

Hunter bad-mouthed over wolf kill

- **September 3rd, 2009**

- (15) comments

By Eric Barker of the Tribune

Man receives phone calls, e-mails, business threats

Robert Millage's phone wouldn't stop ringing Wednesday and his e-mail in-box was choked with messages.

Most of the people contacting Millage are not happy with him, and they are not shy about letting him know. He's been called a wolf murderer and every dirty name in the book.

"I have a thick skin and a good sense of humor. What am I going to do, yell back at them?" he said. "I obeyed the law and did what (Idaho Department of) Fish and Game wanted us to do. I can sleep well."

On Tuesday, Millage, of Kamiah, became one of the first hunters in Idaho to legally kill a wolf. He was featured in several news stories that quickly went around the globe via the World Wide Web. Before long, some people opposed to wolf hunting posted Millage's contact information on Web sites like Craigslist and Facebook. He received about 50 phone calls and hundreds of e-mails.

Millage alerted local law enforcement officials and asked them to keep an eye on his business and home, but other than that, he's taking the unwelcome attention well.

"People are loons," he said. "If they want to call up and have a discussion, I'm all about having a discussion. But they call me a fat redneck and a wolf killer and compare me to Michael Vick."

Some have suggested his business as a real estate agent will suffer. Millage doesn't think so.

"Maybe I'll lose two customers and gain a hundred out of it," he said.

On Tuesday the first wolf hunting season in several decades opened in Idaho. The move came months after gray wolves were removed from Endangered Species Act protection. The hunts are controversial and being challenged in federal court where environmental and animal rights groups have asked for an injunction. Judge Donald Molloy has yet to issue a decision, and the hunts will continue until he does.

So far three wolves have been killed in Idaho, two in the Lolo Zone and one in the Sawtooth Zone.

More than 11,000 hunters purchased Idaho wolf tags. According to state regulations, as many as 220 wolves could be shot this fall.

Millage said it's okay if people disagree with wolf hunting. But he doesn't think they should harass hunters for participating in legal hunting seasons.

"It doesn't seem very American, if something doesn't conform to your ideas and points of view, to threaten them," he said. "It's been a long day, but it's been entertaining."

Barker may be contacted at ebarker@lmtribune.com or at (208) 848-2273.

Discussion

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September 3, 2009

1:46 AM

idahorse says...

score:

-25



[\(show comment\)](#)

[Reply to idahorse comment](#)

Replies to idahorse's comment:

DavoSeptember 3, 2009 6:02 AM

score:

10



Idahorse

No woman that grew up in Idaho would use murder and animal in the same sentence. You moved here from California didn't you?

rossSeptember 3, 2009 6:33 AM

score:

5



Are you insane!! Change your handle there buddy or buddett!!!

PLEASE drop the "idaho" you are not even close to being an Idaho anything. Legal, tagged "preditor" hunt.

Mnagement and controled hunt. NOT murder!!

I agree go back to where you came from!!

paperSeptember 3, 2009 7:03 AM

score:

2



B.S.

frecklesSeptember 3, 2009 7:45 AM

score:

2



Gosh, do you mean that I should EAT all those mice that I kill? LOL.

What a very twisted definition of "murder." Following your logic, Jeffrey Dahmer wasn't a murderer because he ate his kill.

September 3, 2009

2:24 AM

entp says...

score:

14



Sign me up. Thinning out the population is necessary. Oh, are we talking about wolves, or busy-body stalking whiners? Same difference.

[Reply to entp comment](#)

September 3, 2009

4:34 AM

grag says...

score:

22



Wolves have one predator - humans... the only way to keep their population in check is to hunt them. I would like to remind Idahorose that the definition of hunt is does not include feeding ones family. The wolf hunts, and kills, but not always to feed. When prey runs, a wolf, just like your pet dog, will chase. Their instinct is to kill. If they're hungry, they'll feed, but not always... Its important to maintain a proportional relationship between predator and prey, otherwise, one or both will suffer and die.

[Reply to grag comment](#)

September 3, 2009

5:15 AM

atvr says...

score:

17



idahorose's comment is a typical one that you could expect from someone that has no common sense.is there a way to publish the names of these people who support these groups that are ruining our states wildlife?if there is I would like to know so I could be more cautious where I spent my money.wolves also kill for pleasure and not eat its prey and it's just a matter of time till some school kid will be attacked while waiting for the school bus.you idiots like idahorose need to let the people who know,manage our wildlife.there is a lot of people out there that are getting pissed over this whole thing and are not speaking and that is the majority.if you wanted to protect the wolves you should have adopted them when the state was trying to give them away and move back east with them.if this issue was brought to the public to vote on,the wolves would be gone,the canadian wolves that is.LETS PRINT THE NAMES OF THE SPONSORS WHO PROMOTE THESE GROUPS so I can spend my money elsewhere.

[Reply to atvr comment](#)

September 3, 2009

6:13 AM

blue12 says...

score:

7



I want to compliment everyone above on their comments. Very well stated...and Idahorose is absolutely crazy!! She is what is wrong with society today.

[Reply to blue12 comment](#)

September 3, 2009

6:20 AM

jwe says...

score:

6



Mr. Millage, let me congratulate you on taking the first one. Keep up the good work and I have a house in Lewiston that I want to sell so I will be looking into contacting you as an agent. Lets hope others will see this as a good deed and also bring their real estate business to you. If the warm and fuzzy crowd gets their knickers all knotted up over killing wolves than we know we are headed in the right direction. Once again, thanks!

[Reply to jwe comment](#)

September 3, 2009

6:49 AM

bbyrose says...

score:

-13



[\(show comment\)](#)

[Reply to bbyrose comment](#)

Replies to bbyrose's comment:

branch September 3, 2009 7:04 AM

score:

4



Those "hunters" that waste meat need to be prosecuted, if you know who they are file a complaint.

Davo September 3, 2009 7:05 AM

score:

5



OMG another PETA fruitcake named rose.

riflebird66 September 3, 2009 7:06 AM

score:

6



If you know of people that waste deer and elk meat like that ..why have you not turned them in to Idaho Fish and Game?? You claim to hate people who hunt and waste meat like that and yet you do NOTHING to help stop these people?? Where is YOUR common sense?? Like most people you find it easier to rant and rave about something when your real name is not known.

September 3, 2009

7:48 AM

dearyschool says...

score:

2



Thank you tribune and Eric Barker for writing an article presenting the facts! I appreciate reading the article about what is actually happening to this gentleman I actually would be that Mr. Millage's real estate business will go up 100%. Can you imagine if Jim Fisher or Marty whatever is name is wrote this article???

[Reply to dearyschool comment](#)

Security Question: 5 + 2 =