

The Yellowstone Wolf Project

Wolves were once common throughout North America, but by the mid-1930s, most had been killed. In 1995 and 1996, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service

(1) _____ a plan to capture wolves from Canada and free them in Yellowstone National Park. This program, known as the Yellowstone Wolf Project, cost only \$267,000 in government

(2) _____. It was a huge success. Today, the Yellowstone wolf population has recovered and can

(3) _____ itself.

(4) _____ to the wishes of many farmers and ranchers, wolf populations have also been recovering in other parts of the western United States. As the number of wolves has grown, wolves have become the (5) _____ of a bitter debate. People cannot (6) _____ the fact that wolves occasionally kill sheep, cattle, and other farm animals. On the other hand, wolves hunt and help control populations of grazing animals such as elk, moose, and deer.

The presence of wolves brings financial benefits to Yellowstone Park. Tens of thousands of tourists visit Yellowstone (7) _____ to see the wolves. Those tourists provide money to help (8) _____ the park and keep it in good condition. Tourists also (9) _____ about 35 million dollars a year to the area around the park. The Yellowstone Wolf Project continues to be a complicated (10) _____ with strong arguments for and against the effort.



Wolves in Yellowstone National Park