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Dr. Brian Millsap, State Administrator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
NM

Dear Dr. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
lee horne
6477 Hwy 93 S, # 210
Whitefish, MT 59937

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Sincerely,
Hope Ashley
312 Huntington Blvd
Palo Alto, CA 90223

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Mikasa Moss
300 North Ridge Ln
Temple, GA 30179

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John La Stella
7000 ware rd
charlotte, NC 28212

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Gary Hinman
3401 W Rasmussen Pl
Tucson, AZ 85741

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Dr. Brian Millsap, State Administrator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
NM

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Frank S. Vierra
7040 Glendora St.
Pensacola, FL 32526-2738

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FROM:
Dec. 30, 2007

Shirley A. Sproul

10707 E. Turkey Creek Road
Pearce, Arizona 85625

TO:
John Slown

US Fish and Wildlife Service

New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office

2105 Osuna, NE

Albuquerque New Mexico 87113
R2FWE_AL@fws.gov

Re: Notice of Scoping Meetings and Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Socio-Economic Assessment for the Proposed Amendment of the Rule Establishing a Nonessential Experimental Population of the Arizona and New Mexico Population of the Gray Wolf ('Mexican Gray Wolf')

Thank you for allowing us to comment on such an important issue. It is well known that many people in Arizona and New Mexico do indeed oppose the Mexican Wolf reintroduction program from the onset. Many organizations and individuals have engaged in litigation against the program. With that in mind we still submit the following comments in the spirit of cooperation, and in an attempt to lessen the burden on residents of this area including, mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters, children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren.

We first concur with all comments submitted to you by the following organizations: New Mexico Cattle Growers, Arizona Cattle Growers, Coalition of Arizona/New Mexico Counties, and the Gila Livestock Growers Association.

We believe that the following issues should be included in the scope of analysis:

1. Disclosure of the full social, cultural and economic impacts on rural residents and local governments to include the loss of tax revenue and increased government operation costs due to presence of introduced wolves.
2. Full investigation into the efficacy of livestock carcass removal including the increased cost to livestock operations.
3. Discontinuance of the practice of trans-locating problem wolves.
4. Improve prompt lethal and non-lethal control of problem wolves.
5. Improve monitoring of wolves to insure that residents of the release and recovery areas are informed when wolves are in close proximity and to facilitate documentation of predation on livestock.
6. Improve capture count collar and vaccination programs for Mexican wolves.
7. Commitment to maintaining the 10(J) status of the Mexican wolf program and adding common sense approaches to manage problem wolves.
8. The amending of the 10(J) rule to include the authority to harass Mexican wolves for purposes of scaring them away from people, buildings, facilities, pets and livestock. Specific language is needed to state a person may kill or injure a wolf if threatened by a wolf or in defense of another who is threatened, and may, kill a wolf that is not responding to harassment and is consistently in populated areas frequented by people and showing signs of being desensitized to human encounters.

9. The amending of the 10(J) rule to allow harassing or humanely dispatching of wolves by the USFWS or other federal, Tribal or state agencies when wolves exhibit fearless behavior or become habituated to humans and pose a demonstrable threat to human safety. This provision should include providing a federal take permit, for local county law enforcement personnel, to allow them to lethally take a wolf for immediate protection of human safety.

10. The amending of the 10(J) rule to allow serious and affective methods that will immediately stop wolf attacks on dogs and stop wolves from coming into private property and areas where people live. This should include public education practices that teach people how to deal with habituated wolves and give them the tools to do it. Also necessary is the need to issue take permits to those who are suffering these types of territorial challenges by Mexican wolves at their homes.

11. The 10(J) rule should document through appropriate mapping that people reside in current and potential wolf habitat. The general public has been given the mistaken impression that people do not reside in the wolf release and recovery areas.

12. Maintenance of the livestock production in the release and recovery area.

13. The effects of wolves on watersheds, spread of disease and domestic and wild animal populations.

14. An allowance in the rule for livestock owners or their agents may take (including kill or injure) any wolf engaged in the act of killing wounding or biting livestock on federally administered lands (see definition change) allotted for grazing anywhere within the Mexican wolf Experimental population area, including within the designated wolf recovery areas.

15. The need for definition changes in the new rule and management plans as well as any SOPs, such as:

BREEDING PAIR: an adult male and an adult female that are firmly mated and have the potential to breed and raise a litter of pups in the upcoming breeding season.

ACTIVE PACK: two (2) or more wolves that are attached to each other and exhibit pack behavioral characteristics.

DEPREDAATION: the confirmed killing or wounding of a domestic animal by one (1) or more wolves.

INCIDENT: the killing or wounding of a domestic animal by one (1) or more wolves.

ENGAGED IN THE ACT OF KILLING, WOUNDING OR BITING LIVESTOCK: to be engaged in the act of grasping, biting, attacking, wounding, or feeding upon livestock that are alive or were alive within the past 24 hours.

LIVESTOCK: any animal routinely contributing to the ability of a small businessman to earn a livelihood including but not limited to cattle, horses, goats, burros, llamas, chickens, stock dogs, guard dogs, hunting dogs and other domestic animal to which value is attached and the loss of which would prove to be a financial hardship and result in the takings of private property (pursuant to the Fifth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution).

PUBLICLAND: lands available for dispersion into private ownership under general land laws to which no claim or rights of others has attached.

FEDERALLAND: lands in which the United States retains a proprietary interest and prior claims and rights are attached.

TAKE: to harm, hunt, shoot, wound or kill.

UNAVOIDABLE OR UNINTENTIONAL TAKE: take which occurs despite reasonable care and is incidental to an otherwise lawful activity, and is not done with purpose. Taking a wolf by trapping will be considered unavoidable or unintentional if the wolf is released and the capture is reported within 24 hours. Taking a wolf will be considered unavoidable or unintentional if the wolf is taken during a legal hunting activity, is non-negligent and is reported within 24 hours.

LEGALLY PRESENT LIVESTOCK: should be defined as livestock occurring in the boundaries of a grazing allotment where the owner has beneficial use water rights.

16. Retaining definitions that do not warrant changes or additions from the current rule include the following:

Occupied MexicanWolfRange, Opportunistic, Non-injurious harassment, Primary recovery zone, Problem wolves, Rendezvous site, Secondary recovery zone, Wolf recovery area. Specifically, the definition of problem wolf should not be gerrymandered to move the goalposts associated with management of problem behavior.

17. Takings implications assessments must be planned for and implemented in scoping rulemaking and management planning in order to determine the scope of compensation necessary to private property owners for depredation and losses caused by the program.

18. Implementation a federally funded pilot program aimed at compensation and interdiction to be run by ranching interests who are the experts in the field of livestock depredation causes and interdictions.

19. Change the current methodology for determining a depredation to the more reasonable Minnesotaversion which allows missing calves to be confirmed as wolf kills under certain circumstances.

20. Appropriately recognize and mitigate impacts to pastoral communities and individuals affected by introduced wolves.

21. Mitigation of the false or misleading information that has been issued as public education during so called scoping meetings including the power point presentation as well as the contents of posters that contain faulty information on wolf removals livestock depredation and food sources.

22. Livestock kills as a result of wolf management rather than grazing cycles must be properly analyzed. Currently the IFT and other managers are using subjective and speculative information to validate increased depredation problems, and example of which is the claim made in the scoping information education posters that year round grazing causes more livestock depredation.

23. More intensive and widespread data should be collected on wolf diet using scat studies from throughout the recovery area rather than one point and time date that leads to an incorrect conclusion that wolves are eating 75% elk as noted on a pie chart in the scoping and educational posters. This study is out of date and far too small to legitimately make that claim. There is also reason to believe the study is biased as scat from areas where livestock were present was not used in the analysis. Any NEPA analysis should provide for better information compilation in a new rule.

