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Dear Sirs:

I believe the rules governing the Mexican Gray Wolf reintroduction should be amended as follows:

Eliminate restrictions to wolf dispersal and movements.

Expand the area for initial releases.

Place no cap on the number of wolves in the wild population.

Place on restrictions on Mexican gray wolves outside the recovery area boundaries.

Resolve livestock-wolf conflicts in ways that keep wolves in the wild.

Revise the rules for killing and removing wolves to reduce the number removed.

David Soules

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To Whom it May Concern,

I agree that the re-introduction of the Mexican Gray Wolf is a very admirable pursuit. As stated within the website, one of the leading causes of the downfall of the wolf population initially, was the loss of natural habitation to other pursuits, such as ubranization and making native lands agricultural. I believe that perhaps the single most important pursuit that should be undertook in the effort of maintaining the present population of Mexican Gray Wolves, and continue to increase it, is to make sure that their natural habitat is not further stolen from them.

All of the other pursuits are also important, however habitat preservation is at the top of the list.

Ben Nielsen

NAU Student

Never miss a thing. Make Yahoo your homepage.

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTMP id 2007120717021395-607356 ; Fri, 7 Dec 2007 17:02:13 -0700

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From: "Shannon Barber-Meyer" <shannonbarbermeyer@gmail.com>

SendTo: R2FWE_AL@fws.gov

Subject: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

CopyTo: shannonbarbermeyer@gmail.com, "John Meyer" <jmeyer2@hotmail.com>

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Dear John Slown -

I am providing these comments as a concerned citizen - not as a representative of any government agency.

I believe the following changes would better serve the long term goal of Mexican gray wolf recovery in the southwest.

1) The reintroduction boundary should be removed. Boundary lines drawn on maps are meaningless to wolves and do not promote natural wolf movements including dispersal, (re)colonization, and territory shifting and inhibits pack dynamics. The project spends too much time dealing with boundary-related issues such as wolf removals. Additionally, when wolves are returned to captivity for boundary-related violations, this results in wolves spending more time in captivity and less time gaining wild experience.

2) Initial releases should be allowed in New Mexico. The current Primary Recovery Zone is largely occupied (in areas suitable for year round pack residence). By allowing new releases in New Mexico I believe this would dispel the notion that "only problem wolves are moved into New Mexico" and would allow for more options to promote favored genetics in released in New Mexico.

3) Reducing the depredation clock (3 depredations in 365 days and the wolf is removed per SOP 13) to a 2 month period should be considered. Habitual depredators will be captured in a 2 month window whereas wolves that kill livestock once every 4 months should not be considered habitual depredators. Clearly those wolves are feeding on wild native prey because 3 cows will not sustain a wolf for an entire year. Additionally, information that ranchers are compensated fully for confirmed wolf kills and partially for probable wolf kills should be considered when determining the depredation clock window.

4) Citizens should have the right to defend their pets when wolves are attacking pets that have been properly secured. If pets are kept around a residence in the evenings and the wolves come onto the residence to attack

the pet - the citizen should have the right to defend their pet.
However,
for example, if the pet wanders through woods in the evenings and has
negative interactions with wolves - I do not think that citizens should
have the right to harm wolves in that situation.

5) Ranchers should have the right to harass wolves using less-than-
lethal
measures if a wolf is harassing their livestock (and impacted citizens
in
nuisance situations). The Interagency Field Team currently is allowed
to do this - but allowing ranchers and other impacted citizens to do
this
would result in the "negative" stimulus being closer in time to the
wolf
behavior that the Project wants to discourage. The closer in time that
the wolf can experience the negative repercussions for doing something
that the Field Team would like to discourage - the better the chance of
success in terms of getting that wolf to stop that behavior.

6) There should be clarification that when the Field Team responds to a
depredation incident and it is their first response - that should count
only as one depredation incident regardless of the number of
depredations
found during that first investigation because the Field Team has not
yet
had a chance to implement any activities that could deter future
depredations.

7) There should be greater tolerance for denning females in terms of
wolf
removals. Allowing the female to remain on the landscape until the
pups
are self-sufficient would help to reach the population reintroduction
goals.

8) Clear and quantifiable recovery goals are lacking. As it stands I
believe there are only reintroduction goals but no clear recovery goals
that would show the eventual path to delisting from the Endangered
Species
Act.

9) I believe the Interagency Field Team should have a greater
decision-making role and that the Adaptive Management Oversight
Committee
should return to its role prior to 2002 as a guiding body. It seems
that
the Committee now requires so much process that at times the Field Team
is
inhibited in its ability to respond in a timely manner to crucial
management situations.

Sincerely,

Shannon Michelle Barber-Meyer, Ph.D.
PO Box 971
Alpine, AZ 85920
shannonbarbermeyer@gmail.com

928-339-1101

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTTP id 2007120715022489-603112 ; Fri, 7 Dec 2007 15:02:24 -0700
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you above all people should know that nature does not need the help of humans to take care of itself. If it did, then how would nature have made it through the billions of years before humans came about?

let the mexican gray wolf stay in its home. the best thing we can do to bring about a sustainable future is leave nature alone, granted we may take what we need to survive.

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I wish to comment on the Mexican Wolf reintroduction.

First I feel that the program is not working. The wolfs are very habitated to humans and will not stay off private property. They are killing pets, horses, cattle, and hanging around private property where children are present. I don't believe that those of you that are working

with the wolves can realize how these wolves are affecting the children.

One little girl lost her dog and her horse. I can imagine what she felt as my daughter grew up with pets and horses and losing one was very hard on her.

