

# Wolf chases cyclist on Alaska Highway in Yukon

Lengthy pursuit ended with wolf attacking man's abandoned bicycle

[CBC News](#)

Posted: Jul 10, 2013 3:57 PM CT

Last Updated: Jul 11, 2013 2:03 PM CT

A cyclist had the race of his life Saturday in Yukon as he pedalled to outrun a wolf chasing him along the Alaska Highway.

American Mac Hollan and two friends are cycling to Alaska from Idaho to raise money for charity.



*Jordan Achilli, Gabe Dawson and Mac Hollan are bicycling from Idaho to Alaska to raise money for charity. Hollan was chased by a wolf on the highway outside Watson Lake, Yukon, last Saturday. (Facebook)*

About 100 kilometres west of Watson Lake, Hollan's two companions stopped to fix some bike equipment, leaving him to ride ahead. When he heard breathing behind him he thought his teammates had caught up to him.

He looked back to see a wolf pursuing him.

Hollan said his adrenaline kicked in, he changed gears and got far enough ahead of the animal to get his bear spray out.

That's when he blasted the wolf in the face.

"And he backed up about 20 feet and I thought he was going to stop," he said.

"I thought, 'What a wild story. I'm glad that's over.' Then he kept running again and came back up to the back of my bike and actually attacked the back of my bike and ended up ripping the bag that I carry my tent stakes and poles in and ripped it off the back of my bike and spilled it all over the highway."

Hollan said the pursuit continued long enough that four vehicles passed before a couple driving a motorhome stopped to lend assistance.

When Hollan was safely inside the vehicle, the wolf attacked his bicycle that was left on the road.

It only left after another motorist threw a metal water bottle at it, hitting the wolf in the head.

Hollan said he and his friends prepared for bear country, with bear spray, bear bags and keeping a clean camp. They are not going to be deterred from cycling Yukon and Alaska by the incident with the wolf.

"It's kind of hard to worry about it happening again because I think the odds of it happening in the first place were astronomical, and for it to happen twice... I don't foresee that happening."

Comments on this story are pre-moderated. Before they appear, comments are reviewed by moderators to ensure they meet our [submission guidelines](#). Comments are open and welcome for three days after the story is published. We reserve the right to close comments before then.

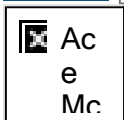
[Login](#) | Sign up

• **87 Comments**

•

**Commenting is Closed**

[Follow](#) Newest



- Ace McCool Guest

This story is baloney, and everyone knows it.

- 18 days ago
- 1 Like

[Flag](#)

- [Like](#)
- [Share](#)   



- lynnae Guest

This is a true story. My friends Becky and Paul (and there toddler, Rohn) were driving the RV. They actually have a photo of the woolf, taken by her iphone.

- 18 days ago
- 0 Likes

[Flag](#)

- [Like](#)
- [Share](#)   



- sazooky Guest

Certainly a lot of animal experts posting on this one!! With all these educated brainiacs crawling around the cbc the wolves are really safe. Funny how no one mentions that a gun would have been a handy little piece of equipment in this incident.

Maybe there was a comment or two?? Maybe guns dont fit the guidelines and comment disabled??

- 18 days ago
- 1 Like

[Flag](#)

- [Like](#)
- [Share](#)   



- coniferblack Guest

Wolves run in a pack and bring down other animals to kill and eat. It was probably hungry.

- 18 days ago
- 0 Likes

[Flag](#)

- [Like](#)
- [Share](#)   



- Fredalbert Guest

My dog (which shares virtually all its genome with the wolf) gets along well with the family but exhibits a formidable dislike of vacuum cleaners. Some canines seem to be born Luddites. Maybe they are trying to warn us.

- 19 days ago
- 0 Likes

[Flag](#)

- [Like](#)
- [Share](#)   



- workingstiff Guest

Kool !

- 19 days ago
- 0 Likes

[Flag](#)

- [Like](#)
- [Share](#)   



- NB\_Expat Guest

It's nice how many wolf behavioural experts the CBC comments section has.

- 19 days ago
- 2 Likes

[Flag](#)

- [Like](#)
- [Share](#)   



- William Jarvis Guest

Wolves are programmed to attack weak prey animals. Since the bike was clearly its target, perhaps its thin-frame triggered something in the wolf's brain making it think the bike was an emaciated prey of some kind.

- 19 days ago
- 0 Likes

[Flag](#)

- [Like](#)
- [Share](#)   



- sazooky Guest

@William Jarvis

Well then is clear..The cyclist should be charged for keeping a skinny bike!! Next time he goes biking in wolf country he should hang huge bags of pork fat on his bike, that ought to convince any wolf,,,

- 18 days ago
- 0 Likes

Flag

- Like
- Share   



- Cain Lawrence Guest

"(Wolves)... can reach speeds of 65 km/h (40 mph) when chasing prey."

<http://www.sciencekids.co.nz/sciencefacts/animals/wolf.html>

That must have been one really unhealthy or lazy or overweight wolf if he couldn't manage to catch up to a human on a bicycle.

- 19 days ago
- 0 Likes

Flag

- Like
- Share   



- sazooky Guest

@Cain Lawrence sounds like you were cheering for the wolf??

- 18 days ago
- 1 Like

[Flag](#)

- [Like](#)
- [Share](#)   



- Opinyun8ed Guest

Odd, but I believe it. Probably the same twisted instinct that compells some dogs to chase cars, bark at the wheels of the lawn tractor, etc. Clearly the object of the wolf's obsession was not the rider, but the bike.

- 19 days ago
- 1 Like

[Flag](#)

- [Like](#)
- [Share](#)   



- Zapata 911 Guest

Little Red Riding hood was based ona true story...

- 19 days ago
- 1 Like

[Flag](#)

- [Like](#)
- [Share](#)   

[Show More](#)

[Submission Policy](#)

*Note: The CBC does not necessarily endorse any of the views posted. By submitting your comments, you acknowledge that CBC has the right to reproduce, broadcast and publicize those comments or any part thereof in any manner whatsoever. Please note that comments are moderated and published according to our [submission guidelines](#).*