24. Site specific economic analysis on ranches that are being harmed

25. Analysis of problems associated with epizootic disease carried by wolves and potentially carried in wolf feces. The potential affect on people, domestic animals including pets and working dogs, and other wildlife.

26. Analysis of wolf occupancy of lands where domestic livestock are present and homes where children reside where domestic animals may contract a parasite or disease and spread it to humans or where wolves may directly deposit infectious materials near residences.

27. Cumulative impacts of wolf reintroduction and recovery should also be analyzed using local, county developed information on jobs, poverty and economics.

28. Takings implications of the affect of the current private property ban of use of M 44's and other lethal control devices used for predator management of species other than Mexican wolves.

29. The termination of the introduction effort should be a legal and reasonable option new EIS.

30. Insure that the scope of the economic impact analysis be limited to the individual rancher and at the most the county level. An analysis that is national or regional in scope fails to depict the real impacts

31. Review information distributed as fact in the scoping meetings and make corrections to that information. As is it is biased and subjective and should not have been made available as public education.

We submit these comments to the public record. And we believe that these comments provided by the Gila County Cattlegrowers do indeed capture the issues that are of concern to local land owners and residents of the area.

Thank you for your time and attention to these points.
Respectfully yours,

Shirley A. Sproul
10707 E. Turkey Creek Road
Pearce, Arizona
85625

ssproul@vtc.net

1-520-824-
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NM

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Stefanie Gandolfi
81 Donna Way
Oakland, CA 94605

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Sincerely,
Sara Walker
112 NH Rte 12A
Cornish, NH 03745

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Eric Moore
7711 Hatton Place
Reseda, CA 91335

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NM

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sharon cohen
600 three islands blvd
hallandale, FL 33009

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NM

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N.K. Acevedo
33 Wave Ave
Revere, MA 02151

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mitchell ritter
75 west end avenue
new york, NY 10023

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Barbara Stamp
6901 W 84th St.
Bloomington, MN 55438

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Jeffrey Thornton
108 W Magnetic
Marquette, MI 49855

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Dr. Brian Millsap, State Administrator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
NM

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Monica A Rasmussen
2808 Farisita Dr
Loveland, CO 80538

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Sincerely,
Jennifer Otting
1020 Arbours
Panama City, FL 32401

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Sincerely,
Blake Wilson
37 Dunloe Road
Toronto, ON M4V2W4

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tara troyer
498 trabing road
watsonville, CA 95076

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Laurie Hammel
355 County Rd 201
Craig, CO 81625

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Dr. Brian Millsap, State Administrator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
NM

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Sandra McNeal
507 Monticello Ave.
Aston, PA 19014-3321

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kat thomas
1007 e. alder
seattle, WA 98122

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Sincerely,
Rosemary DeSena
425 Greenwich St
Apt 2
San Francisco, CA 94133

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Kevin Coleman
Nepturn Cottage, School Lane,
North Newington,
Banbury OX15 6AQ

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Mary Sander
3111 Bucks Creek Court
Wildwood, MO 63038

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Sincerely,
Dave Holaway Holaway
Box 1852
Eagar, AZ 85925

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NM

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Dennis Morley
104 Throckmorton Lane
Old Bridge, NJ 08857

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NM

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Dorothy Dankanyin
85 Sherman Rd
Enfield, CT 06082

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NM

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Sincerely,
Kimberly Cresic
203 Kauffman Road
Parkton, MD 21120

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTTP id 2007123009112246-242346 ; Sun, 30 Dec 2007 09:11:22 -0700
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shawn roed
4855 Idlewild St
Duluth, MN 55804

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Virginia Elliott
114 Orchard Rd.
East Burke, VT 05832

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Dr. Brian Millsap, State Administrator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
NM

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Richard Bronk
314 w oak st
Shenandoah, PA 17976

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Sincerely,
noah moot
3595 Sweethome Road
Ashland City, TN 37015

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Karen Clarke
4554 S. Rhett
North Charleston, SC 29405

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jolie henricks
1594A Pleasant Hill Rd
Lafayette, CA 94549

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Jean Gajewski
1094 N Lincoln Ave
Exeland, WI 54835

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- 1) Allow release of wolves from the captive breeding population directly into New Mexico. This is particularly important to enable the Fish and Wildlife Service to release genetically valuable animals into areas in which no wolf packs have established territories.
- 2) Allow wolves to roam freely outside the boundaries of the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area and not be geographically constrained by any other politically derived restrictions - just as other endangered species are allowed free movement.
- 3) Require livestock owners using public lands to remove or render inedible the carcasses of non-wolf-killed stock so as to prevent wolves from being attracted to areas where domestic animals are vulnerable and habituating to preying on stock. This could be accomplished, at least in part, by holding blameless for subsequent depredations any wolf that has scavenged on dead livestock - and protecting such wolves from any governmental or private "take" or predator control.
- 4) Authorize release of wolves into the White Sands Wolf Recovery Area, which is just a few dozen miles to the east of the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area. White Sands has already been analyzed for its suitability for wolves and could serve as a home for genetically valuable wolves that might not otherwise be released. White Sands has only been found "unsuitable" if wolves are required to stay within its boundaries, but as part of a population that interacts with wolves in the Gila, it would serve an important role.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Jessica Landau
104 Cross Pond Rd.
Pound Ridge, NY 10576-1341

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Dr. Brian Millsap, State Administrator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
NM

Dear Dr. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,

I wish to comment on the rule-change for managing reintroduced Mexican gray wolves.

Unfortunately Fish and Wildlife Service management has contributed to inbreeding. Recovery obviously will require that this problem be addressed. The solution ? via the conservation mandate of the Endangered Species Act ? cannot allow loss of wolves from any sources, including government take and illegal poaching.

Therefore, please develop a Conservation Alternative to be analyzed in the draft environmental impact statement that would

upgrade the legal status of the reintroduced Mexican wolves from their current "experimental non-essential" standing to "endangered status."

Obviously this should not include any alternative that would increase take, set limits on wolf numbers, restrict their movements, or interfere with the potential of establishing additional Mexican wolf populations in the area.

The Conservation Alternative might include the following provisions:

- 1) Allow release of wolves from the captive breeding population directly into New Mexico. This will enable the Fish and Wildlife Service to release genetically valuable animals into areas in which no wolf packs have established territories.
- 2) Allow wolves to roam freely outside the boundaries of the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area.
- 3) To prevent wolves from being attracted to vulnerable domestic animals, require livestock owners using public lands to remove the carcasses of non-wolf-killed stock.
- 4) Authorize release of wolves into the White Sands Wolf Recovery Area. White Sands has only been characterized as "unsuitable" if wolves are required to stay within its boundaries, but as part of a population that interacts with wolves in the Gila, it would serve an important role.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Ruth Troetschler
184 Lockhart
Los Altos, CA 94022

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Dr. Brian Millsap, State Administrator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
NM

Dear Dr. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,

The opportunity to comment on the rule-change for managing reintroduced Mexican gray wolves comes not a moment too soon. Fish and Wildlife Service management, with its heavy reliance on predator control targeting the wolves, has suppressed the wolf population and contributed to inbreeding. The solution must comply with the conservation mandate of the Endangered Species Act and not allow loss of wolves - from any and all sources, including government take and illegal poaching - to keep the population from rapid growth and genetic rescue.

To this end, please develop a Conservation Alternative to be analyzed in the draft environmental impact statement that would

upgrade the legal status of the reintroduced Mexican wolves from their current "experimental non-essential" standing to a fully protected endangered status.

