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Green briefs



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Wolves have made a steady comeback in the northern Rockies, but it's been slow going in Oregon, where a female gray wolf was killed last year. A reward of \$9,000 is offered for information leading to an arrest and conviction in the crime.

Wolf case reward rises

The killing of an endangered female gray wolf shot in Eastern Oregon last fall will yet be solved, if two conservation groups have anything to say about it.

Oregon Wild and the Center for Biological Diversity have kicked in \$4,000 to add to the \$5,000 reward being offered by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the crime's perpetrators.

"The killing of endangered wildlife like this wolf is a crime against Oregon's children," Steve Pedery, conservation director of Oregon Wild, said on the group's Web site. "Wolves are the icons of American wilderness, and we hope this reward

will produce information that leads to the arrest and conviction of whoever committed this crime."

Wolves were declared endangered in 1974 and reintroduced into the northern Rockies in 1994. Though their populations have recovered there, there have been only six confirmed sightings of the animals in Oregon in the last 10 years, according to Oregon Wild. In 2005, Oregon instituted a wolf management plan that set a goal of eight packs throughout the state.

Anyone with information about the killing should contact Special Agent Jim Stinebaugh, 503-682-6131, or Senior Trooper Darren Chandler, 1-541-963-7175.