

Wolf Answers: A Second Digest

In response to four questions posed in 1988 by the Senate-House Interior Appropriations Conference Committee, Yellowstone NP researchers prepared two publications: *Wolves for Yellowstone? Vol. I, Executive Summary*, and *Vol. II, Research and Analysis*, more than 600 pages, submitted to Congress in May 1990. *Wolves for Yellowstone? Vol. II, Research and Analysis* is available from the Yellowstone Assn., PO Box 117, Yellowstone NP, WY 82190 for \$16.30, postage paid. An executive summary of the report, Vol. I, is available for \$4.20. *Yellowstone Wolf Questions*, an 11-page digest of *Wolves for Yellowstone? Vol. II*, summarizes that information and is available upon request from the Superintendent, PO Box 168, Yellowstone NP, WY 82190.

The four questions that necessitated these publications were: (1) would wolves be controlled in and out of the park, (2) how would wolves affect their prey in the park and big game hunting in areas around the park, (3) how would wolves affect grizzly bears, and (4) how would wolf recovery zones be laid out?

More questions remained, so funding for further study was made available in 1989. In 1990, Congress directed the Interior Secretary to appoint a Wolf Management Committee "to develop a wolf reintroduction and management plan for Yellowstone NP and the Central Idaho Wilderness Area." The Committee's recommendations went to Congress in May 1991. Later that year, Congress directed that an environmental impact statement be prepared on reintroduction of wolves to Yellowstone NP and Central Idaho, the draft to be completed by May 1993. *Wolves for Yellowstone? Vol. III, Executive Summary*, and *Vol. IV, Research and Analysis*, were submitted to Congress in July 1992. Those 1992 reports present results of studies completed since Vols. I and II were produced. They contain 18 chapters on results of the scientific studies. They do not represent the NPS or USFWS positions, but are responses to information requested by Congress.

A 16-page summary of Vol. IV (750 pp) has been compiled by Norm Bishop, research interpretive specialist, Yellowstone NP, entitled *Yellowstone Wolf Answers – A Second Digest*, and is available from the PO Box 168 address in Yellowstone NP.