Wolves are also watching children walking home from school and I think this is very dangerous. I don't think the wolves belong with people and they will not stay in the wilderness.

Thank you for letting me comment on this important issue.

Peggy Bogart
4205 Senna Dr.1
Las Cruces, New Mexico 88011

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Mexican Gray Wolf

During the scoping meeting in Las Cruces, I wrote a hand written comment card stating: "I dream of the backpacking trip that I hear the wolves howl".

Below are additional comments:

Greater Protections for Wolves - Change the classification from "experimental, non-essential" to "experimental, essential" or "endangered" to give wolves more protection.

Wolves Without Boundaries - Allow Mexican gray wolves to expand their territories. In the revised rule, there should be no exclusion of geographic areas from potential occupation by wolves. On the handwritten comment card, I wrote the wolves expanding into the San Mateo Mountains was great. I've been backpacking in the San Mateo Mountains and have seen herds of elk. These wolves could help restore the ecological health of these mountains.

Thriving Mexican Gray Wolf Populations - To meet the reintroduction goals, a revised rule must allow less "take" of wolves. 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. To date in 2007, 23 Mexican wolves have gone missing, been killed, or been removed from the wild population. Only 13 pups have been observed among five packs. When next the official count is made in January 2008, a population decline in both wolf numbers and breeding pairs appears likely.

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

In conclusion, I took my 3 year old son to the meeting and hope that in a few years we can be backpacking and hear the wolves howl. Mexican gray wolves are critical members of our natural environment. A viable wolf population will keep our elk and deer herds healthy and bring balance back to our wild ecosystems.

Sincerely,

Kyle D. Jeglum

8661 Pilgrimage Circle

El Paso, TX79912

915-351-5200

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December 7 , 2007

Brian Millsap, State Administrator

U.S.Fish and Wildlife Service

New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office

2105 Osuna NE

Albuquerque, NM 87113

Dear Mr. Millsap:

I am writing to request that the US Fish and Wildlife Service take actions to better protect the endangered Mexican gray wolf. I encourage you to include a Conservation Alternative in the draft Environmental Impact Statement that will change the classification of the wolves from "experimental, non-essential" to "experimental, essential" or "endangered" to give wolves more protection. These wolves are essential to the long-term recovery of this endangered subspecies; captive populations will not safeguard Mexican wolves from extinction in the long-term.

Furthermore, I ask that you eliminate restrictions to wolf dispersal and movements. Wolves have large area requirements and need access to good habitat throughout their historic range. Capturing and relocating wolves that wander from the current arbitrary boundaries disrupts packs, thwarts expansion and dispersal of the population, and sometimes causes serious injuries to individual wolves. I would also like to see you expand the area for initial releases to anywhere within the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area.

The US Fish and Wildlife Service must also stop killing and removing wolves. The current rule allows excessive wolf removal that is precluding achievement of the reintroduction objective of 100+ wolves in the recovery area.

Finally, please revise the Recovery Plan. The Recovery Plan is terribly

out of date and has not been amended for 25 years. It does not include objectives for full recovery of Mexican gray wolves, an essential element for any recovery plan.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Laura Troche

10 E. Cactus Wren Dr.

Phoenix, AZ 85020

laura@wvfc.com

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTMP id 2007120710320359-589082 ; Fri, 7 Dec 2007 10:32:03 -0700
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Thanks to the Fish and Wildlife Service for putting on the scoping meeting in Socorro and giving people a chance to talk with agency staff and to learn more about the recovery program. I am strongly in favor of the program to re-introduce Mexican wolves in the southwest. The primary and secondary recovery zones should be expanded to support an increased wolf population.

Kay Krehbiel
705 Fitch
Socorro, NM 87801

575-835-0759
kkrehbiel@ibis.nmt.edu

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Hello,

The fact that the Gray Wolves all have radio collars makes a technological solution to cattle predation possible. If the cows and sheep are fitted with transponders, and the wolf collars are replaced

with new ones that shock the wolves or annoy them with a sound when they get too close to transponder-equipped livestock, the wolves may thereby be trained to avoid cattle. As a bonus, ranchers can use the transponders to track their animals.

Paul Bade
611 N. Broad St.
Mankato, MN 56001

++++
"But God demonstrates his own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."
++++

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Hello,

I am writing in support of several changes to the current wolf management/reintroduction program being implemented in New Mexico and

Arizona. I strongly believe that these animals have an intrinsic right to exist in their historical territory, consequently I feel that territorial constraints should be removed and that wolves should be allowed to roam and hunt beyond the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area. Releasing them anywhere within the BRWRA is fine, but confining them to that area is not acceptable in my opinion. Secondly, I feel strongly that Mexican Grey Wolves need to be reclassified from an "experimental, non-essential" species to endangered. At the very least they should be reclassified as "experimental, essential". Because they are just that, essential. The presence of high end predators is key to ecosystem health. Finally, the killing of wolves that happen to break rules we impose on them is unjustified and should end. These are wild animals, and as much as some people hate the idea of having wild animals in our public lands that is where they have been for much longer than people have been around, and where they should be allowed to flourish. In my opinion the "taking" of a wolf should only be considered if it kills a human being and under no other circumstances. Since there has been one reported human killed by wolves in the last 100 years in North America, I don't think this will be a huge concern but if it should occur obviously it would have to be taken seriously.

I thank you for your time and consideration in this issue. Wolves should be the wild roaming animals they have been for millenia in North America, and I hope that future management plans will be pointed in that direction.

