# **Welcome Home Film Home Screening**



Endangered Species Coalition 2025





## Welcome and Thank You!

Thank you for hosting a home screening of Welcome Home! This short film about the reintroduction of wolves in Colorado is a great way to share this incredible story of a conservation success and activate people to take action.

This toolkit provides the materials and information you need to host a successful home screening. We have included a suggested timeline for organizing your event, a suggested program, facts about the film, facts about Colorado wolf reintroduction, suggested discussion prompts, and a postcard template for you and your guests to take action following the film.

Have fun and thank you for hosting a film screening in your community. Together we can restore wolves to Colorado and beyond.

## **Suggested Timeline Leading Up To Your Event**

- **Today!**: Pick a location that works for you and your guests (you can host it anywhere you choose).
- **Today!:** Send out invitations to people you would like to host. Create a Facebook event or some other way to promote your event. You can also make posters, send text messages, and emails to folks you think would like to see the film.
- 1 Week Before Your Event: Call or email your guests to confirm they will join you.
- The Day Before Your Event: Make sure you have all your supplies and the film plays as you expect it to. You can stream or download the film on our website <a href="mailto:endangered.org/welcomehome">endangered.org/welcomehome</a>.
- Day of Event: Show up early, make sure everything works, then host your event!

## **Suggested Program**

A sample script for something you may want to say is:

Thank you for joining me tonight for a screening of Welcome Home!

This film is about the historic wolf reintroduction in Colorado. It was made by The Endangered Species and Reel Earth Films. Thanks for being here and being a part of this historic conservation effort.

(provide some personal reasons for screening the film and why you care about wolf restoration)

-Play the film-

After the film, we encourage you to ask folks what their impressions and feelings are about it and the wolf reintroduction in Colorado. You may want to say something to the effect of:

## Well, what did you think?

-Have some discussion-

Then move on to the discussion prompts below to get into a deeper conversation about wolf restoration in Colorado.

#### -Have Discussion-

Finally, ask folks to complete a postcard before you leave so that you can mail them for the entire group:

Thanks for joining me today. I hope this was both inspiring and engaging for you. We encourage you to stay involved. Please call and write your representative in Congress and at the Colorado General Assembly to tell them you support wolf restoration and want to see our wildlife and the Endangered Species Act defended. If you want additional steps to take, you can sign up for emails from the Endangered Species Coalition, you can show up to your state's wildlife commission hearings and express your support for threatened and endangered species and the Endangered Species Act. Finally, if you live in Colorado, buy the Born to be Wildlife license plate for your car.

At this point, we encourage you to have your guests write a Postcard to decision-makers using the suggested materials below.

## **Suggestion Discussion Prompts**

- What is your reaction to the film? How does it make you feel?
- Why are wolves a crucial species to reintroduce?
- Can Colorado have both wolves and people coexist with minimal conflict?
   Why/Why Not?
- Why do you think there is such intense hatred for wolves from some folks?
- Is Colorado doing enough to help people transition to living and working with wolves?
- Why do you care about wolves?
- Have you ever seen and experienced wolves in the wild? Where?
- What do you think will make wolf restoration a success?
- What things can be done to help these efforts be successful?

#### **Basic Facts About the Film**

Title: Welcome Home

Run Time: 20 minutes 23 seconds Director: Alan Lacy of Reel Earth Films Executive Producer: The Endangered Species Coalition

Created in 2023

Awards:

Best Conservation Film- Portland EcoFilm Festival 2025

#### **Facts about Colorado Wolf Reintroduction**

In 2020, voters in Colorado were asked whether gray wolves should be reintroduced to Colorado. Proposition 114 was the ballot measure that voters said YES to!

After voters made the decision to reintroduce wolves, Colorado Parks and Wildlife (Colorado's state wildlife agency), its biologists and staff wildlife experts were directed to create a plan for carrying this decision out. Over several years, they engaged with two groups: a technical working group of the best minds and experience in wolf reintroductions, and a Stakeholder Advisory Group of interested parties who would be impacted by wolf reintroduction. After years of engagement, CPW's biologists and staff experts finalized and released the Colorado Wolf Restoration and Management Plan.

In December 2023, Colorado released its first group of 10 wolves captured and relocated from Oregon. These are the wolves in the film!

In 2025, Colorado Parks and Wildlife released a second batch of wolves captured in British Columbia, Canada.

More wolves are expected to be released in 2026.

Wolves are released over the winter when they are more easily captured and can hunt more easily.

Ranchers are generously compensated for losses from wolves. They can be paid the full market value of the animal lost, up to \$15,000. Colorado has one of the most generous compensation programs in the country.

Compensation is only one way that the voters of Colorado have stepped up to ensure the equitable success of wolf reintroduction. Several funds have been put together for the explicit purpose of conflict prevention. These funds go towards paying for range riders, buying equipment such as fladry, lights, and hazing tools.

The Born to be Wild license plate alone has raised over \$860,000 that goes directly towards helping



ranchers adopt conflict prevention practices and provide material resources to carry out conflict prevention work.

Despite all the great work that Colorado has done to restore wolves, there is still opposition from extreme groups in the hunting and ranching world that want to see wolves extirpated from Colorado, again. There have been losses to poachers and to wolves that wandered across the border into Wyoming where wolves are not protected.

We know that coexistence works when it is done right. Coloradoans have made an unprecedented amount of resources available to ranchers to prevent conflicts from ever happening with wolves (which also help prevent conflict with other wildlife). CPW and non-profit wolf advocacy organizations are busy helping ranchers learn how and when to deploy these resources and how to peacefully live with wolves.

People can read the Colorado Wolf Plan here <u>PDF Colorado Wolf Restoration and Management Plan Final</u>



Below you will find an example of what to write on your postcard. Guests can also email

or call their representatives. You can look up the names and addresses of your state and federal representatives here <a href="https://whoaremyrepresentatives.org/">https://whoaremyrepresentatives.org/</a>.

The postcard graphics can be found at this link Gray Wolf Postcard.pdf
They were also sent to you as a PDF with this toolkit.

### Sample Message:

You can copy this example or modify it. We suggest keeping it simple!

Dear [name of elected official],

Gray wolves need Endangered Species Act protections. Please support their protections under the Endangered Species Act and oppose attempts to eliminate their protections and put pressure on USFWS to investigate poaching of Colorado's wolves.

Your Name Your Zip Code

#### **Phone Calls:**

If you and your guest would rather make phone calls you can use the same message above and just call the capitol switchboard at (202) 224-3121, they will connect you with your Representative and Senators.

- When you are connected, tell them your name, your town or zip code.
- Tell them what you want and a personal reason it is important to you.
- If you leave a message, you can leave a phone number or email address if you want them to respond to your message.