Please do not include any alternative for analysis that would increase take of wolves, set any limits on wolf numbers, restrict their movements, or in any other respect infringe on the potential of establishing additional Mexican wolf populations, one of which is already called for in the 1982 Mexican Wolf Recovery Plan and more of which will likely be required in a future revision of that plan.

The Conservation Alternative should include the following provisions:

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Eiko Kakee
3-31-6
Kichijyoujiminamichou
Musashinoshi 1800003

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Subject: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping
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Dec 30, 2007

Brian Millsap

Dear Millsap,

PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW THE KILLING OF THE MEXICAN WOLVES. OR ANY WOLVES FOR THAT MATTER.

As a supporter of scientifically sound wildlife management who

understands the value wolves can bring to ecosystems, I am writing to urge you to take a more balanced approach to Mexican wolf recovery efforts in the Southwest.

After ten years of reintroduction efforts, there are fewer than 60 wolves in the wild lands of the Southwest, more than 40 short of the reintroduction goal of establishing 102 wolves in the wild by 2006.

Mexican wolves are one of the most endangered animals in the world and play an important role in restoring balance to Southwest forests. But despite these facts, the Service hasn't made much progress in restoring them.

There are millions of acres of public land in the Southwest where wolves could thrive, but Mexican wolves continue to be confined to a much smaller, politically defined recovery area. The rules as they stand do not live up to the promise of the Endangered Species Act.

As one of 900,000 members and supporters of Defenders of Wildlife, I am asking you to make the following changes in the reintroduction rule.

First, "uplist" the Mexican wolf to Experimental Essential status. This will preserve the management flexibility of the rule, but require that other agencies consult about impacts on wolves.

Second, allow the wolves to disperse beyond the recovery area, and to be released where biologists say is best.

Third, don't limit wolf numbers, or allow any new reasons to kill them and ensure that any authorized removals take into account individual wolves' genetic value, the size and health of the population, the number of breeding pairs, and whether progress toward recovery is being made.

I am confident that if you make all of these changes, the Mexican gray wolf recovery program will get back on track and these wolves will have a real chance at recovery in the wild lands of the Southwest.

Thank you for considering my viewpoints on this incredibly important matter.

Sincerely,

Ms. Kathlyn Vieira
729 Wood Ln
Sarasota, FL 34237-8341

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ReplyTo: Anne Buhlig <pbiz001@annebuhlig.com>
SendTo: r2fwe_al@fws.gov
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Dec 30, 2007

Brian Millsap

Dear Millsap,

As a supporter of scientifically sound wildlife management who understands the value wolves can bring to ecosystems, I am writing to urge you to take a more balanced approach to Mexican wolf recovery efforts in the Southwest.

After ten years of reintroduction efforts, there are fewer than 60 wolves in the wild lands of the Southwest, more than 40 short of the reintroduction goal of establishing 102 wolves in the wild by 2006.

Mexican wolves are one of the most endangered animals in the world and play an important role in restoring balance to Southwest forests. But despite these facts, the Service hasn't made much progress in restoring them.

There are millions of acres of public land in the Southwest where wolves could thrive, but Mexican wolves continue to be confined to a much smaller, politically defined recovery area. The rules as they stand do not live up to the promise of the Endangered Species Act.

As one of 900,000 members and supporters of Defenders of Wildlife, I am asking you to make the following changes in the reintroduction rule.

First, "uplist" the Mexican wolf to Experimental Essential status. This will preserve the management flexibility of the rule, but require that other agencies consult about impacts on wolves.

Second, allow the wolves to disperse beyond the recovery area, and to be released where biologists say is best.

Third, don't limit wolf numbers, or allow any new reasons to kill them and ensure that any authorized removals take into account individual wolves' genetic value, the size and health of the population, the number of breeding pairs, and whether progress toward recovery is being made.

I am confident that if you make all of these changes, the Mexican gray wolf recovery program will get back on track and these wolves will have a real chance at recovery in the wild lands of the Southwest.

Thank you for considering my viewpoints on this incredibly important matter.

Sincerely,

Ms. Anne Buhlig
9908 Legacy Ln
Flagstaff, AZ 86004-8206

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Dec 30, 2007

Brian Millsap

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After ten years of reintroduction efforts, there are fewer than 60 wolves in the wild lands of the Southwest, more than 40 short of the reintroduction goal of establishing 102 wolves in the wild by 2006.

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Thank you for considering my viewpoints on this incredibly important matter.

Sincerely,

Ms. Sandra Almand
704 Adams St NE
Albuquerque, NM 87110-6224

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Dec 30, 2007

Brian Millsap

Dear Millsap,

As a supporter of scientifically sound wildlife management who understands the value wolves can bring to ecosystems, I am writing to urge you to take a more balanced approach to Mexican wolf recovery efforts in the Southwest.

After ten years of reintroduction efforts, there are fewer than 60 wolves in the wild lands of the Southwest, more than 40 short of the reintroduction goal of establishing 102 wolves in the wild by 2006.

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I am confident that if you make all of these changes, the Mexican gray wolf recovery program will get back on track and these wolves will have a real chance at recovery in the wild lands of the Southwest.

Thank you for considering my viewpoints on this incredibly important matter.

Sincerely,

Ms. Sonja Stupel
923 W Wanda Vista Pl
Tucson, AZ 85704-4431

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Dec 30, 2007

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Ms. Katharine Derrick
7938 S Castle Bay St
Tucson, AZ 85747-9232

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Dec 30, 2007

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Mrs. Ivy Ciolli
6602 N Praying Monk Rd
Paradise Valley, AZ 85253-4037

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Ms. Jeannie Herin
2285 E Suffock Ave
Kingman, AZ 86409-1278

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Dr. Brian Millsap, State Administrator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
NM

Dear Dr. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,

The opportunity to comment on the rule-change for managing reintroduced Mexican gray wolves comes not a moment too soon. Fish and Wildlife Service management, with its heavy reliance on predator control targeting the wolves, has suppressed the wolf population and contributed to inbreeding. The solution must comply with the conservation mandate of the Endangered Species Act and not allow loss of wolves - from any and all sources, including government take and illegal poaching - to keep the population from rapid growth and genetic rescue.

To this end, please develop a Conservation Alternative to be

analyzed in the draft environmental impact statement that would upgrade the legal status of the reintroduced Mexican wolves from their current "experimental non-essential" standing to a fully protected endangered status.

Please do not include any alternative for analysis that would increase take of wolves, set any limits on wolf numbers, restrict their movements, or in any other respect infringe on the potential of establishing additional Mexican wolf populations, one of which is already called for in the 1982 Mexican Wolf Recovery Plan and more of which will likely be required in a future revision of that plan.

