


CASCADES WOLVERINE PROJECT

SUPPORTING WOLVERINE RECOVERY
IN THE NORTH CASCADES



**PROGRESS
REPORT**

2025



Cascades Wolverine Project supports wolverine recovery in the Washington Cascades, connecting science, storytelling, and recreation for the benefit of people and wildlife.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES



Multi-year monitoring

We maintain remote camera stations to capture detections of wolverine and other rare carnivores across the North Cascades



Community science observations

We review submissions from the public of wolverine sightings and tracks seen during recreation



Storytelling

We share our photos and stories to educate people about wolverine conservation

2025

2025



HIGHLIGHTS

24

Wolverine detections at monitoring stations

12

Monitoring stations

3

Individual wolverines detected

42

Definitive or likely wolverine track community submissions



ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Research & Learning:** We published “Evaluating the accuracy of wolverine identification from photographs of snow tracks by expert observers in North America” in the peer-reviewed journal *Wildlife Biology*
- **Community Engagement:** We launched our dynamic *Community Wolverine Observations Map*
- **Data:** We completed a comprehensive review of all chest-blaze photos from 8 years of monitoring which revealed 11 individual wolverines
- **Storytelling:** We partnered with *Lighthawk Conservation Flyers* to document North Cascades wolverine habitat
- **Outreach & Visibility:** The project was featured in 13 events, presentations, and media stories, including a *Wild Kingdom* episode on NBC



REFLECTIONS

2025 held several milestones for the project including publishing our first scientific paper, cataloging and identifying at least eleven wolverines within eight years of monitoring data, launching an ArcGIS mapping tool for community wolverine observations, and producing standardized science education curriculum. We reached our largest audiences yet with potentially millions of viewers via NBC television and Patagonia social media, and expanded the ambassador program to include ski industry pros. It seems as if we're punching above our weight as a small grassroots effort yet CWP's growth has primarily been incremental with occasional leaps in learning, productivity and support.

We have several questions to address moving forward: why was there a multi-year gap in wolverine detections in our local watershed? Where are female wolverines denning, and can we monitor them using non-invasive methods? How can we improve social acceptance of wolverines in multi-use landscapes?

As the political landscape shifts towards environmental deregulation, we find this work to be a bright ray of hope. Small-scale local wildlife conservation is the beating heart of broader structural change necessary to establish a sustainable relationship with the natural world. Understanding wolverines requires our attention to what is happening on the ground, in the mountains, within an ecosystem that deserves our respect and care.

Steph Weir & Joel Morrison

**GET
INVOLVED**



Submit an
observation



Volunteer
with us



Donate to support
our work

OUR TEAM

Steph Williams
David Moskowitz
Drew Lovell
Cal Waichler
Anna Machowicz
Nyn Tomkins

OUR PARTNERS

- Conservation Northwest
- Home Range Wildlife Research
- Wildlife Conservation Society Canada
- Woodland Park Zoo
- Pacific Northwest Research Station
- U.S. Forest Service
- Patagonia
- Goats Beard Mountain Supplies
- Charlotte Martin Foundation
- Keta Legacy Foundation
- WA Dept of Fish and Wildlife
- Rivershed SPC
- WA Wolverine Research & Monitoring Group
- Cascades Carnivore Monitoring Program
- Holden Village



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SCAN TO READ
THE FULL REPORT

