

The Murie Family

July 11, 2012

Mr. David Allen
President & CEO
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
5705 Grant Creek
Missoula, MT 59808

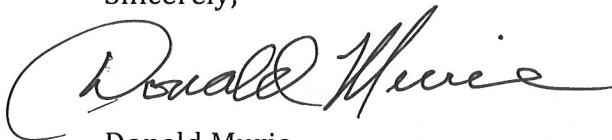
Dear Mr. Allen:

Some years ago your organization established the Olaus Murie Award, given to individuals who have done exemplary work establishing and protecting habitat, for elk and of necessity other animals and plants. The Murie family approved the use of my father's name on an award of that nature. Olaus and his brother Adolph spent their lives studying wildlife and especially wildlife habitat. Their careful and meticulous studies led to publications and scientific papers that have been used by students and established scientists as a solid, proven foundation for further research and policy making.

Now, we find that your organization has declared all-out war against wolves; unreasonable, with no basis in science at all, wholly emotional, cruel and anathema to the entire Murie family. We cannot condone this. It is in total opposition to the findings of careful independent research by hundreds of scientists. Wolves have always been a necessary part of a functional habitat for elk and other game animals. They have been re-introduced into areas where their absence has resulted in ecological imbalances. Now you are determined to exterminate them once again.

We cannot accept this. We must regretfully demand that unless you have a major change in policy regarding wolves that you cancel the Olaus Murie Award. The Murie name must never be associated with the unscientific and inhumane practices you are advancing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Donald Murie". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and a long, sweeping underline.

Donald Murie

Cc:

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