Chris Bickford
1912 Telesfor DR SW
Albuquerque, NM 87105

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To whom it may concern,

I support the re-introduction of the Mexican gray wolf. I also support increasing the primary recovery zone to allow for a greater number of release sites and to promote genetic diversity of Mexican gray wolves.

I also support humane harassment of wolves to deter wolves from human contact. However, I do not believe in harassment for the sake of harassment alone. Harassment should only be used in areas where wolves are

not desired or when a wolf is engaging in an undesirable behavior. Domestic pet owners should not be allowed to shoot a wolf on public lands.

Pet owners need to be educated of the risk wolves pose to domestic animals

and be encouraged to leave their pet at home, or to carry pepper spray, a

large staff or an air horn to ward off a wolf attack. Domestic pet owners

should however be allowed to shoot a wolf if it is on private property and

actively engaged in attacking a pet. I support the clarification of several definitions including "breeding pair," "depredation incident" and

"thresholds for permanent removal." Clarification will help wolf release

educators provide a unified message more clearly and effectively.

If the White Sands Missile Range is unsuitable as habitat for the Mexican

gray wolf, it should be removed as a recovery area, but an area of equal

size should be provided for recovery in its place. I would like to see expansion of the range for the Mexican gray wolf, and an increase in

their numbers in the wild.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment and for providing public meeting

materials online. I believe this is an effective use of taxpayer money and

allows for a greater number of people to participate in the NEPA scoping

process. If possible, please withhold my personal identifying information

from public review, as I prefer to comment as an anonymous taxpayer, and

do not wish to be solicited by private interest groups.

Sincerely,

Julie K. Andersen
2201 W. Riviera Dr.
Tempe, AZ 85282

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTMP id 2007120709552557-587033 ; Fri, 7 Dec 2007 09:55:25 -0700
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Tempe, AZ 85282

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTTP id 2007120620282507-564885 ; Thu, 6 Dec 2007 20:28:25 -0700
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I write regarding the efforts to restore the Mexican Gray Wolf population throughout their original range. As an avid hiker and camper, it is evident that the overpopulation of deer and elk is adversely impacting the range in the high country of Arizona and New Mexico. Please do all

you can to allow the Gray Wolf
to come back and thereby help restore the natural balance in the
wild.

Sincerely,

Steve Thompson

8432 E. Stella Ln

Scottsdale, AZ 85250

e-mail: thompzen@cox.net

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTTP id 2007120617404813-561820 ; Thu, 6 Dec 2007 17:40:48 -0700
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DeliveredDate: 12/06/2007 05:40:50 PM

Fritz Merkle

2323 S COLLEGE AVE APT 6

TEMPE, AZ 85282-2354

ATTN: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

If you want to fully recover Mexican wolves, lift the borders to the recovery area, negotiate fair compensation for ranchers' livestock losses, and allow the wolves to kill more livestock without the stipulation that they will be removed. Additionally, as a long term goal, The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service should work closely with the United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service for limitations on the leases provided to private enterprise for the grazing of livestock. Protect our public lands from environmental disaster, and return them to an ecologically sound natural environment.

Oh, and by the way, promote zero population growth! The latest statistics from the <http://www.populationconnection.org>

Population World: 6,662,696,749 US: 302,931,732 on Thursday, December 06, 2007 at 5:35 PM MST

Regards,

Fritz Merkle

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTTP id 2007120615321707-556783 ; Thu, 6 Dec 2007 15:32:17 -0700
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DeliveredDate: 12/06/2007 03:32:21 PM

From
Reynold A Price
4909 Rockcress Dr NW
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87120

Greetings,

I am writing this short message to voice my concern regarding the hopefully successful introduction of the Mexican Gray Wolf. I am one of many who would like to see this animal free in the wild. The wolf was here first and needs to have its place in our world. It should not be kept only in a zoo.

I know there have been problems with ranchers who oppose this introduction. I feel for them but ranchers are using public lands. They are not using private lands. Times have changed and like so many other Americans who have been encouraged to learn new trades it may be time for certain ranchers to learn new ways to earn a living. With encouragement they might find that accepting wolves may bring financial benefits.

I've hiked in many areas of New Mexico and enjoy the wild area with its wonderful mix of fauna and flora. Very little is more exciting than seeing an elk in the wild, a fight of sandhill cranes, a black bear, a coyote, or the quail that make their way to my feeder.

This is a simple message and I don't have the answers

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Below are my comments on the wolf project.

1. Modify the artificial boundary in a significant way. Non-problem wolves shouldn't be recaptured/removed from the population just because they cross an invisible line.
2. Allow for initial releases in to the Gila.
3. Reconvene the Recovery Team so they can provide some much-needed expert direction.
4. Update the Recovery Plan.

5. Find better ways to deal with depredation issues. In Catron County, where I live, there is an inordinate emphasis (led by our County Commissioners) on inflating the "dangers" of wolves. They are propagandizing with OUR tax money, and I, for one, am sick of it. In my opinion, too many wovles are getting removed and wolves are getting removed that don't have a pattern of depredation behavior. My son was a fire lookout in the Quemado District during the summer of 2006. He maintains that he observed an instance where someone was actively baiting the wolves by leaving an opened carcass of a butchered cow by the roadside.

Judith A. Truett
PO Box 211
Glenwood, NM
88039

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTTP id 2007120608541900-531930 ; Thu, 6 Dec 2007 08:54:19 -0700
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To Whom It May Concern:

As part of any rule change process involved in determining the future of Mexican gray wolves in AZ and NM, U.S. Fish and Wildlife needs to keep in mind the one basic fact that every form of life on this planet has its place or it wouldn't be here. Natural selection marks species for extinction when they no longer have a niche. Humankind is but one strand in the web of life and does not have the knowledge or the right to destroy at will simply because we've failed to discern how to co-exist in harmony with nature's other creatures.

