

The Tracks You Leave Behind

LEGACY AND FINANCIAL PLANNING NEWS
FOR FRIENDS OF DEFENDERS

Successful Project Protects Wolves—and Sheep, Too

When wolves moved into the Wood River Valley of south central Idaho in 2007, conservationists both rejoiced and fretted. While the 116-square-mile valley in the scenic Sawtooth Mountains is a perfect place for wolves, it is also the site of a major sheep-grazing “highway.” More than 12,000 sheep pass through the area during critical summer grazing months—right around the time wolf pups are big enough to travel and packs are beginning to expand their territories.

Unfortunately, the newly settled wolves, known as the Phantom Hill pack, killed several sheep that summer of 2007 and were slated for extermination by government wolf control agents—until Defenders stepped in. Meeting with livestock producers, state and federal agency representatives and county commissioners, Defenders convinced them to try nonlethal deterrents and give the pack a second chance.

From June to October in 2008, and again in 2009 at the request of livestock producers, a four-person field crew hired by Defenders worked with sheep herders to keep livestock and wolves safely apart. The crew used livestock guard dogs to alert the sheep and flock attendants, tracking devices

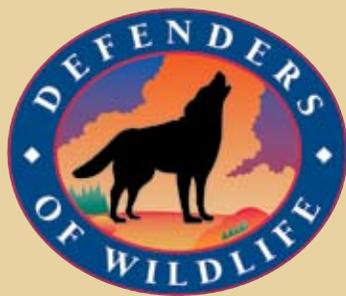


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to monitor the movements of the pack, noisemakers and spotlights to scare the wolves away and temporary electrified fladry corrals to protect the sheep at night.

Federal and state agencies provided up-to-date information on wolf activity from aerial monitoring flights and kept the crew abreast of sheep movement through the valley. With the full cooperation of all the partners involved, the Wood River wolf project—one of the most comprehensive tests of Defenders’ proactive approach ever attempted on the ground—has been a success. Only a handful of sheep and no wolves have been killed since it began, and Defenders plans to continue the project in 2010.

Visit www.defenders.org to learn more about the many wolf conservation programs your legacy support makes possible.



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Inside This Issue . . .

- How you can use a bank CD to create a wildlife legacy
- You can help ensure a brighter future for wildlife
- Meet Defenders of Wildlife’s Jim Luerssen

How You Can Use a Bank CD to Create a Wildlife Legacy



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Many people are keeping their money safe and sound these days by buying bank CDs. If you are investing in CDs, consider using one or more of your accounts to also secure the future of wildlife. Here's a quick and easy way to do so.

When you open a new CD, you are asked how you would like to "title" your account. One of the possibilities is to title the account as POD (payable on death) to an individual or charity of your choice. You can title your account as POD to Defenders of Wildlife, using the simple paperwork provided by your bank and the designation language in the box on page three.

You will retain full control over your account during your lifetime, including the right to change the titling

at any time and withdraw the funds when the CD matures. If, however, you pass away during the CD term, assets would be distributed directly to Defenders of Wildlife as you intended. These assets would bypass probate and come to Defenders completely free of estate tax.

By titling a CD, checking or savings account as POD to Defenders of Wildlife, you will create a legacy that wolves, polar bears and other cherished wildlife can "bank on" for years to come.

Any new account you create after a CD matures can be titled as POD to Defenders. You can also retitle an existing CD as POD to Defenders. And, you can title or

retitle other bank accounts, such as checking or savings accounts, as POD for Defenders.

By titling a CD, checking or savings account as POD to Defenders of Wildlife, you will create a legacy that wolves, polar bears and other cherished wildlife can "bank on" for years to come.



If you decide to create a POD account for Defenders, please notify Ann Felber, Director of Gift Planning, at 1-800-915-6789 or legacy@defenders.org so that she can welcome you into Defenders' Wildlife Legacy Society. If you prefer your gift to remain anonymous, we will be pleased to honor your wishes.

How You Can Help Ensure a Future for Wildlife

REMEMBERING DEFENDERS IN YOUR ESTATE PLANS

There are many ways to provide for charitable organizations like Defenders in your estate plans, such as titling bank accounts, designating Defenders a beneficiary of your retirement account or leaving a bequest in your will or living trust. To make a bequest, you need to make a new will, draft a codicil (type of amendment) to an existing will, or amend your revocable or living trust.

How to Make a Bequest

It is always a good idea to meet with your attorney to discuss and update your will.



