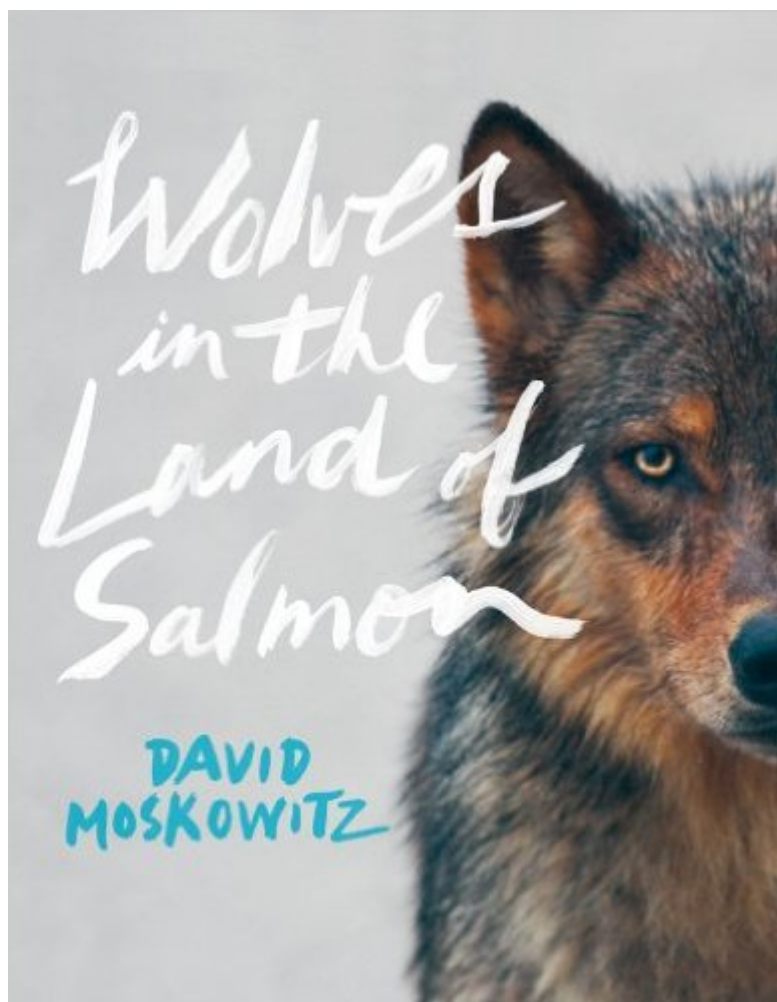


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# Wolves In The Land Of Salmon



## Synopsis

Long considered an icon of the wild, wolves capture our imagination and spark controversy. Humans are the adult wolf's only true natural predator; its return to the old-growth forests and wild coastlines of the Pacific Northwest renews age-old questions about the value of wildlands and wildlife. As the vivid stories unfold in this riveting and timely book, wolves emerge as smart, complex players uniquely adapted to the vast interdependent ecosystem of this stunning region. Observing them at close range, David Moskowitz explores how they live, hunt, and communicate, tracing their biology and ecology through firsthand encounters in the wildlands of the Northwest. In the process he challenges assumptions about their role and the impact of even well-meaning human interventions.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

A confession - David Moskowitz is a friend, a co-worker, and my tracking mentor. I've been looking forward to this book for a while, and can honestly say it met and often exceeded my expectations. It's a beautiful book. Dave's photos are amazing, and he's captured some lovely shots of wild wolves behaving in ways that humans don't often get to see. A favorite scene depicts a pair frolicking like puppies on the beach - which is not a place I'd expect to find them thriving. The story of wolves in the Pacific Northwest is a fascinating one, and often a hard one to read. People have such strong emotions, both for and against wolves that it's sometimes difficult to find the truth about the animal inside the stories told about them. Dave combines a pleasant mix of historical fact, geographical detail, current news, and personal observation and experience to craft a wonderfully

readable account of a complicated animal. The most impressive thing about this book is that he's presented all the multiple sides of the wolf issue without ever getting sentimental or demonizing either the wolves or the people. I highly recommend this book!