The Mexican gray wolf has just as much a right to live freely in this world as does mankind. As the supposedly "most intelligent" species, we should strive to become more adept at adjusting our way of life to fit into the patterns and components of nature rather than struggling and fighting against them. Attempting to eradicate elements we do not appreciate not only shows a great deal of ignorance and arrogance but has far-reaching effects that no one can accurately predict. We must respect the balance of nature and work with it, not against it, or we may find ourselves being singled out for extinction. It's a pack of wolves here, a species of owl there, a swamp, meadow or rainforest somewhere else, and little by little we change the environment that supported us so well for so long into one that can no longer sustain human life. Since we are not wise enough to accurately see the big picture, we must tend to the smaller details of respecting and nurturing all forms of life, understanding that nature will remove them when they no longer have a purpose to serve.

Finally, in the words of Mahatma Gandhi, "The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated." Persecuting and/or eradicating any animal species is beneath the dignity, intelligence and fortitude of the human race. Surely we are compassionate enough and smart enough to figure out how to live in harmony with wolves -- or aren't we?

I say we are. What do you say?

Sincerely yours,

Deborah Bird
1284 N. 16th Ave.
Show Low, AZ 85901

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PEAKSFORREST@aol.com
12/06/2007 06:54 AM

To
R2FWE_AL@fws.gov
cc

Subject
Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

As a tax payer , i am concerned about the money we are spending on trying

to bring back the mexican gray wolf. Spending a million dollars/ wolf
is
a bit ridiculous. We should not be wasting tax payer money like this.
There are too many people today & too much has changed to try & bring
this
predator back. The world is no way near what it was just 50 years ago.
I
do not support spending any more money on this project. The current
wildlife seems to be doing fine without the wolf.

Randy Schaal
2168 N. Fremont Blvd.
Flagstaff, Az 86001

Thank You

Check out AOL Money & Finance's list of the hottest products and top
money
wasters of 2007.

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stede barber <whiteflowerstudio@hotmail.com>
12/05/2007 10:05 PM

To
<r2fwe_al@fws.gov>
cc

Subject
Mexican Grey Wolf NEPA scoping

To whom It May Concern,

Please support the Mexican Gray Wolf's survival; the wolf's presence is
a
valuable link in in our ecosystem.

Stede Barber
PO Box 279
Los Alamos NM 87544
505-662-0930

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Thomas Schuster <nacirema2@yahoo.com>
12/05/2007 09:40 PM

To
R2FWE_AL@fws.gov
cc

Subject
Mexican Wolf Program Comments

Thomas Schuster

602
Texas Ave

Las
Cruces, NM 88001

John

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

Mr. Slown:

I am writing in support of changes to the Mexican Gray Wolf Reintroduction Program that would help boost wolf populations in the Gila and Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests. Evidence is mounting that wolves can have significant trophic cascade effects on their ecosystems. It has been recently demonstrated that a reintroduced population of wolves in Yellowstone has directly contributed to the first significant growth of aspen in the area in over fifty years.[1] The impact was largely due to a modification in the browsing behavior of elk, which did not feed in one place as long when in established wolf territory. This is important because the trophic cascade is not dependent on direct predation of the elk; even if elk numbers are not significantly affected by wolves, the positive ecological effects can still be realized. The impact on aspen was greatest in riparian areas, which are the most biologically diverse and most ecologically sensitive areas in the southwest. This is good news for the ecological health of the Gila. However, the health of the reintroduced population of Mexican Gray Wolves is in question. USFWS data indicate that numbers increased steadily until 2003, and have been up and down since then. This recent population instability has caused the program to fail to meet its minimum goal of 100 individuals in 2006 by a margin of up to 41%. It seems that there are several key changes that could be made to the program that could get it back on track, including:

- Reclassify the population to "experimental, essential". The Mexican Gray Wolf is classified by the USFWS as the most genetically distinct subspecies of gray wolf in North America.[2] Given that this is

the only existing wild population remaining, its current classification as "non-essential" seems inexplicable. Until a stable and healthy population is established, it should benefit from the full protections of the Endangered Species Act.

- Reduce the number of wolves killed and relocated due to livestock predation. Since compensation programs exist for lost livestock, their loss should not be a major concern. The loss of an endangered wolf is much more critical. Wolves should only be killed when posing an immediate threat to human life, which is an extremely rare occurrence.[3]

Under no circumstances should wolves be killed or removed for attacking pets, which should be kept under control by their owners.

- Require ranchers to remove or destroy livestock carcasses on public lands. These carcasses can attract wolves to areas where other livestock graze, and their removal may result in reduced livestock kills.

Perhaps the carcass removal could also be compensated. If fewer "takes"

are required as a result, the cost savings to the program might cover this compensation.

In addition, there are a number of actions that can be taken to improve the genetics of the population, the social health of the packs, and the overall likelihood of success for the program, including:

- Eliminate restrictions on movement. If a wolf leaves the recovery zone, it is subject to relocation, which is a dangerous and disruptive process. However, if it manages to also escape the experimental population area by crossing I-10 or I-40, it is "home-free"

and subject to full ESA protections. This contradiction makes little sense.

- Expand the initial release area. Initial releases occur in the far-western portion of the recovery areas, meaning that if the wolves disperse to the west, they are immediately subject to relocation.

