

THE LOBO WOLVES

Good day everyone...it's a beautiful day in Pennsylvania!

A few miles east of Kane, along Route Six, where the air is clear and pollen free, in the heart of the virgin timber of northern Pennsylvania is Lobo Wolf Park, the habitat of the only Lobo Wolves in the world. And it is an unusual tourist attraction high in the Seneca Highlands, and it cannot be duplicated anywhere else. The wolves at Kane are the only remaining pack of this species, anywhere. Jack and Marjorie Lynch, who show the wolves, have spent years in working with the breed and preserving it. Currently, there are 34 adults and nine pups. At one time, the American Indian, the plains buffalo and these buffalo wolves lived together in the natural ecology of the plains. Once destroyed, the buffalo wolf, or "Lobo" as he is called from the Spanish, turned on cattle, and became the killer predator of the west. His story is to be found in the wild animal book by famed Ernest Thompson Seton, or in Zane Grey's works. The complete extermination of the wolves ended about 1920, and a few were captured by the United States Biological Survey. Now, they can be found only at Kane, penned and kept in a beautiful woodland setting of virgin forest. They love no human beings, but have a rigid respect for the Lynches, who have earned it with their sensitive care of the beasts. Man cannot get their friendship, Jack Lynch says, but can earn respect as he and his wife have. In spite of the danger which is afforded the Lynches in their handling of the still wild animals, they have a ball when they show them regularly to visitors who drop by. They are concerned now that Federal and State recreation complexes will take traffic away from Route Six,

but I personally doubt it, and feel that Kane's Lobo Wolves will for a long time be a super-attraction in the wild northwoods of Pennsylvania. The wild animals are living engines of destruction. For centuries they maintained a balance of nature with buffalo and antelope herds in the west--the Lobos in their forays against these animals prevented them from over-running the range and destroying all the food. When hunters finally destroyed the buffalo, the wolves switched to cattle, horses and sheep, and as a result, they were doomed for destruction. It was man, not wolf, who changed the ecology and that unfortunate change led to the wolves' demise. Only at Kane then, at Jack and Marjorie Lynch's Lobo Wolf Park can one see the last of them, where through the work of these two, the Lobo Wolf Pack has actually grown a bit. Don't miss the stop at Lobo Wolf Park, near Kane, when you're touring. To see these grey loners is a worthwhile stop.

This is Pete Wambach...it's a beautiful day in Pennsylvania!