The Conservation Alternative should include the following provisions:

- 1) Allow release of wolves from the captive breeding population directly into New Mexico. This is particularly important to enable the Fish and Wildlife Service to release genetically valuable animals into areas in which no wolf packs have established territories.
- 2) Allow wolves to roam freely outside the boundaries of the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area and not be geographically constrained by any other politically derived restrictions - just as other endangered species are allowed free movement.
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- 4) Authorize release of wolves into the White Sands Wolf Recovery Area, which is just a few dozen miles to the east of the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area. White Sands has already been analyzed for its suitability for wolves and could serve as a home for genetically valuable wolves that might not otherwise be released. White Sands has only been found "unsuitable" if wolves are required to stay within its boundaries, but as part of a population that interacts with wolves in the Gila, it would serve an important role.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
lisa daugherty
6128 lowell ave.
indpls., IN 46219

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Sincerely,
Sylvia Alfonso
14601 S.W. 88 St. k-108
Miami, FL 33186

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Dr. Brian Millsap, State Administrator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
NM

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Kathryn Britton
3757 Vienna Drive
Aptos, CA 95003-2830

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NM

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Tamala Gage
228 Maplewood Drive
Roscommon, MI 48653

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NM

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Sincerely,
Jenai O'Suilleabhain
705 Indiana st.
Vallejo, CA 94590

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Sincerely,
Dennis German
128 Shelbourne Dr.
Goshen, CT 06756-1811

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTMP id 2007123008391304-242102 ; Sun, 30 Dec 2007 08:39:13 -0700
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Sincerely,
Michelle Ognjanovic
7 West 104 Street #1A
New York, NY 10025

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTTP id 2007123008391221-242101 ; Sun, 30 Dec 2007 08:39:12 -0700
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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Dori Grasso
12207 Happy Hollow Road
Cockeysville, MD 21030

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April Aubin
12 Academy St
Apt 3
Saranac Lake, NY 12983

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Paul Sheridan
57 Dickey Hill Rd.
Monroe, ME 04951

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Patsi Hoffstaetter
33 Waterberg Str
Bonnie Brae
Cape Town 7570

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11105 Bexley Lane
a, TX 78739

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1151 Washington Street Apt E4
Middletown, CT 06457

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Dr. Brian Millsap, State Administrator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
NM

Dear Dr. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Rika Fuchino
24 Wentworth Avenue
North Andover, MA 01845

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ReplyTo: Sarah Uharriet <uharriet@ra.msstate.edu>
SendTo: r2fwe_al@fws.gov
Subject: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping
MIME_Version: 1.0
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Dec 30, 2007

Brian Millsap

Dear Millsap,

As a supporter of scientifically sound wildlife management who understands the value wolves can bring to ecosystems, I am writing to urge you to take a more balanced approach to Mexican wolf recovery efforts in the Southwest.

After ten years of reintroduction efforts, there are fewer than 60 wolves in the wild lands of the Southwest, more than 40 short of the reintroduction goal of establishing 102 wolves in the wild by 2006.

Mexican wolves are one of the most endangered animals in the world and play an important role in restoring balance to Southwest forests. But despite these facts, the Service hasn't made much progress in restoring them.

There are millions of acres of public land in the Southwest where wolves could thrive, but Mexican wolves continue to be confined to a much smaller, politically defined recovery area. The rules as they stand do not live up to the promise of the Endangered Species Act.

As one of 900,000 members and supporters of Defenders of Wildlife, I am asking you to make the following changes in the reintroduction rule.

First, "uplist" the Mexican wolf to Experimental Essential status. This will preserve the management flexibility of the rule, but require that other agencies consult about impacts on wolves.

Second, allow the wolves to disperse beyond the recovery area, and to be released where biologists say is best.

Third, don't limit wolf numbers, or allow any new reasons to kill them and ensure that any authorized removals take into account individual wolves' genetic value, the size and health of the population, the number of breeding pairs, and whether progress toward recovery is being made.

I am confident that if you make all of these changes, the Mexican gray wolf recovery program will get back on track and these wolves will have a real chance at recovery in the wild lands of the Southwest.

Thank you for considering my viewpoints on this incredibly important matter.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Sarah Uharriet
102 Edgewood Dr
Starkville, MS 39759-2318

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NM

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Cherie McCarthy
HC 2 Box 6901
Keaau, HI 96749

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Sincerely,
Corleen Crowley
16409 Bonneville Dr.
Tampa, FL 33624

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Sincerely,
miriam shenitzer
131 Carolina Ave
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

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Dr. Brian Millsap, State Administrator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
NM

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Sonja Stupel
923 W Wanda Vista Place
Tucson, AZ 85704

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Sincerely,
Brian Collier
992 Old Fort Sugar Hill Road
Old Fort, NC 28762

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTMP id 2007123008114121-241935 ; Sun, 30 Dec 2007 08:11:41 -0700
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3534 Smithfield St.
Jacksonville, FL 32217

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Patricia Deeds
1003 Montrose Ave.
Laurel, MD 20707

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Vickie Johnson
926 Pack Road
White Bluff, TN 37187

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTMP id 2007123008041244-241892 ; Sun, 30 Dec 2007 08:04:12 -0700
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Dr. Brian Millsap, State Administrator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
NM

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Sammantha Lyle
502 West 6th St.
Apt #5
Bloomington, IN 47404-3918

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTTP id 2007123008025022-241886 ; Sun, 30 Dec 2007 08:02:50 -0700
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Dear friends:

I am writing in support of a conservation alternative for the Mexican Grey Wolf. This beautiful wild animal should be allowed to roam free in Arizona and New Mexico- 95 percent of its wild territory is in public national forests. We can recover this species to its natural state if

given time. Cows and wolves can coexist under fair terms. Let's give
the
wolves the legal protections they deserve.

Diana Rhoades

425 W. Paseo Redondo #5A

Tucson, AZ85701

520.982.4178

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Dr. Brian Millsap, State Administrator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
NM

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Donald Fontenot
235 NE Emerson
Portland, OR 97211

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NM

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Sincerely,
Kathleen Bisaccio
675 Manzanita Street
Lakeport, CA 95453

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NM

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Scott Franks
139 n 35 st
omaha, NE 68131

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Dec 30, 2007

Brian Millsap

Dear Millsap,

As a supporter of scientifically sound wildlife management who understands the value wolves can bring to ecosystems, I am writing to urge you to take a more balanced approach to Mexican wolf recovery efforts in the Southwest.

After ten years of reintroduction efforts, there are fewer than 60 wolves in the wild lands of the Southwest, more than 40 short of the reintroduction goal of establishing 102 wolves in the wild by 2006.

Mexican wolves are one of the most endangered animals in the world and play an important role in restoring balance to Southwest forests. But despite these facts, the Service hasn't made much progress in restoring them.

There are millions of acres of public land in the Southwest where wolves could thrive, but Mexican wolves continue to be confined to a much smaller, politically defined recovery area. The rules as they stand do not live up to the promise of the Endangered Species Act.

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I am confident that if you make all of these changes, the Mexican gray wolf recovery program will get back on track and these wolves will have a real chance at recovery in the wild lands of the Southwest.

Thank you for considering my viewpoints on this incredibly important matter.

Sincerely,

Mr. Hank Mirsky
924 Los Padres Pl SE
Albuquerque, NM 87123-5941

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Dr. Cynthia Pratt
1405 Richard Woolcutt Rd
Wolcott, VT 05680-4181

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SendTo: r2fwe_al@fws.gov
Subject: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping
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Mrs. Linda Schwab
19911 Quiet Valley Ct
Parkton, MD 21120-8917

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Dr. Brian Millsap, State Administrator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
NM

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To this end, please develop a Conservation Alternative to be analyzed in the draft environmental impact statement that would

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Anna Jones
343 Parker Slatton Rd.
Simpsonville, SC 29681-4334

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Dr. Brian Millsap, State Administrator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
NM

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
debbie hartke
14 briarbrook tr
st. louis, MO 63131

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Sincerely,
Shawn Liburdi
262 Hasty Trail
Canton, GA 30115

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NM

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Sincerely,
Renee Johnson
5105 Fairview Ave. N.
Crystal, MN 55429

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTMP id 2007123007412535-241725 ; Sun, 30 Dec 2007 07:41:25 -0700
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NM

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Sincerely,
Ann McMullen
9339 Silvercrest Dr
Sandy, UT 84093

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NM

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Sincerely,
TRAVIS HARVEY
909 GALBREATH AVE
BOOTHWYN, PA 19061

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Scott Byrne
73 Elm Street
Dover, NJ 07801-2813

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Sincerely,
sandy miller
8978 sw 49 st
cooper city, FL 33328

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Dec 30, 2007

Brian Millsap

Dear Millsap,

As a supporter of scientifically sound wildlife management who understands the value wolves can bring to ecosystems, I am writing to urge you to take a more balanced approach to Mexican wolf recovery

efforts in the Southwest.