Initial releases should be allowed in the central portion of the secondary recovery area, allowing for greater dispersal without harassment. It would also increase interbreeding between new and established wolves.

- Define success as a self-sustaining population. The minimum goal of 100 animals by 2006 has not been met, and should remain an immediate goal. However, a population of 100 individuals is not necessarily sustainable without further intervention. The ultimate goal

of the program should be defined as one that remains stable without continuous introductions, rather than an absolute number of individuals.

It is expected that the reintroduction of a species that was intentionally eradicated will meet with significant obstacles. However, we understand

much more now about the ecological importance of this top predator, as

well as the genetic significance of this subspecies. I hope that we will not repeat the mistakes of the past, and that we give this program a chance to succeed.

Sincerely,

Thomas Schuster
BS, Environmental and Forest Biology
MS, Energy and Environmental Policy

[1] Ripple, W.J. and Beschta, R.L. Restoring Yellowstone's aspen with wolves. *Biological Conservation* 138, June 2007: 514-519.

[2]

<http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/mexicanwolf/pdf/MexicanWolfFactSheet2006.pdf>

f

[3] Linnell, J.D.C., et al. 2002. The fear of wolves: A review of wolf attacks on humans. *NINA Oppdragsmelding*: 731:1-65.

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"Dwight & Mary Jennison" <d.m.jennison@gmail.com>
12/05/2007 09:33 PM

To
R2FWE_AL@fws.gov
cc

Subject
Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

Dear John -- I (Dwight) rode w/you on the tracking ride in Alpine on 11/28. Here are our suggestions:

1) We have heard many people in Alpine, AZ and vicinity worry about wolves attacking their pets. When we hike into nearby woods, many of us carry bear spray, especially since a cinnamon-colored black bear was hitting bird feeders and dumpsters this summer (our feeder was hit three times in two months, with a 3/8" nylon rope snapped each time). We have also seen cougar scat within 1/4 mile of our Alpine home. At the Alpine meeting, it was determined that to spray a wolf attacking ones pet would be illegal under current rules.

==> We recommend that people be encouraged to carry bear spray when in wolf country, and that they be permitted to use it to harass an approaching wolf or to defend a pet. Such an experience I believe would quickly habituate a wolf to avoid people and pet contact. In addition, people would realize they indeed have an effective non-lethal means of protecting their animals and families. We also suspect that spraying or, more economically, spreading the spray ingredients on the ground around an area seen visited by a wolf, such as near a corral, could also be a deterrent.

2) The published boundaries on wolf area do not correspond to the distribution of prey (elk) and is at odds with the natural tendency of wolves to roam and explore. On the grassy rolling plains between Quemado and Springerville, we saw just this summer several female elk grazing in mid-afternoon at a location without a tree in sight! Yet this land (BLM) is outside the allowed range for the wolves. I (Dwight) have also met a rancher from Reserve, NM, who claimed that the high number of elk were destroying or badly damaging the ranch alfalfa crop each year and that they could not do much to stop them. These ranchers actually said they would welcome more elk predation by wolves (not all in Catron County are of the same mind, but might be hesitant to state their opinions in public).

==> We recommend that NO boundaries be placed on wolf habitat, so that wolves are completely free to follow their prey, and that wolf removal be solely determined by a proven history of livestock predation. This would also potentially reduce the density of wolves in the area where people express the greatest concern, namely Catron County. We believe it likely that less concern would be had in neighboring counties and by neighboring tribes.

Sincerely, Dwight and Mary Jennison

1309 Sasebo Street NE
Albuquerque, NM 87112
--and--

11 County Road N2125
Alpine, AZ 85920

505-270-6423 (c); 505-299-8391 (h)

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asilva@nmsu.edu
12/05/2007 06:03 PM

To
R2FWE_AL@fws.gov
cc

Subject
Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

Hello,

My name is ANDRE SILVA and I am currently attending NMSU pursuing my bachelors in Wildlife Management. I feel obligated to comment on this controversial issue. I feel that the Mexican Gray Wolf is an incredibly important species. Not only is it an Apex Predator but is also considered a keystone species. Removing the Wolf for reasons such as ranching is not acceptable. I feel that the Mexican Wolf Program should continue with modifications. The "endangered non-essential experimental" title should be changed if possible. I believe that the Wolf should be elevated in status to "Endangered-Essential species". Illegal killing of these amazing predators will be reduced significantly if it is protected under the Endangered Species Act in and around its "boundary". I also feel that acceptance by the public and compliance from ranchers will create an environment which the Mexican Gray Wolf can survive. It would be extremely irresponsible of Federal Agencies and the general public to deny the Mexican Gray Wolf a chance to survive in the wild.

I would also like to get e-mail updates or any info you guys can share. Thanks for your time. Your dedication and efforts will always be remembered by Wolf lovers.

ANDRE SILVA
575-644-3511
202 Bronco way
Las Cruces NM, 88005
asilva@nmsu.edu

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As a tax payer , i am concerned about the money we are spending on trying to bring back the mexican gray wolf. Spending a million dollars/ wolf is a bit ridiculous. We should not be wasting tax payer money like this. There are too many people today & too much has changed to try & bring this predator back. The world is no way near what it was just 50 years ago. I do not support spending any more money on this project.The current wildlife seems to be doing fine without the wolf.

Randy Schaal

2168 N. Fremont Blvd.
Flagstaff, Az 86001

Thank You

Check out AOL Money & Finance's list of the hottest products and top
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To whom It May Concern,

Please support the Mexican Gray Wolf's survival; the wolf's presence is a valuable link in in our ecosystem.

