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Dec 29, 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. Carol Edgerton
3962 El Monte Rd
El Sobrante, CA 94803-2910

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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.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
MICHAEL KARMAZIN
54 LINCOLN STREET
WINTHROP, MA 02152

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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

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Brian Romanowski
20 Independence Drive
Whippany, NJ 07981-2220

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Robert Longer
9628 Peller Way
Elk Grove, CA 95757

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Sincerely,
kirsten Zollo
68 Skyline Lakes Dr
Ringwood, NJ 07456

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

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

Please help preserve Mexican wolves for our children and grandchildren.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Mary Hood
7695 Cook Road
Plain City, OH 43064

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Donna Adney
po box 233
columbiana, AL 35051

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTMP id 2007122921065506-238752 ; Sat, 29 Dec 2007 21:06:55 -0700
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Sincerely,
Susan Montague
3918 State Rte. 149
Fort Ann, NY 12857

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTTP id 2007122921065421-238751 ; Sat, 29 Dec 2007 21:06:54 -0700
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Sincerely,
mark rush
9020 e. nassau ave.
denver, CO 80237

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTTP id 2007122921055330-238745 ; Sat, 29 Dec 2007 21:05:53 -0700
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Jon Bennett
7132 Hawks Prairie Rd. NE
Lacey, WA 98516-2746

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Sincerely,
Meredith Donahue
421 Dickinson St. #3
Philadelphia, PA 19147

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

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Sincerely,
Patti Quitugua
12338 N. Second Street
Parker, CO 80134

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Justine Jackson-Ricketts
253 Little Big Horn Lane
Independence, VA 24348

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NM

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
betty schuessler
2025 e 3rd street
tucson, AZ 85719

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SendTo: r2fwe_al@fws.gov
Subject: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping
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Dec 29, 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. Charlane Stephenson
13688 swhall blvd
#4
Tigard, OR 97223

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SendTo: r2fwe_al@fws.gov
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Ms. Misty Sweeney
629 Gardner St
South Beloit, IL 61080-1330

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTTP id 2007122920535516-238707 ; Sat, 29 Dec 2007 20:53:55 -0700
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Dec 29, 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. PAMELA WHALEN
11029 State Route 128
Harrison, OH 45030-9710

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

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Sincerely,
Julie Ford
16222 Monterey Ln Spc 223
Huntington Beach, CA 92649-2244

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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,
Jennifer Darling
55 Glen Ridge Rd. Apt B-3
Glen Burnie, MD 21061

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NM

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Chrysanne Fife
6401 E. Barnan St.
Tucson, AZ 85710

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Sincerely,
Vira Confectioner
POB 374
Sunol, CA 94586

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Laura Green
133 The Promenade N #324
Long Beach, CA 90802

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Dear Mr. Slown,

I have had the thrilling experience of hearing wolves howling in eastern Arizona, and I thank the USFWS for its efforts to recover the Mexican gray wolf. However, I strongly believe that changes are needed to the recovery

effort, so please accept the following comments on the Mexican gray wolf EIS scoping process:

I value Arizona's wildlife and healthy ecosystems, and strongly support the recovery of Mexican gray wolves to ecologically effective population levels. As you know, wolves are a highly interactive species, affecting the abundance, distribution, and behavior of other species in the ecosystem. Their influence on the behavior of elk helps to restore the riparian areas which are critical to many other species of birds and wildlife. Wolves may help to balance other predators such as coyotes, and they affect the ecosystem in many ways which are vital in promoting biodiversity and long-term sustainability.

The wolves have shown that they are capable of hunting prey, forming packs, and raising pups. Unfortunately, political constraints which give ranchers priority over successful recovery of this magnificent and critically endangered species have prevented the recovery of a sustainable and ecologically effective population of wolves. The failure to successfully recover wolves is solely due to excessive removal of wolves by capture and killing due to livestock conflicts and the arbitrary boundary. With the ultimate goal of stopping the removal and killing of wolves, the following changes should be made to the program:

Include a Conservation Alternative that will change the classification to "experimental, essential" or "endangered". The current "experimental, nonessential" classification is not resulting in successful recovery. This is the only wild population of Mexican gray wolves and it is absolutely essential to the long-term recovery of the species. Changing the classification would result in prioritization of wolf recovery by cooperative agencies such as the Forest Service.