After ten years of reintroduction efforts, there are fewer than 60 wolves in the wild lands of the Southwest, more than 40 short of the reintroduction goal of establishing 102 wolves in the wild by 2006.

Mexican wolves are one of the most endangered animals in the world and play an important role in restoring balance to Southwest forests. But despite these facts, the Service hasn't made much progress in restoring them.

There are millions of acres of public land in the Southwest where wolves could thrive, but Mexican wolves continue to be confined to a much smaller, politically defined recovery area. The rules as they stand do not live up to the promise of the Endangered Species Act.

As one of 900,000 members and supporters of Defenders of Wildlife, I am asking you to make the following changes in the reintroduction rule.

First, "uplist" the Mexican wolf to Experimental Essential status. This will preserve the management flexibility of the rule, but require that other agencies consult about impacts on wolves.

Second, allow the wolves to disperse beyond the recovery area, and to be released where biologists say is best.

Third, don't limit wolf numbers, or allow any new reasons to kill them and ensure that any authorized removals take into account individual wolves' genetic value, the size and health of the population, the number of breeding pairs, and whether progress toward recovery is being made.

I am confident that if you make all of these changes, the Mexican gray wolf recovery program will get back on track and these wolves will have a real chance at recovery in the wild lands of the Southwest.

Thank you for considering my viewpoints on this incredibly important matter.

Sincerely,

Ms. Irene Cyphers
51 Bell Rock Plz Ste A PMB 191
Sedona, AZ 86351-9038

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Dr. Brian Millsap, State Administrator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
NM

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
William C. Briggs, Jr.
46 - 20th Court
Hermosa Beach, CA 90254

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Dr. Brian Millsap, State Administrator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
NM

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Emily Sussman
4895 green street
Doylestown, PA 18901

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Dr. Brian Millsap, State Administrator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
NM

Dear Dr. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,

ALL animals are here for a reason, whether created or evolved. The extinction of even one species has a domino effect on all others. And there are no exceptions for animals who don't fit the mold of pretty.

We desperately need someone at the USFWS to think of the future and think of what is best for the wolves. Their fate is in your hands and your decision is God-like. You control their fate. Are you a friend or a foe?

We need friends, heroes, leaders! Are you those??!! God, I hope so.

To this end, please develop a Conservation Alternative to be

analyzed in the draft environmental impact statement that would upgrade the legal status of the reintroduced Mexican wolves from their current "experimental non-essential" standing to a fully protected endangered status.

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Thank you for your consideration.

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Mark Hodie
1440 Melbrook
Munster, IN 46321

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Sincerely,
Rowen Grey
6751 Gemstar Road
Reynoldsburg, OH 43068-5005

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NM

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Leslie Bemis
177 E Main
Westboro, MA 01581

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Dr. Brian Millsap, State Administrator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
NM

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Sincerely,
Salvatore Paladino
2315 Ribble Street
North Port, FL 34286

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NM

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Sincerely,
JESSE HAMILTON
627 parson
easton, PA 18042

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTTP id 2007123006451526-241366 ; Sun, 30 Dec 2007 06:45:15 -0700
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Sincerely,
Nancy Horvath
12685 Heath Rd
Chesterland, OH 44026

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Jim Tornatore
4881 Vermilion Dr
Saint Louis, MO 63128-2353

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Sincerely,
Elizabeth Agren
16315 Haynie Lane
Jupiter, FL 33478

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTTP id 2007123006330193-241297 ; Sun, 30 Dec 2007 06:33:01 -0700
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Dr. Brian Millsap, State Administrator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
NM

Dear Dr. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Raynale Torris
1907 28th Court
Phenix City, AL 36870

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Jim McLaughlin
47 Spring Street
Keene, NH 03431

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Sincerely,
James McCarthy
3972 Lora Street
East Fort Myers, FL 33916

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Dec 30, 2007

Brian Millsap

Dear Millsap,

As a supporter of scientifically sound wildlife management who understands the value wolves can bring to ecosystems, I am writing to urge you to take a more balanced approach to Mexican wolf recovery

efforts in the Southwest.

After ten years of reintroduction efforts, there are fewer than 60 wolves in the wild lands of the Southwest, more than 40 short of the reintroduction goal of establishing 102 wolves in the wild by 2006.

Mexican wolves are one of the most endangered animals in the world and play an important role in restoring balance to Southwest forests. But despite these facts, the Service hasn't made much progress in restoring them.

There are millions of acres of public land in the Southwest where wolves could thrive, but Mexican wolves continue to be confined to a much smaller, politically defined recovery area. The rules as they stand do not live up to the promise of the Endangered Species Act.

As one of 900,000 members and supporters of Defenders of Wildlife, I am asking you to make the following changes in the reintroduction rule.

First, "uplist" the Mexican wolf to Experimental Essential status. This will preserve the management flexibility of the rule, but require that other agencies consult about impacts on wolves.

Second, allow the wolves to disperse beyond the recovery area, and to be released where biologists say is best.

Third, don't limit wolf numbers, or allow any new reasons to kill them and ensure that any authorized removals take into account individual wolves' genetic value, the size and health of the population, the number of breeding pairs, and whether progress toward recovery is being made.

I am confident that if you make all of these changes, the Mexican gray wolf recovery program will get back on track and these wolves will have a real chance at recovery in the wild lands of the Southwest.

Thank you for considering my viewpoints on this incredibly important matter.

Sincerely,

Miss Shannon Canada
244 Braxton Pl
Tucker, GA 30084-1871

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Sincerely,
Larissa Snihurowycz
4205 Lamont St. Apt 11
San Diego, CA 92109

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- 2) Allow wolves to roam freely outside the boundaries of the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area and not be geographically constrained by any other politically derived restrictions - just as other endangered species are allowed free movement.
- 3) Require livestock owners using public lands to remove or render inedible the carcasses of non-wolf-killed stock so as to prevent wolves from being attracted to areas where domestic animals are vulnerable and habituating to preying on stock. This could be accomplished, at least in part, by holding blameless for subsequent depredations any wolf that has scavenged on dead livestock - and protecting such wolves from any governmental or private "take" or predator control.
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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Ayden Maher
1592 NW 93rd Terrace
Coral Springs, FL 33071

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Dr. Brian Millsap, State Administrator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
NM

Dear Dr. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,

The Endangered Species Act (ESA) forms the express will of Congress and the American people. The fact that various individual members of Congress have tried to change it, and each time that proposal has been rejected, only serves to illustrate that the value judgments inherent within the ESA are still valid.

As an administrative agency, the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) have a duty to carry out the purpose and intent of the ESA, within the framework of the law, and actions that are contrary to that purpose are clearly outside of the Agency's authority. In this case, it is clear that FWS's practice of predator

control has both suppressed the population of Mexican wolves and has also significantly increased the risks of inbreeding within the population. This is contrary to the clear conservation mandate embodied by the ESA. To continue this practice would be a clear ultra vires action and outside of the Agency's authority under law.

As a result, I ask the FWS to please develop a Conservation Alternative to be analyzed in the draft environmental impact statement that would alter the legal status of the reintroduced Mexican wolves from their current "experimental non-essential" standing to a fully protected endangered status.

