



PROTECT AMERICA'S WILD HERITAGE:
THE WORK OF WOLF RECOVERY IS NOT OVER...

In June 2013, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) announced plans to remove federal Endangered Species Act protections for wolves across nearly the entire lower-48 states. These plans would be disastrous for gray wolf and Mexican gray wolf recovery in the United States.

Since the 1980s wolf recovery in America has had some successes, from the reintroduction of wolves to Yellowstone, to the revitalization of populations in the western Great Lakes states. But there are still few, if any, wolves in the vast majority of their former range where, in many places, scientists have determined that there is excellent suitable habitat.

Beyond its role as a living symbol of our natural landscape, the wolf is a keystone species. Its presence is critical to maintaining the structure and integrity of native ecosystems. Federal protections for wolves are essential to help this animal recover and expand into still-suitable parts of its former range, just as the bald eagle was allowed to do before having its federal protections removed.

Your action is needed more than ever before. A public comment period allows us to participate in the decision-making process. By submitting two comments to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service – one for the gray wolf and another for the Mexican gray wolf – your opinion becomes part of the record that must be considered by Dept. of Interior before a final decision is made.

**NOW IS NOT THE TIME FOR THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO
GIVE UP ON WOLF RECOVERY.**

PLEASE ACT TODAY.



DETAILS FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE PUBLIC COMMENT PROCESS:

ADDRESSES:

- Visit the National Wolfwatcher Coalition's website for all talking points and links at: <http://wolfwatcher.org/2013/06/americas-wolves-need-your-action/>
- Direct link: the gray wolf: <http://tinyurl.com/GrayWolfComment>
- Direct link: Mexican gray wolf: <http://tinyurl.com/MexicanGrayWolf>

SUGGESTED MESSAGE:

I oppose USFWS' draft wolf delisting rule because:

1. For Mexican gray wolves -

- The USFWS should not re-designate Mexican gray wolves as experimental, non-essential. The fourth generation of wild Mexican gray wolves is an essential part of recovering this unique subspecies of wolf.
- USFWS must put the rest of its proposed rule on hold and speed up approval for more direct releases into additional areas.
- The USFWS must also complete a comprehensive recovery plan and let the public see it before changing the current rule.
- The proposed rule effectively prevents wolves returning to places with suitable habitat. The USFWS should eliminate boundaries to the wolves' movement.

2. For gray wolves:

- Sixteen scientists expressed "serious concerns" with a recent draft rule; they do not believe that the rule reflects the conclusions of their work or the best available science concerning the recovery of wolves.
- The draft rule does not reflect the purpose of the Endangered Species Act to conserve endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend. By law, Endangered Species Act decisions are supposed to be governed by the best available science.
- There is a growing body of scientific literature demonstrating that top predators like wolves play critical roles in maintaining a diversity of other wildlife species and healthy, balanced ecosystems.
- The gray wolf has barely begun to recover or is absent from significant portions of its former range where substantial suitable habitat remains. The draft rule fails to consider extensive suitable habitat in the Pacific Northwest, California, the southern Rocky Mountains, Southwest and the Northeast. It also fails to consider the importance of these areas to the long-term survival and recovery of wolves, or the importance of wolves to the ecosystems of these regions.