Eliminate all restrictions to wolf dispersal and movements. There is absolutely no biological or scientific rationale for the current boundary or the current rule that requires the capture of wolves that disperse outside the arbitrary boundary. This rule has resulted in wolf injuries and deaths and disruption of pack relationships, and prevented wolves from naturally dispersing to high quality habitat outside the artificial boundary. It also wastes the valuable time of the Field Team who must trap these wolves. Wolves should be allowed to disperse naturally to good habitat, including the Grand Canyon Ecoregion.

Expand the area for initial releases to anywhere within the Blue Range Recovery Area. This would allow biologists to release wolves based on considerations such as existing pack territories and to introduce or maintain genetic variability.

Resolve wolf-livestock conflicts in ways that keep wolves in the wild and achieve progress towards reintroduction objectives. Conflicts with livestock are the main reason for removal of wolves from the wild. Ranchers who enjoy the privilege of grazing livestock on public lands must take responsibility for their livestock, including removing or rendering inedible livestock that have died of other causes before wolves scavenge on them. In cooperation with USFWS, the Forest Service should prioritize recovery of endangered species (such as Mexican wolves) and the restoration of healthy ecosystems, and implement grazing policies that would minimize wolf-livestock conflicts. Livestock management strategies to reduce conflicts could include avoiding grazing near denning and rendezvous sites, penning susceptible livestock at night, and the use of range riders. (Dr. Tuggle's proposed interdiction fund could provide funds to assist with these measures, and should promote the presence of live wolves on the ground.)

Revise the recovery plan. The Recovery Plan has not been revised for 25 years and does not include objectives for full recovery.

Place no cap on the number of wolves in the wild population, and include nothing in the amended rule that would preclude future recovery options. A self-sustaining population of 100 wild wolves is a minimum for successful recovery. No maximum should be set through this rule change. This rule should not include any provisions that would limit future options for recovery of Mexican gray wolves anywhere outside the current boundaries of the BRWRA.

Thank you for considering my thoughts. Successful recovery of Mexican gray wolves in Arizona and New Mexico is very important to me, so please keep me informed of future opportunities to participate.

Sincerely,

Bettina Bickel

9218 N. 51st Dr., Glendale, AZ 85302

P.S. An article in the current issue of High Country News reports a ranch hand stating that he baited wolves with a freshly-branded cow that

was getting ready to calve in order to invoke the "three strikes rule".

These events and the possibility of other sabotage by ranchers clearly show the extreme importance of ending the ill-advised "three strikes rule" and making sure that the new rule and the proposed interdiction fund reward ranchers for the presence of live wolves and for responsible

livestock husbandry. There should be absolutely no impetus for the kind

of irresponsible and sick behavior that reportedly occurred on the Adobe

Slash Ranch.

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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,
Michael W Evans
12325 Charnock Rd.
Los Angeles, CA 90066-3105

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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,
Alison Herbst
427 Exeter Rd.
Kingsford Heights, IN 46346

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Lillie Kathleen Nelligan
8797 W. 32nd Avenue
Wheat Ridge, CO 80033

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Julia Michel
1020 Trail Ridge Road
Coaldale, CO 81222-0156

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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,
Dale LaCognata
6244 Dover Ct
Fishers, IN 46038

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I have the following comments regarding the Mexican Wolf recovery plan:

1. I'm a Montana resident, and I see the same scenario unfolding in Arizona and New Mexico as here in Montana and that is the fact that the livestock industry is dictating the way wildlife is managed. In this case it's the Mexican Wolf. It's wrong, it's not science, and it must stop.

2. No minimum number of wolves should be set.

3. They should be allowed to occupy all of the region in which they historically were found.

4. Public lands are just that, PUBLIC LANDS, and we as citizens should have a right to enjoy wolves and all wildlife on these lands without

having an "exotic" species such as cows destroying these lands. KEEP COWS OFF PUBLIC LANDS. This means buying out grazing allotments or whatever it takes.

5. Give the Mexican Wolf all the protection possible under the ESA.

Thankyou for the opportunity to comment on this vital issue.