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Be as clear as possible in describing what you want given to whom. The appropriate wording depends on the type of gift, state law and your own unique circumstances. And if you don't have a will or living trust in place, the state where you live will decide how your estate gets distributed. It may be subjected to unnecessary tax, and your assets may not go to the loved ones or charitable organizations that you intend.

Benefits to You

In addition to ensuring that your wishes will be carried out, adding a charitable bequest in your will is:

- **Easy.** A few sentences in your will completes the gift.
- **Versatile.** You can bequeath a specific item, a specific dollar amount, a gift contingent upon certain events or a percentage or remainder of your estate.
- **Flexible.** Until your will goes into effect, you are free to change your plans.

All bequests, large or small, are greatly appreciated. Collectively, they create a powerful force for wildlife protection!

Legal Language to Designate Defenders of Wildlife

To create a bequest that can protect wolves, polar bears, and other imperiled species long into the future, please provide the following legal designation to your advisor:

Defenders of Wildlife (Tax ID# 53-0183181), a nonprofit corporation organized under the laws of the District of Columbia with its principal office at 1130 Seventeenth St., NW, Washington, DC 20036.



"Our love of animals brought us together and has been an important part of our lives. It's good to know our bequest to Defenders will help support wildlife for years to come."

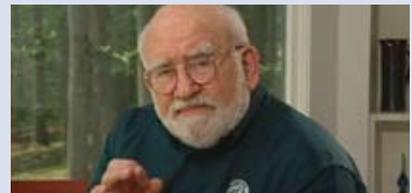
-Bob and Harriet Jakovina

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Bequests and other legacy gifts play a critical role in Defenders' ability to respond quickly and forcefully to threats to wildlife. In recent months, for example, bequests, together with other funds, helped Defenders of Wildlife:

- Win a fresh start for wolf recovery in America's southwest.
- Take a vital step toward getting key protections for polar bears.
- Secure an important agreement with landowners to protect habitat and travel corridors for endangered Florida panthers.

Special Video Message from ED ASNER



Learn more at www.defenders.org/tracks





Meet Defender's Jim Luerssen

WORKING EVERY DAY WITH OUR WILDLIFE LEGACY SOCIETY



As Jim Luerssen, our Associate Director for Gift Planning, celebrates his 10th anniversary at Defenders of Wildlife this February, he reflects on the extraordinary generosity of the many legacy donors he has met.

“Having been fortunate enough to see Yellowstone’s wolves in the wild in 2003,” Jim says, “it is a privilege for me to work every day with donors who are helping them and other wildlife over the long term.”

Growing up in New Jersey, Jim spent summers swimming and surfing in the Atlantic and became aware of environmental issues early on. “I could see the effects of pollution on our beaches and coastal wildlife firsthand,” says Jim, “and I wanted to do something about it.”



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Jim joined the staff of Defenders of Wildlife in 1999, and worked with our President’s Council until becoming Associate Director of Gift Planning in 2006.

Jim now oversees our Charitable Gift Annuity program helping supporters find the gift annuity plan—whether immediate or deferred, one-life or two-life—that is right for them, their loved ones and their financial needs.

Jim also advises donors on other ways to help wildlife such as including Defenders in their wills and living trusts, or making special provisions through beneficiary designation forms that direct IRAs, qualified retirement plans and life insurance, and gifts from titling of CDs and other bank accounts (see story on page three).

The son of a teacher, Jim is now married to a vice-principal. Together, he and his wife look forward to teaching their young son to care for the wild places that animals call home. “Seeing Yellowstone’s wolves interact with each other in an ideal environment and without fear,” adds Jim, “renewed my own dedication to saving them and the habitat in which they roam.”



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Charitable Gift Annuities

RECEIVE INCOME FOR LIFE...
WHILE PROTECTING WILDLIFE TODAY

By establishing a Charitable Gift Annuity with Defenders, you receive several benefits including: 1) regular fixed payments for life that will never change, regardless of whether the stock market is up or down; 2) an income tax deduction in the year you make the gift; and 3) the satisfaction of knowing you are protecting wolves, bears and many other animals that need your help to survive.

To learn more, contact Jim Luerssen toll free at 1-800-915-6789, send an email to legacy@defenders.org or return the enclosed reply form in the envelope provided.

Defenders of Wildlife, 1130 17th St., NW, Washington, DC, 20036. Phone us toll-free at 1-800-915-6789, Email us at legacy@defenders.org, or visit our web site at www.defenders.org/tracks



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