addition to wolf information not available any where else, the members only section will have all the minutes and agendas for all the board meeting for your review, a bulletin board of upcoming TWIN and wolf related events and much more.

■ Participate in our forum, "Scent Post," and share your thoughts on wolf related topics.

■ Do you need to renew your TWIN membership, enroll in TWIN's Adopt-A-Wolf-Pack program or would like to rent the Predator / Prey - Wolf Lab Box but don't have an application? Well head over to our web site and click on "Learn more about TWIN." There you will find links to all of TWIN's programs along with printable application forms.



## BALLOT: TWIN 1999 Board of Directors

Attention TWIN Membership! The time has arrived to once again vote for your officers and board of directors. The following individuals have been nominated for the positions listed. If you would like to nominate someone that you feel would be interested in working to educate others about the ecology of wolves in Wisconsin and elsewhere feel free to write them in under the appropriate office. Please follow directions for voting and return ballots to Don Bogdanske, W 1933 Lawson Dr, Green Lake, WI 54941 by **January 8, 1999**. Thank you!

**Officers:** Vote for one in each office. Write-ins welcome.

**Chair:** Pat Arndt \_\_\_\_\_  
Write-in \_\_\_\_\_

**Vice-Chair:** Chad Janowski \_\_\_\_\_  
Write-in \_\_\_\_\_

**Treasurer:** Bob Welch \_\_\_\_\_  
Write-in \_\_\_\_\_

**Secretary:** Don Bogdanske \_\_\_\_\_  
Write-in \_\_\_\_\_

**Board Members:** Vote for three (3).  
Write-ins welcome.

Chris Giese \_\_\_\_\_  
Debbie Martin \_\_\_\_\_  
Write-in \_\_\_\_\_  
Write-in \_\_\_\_\_  
Write-in \_\_\_\_\_

## Special Thanks and Recognition

The Timber Wolf Information Network would like to thank the following individuals and groups for their support:

KIM METZKE  
DOUG MOERICKE  
DON CARSON  
ANDREW WELNETZ  
WILLIAM FUCIK  
GLORIA SCHAEFER  
HAZELL A BENNETT  
GARY NICKEL  
NANCY FIELD  
CHERYL KONKOL  
DONALD L FERRY  
BRUCE M BRADEN  
JOE & BETHANN GIANNOSA  
RICHARD HILL  
DON METKO  
BERNICE C MAERTZ  
NANCY BEDUHN  
JODI L WOLFF  
SUE JOHNSON & SCOTT SULLIVAN  
JACQUELINE VAN DYKE  
CHAD JANOWSKI

PATRICIA STEFFEN  
PAT & LISA ARNDT  
MS RAYALA'S 4TH GRADE  
ELIZABETH M HENRY  
TRAVIS BOOMS  
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CLINT BROTZ  
LARRY HASTEROK  
CECILIA S MACKEY  
L DULLMAN  
DONALD J PRASSEL  
ST. PATRICK'S SCHOOL  
G.D JONES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
THE RAWLS FAMILY  
ROBBINS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
BRYCE SMITH  
DONDI INC. % MICHAEL WEINBAUER  
CHERRY KNOLL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
ELIZABETH & CHRISTINA HENRY  
MICHAEL MARKERT



January 1999

# LOBO LINGO

**Timber Wolf Information Network  
Waupaca Field Station  
E 110 Emmons Creek Rd**

ADDRESS CORRECTION & FORWARD

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Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Madison WI  
Permit No. 747

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## WHAT'S INSIDE...

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