Gerald Black

707 Redwood St

Missoula, Mt. 59802

406-829-3618

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(<http://food.aol.com/top-rated-recipes?NCID=aoltop00030000000004>)

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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,
Sherry Cordova
731 Gail Ave
Sunnyvale, CA 94086

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Michael Fine
10118 Parkwood Drive
Bethesda, MD 20814

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SendTo: r2fwe_al@fws.gov
Subject: Support REAL wolf reintroduction!
MIME_Version: 1.0
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Dec 29, 2007

Brian Millsap

Dear Millsap,

Please take action to make sure Mexican wolves are reintroduced to our wild lands.

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 Seidler
5755 E Rosewood St
Tucson, AZ 85711-1530

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Dec 29, 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,

Mr. Paul Berman
2477 Woodcroft Rd
Parkville, MD 21234-2819

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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

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
BECKY DAVIS
863 Beaver Dam Road
Vilas, NC 28692

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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,
Jessica Thomas
644 Middle St #261
East Weymouth, MA 02189

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NM

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Julie Smith
1048 Bay Oaks Drive
Los Osos, CA 93402

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To: Brian Millsap
From: Anita Amstutz, Albuquerque

We have treated the wolf and other predators shabbily over the centuries, through extermination and other means of depredation. I ask that we do not resurrect the wolf among foreign and hostile environments until some of the following points are examined. Without them, we continue to perpetrate abuse and stress among these complex animals. This to me is immoral and unconscionable.

- Revise the Recovery Plan.

The Recovery Plan is out of date; it has not been amended for 25 years and does not include objectives for full recovery of Mexican gray wolves. The Fish and Wildlife Service is attempting to change the rule before recovery has even been defined for Mexican gray wolves. The FWS needs to revise the recovery plan before or concurrent with this rule change so that rule changes do not preclude future recovery actions.

- "endangered" to give wolves more protection. They are not being recovered under the existing classification.

The Blue Range population of Mexican gray wolves is essential to long-term recovery of this endangered subspecies; captive populations will not safeguard Mexican wolves from extinction in the long-term. An "essential" or an "endangered" designation will give these wolves the stronger protections they need to succeed in the wild. Congress provided for "experimental, essential" as a classification, yet it has never been used by the Fish and Wildlife Service. If ever a case can be made for the first ever designated "essential" experimental population, this is it.

- Eliminate all restrictions to wolf dispersal and movements.

Under the current rules, Mexican wolves must stay within the boundaries of the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area (BRWRA), which comprises the Gila National Forest in New Mexico and the bordering Apache National Forests in Arizona. But wolves have large area requirements and can't read maps.

They need access to good habitat throughout their historic range and often cross the invisible political lines in search of new homes and prey. Under the existing rule, wolves that leave the BRWRA boundary are captured and relocated back into the Blue Range, which disrupts packs, thwarts expansion and dispersal of the population, and sometimes causes serious injuries to individual wolves. In the revised rule, there should be no exclusion of geographic areas from potential occupation by wolves.

- Expand the area for initial releases to anywhere within the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area.

Under the current rules, releases of wolves from the captive population are only allowed in Arizona, a provision that severely limits the agencies' options for meeting the BRWRA objective of a viable, self-sustaining population of at least 100 Mexican wolves. For example, the portion of the population residing in New Mexico could benefit from genetic augmentation by releasing wolves currently in captivity. A rule change that allows new releases throughout the BRWRA would give agency managers much needed management tools for assuring the viability and self-sustainability of the BRWRA population of Mexican gray wolves.

I also want to make the point that the BLM and others intent on wolf recovery must begin the laborious and intentional journey of educating themselves and communities of people who will need to live with the wolf

----- Humans must learn to live interdependently on our public/wild lands, rather than as a dominating force.. How can we learn about the wolf, her natural habits, and how we live with her now that we have forced her hand to survive any way she can---as we have destroyed and sliced up most of her natural habitat.

So, that having been said, I ask that you as the BLM look closely at Land management practices with ranchers and begin to solve ignorance and fear of communities and put into place education and holistic practices so that if the wolf is reintroduced, she will at least have a chance to survive without the undue hostility and ignorance of humans and the stress we continue to visit upon her.