In addition, the FWS should not include any alternative for analysis that would increase take of wolves, set any limits on wolf numbers, restrict their movements, or in any other respect infringe on the potential of establishing additional Mexican wolf populations, as that would be clearly contrary to the express mandate of the ESA and outside of the Agency's authority under law.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Chris Bellovary
1420 E. Denny Way, Apt A
Seattle, WA 98122

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Dr. Brian Millsap, State Administrator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
NM

Dear Dr. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,

The opportunity to comment on the rule-change for managing reintroduced Mexican gray wolves comes not a moment too soon. Fish and Wildlife Service management, with its heavy reliance on predator control targeting the wolves, has suppressed the wolf population and contributed to inbreeding. The solution must comply with the conservation mandate of the Endangered Species Act and not allow loss of wolves - from any and all sources, including government take and illegal poaching - to keep the population from rapid growth and genetic rescue.

To this end, please develop a Conservation Alternative to be analyzed in the draft environmental impact statement that would

upgrade the legal status of the reintroduced Mexican wolves from their current "experimental non-essential" standing to a fully protected endangered status.

Please do not include any alternative for analysis that would increase take of wolves, set any limits on wolf numbers, restrict their movements, or in any other respect infringe on the potential of establishing additional Mexican wolf populations, one of which is already called for in the 1982 Mexican Wolf Recovery Plan and more of which will likely be required in a future revision of that plan.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
sandra cardona
2 residence des rosiers
puteaux 92800

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Dec 30, 2007

Brian Millsap

Dear Millsap,

As a supporter of scientifically sound wildlife management who understands the value wolves can bring to ecosystems, I am writing to urge you to take a more balanced approach to Mexican wolf recovery

efforts in the Southwest.

After ten years of reintroduction efforts, there are fewer than 60 wolves in the wild lands of the Southwest, more than 40 short of the reintroduction goal of establishing 102 wolves in the wild by 2006.

Mexican wolves are one of the most endangered animals in the world and play an important role in restoring balance to Southwest forests. But despite these facts, the Service hasn't made much progress in restoring them.

There are millions of acres of public land in the Southwest where wolves could thrive, but Mexican wolves continue to be confined to a much smaller, politically defined recovery area. The rules as they stand do not live up to the promise of the Endangered Species Act.

As one of 900,000 members and supporters of Defenders of Wildlife, I am asking you to make the following changes in the reintroduction rule.

First, "uplist" the Mexican wolf to Experimental Essential status. This will preserve the management flexibility of the rule, but require that other agencies consult about impacts on wolves.

Second, allow the wolves to disperse beyond the recovery area, and to be released where biologists say is best.

Third, don't limit wolf numbers, or allow any new reasons to kill them and ensure that any authorized removals take into account individual wolves' genetic value, the size and health of the population, the number of breeding pairs, and whether progress toward recovery is being made.

I am confident that if you make all of these changes, the Mexican gray wolf recovery program will get back on track and these wolves will have a real chance at recovery in the wild lands of the Southwest.

Thank you for considering my viewpoints on this incredibly important matter.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Marie Sekund
Petersbergsvagen 62
462 53 Vanersborg
Vanersborg, None 46253

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Dr. Brian Millsap, State Administrator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
NM

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Dana Wong
2713 Prestonwood Dr.
Plano, TX 75093

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Dec 30, 2007

Brian Millsap

Dear Millsap,

Give the lobos a chance! Support their recovery with a sensible plan! Ranchers and poachers are decimating them.

As a supporter of scientifically sound wildlife management who

understands the value wolves can bring to ecosystems, I am writing to urge you to take a more balanced approach to Mexican wolf recovery efforts in the Southwest.

After ten years of reintroduction efforts, there are fewer than 60 wolves in the wild lands of the Southwest, more than 40 short of the reintroduction goal of establishing 102 wolves in the wild by 2006.

Mexican wolves are one of the most endangered animals in the world and play an important role in restoring balance to Southwest forests. But despite these facts, the Service hasn't made much progress in restoring them.

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I am confident that if you make all of these changes, the Mexican gray wolf recovery program will get back on track and these wolves will have a real chance at recovery in the wild lands of the Southwest.

Thank you for considering my viewpoints on this incredibly important matter.

Sincerely,

Ms. Mireya Erdey
Timber Canyon Box 158
Williams, AZ 86046

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Dec 30, 2007

Brian Millsap

Dear Millsap,

As a supporter of scientifically sound wildlife management who understands the value wolves can bring to ecosystems, I am writing to urge you to take a more balanced approach to Mexican wolf recovery

efforts in the Southwest.

After ten years of reintroduction efforts, there are fewer than 60 wolves in the wild lands of the Southwest, more than 40 short of the reintroduction goal of establishing 102 wolves in the wild by 2006.

Mexican wolves are one of the most endangered animals in the world and play an important role in restoring balance to Southwest forests. But despite these facts, the Service hasn't made much progress in restoring them.

There are millions of acres of public land in the Southwest where wolves could thrive, but Mexican wolves continue to be confined to a much smaller, politically defined recovery area. The rules as they stand do not live up to the promise of the Endangered Species Act.

As one of 900,000 members and supporters of Defenders of Wildlife, I am asking you to make the following changes in the reintroduction rule.

First, "uplist" the Mexican wolf to Experimental Essential status. This will preserve the management flexibility of the rule, but require that other agencies consult about impacts on wolves.

Second, allow the wolves to disperse beyond the recovery area, and to be released where biologists say is best.

Third, don't limit wolf numbers, or allow any new reasons to kill them and ensure that any authorized removals take into account individual wolves' genetic value, the size and health of the population, the number of breeding pairs, and whether progress toward recovery is being made.

I am confident that if you make all of these changes, the Mexican gray wolf recovery program will get back on track and these wolves will have a real chance at recovery in the wild lands of the Southwest.

Thank you for considering my viewpoints on this incredibly important matter. Please, please, please make our wishes come true, thank you, Brenda Soux

Sincerely,

Ms. Brenda Soux
5111 Sweetbriar Cir
Portsmouth, VA 23703-4609

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Dr. Brian Millsap, State Administrator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
NM

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Sincerely,
Nancy Dieterich
PO Box 243
Jamestown, CO 80455

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NM

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Marty Howe
21 Julie Ave.
Missoula, MT 59808

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Gary Maybank
52 Arden Crescent
Dagenham RM9 6TP

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Bonnie Chavarria
4672 Via Huerto
Santa Barbara, CA 93110

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Dazjae W
86 Rockwell Ave
New Britain, CT 06051

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NM

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Michael Kemper
1388 Callifornia St. 404A
San Francisco, CA 94109

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NM

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Sincerely,
Denise Eames
2 Rownhams Road
Throop
Bournemouth BH8 0NL

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NM

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Kathy Kramer
1735 Highway 93 North
Whitefish, MT 59937

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NM

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Karen James
1305 Bartlett Court
Santa Fe, NM 87501-1643

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Joanna Ramos
419 Franklin St.
Portchester, NY 10573

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Dec 30, 2007

Brian Millsap

Dear Millsap,

As a supporter of scientifically sound wildlife management who understands the value wolves can bring to ecosystems, I am writing to urge you to take a more balanced approach to Mexican wolf recovery

efforts in the Southwest.

After ten years of reintroduction efforts, there are fewer than 60 wolves in the wild lands of the Southwest, more than 40 short of the reintroduction goal of establishing 102 wolves in the wild by 2006.

Mexican wolves are one of the most endangered animals in the world and play an important role in restoring balance to Southwest forests. But despite these facts, the Service hasn't made much progress in restoring them.

There are millions of acres of public land in the Southwest where wolves could thrive, but Mexican wolves continue to be confined to a much smaller, politically defined recovery area. The rules as they stand do not live up to the promise of the Endangered Species Act.