Stede Barber
PO Box 279
Los Alamos NM 87544

505-662-0930

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Thomas Schuster

602
Texas Ave

Las
Cruces, NM 88001

John

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

Mr. Slown:

I am writing in support of changes to the Mexican Gray Wolf Reintroduction Program that would help boost wolf populations in the Gila and Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests.

Evidence is mounting that wolves can have significant trophic cascade effects on their ecosystems. It has been recently demonstrated that a reintroduced population of wolves in Yellowstone has directly contributed to the first significant growth of aspen in the area in over fifty years.[1] The impact was largely due to a modification in the browsing behavior of elk, which did not feed in one place as long when in established wolf territory. This is important because the trophic cascade is not dependent on direct predation of the elk; even if elk numbers are not significantly affected by wolves, the positive ecological effects can still be realized. The impact on aspen was greatest in riparian areas, which are the most biologically diverse and most ecologically sensitive areas in the southwest.

This is good news for the ecological health of the Gila. However, the health of the reintroduced population of Mexican Gray Wolves is in question. USFWS data indicate that numbers increased steadily until 2003, and have been up and down since then. This recent population instability has caused the program to fail to meet its minimum goal of 100 individuals in 2006 by a margin of up to 41%. It seems that there are several key

changes that could be made to the program that could get it back on track, including:

- Reclassify the population to "experimental, essential". The Mexican Gray Wolf is classified by the USFWS as the most genetically distinct subspecies of gray wolf in North America.[2] Given that this is the only existing wild population remaining, its current classification as "non-essential" seems inexplicable. Until a stable and healthy population is established, it should benefit from the full protections of the Endangered Species Act.

- Reduce the number of wolves killed and relocated due to livestock predation. Since compensation programs exist for lost livestock, their loss should not be a major concern. The loss of an endangered wolf is much more critical. Wolves should only be killed when posing an immediate threat to human life, which is an extremely rare occurrence.[3] Under no circumstances should wolves be killed or removed for attacking pets, which should be kept under control by their owners.

- Require ranchers to remove or destroy livestock carcasses on public lands. These carcasses can attract wolves to areas where other livestock graze, and their removal may result in reduced livestock kills. Perhaps the carcass removal could also be compensated. If fewer "takes" are required as a result, the cost savings to the program might cover this compensation.

In addition, there are a number of actions that can be taken to improve the genetics of the population, the social health of the packs, and the overall likelihood of success for the program, including:

- Eliminate restrictions on movement. If a wolf leaves the recovery zone, it is subject to relocation, which is a dangerous and disruptive process. However, if it manages to also escape the experimental population area by crossing I-10 or I-40, it is "home-free" and subject to full ESA protections. This contradiction makes little sense.

- Expand the initial release area. Initial releases occur in the far-western portion of the recovery areas, meaning that if the wolves disperse to the west, they are immediately subject to relocation. Initial releases should be allowed in the central portion of the secondary recovery area, allowing for greater dispersal without harassment. It would also increase interbreeding between new and established wolves.

• Define success as a self-sustaining population. The minimum goal of 100 animals by 2006 has not been met, and should remain an immediate goal. However, a population of 100 individuals is not necessarily sustainable without further intervention. The ultimate goal of the program should be defined as one that remains stable without continuous introductions, rather than an absolute number of individuals.

It is expected that the reintroduction of a species that was intentionally eradicated will meet with significant obstacles. However, we understand much more now about the ecological importance of this top predator, as well as the genetic significance of this subspecies. I hope that we will not repeat the mistakes of the past, and that we give this program a chance to succeed.

Sincerely,

Thomas Schuster
BS, Environmental and Forest Biology
MS, Energy and Environmental Policy

[1] Ripple, W.J. and Beschta, R.L. Restoring Yellowstone's aspen with wolves. *Biological Conservation* 138, June 2007: 514-519.

[2]
<http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/mexicanwolf/pdf/MexicanWolfFactSheet2006.pdf>
f

[3] Linnell, J.D.C., et al. 2002. The fear of wolves: A review of wolf attacks on humans. *NINA Oppdragsmelding*: 731:1-65.

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SendTo: R2FWE_AL@fws.gov

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Dear John -- I (Dwight) rode w/you on the tracking ride in Alpine on 11/28. Here are our suggestions:

1) We have heard many people in Alpine, AZ and vicinity worry about wolves attacking their pets. When we hike into nearby woods, many of us carry bear spray, especially since a cinnamon-colored black bear was hitting bird feeders and dumpsters this summer (our feeder was hit three times in two months, with a 3/8" nylon rope snapped each time). We have also seen cougar scat within 1/4 mile of our Alpine home. At the Alpine meeting, it was determined that to spray a wolf attacking ones pet would be illegal under current rules.

==> We recommend that people be encouraged to carry bear spray when in wolf country, and that they be permitted to use it to harass an approaching wolf or to defend a pet. Such an experience I believe would quickly habituate a wolf to avoid people and pet contact. In addition, people would realize they indeed have an effective non-lethal means of protecting their animals and families. We also suspect that spraying or, more economically, spreading the spray ingredients on the ground around an area seen visited by a wolf, such as near a corral, could also be a deterrent.

2) The published boundaries on wolf area do not correspond to the distribution of prey (elk) and is at odds with the natural tendency of wolves to roam and explore. On the grassy rolling plains between Quemado and Springerville, we saw just this summer several female elk grazing in mid-afternoon at a location without a tree in sight! Yet this land (BLM) is outside the allowed range for the wolves. I (Dwight) have also met a rancher from Reserve, NM, who claimed that the high number of elk were destroying or badly damaging the ranch alfalfa crop each year and that they could not do much to stop them. These ranchers actually said they would welcome more elk predation by wolves (not all in Catron County are of the same mind, but might be hesitant to state their opinions in public).