What will ultimately be a win-win situation for humans and creatures such as wolves? That is what I ask you? Let's not proceed until we have begun exploring this question.

- Resolve livestock-wolf conflicts in ways that keep wolves in the wild and achieve progress towards reintroduction objectives.

Under the current rules, ranchers using public lands are not required to remove or render inedible the carcasses of livestock that die for various reasons like disease and starvation. Wolves are attracted to and often scavenge on these carcasses, and may begin to prey on live cattle or horses nearby. Wolves that kill three head of livestock in a year are either killed or placed in captivity for the rest of their lives. A revised rule must require owners of livestock using the public land to clean up dead stock before wolves find and scavenge on them.

- Stop killing and removing wolves: reduce "take."
The current rule allows excessive wolf removal (defined as "take" in the ESA) that is precluding achievement of the reintroduction objective of 100+ wolves in the BRWRA population. A revised rule must allow less "take" of wolves.

Thank you. Sincerely,

Anita Amstutz
410 Morningside Dr. SE
Albuquerque, NM 87108

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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,
Howard Steffens
11023 Tujunga Canyon Blvd.
Tujunga, CA 91042

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Erin Nieto-Salinas
708-B Banyan Ct.
Laredo, TX 78041

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Dale LaCognata
6244 Dover Ct.
Fishers, IN 46038

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTMP id 2007122920104308-238440 ; Sat, 29 Dec 2007 20:10:43 -0700
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Jody Almond
27304 Crystal Road
Albemarle, NC 28001

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John Webb
70 Bullskin St.
Charles Town, WV 25414

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Sincerely,
Jacquie Lowell
3766 Southview Drive #250
San Diego, CA 92117-5338

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NM

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Sincerely,
Diane Shumway
5163 Lodato Ct
Concord, CA 94521-2353

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NM

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Dani Porter Born
1396 Palace
Saint Paul, MN 55105

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8130 N. Iron Winds Lane
Kingman, AZ 86409

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Josselyn waller
2375 s. scott
des plaines, IL 60018

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Sincerely,
Lisa Macdonald
2017 San Miguel Drive
Plano, TX 75074

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

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Sincerely,
Jason Parkin
240 E. 85th St #4A
New York, NY 10028

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Sincerely,
Evelyn Gosnell
30 5th Street
Hanover, PA 17331

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NM

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Sincerely,
Robert Jelacic
1107 Oakmont Road
Charleston, WV 25314

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LINDA STAMER
P.O. BOX 1696
BIG BEAR CITY, CA 92314

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Rebecca Koski
2515 Benedict Canyon Dr.
Beverly Hills, CA 90210

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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,
HARLAND WURSTER
980 NORTH MILITARY TRAIL
WEST PALM BEACH, FL 33415

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Capri Starnes
629 Magnolia St.
New Llano, LA 71461

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Dec 29, 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,

Mr. paxton phillips
21819 Forest Trl
Kirksville, MO 63501-7179

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTMP id 2007122919533125-238343 ; Sat, 29 Dec 2007 19:53:31 -0700
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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Angela Bassett
11565 Okanagan Centre Road East
Winfield, BC V4V 1G4

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Sincerely,
Brett Tucker
495 N Pantano Rd
Tucson, AZ 85710

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Sincerely,
Marigold Love
4072 E 22 St, #310
Tucson, AZ 85711

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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,
Thomas Slaback
715 E. Goodwin St.
Prescott, AZ 86303

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Gabriella Andriulli
140 Upland Way
Barrington, RI 02806

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NM

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Landers
129 Pine Street
Holbrook, MA 02343

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Brian Millsap, State Administrator
U.S.Fish and Wildlife Service
New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office
2105 Osuna NE
Albuquerque, NM 87113

DearStateAdministrator Millsap,

As a supporter of scientifically sound wildlife management who understands the value wolves can bring to ecosystems, I strongly urge the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to take a more balanced approach to Mexican wolf recovery efforts in the Southwest.