As one of 900,000 members and supporters of Defenders of Wildlife, I am asking you to make the following changes in the reintroduction rule.

First, "uplist" the Mexican wolf to Experimental Essential status. This will preserve the management flexibility of the rule, but require that other agencies consult about impacts on wolves.

Second, allow the wolves to disperse beyond the recovery area, and to be released where biologists say is best.

Third, don't limit wolf numbers, or allow any new reasons to kill them and ensure that any authorized removals take into account individual wolves' genetic value, the size and health of the population, the number of breeding pairs, and whether progress toward recovery is being made.

I am confident that if you make all of these changes, the Mexican gray wolf recovery program will get back on track and these wolves will have a real chance at recovery in the wild lands of the Southwest.

Thank you for considering my viewpoints on this incredibly important matter.

Sincerely,

Ms. Carly Owens
211 South Ave
Alamo, CA 94507-2135

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PLEASE SEE THE FOLLOWING LETTER FROM PAUL AND MADELYN WALKER

December 27, 2007

Mr. Brian
Milsap

US Fish & Wildlife Service
New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office
2105 Osuna, NE
Albuquerque NM 87113

Dear Mr. Milsap:

We are neither ranchers, nor members of any "bio-diversity" group nor members of any organized effort to influence the future of the wolf program. We merely live in the national forest here and have closely observed the progress of the Mexican Wolf "recovery" project for the past eight years. During this time we have attended various hearings and information sessions on the matter, most recently a session in Glenwood, New Mexico earlier this month. At that session, we had extensive conversation with Mr. John Morgat, who was introduced to us as the recovery coordinator for this project in his role with US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS).

We asked many questions of Mr. Morgat about past and current essentials of this experimental wolf project and, although he was most polite and professional in responding to our inquiries, our experience was that his primary role at the meeting was wholeheartedly to support and defend the wolf program rather than to act as an impartial source of solid information. As experienced in other such situations and also with the 5 year review report, the information dispensed by your agency to the taxpayers is formulated and couched in terms that serve to hide and/or deflect negative aspects and outcomes of the experimental program to date. Consequently, such activities do not come across as a service to the taxpaying public but rather appear as self-serving propaganda issued

by a government agency bent on defending and justifying its role and the continuance of a very questionable program.

Our carefully considered position regarding the "scoping" of the wolf program is that, as an experiment, it clearly has failed by every measurable means. The pre-stated expectations have not been fulfilled under those managing the program and some very damaging side effects have been documented. As a matter of fact, the damage and negative outcomes created by this program, at the expense of us as taxpayers, are much more clear and well-documented than the actually measured and documented outcomes of the program management plan. Upon studying the manner in which this "scoping" activity is being conducted, including the actions and positions of the involved government employees at this most recent session, one sees clearly that this "experiment" is not being addressed in a truly scientific manner in that the agency is not owning and reporting the essentially failed nature of the program. The above shortcomings and techniques are disappointing to us as taxpayers.

Further regarding "scoping", it also has become clear that the odd term "scoping" is being used obtusely as a tool to promote revisions of the original parameters of the program in a way that would cause the controls of the "experiment" to change so significantly that one would be creating a new experiment. That is not the way science works - even the fuzzier aspects of biological science. Real science reports the findings clearly and accurately and lets them stand. If science wants a new and different experiment, it states its reasons and starts all over again. I am certain that you can see the picture that we see - this was a poorly conceived experiment which ineffectively estimated the outcomes in terms of wolf recovery as well as in damage to those affected by the wolf, and it appears that those who are running the program are trying to save it by making significant changes regarding rules and expectations. This is unacceptable.

Mr. Brian Milsap, 12/27/07, p.2

There are many critical needs to be served by government money, including the need to improve the lives and education of our citizens. There is never enough tax money to do the above. Instead, as with the wolf

program, tax dollars are being spent to cause economic loss to a specific band of taxpayers, to cause grief for local citizens and increase costs and problems for their local government, and these losses being incurred in an effort to expand the numbers of an unneeded and unwanted animal that is just going to cause even more problems. When federal money is so greatly needed elsewhere, how can we justify spending such money to cause problems and grief?

Given all of the evidence available to date, and especially in consideration of the extensive financial cost to taxpayers, it is quite clear that the wolf program should honestly be identified as what it has become - an experiment that has failed - and it should be ended as soon as possible. Forget the demands of those special interest groups, the pressure tactics and the lobbying, and do what is right for the taxpaying public that provides your paycheck. Our scoping recommendation is that you do exactly that.

If your agency does not possess the basic courage and the common sense needed to do the correct thing by recommending and supporting the ending of the wolf program, and if you feel that you must persist in keeping the wolf program going, we then, as a poor second best effort, firmly recommend all of the following as pertaining to specific aspects of the scope of the program.

1. Disclosure of the full social, cultural and economic impacts on rural residents and local governments to include the loss of tax revenue and increased government operation costs due to presence of introduced wolves. Appropriately recognize and mitigate impacts to pastoral communities and individuals affected by introduced wolves.
2. Full investigation of the efficacy of livestock carcass removal including the increased cost to livestock operations.
3. Discontinue of the practice of trans-locating problem wolves.

4. Conduct prompt control, lethal and non-lethal, of problem wolves.

5. Improve monitoring of wolves to insure that residents in release areas are informed when wolves are in close proximity, and improve monitoring to facilitate documentation of predation on livestock.

6. Amend rule 10(J) to include the authority to harass Mexican wolves for purposes of scaring them away from people, buildings, facilities, pets and livestock. Specific language is needed to state a person may kill or injure a wolf if threatened by a wolf or in defense of another who is threatened, and may, kill a wolf that is not responding to harassment and is consistently in populated areas frequented by people and demonstrates desensitization to human encounters.

7. Amend rule 10(J) to allow harassment or humane dispatching of wolves by federal, Tribal or state agencies when wolves exhibit fearless behavior or become habituated to humans and pose a demonstrable threat to human safety. This provision should include providing a federal take permit for local county law enforcement personnel to allow them to lethally take a wolf for immediate protection of human safety.

Mr. Brian Milsap, 12/27/07, p.3

8. Amend rule 10(J) to allow serious and affective methods to immediately stop wolf attacks on dogs and stop wolves from coming into private property and areas where people live. This should include public education practices that teach people how to deal with habituated wolves and give them the tools to do it. Also, arrange to issue take permits to those who are suffering these types of territorial challenges by Mexican wolves at their homes.

9. The 10(J) rule should document that people reside in current and potential wolf habitat. The general public has been given the mistaken impression that people do not reside in the wolf release and recovery areas.

10. Monitor livestock production in the release and recovery areas as well as the effects of wolves on watersheds, spread of disease and domestic and wild animal populations.

11. Create an allowance in the rule so that livestock owners or their agents may take (including kill or injure) any wolf engaged in the act of killing wounding or biting livestock on federally administered lands (see definition change) allotted for grazing anywhere within the Mexican Wolf Experimental population area, including within the designated wolf recovery areas.

12. Definition changes in the new rule and management plans and any SOPs as follow:

BREEDING PAIR: an adult male and an adult female that are firmly mated and have the potential to breed and raise a litter of pups in the upcoming breeding season

ACTIVE PACK: two (2) or more wolves that are attached to each other and exhibit pack behavioral characteristics.

DEPREDAATION: the confirmed killing or wounding of a domestic animal by one (1) or more wolves.

INCIDENT: the killing or wounding of a domestic animal by one (1) or more wolves.

ENGAGED IN THE ACT OF KILLING, WOUNDING OR BITING LIVESTOCK: to be engaged in the act of grasping, biting, attacking, wounding, or feeding upon livestock that are alive or were alive within the past 24 hours.