==> We recommend that NO boundaries be placed on wolf habitat, so that wolves are completely free to follow their prey, and that wolf removal be solely determined by a proven history of livestock predation. This would also potentially reduce the density of wolves in the area where people express the greatest concern, namely Catron County. We believe it likely that less concern would be had in neighboring counties and by neighboring

tribes.

Sincerely, Dwight and Mary Jennison

1309 Sasebo Street NE
Albuquerque, NM 87112

--and--

11 County Road N2125
Alpine, AZ 85920

505-270-6423 (c); 505-299-8391 (h)

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Hello,

My name is ANDRE SILVA and I am currently attending NMSU pursuing my bachelors in Wildlife Management. I feel obligated to comment on this controversial issue. I feel that the Mexican Gray Wolf is an incredibly important species. Not only is it an Apex Predator but is also considered a keystone species. Removing the Wolf for reasons such as ranching is not acceptable. I feel that the Mexican Wolf Program should continue with modifications. The "endangered non-essential experimental" title should be changed if possible. I believe that the Wolf should be elevated in status to "Endangered-Essential species". Illegal killing of these amazing predators will be reduced significantly if it is protected under the Endangered Species Act in and around its "boundary". I also feel that acceptance by the public and compliance from ranchers will create an environment which the Mexican Gray Wolf can survive. It would be extremely irresponsible of Federal Agencies and the general public to deny the Mexican Gray Wolf a chance to survive in the wild.

I would also like to get e-mail updates or any info you guys can share. Thanks for your time. Your dedication and efforts will always be remembered by Wolf lovers.

ANDRE SILVA
575-644-3511
202 Bronco way
Las Cruces NM, 88005
asilva@nmsu.edu

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"PAUL HAPPEL" <paul_happel_9@msn.com>
12/05/2007 11:02 AM

To
<R2FWE_AL@fws.gov>
cc

Subject
Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping Comments

Comments on Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping document for the Mexican
Gray

Wolf Environmental Impact Statement

Mr. Paul Happel
3111 La Tierra Drive
Roswell, NM 88201
(505) 624-0576
Email paul_Happel_9 @ msn.com

1. the Secondary recovery zone should be expanded to include Otero and Lincoln Counties in New Mexico. Both of these counties have a large block of Federal Lands Forest Service lands that could serve as a secondary recovery zone for the Mexican Gray Wolf.
 - a. If the Mescalero Apache Indian Tribal are amenable their lands should be included into the recovery area.
2. Involve the Mescalero Apache Indian Tribe in the adaptive Management Oversight Committee
3. Continue to pay livestock owners for predation of their livestock by the Mexican Gray Wolf's, if it can be proven that the predation was caused by Wolves.
4. Change the regulations to state that absolutely no one can harass Mexican Gray Wolves.
5. Change the regulations to state that wolves can not be killed while in the act of killing livestock.
6. Pet owners shall not have the right or ability to harass or Kill Mexican Gray Wolves that attack their pets.
7. Pets should be kept on leash while they are in the National Forest or on Public Lands. Too much predation by pets take place on our public lands of all kinds of animals.

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Kathleen S <k.satterfield@yahoo.com>
12/05/2007 12:08 PM

To
r2fwe_al@fws.gov
cc

Subject
Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

December 5, 2007

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

Re: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

Dear Mr. Millsap:

I am deeply concerned about the Service's wolf reintroduction program in the Southwest. I feel strongly that spending time and money to release wolves in an area where they will be removed or killed when they prey on livestock is a total waste of both. I also feel strongly that if the Blue Range Wolf Recover Program does continue the following changes need to be made.

1. The classification should be changed to experimental, essential, or endangered.
2. All restriction to wolf dispersal and movements need to be removed.
3. Allow releases of wolves to any area within the Blue Range Recovery Area the biologist feels is appropriate.
4. Require ranchers using public lands to remove carcasses of dead livestock, so wolves are forced to more quickly learn to survive without scavenging from this source.
5. Stop killing released wolves for any reason.
6. Revise & update your wolf recovery plan so it includes the knowledge acquired over the past 25 years, before changing the rule.
7. Keep all future recovery options open - science changes knowledge and rules should not prevent using new knowledge to create better options for wolf recovery.

Sincerely,
Kathleen Satterfield
4830 E Crestview St
Flagstaff, AZ 86004

"Let us be gentle with everything on the earth. Let us count as friends the land and sky, the waters, and all the creatures that live."

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To
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cc

Subject
Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

John Slown,

Concerning the challenges within this admiral program; there is a simple solution which could be cost effectively implemented and would be 'hands free' within the second generation of cubs (at the latest). The adult wolves would actually include teaching their cubs another 'learned behavior' - cattle are off limits!
The Wolf Whisperer (Darrell Ayers) and I will be attending the UA meeting on Friday at 5:00, hopefully we could communicate the details of this proven method.
Sincerely,
Gerard J. Washburn

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December 5, 2007

Brian Millsap, State Administrator
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office

2105 Osuna NE
Albuquerque, NM 87113

Re: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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Kathleen Satterfield
4830 E Crestview St
Flagstaff, AZ 86004

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Comments on Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping document for the Mexican
Gray
Wolf Environmental Impact Statement

Mr. Paul Happel
3111 La Tierra Drive
Roswell, NM 88201
(505) 624-0576
Email paul_Happel_9 @ msn.com

