

## France attacks Wolves, Cap Loup attacks France

**The associations, members of Cap Loup, take legal action at departmental, national and European levels to stop the slaughter of wolves by the French state.**

The ASPAS, FERUS and ONE VOICE, three founding associations of Cap Loup, just filed an appeal to the Council of State to request the annulment of the Ministerial Decree dated 30th, June, 2015 which endorsed wolf hunting. Meanwhile, ASPAS, which just recently filed a complaint against France, also brought a request of this cancellation to the European Commission. The other members of the collective Cap Loup, which assembles 32 environmental associations for the protection of nature and animals, are also ready to send an official complaint to the EC.

Our associations are also currently filing legal recourses to administrative courts in order to ask the emergency suspension of prefectural decrees endorsing "sampling shots". We attack these decrees because they do not comply with the ministerial decrees' framework. This task is becoming increasingly difficult, as the government texts become extremely permissive and treat the wolf as a "harmful" species even though it is "strictly protected" by the Bern Convention and the Habitats Directive-Fauna-Flora.

The government decided to hunt wolves although the French popular vote is against it, while it is ranked vulnerable on the Red List of endangered species in France and while its population, already low, is no longer increasing. Slaughters of wolves are ineffective for livestock protection. Predation continues on herds that are not sufficiently protected, and may even increase with shootings that disrupt the pack: 6811 animals (i.e. head of cattle) were compensated in 2013 with an estimated population of 301 wolves and 8226 in 2014 with only 282 estimated wolves, sad record year with the highest number of slaughtered wolves!

The French state absolutely must look over the way the country manages wolves. Cohabitation between livestock and wolves can work by helping breeders to protect themselves better by checking the setting-up of protective equipment which are currently funded but not controlled, by omitting to compensate for predation when flocks are not properly protected, and developing research on protection technologies rather than encouraging counter-productive shooting.

### **CAP Loup's Founding Associations & Members**

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### **www.cap-loup.fr / Founding Associations & Members :**

**Fondatrices :** Animal Cross, ASPAS, Ferus, LPO PACA, Mille traces, SFEPM, WWF.

**Membres :** ALEPE, Altaïr Nature, ANG, Asbl Wolf Eyes, ASPA Vosges, AVES France, CESB, CVN, Dignité Animale, Fondation Brigitte Bardot, GEML, GLS, GMA, Kermit, Loup.org, LPO Auvergne, LPO Champagne-Ardenne, Oiseaux Nature, One Voice, Peuple Loup, RAC, Sauvexgarde Faune Sauvage, SPA de Lyon Sud-Est, Sur les traces du loup, Tendua.