



The Big Sky Country

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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September 14, 2005

Representative Debby Barrett, Co-Chair
EQC Agency Oversight Subcommittee
P. O. Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620-1704

Dear Representative Barrett:

On several occasions, on the telephone and in person, I have requested of Chris Smith, FWP Chief of Staff, the collaring of three wolf packs (other than the Sun Ranch pack) in the Cameron, MT area. This request came on behalf of my constituents Andy and Suzanna Kelly, who have had confirmed wolf kills and once possessed a government-issued radio receiver. In addition to the Kellys, there have been numerous other confirmed wolf kills in this area, cattle and dogs. This request was pursuant to SB 461 passed by the 2005 Legislature and signed into law by the Governor.

To date, no collaring has taken place. In fact, Mike Ross, FWP, told Andy Kelly that no collaring would take place.

I am also submitting a copy of HB 283 from the 2003 Legislative session. To date, the Attorney General has not filed a formal petition to delist the gray wolf on behalf of the state of Montana. I am submitting an email exchange from the Department of Justice stating that Chris Smith, FWP, is the lead "counsel" in this matter?

I appreciate your attention to these matters in requiring FWP to come into compliance with the law.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Diane J. Rice".

Diane J. Rice

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COUNCIL
September 16, 2005
Exhibit 20