David Moskowitz has beautifully painted a portrait of one of the most intriguing and misunderstood animals in North America. He profiles the wolf from multiple angles and attempts to make sense of our complicated relationship with this animal. The photography that accompanies the writing is well done and adds to the experience of reading this book.

There is only one way I can think of to describe the experience of reading this book, and that is, in a word: INCREDIBLE. Wolves in the Land of Salmon has some of the most beautiful and alluring nature photography I have ever seen in a book of this style. The photos are so clear and amazing that you get a real sense of these animals in their natural habitat. The book opens with a personal story from the author and helps you to understand why he chose his career path and what it means to him. I found this was a nice way to make an introduction and ease into his subject matter. While the primary focus of this book is on wolves and the salmon they use as prey items, it is also about so much more. This is an important account of the trials and fates that wolves suffer vying for food and a habitat amongst an increasingly populated human world. The author has taken the time to discuss the misconceptions of people about the species as a whole and to enlighten his readers about the direct threats from poaching, a shrinking habitat and disappearing food sources that wolves currently face. From an ecology standpoint, this book has crucial information about many different varieties of wolves that the younger generations, in my opinion, should be aware of in order to conserve these wild animals. The passages in this book that touched me the most, were the ones about wolf conservation and understanding of the species and their needs. I also found the photos of the wolf den sites to be particularly of interest, as I have run across them in my own travels and now understand much more about how they are utilized. The author has also included a very informative portion of the book about wolf metabolism and prey items, other than the salmon. I was not aware before reading this book that salmon was even on the menu of the wolf. The Salmo Pack of Washington was discussed and I have been unable to locate much information on this particular group, so it was very exciting to read about them. The info on the Diamond pack was also interesting, although much easier to locate references for on the internet. This book offers the reader a comprehensive look at wolves in many different regions and a glimpse at how they live and the adaptations they have had to make in order to survive. If you have ever been curious about where

these beautiful animals originate from or what the current situation is for them, you should read this book. I would recommend this to anyone with a love of nature, conservation, wolves or animals in general, but would highly recommend it for teachers that are in the field. I think students would benefit from the knowledge found in these pages. I was grateful to have the opportunity to read this valuable book and share parts of it with my own children. This review is based on a digital ARC from the publisher.

I finish very few books. I am an information junkie with very little spare time, so I often start books and then put them down after a few chapters when I feel like I have "gotten the point." I read every word of this book. I have worked in ecology and conservation of wildlife in the Western US and East Africa for many years. I found this book to be an incredible resource - scientific information blended seamlessly with the complex social issues of large predators re-expanding into human occupied habitats. The fieldwork for this book was clearly extensive, and the photography is incredible. I highly recommend this book.

Words are powerful but the stories they make are even more so. We might not remember details of things we read, but we do remember the stories. In this book, David Moskowitz, lays out a view of wolves from the point of view of a tracker. A tracker, whether they like it or not, is a truth seeker. It will not do to see something and decide what it is and what it means without hard evidence to support your conclusions. Many times it might take a tracker a few hours, or weeks, or even years to learn what something they saw means. An open mind is a tool a tracker learns. Therefore, the stories in this book are ones of observation in the purest form. The author looks at the wolf in the Pacific Northwest without being influenced by what other people believe. His field experiences were uncolored and true. I thought I knew a few things about wolves since I have observed them in Yellowstone and tracked them in other places. In this book I learned quite a bit more, and even more about the habitat that some of us call home in the Pacific Northwest. Whenever you learn something new, or shape and hone an idea you had that is not quite right, you are alive and growing. This book is worth reading just for that. I gave it a five star because it is a well researched, well written and, therefore, quite an enjoyable book.

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