LIVESTOCK: any animal routinely contributing to the ability of a small businessman to earn a livelihood including but not limited to cattle, horses, goats, burros, llamas, chickens, stock dogs, guard dogs, hunting dogs and other domestic animal to which value is attached and the loss of which would prove to be a financial hardship and result in the takings of private property (pursuant to the Fifth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution).

PUBLICLAND: lands available for dispersion into private ownership under general land laws to which no claim or rights of others has attached.

FEDERALLAND: lands in which the United States retains a proprietary interest and prior claims and rights are attached.

TAKE: to harm, hunt, shoot, wound or kill.

Mr. Brian Milsap, 12/27/07, p.4

UNAVOIDABLE OR UNINTENTIONAL TAKE: take which occurs despite reasonable care and is incidental to an otherwise lawful activity, and is not done with purpose. Taking a wolf by trapping will be considered unavoidable or unintentional if the wolf is released and the capture is reported within 24 hours. Taking a wolf will be considered unavoidable or unintentional if the wolf is taken during a legal hunting activity, is non-negligent and is reported within 24 hours.

LEGALLY PRESENT LIVESTOCK: livestock occurring in the boundaries of a grazing allotment where the owner has beneficial use water rights on Federal land. (See federal land definition)

14. Retain definitions that do not warrant changes or additions from the current rule include the following:

Occupied MexicanWolfRange, Opportunistic, Non-injurious harassment, Primary recovery zone, Problem wolves, Rendezvous site, Secondary recovery zone, Wolf recovery area. Specifically, the definition of problem wolf should not be gerrymandered to move the goalposts associated with management of problem behavior.

15. Takings implications assessments must be planned for and implemented in scoping rulemaking and management planning in order to determine the scope of compensation necessary to private property owners for depredation and losses caused by the program.

16. Implementation a federally funded pilot program aimed at compensation and interdiction to be run by ranching interests who are the experts in the field of livestock depredation causes and interdictions.

17. Change the current methodology for determining a depredation to the more reasonable Minnesotaversion which allows missing calves to be confirmed as wolf kills under certain circumstances.

18. Analyze and pursue the alternative of discontinuing the program, including the costs and benefits of the program thus far.

We appreciate your close attention to our comments.

Sincerely,

Paul D. and Madelyn Sue Walker

P.O. Box279

Quemado, NM

87829

papapablo@earthlink.net

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Dr. Brian Millsap, State Administrator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
NM

Dear Dr. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,

The opportunity to comment on the rule-change for managing reintroduced Mexican gray wolves comes not a moment too soon. Fish and Wildlife Service management, with its heavy reliance on predator control targeting the wolves, has suppressed the wolf population and contributed to inbreeding. The solution must comply with the conservation mandate of the Endangered Species Act and not allow loss of wolves - from any and all sources, including government take and illegal poaching - to keep the population from rapid growth and genetic rescue.

To this end, please develop a Conservation Alternative to be analyzed in the draft environmental impact statement that would

upgrade the legal status of the reintroduced Mexican wolves from their current "experimental non-essential" standing to a fully protected endangered status.

Please do not include any alternative for analysis that would increase take of wolves, set any limits on wolf numbers, restrict their movements, or in any other respect infringe on the potential of establishing additional Mexican wolf populations, one of which is already called for in the 1982 Mexican Wolf Recovery Plan and more of which will likely be required in a future revision of that plan.

The Conservation Alternative should include the following provisions:

- 1) Allow release of wolves from the captive breeding population directly into New Mexico. This is particularly important to enable the Fish and Wildlife Service to release genetically valuable animals into areas in which no wolf packs have established territories.
- 2) Allow wolves to roam freely outside the boundaries of the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area and not be geographically constrained by any other politically derived restrictions - just as other endangered species are allowed free movement.
- 3) Require livestock owners using public lands to remove or render inedible the carcasses of non-wolf-killed stock so as to prevent wolves from being attracted to areas where domestic animals are vulnerable and habituating to preying on stock. This could be accomplished, at least in part, by holding blameless for subsequent depredations any wolf that has scavenged on dead livestock - and protecting such wolves from any governmental or private "take" or predator control.
- 4) Authorize release of wolves into the White Sands Wolf Recovery Area, which is just a few dozen miles to the east of the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area. White Sands has already been analyzed for its suitability for wolves and could serve as a home for genetically valuable wolves that might not otherwise be released. White Sands has only been found "unsuitable" if wolves are required to stay within its boundaries, but as part of a population that interacts with wolves in the Gila, it would serve an important role.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Michael Michalk
3007 Old Orchard Road
Eau Claire, WI 54703

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NM

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Mindi White
P.O. Box 481185
Los Angeles, CA 90048

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Dr. Brian Millsap, State Administrator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
NM

Dear Dr. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Patricia Betancourt
5 Highfield Lane
Nutley, NJ 07110

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Dec 30, 2007

Brian Millsap

Dear Millsap,

As a supporter of scientifically sound wildlife management who understands the value wolves can bring to ecosystems, I am writing to urge you to take a more balanced approach to Mexican wolf recovery efforts in the Southwest.

After ten years of reintroduction efforts, there are fewer than 60 wolves in the wild lands of the Southwest, more than 40 short of the reintroduction goal of establishing 102 wolves in the wild by 2006.

Mexican wolves are one of the most endangered animals in the world and play an important role in restoring balance to Southwest forests. But despite these facts, the Service hasn't made much progress in restoring them.

There are millions of acres of public land in the Southwest where wolves could thrive, but Mexican wolves continue to be confined to a much smaller, politically defined recovery area. The rules as they stand do not live up to the promise of the Endangered Species Act.

As one of 900,000 members and supporters of Defenders of Wildlife, I am asking you to make the following changes in the reintroduction rule.

First, "uplist" the Mexican wolf to Experimental Essential status. This will preserve the management flexibility of the rule, but require that other agencies consult about impacts on wolves.

Second, allow the wolves to disperse beyond the recovery area, and to be released where biologists say is best.

Third, don't limit wolf numbers, or allow any new reasons to kill them and ensure that any authorized removals take into account individual wolves' genetic value, the size and health of the population, the number of breeding pairs, and whether progress toward recovery is being made.

I am confident that if you make all of these changes, the Mexican gray wolf recovery program will get back on track and these wolves will have a real chance at recovery in the wild lands of the Southwest.

Thank you for considering my viewpoints on this incredibly important matter.

Sincerely,

Ms. lisa self
2542 E Garnet Ave
Mesa, AZ 85204-6204

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Ms. Barbara Busse
3102 E Clarendon Ave Unit 102
Phoenix, AZ 85016-7098

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NM

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
April Boerstler
1531 N. Wheeling Ave.
Tulsa, OK 74110

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NM

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
natalie nolan
po box 445
new castle, CO 81647

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Sincerely,
Dan Flapper
25904 Viana Ave. #8
Lomita, CA 90717

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NM

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
seline Froling
waterlelie
gouda 2804PS

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NM

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Mark Egger
9521 49th Ave. NE
Seattle, WA 98115-2627

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Sincerely,
Barbara Busse
3102 E. Clarendon Unit 102
Phx, AZ 85016

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The New Mexico Wolf Coalition was a group I was involved with in the 1980s and 1990s. What has happened over the years has been sad and wasteful of the efforts and the animals put into a situation where full protection is needed and an adjacent area made available as a buffer zone for the natural spread and wandering of wild wolves. This is important to add to the crippled program so it can succeed. Give the wolves protection and space. MKW Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Marilyn Wargo
213 W. Gloria Dr.,

Eureka, IL 61530