"Our duty to the whole, including to the unborn generations, bids us to restrain an unprincipled present-day minority from wasting the heritage of these unborn generations. The movement for the conservation of wildlife and the larger movement for the conservation of all our natural resources are essentially democratic in spirit, purpose and method."
-- Theodore Roosevelt

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 USFWS hasn't made much progress in restoring them.

"It is horrifying that we have to fight our own government to save the environment."
-- Ansel Adams

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.

"Our government is like a rich and foolish spendthrift who has inherited a magnificent estate in perfect order, and then has left his fields and meadows, forests and parks to be sold and plundered and wasted."
-- John Muir, The AmericanForests

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.

"A thing is right when it tends to preserve the integrity, stability, and beauty of the biotic community. It is wrong when it tends otherwise."
-- Aldo Leopold

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.

"Every man who appreciates the majesty and beauty of the wilderness and of wild life, should strike hands with the farsighted men who wish to preserve our material resources, in the effort to keep our forests and our game beasts, game-birds, and game-fish-indeed, all the living creatures of prairie and woodland and seashore-from wanton destruction. Above all, we should realize that the effort toward this end is essentially a democratic movement."
-- Theodore Roosevelt

Thank you for your consideration of my comments. Please do NOT add my name to your mailing list. I will learn about future developments on this issue from other sources.

Sincerely,
Christopher Lish
PO Box113
Olema, CA94950
lishchris@yahoo.com

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Try
it now.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Ann Nowicki
1453 n Dailey Dr
Pueblo West, CO 81007-1239

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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,
Kanwaldeep K. Sekhon
260-04 73rd Avenue
2nd Floor
Glen Oaks, NY 11004

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Sincerely,
Joe Salazar
610 Cherrywood Dr
Santa Rosa, CA 95407

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NM

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As a descendent of an old New Mexico, Texas, and Colorado ranching family, I deplore the treatment of the gray wolves at the hands of commercial interests that would eliminate them.
PROTECT THE MEXICAN GRAY WOLF NOW--WITH ENDANGERED SPECIES STATUS.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
RD Brinkley
1742 Page St.

San Francisco, CA 94117

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Jon Levin
1899 Aster Rd.
Macungie, PA 18062

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Sincerely,
Kaitlyn McKee
P.O. Box 2196
KAPAA, HI 96746

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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,
Carol Winkler
26893 Bouquet Canyon Rd.
Suite C, #341
Saugus, CA 91350

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Laura Caffentzis
W263N2413 Deerhaven Dr.
Pewaukee, WI 53072

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MIME_Version: 1.0
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Dec 29, 2007

Brian Millsap

Dear 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.

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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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 without any harm to the human population many of which have selfishly and barbarically attacked their salvation for their own agenda at US tax payer's expense.

I once told my brother, last remaining member of my immediate family that to prepare himself for I can keenly feel the destruction of the wildlife on this planet that the Almighty so eloquently gifted to us being literally dessimated each and every day throughout the planet---all because of humanity's lack of reverance and forethought in their responsibilities as guardians of this planet and that once these magnificent beings no longer walk the planet--I too no longer will have the desire to walk the planet! For to walk the plains of

this earth with only concrete and humans literally makes me ill at the mere thought of how desolate the world will have become!

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

Sincerely,

Mrs. Dona La Schiava
1602 E Gardenia Ave
Phoenix, AZ 85020-5215

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Dec 29, 2007

Brian Millsap

Dear 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.

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,

Mrs. Alese Tait
1492 Elm St
Stratford, CT 06615-7030

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Subject: Allowing Mexican Gray wolves the right to live
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Dec 29, 2007

Brian Millsap

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Mr. Travis Mossotti
15901 Wetherburn Drive
Ballwin, MO 63021

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Dec 29, 2007

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Ms. Naomi Julian
1301 Freeman Ave NW
Albuquerque, NM 87107-3458

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Dec 29, 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.

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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. Rebecca Webb
564 Wetherby Terrace Dr
Ballwin, MO 63021-4443

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SendTo: r2fwe_al@fws.gov
Subject: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping
MIME_Version: 1.0
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Dec 29, 2007

Brian Millsap

Dear Millsap,

We are strong supporters of scientifically sound wildlife management who understands the value wolves can bring to ecosystems, We write 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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Second, allow the wolves to disperse beyond the recovery area, and to be released where biologists say is best, please!

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,

Mr. s reitz
6004 Mt. Bonnell
austin, TX 78731-3541

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SendTo: r2fwe_al@fws.gov
Subject: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping
MIME_Version: 1.0
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Dec 29, 2007

Brian Millsap

Dear Millsap,

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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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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.

Fourth, enact stricter regulations that force ranchers to remove cattle carcasses. Force ranchers to stay with their cattle at all times.

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. Regina Mossotti
31 N. Iowa Rd.
Ballwin, IL 62901

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SendTo: r2fwe_al@fws.gov
Subject: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping
MIME_Version: 1.0
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Dec 29, 2007

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Sincerely,

Mrs. Alice Webb
24 Ladue Ter
Saint Louis, MO 63124-2048

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Sincerely,

Mr. Jack Webb
387 Village Creek Dr
Ballwin, MO 63021-6161

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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 should 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

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Lisa Kelly
21494 Timber Oak Ct.
Strongsville, OH 44149

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NM

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Sincerely,
Peter %pa_first_name% Susan Gray
Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60661

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTTP id 2007122919080125-238117 ; Sat, 29 Dec 2007 19:08:01 -0700
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NM

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Joann Gerfen
1203 Sandstone Ln.
Santa Maria, CA 93454-4735

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Sincerely,
Donna Mitchum
306 Mussel Lane
Shelbyville, KY 40065

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Ron Marquart
3300 E. Red Stone Dr.
Boise, ID 83712

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Alese Tait
1492 Elm St.
Stratford, CT 06615

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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

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Cathy Proner
275 Blackman Road
Pendleton, SC 29670

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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,
Joanna Fredericks
30 Catlin Ave.
Staten Island, NY 10304

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NM

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
JOYCE BURK
P.O. Box 106
Barstow, CA 92312

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Dec 29, 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,

Mr. Robert Shepherd
130 W 73rd St Apt 6
New York, NY 10023-3026

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ReplyTo: Kathy Cooper <kcooper39@earthlink.net>
SendTo: r2fwe_al@fws.gov
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Dec 29, 2007

Brian Millsap

Dear Millsap,

When asked to put my personal stamp on the following - I could not speak more eloquently than the argument already stated. I can only add that wolves are a part of the local ecosystem as it has evolved, cows are the interlopers. Yet, even though you are charged with

reintroducing wolves to their habitat, you have slanted your actions to protect the ranchers.

This is not an attack on ranchers but I can not condone the protection of one segment of society at the cost of others by a government agency.

I urge you to modify your wolf reintroduction plan to one of sound scientific principals that return our fragile desert to it's natural order.

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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Ms. Kathy Cooper
4981 N Lak A Yucca Rd
Tucson, AZ 85743-9764

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Dec 29, 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,

Ms. Dawn Carnahan
2644 N 64th St
Mesa, AZ 85215-1502

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Dec 29, 2007

Brian Millsap

Dear Millsap,

For the love of God, show some humanity in scientifically managing the reintroduction of Mexican wolves in the Southwest..Understand the

value wolves can bring to ecosystems and take a more balanced approach

to Mexican wolf recovery efforts in the Southwest.

After ten years of obviously inept 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 areas. Another example of the lies of this administration. 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.

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

Sincerely,

Ms. Claire Simpson
196 Michelle Dr
Santa Fe, NM 87501-1630

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Dec 29, 2007

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

Sincerely,

Mr. Robert Shepherd
130 W 73rd St Apt 6
New York, NY 10023-3026

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SendTo: r2fwe_al@fws.gov
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Dec 29, 2007

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

Sincerely,

Mr. Derrick Roybal
3039 Governor Lindsey Rd
Santa Fe, NM 87505-6404

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Dec 29, 2007

Brian Millsap

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

Sincerely,

Mrs. Jody Palmer
4505 S Hardy Dr Apt 1169
Tempe, AZ 85282-6568

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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 believe that these Wolves desperately need this assistance if they are going thrive and have a chance to survive and be saved from possible total extinction. 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,
Jerry Miller
46376 186th St
Castlewood, SD 57223