1. the Secondary recovery zone should be expanded to include Otero and Lincoln Counties in New Mexico. Both of these counties have a large block of Federal Lands Forest Service lands that could serve as a secondary recovery zone for the Mexican Gray Wolf.
 - a. If the Mescalero Apache Indian Tribal are amenable their lands should be included into the recovery area.
2. Involve the Mescalero Apache Indian Tribe in the adaptive Management Oversight Committee
3. Continue to pay livestock owners for predation of their livestock by the Mexican Gray Wolf's, if it can be proven that the predation was caused by Wolves.
4. Change the regulations to state that absolutely no one can harass Mexican Gray Wolves.
5. Change the regulations to state that wolves can not be killed while in the act of killing livestock.
6. Pet owners shall not have the right or ability to harass or Kill Mexican Gray Wolves that attack their pets.
7. Pets should be kept on leash while they are in the National Forest or on Public Lands. Too much predation by pets take place on our public lands of all kinds of animals.

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David Kennedy <dkanomaly@yahoo.com>
12/04/2007 02:46 PM

To
R2FWE_AL@fws.gov
cc

Subject
Comments on Stronger Wolf Protections

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

New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office
2105 Osuna NE
Albuquerque, NM 87113

Dear Brian Millsap and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,
I am writing regarding full protection for wolves reintroduced into AZ
and
NM. I strongly request full protection for wolves under the Endangered
Species Act (ESA) and would like to see the rule amended to allow for
conservation of the Mexican gray wolf as required by the ESA. The
"nonessential experimental" designation allows for wolves to be killed
or
recaptured for a variety of reasons including preying on livestock (for
which the owners are already compensated) or straying outside the
recovery
boundaries. Please consider classifying these wolves as "endangered"
as
it is clear the current classification is hindering their recovery.

Also, the current management stipulations require wolves that have
established home ranges outside the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area
(BRWRA)
be removed and re-released into the BRWRA or taken into captivity.
This
aspect of wolf management has been counterproductive to wolves
"re-establishing a viable, self-sustaining population of at least 100
Mexican [gray] wolves" (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 1982, p. 23).
The
rule should be amended to allow wolves to establish territories outside
the boundaries of the current recovery area.

Furthermore, wolves can only be reintroduced directly into the primary
reintroduction area in Arizona and cannot be reintroduced directly into
New Mexico. Direct introductions into New Mexico should also be
allowed.

The bottom line is the wolves need stronger protections and more room
to
roam. It is uplifting to know that wolves are once again in the
Southwest, but they remained threatened. Provisions that allow
livestock
interests or others who object to wolf recovery to "take" (kill) wolves
is
impartial, biased, and wrong. Killing the animals is already allowed
if
an individual feels threatened, as unlikely and uncommon as that is.

Sincerely,

David Kennedy
1714 W. Indianola Ave.
Phoenix, AZ 85015

David Kennedy
"Those who have been required to memorize the world as it is will never

create the world as it might be."

--Judith Groch

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"So, Aaron" <SOXA130@aa.edu>
12/03/2007 04:12 PM

To
<r2fwe_al@fws.gov>
cc

Subject
Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

To Mr. John Slown,
Or Whoever It May Concern:

I am a 7th Grader from Albuquerque Academy and I am interested in the
Canis lupus reintroduction. Could you send me some information about the
program by either e-mail or Mail, to Geelon So. (Preferably by Mail):
E-mail: soxa130@aa.edu

Mail: 7900 RC Gorman Ave. NE
Albuquerque, NM 87122

I would be delighted to help in any way I can. Thank You.

Geelon So

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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

Dear Brian Millsap and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,
I am writing regarding full protection for wolves reintroduced into AZ and NM. I strongly request full protection for wolves under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and would like to see the rule amended to allow for conservation of the Mexican gray wolf as required by the ESA. The "nonessential experimental" designation allows for wolves to be killed or recaptured for a variety of reasons including preying on livestock (for which the owners are already compensated) or straying outside the recovery boundaries. Please consider classifying these wolves as "endangered" as it is clear the current classification is hindering their recovery.

Also, the current management stipulations require wolves that have established home ranges outside the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area (BRWRA) be removed and re-released into the BRWRA or taken into captivity.

This aspect of wolf management has been counterproductive to wolves ``re-establishing a viable, self-sustaining population of at least 100 Mexican [gray] wolves'' (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 1982, p. 23). The rule should be amended to allow wolves to establish territories outside the boundaries of the current recovery area.

Furthermore, wolves can only be reintroduced directly into the primary reintroduction area in Arizona and cannot be reintroduced directly into New Mexico. Direct introductions into New Mexico should also be allowed.

The bottom line is the wolves need stronger protections and more room to roam. It is uplifting to know that wolves are once again in the Southwest, but they remained threatened. Provisions that allow livestock interests or others who object to wolf recovery to "take" (kill) wolves is impartial, biased, and wrong. Killing the animals is already allowed if an individual feels threatened, as unlikely and uncommon as that is.

Sincerely,

David Kennedy
1714 W. Indianola Ave.
Phoenix, AZ 85015

David Kennedy

"Those who have been required to memorize the world as it is will never create the world as it might be."

--Judith Groch

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----- Forwarded by Magdalena Etemadi/R2/FWS/DOI on 12/04/2007 02:34 PM

J Davis <jdavis02rr@hotmail.com>
12/03/2007 03:16 PM

To
<r2fwe_al@fws.gov>
cc

Subject
Mexican gray wolf meeting in Las Cruces on Dec. 4th, 2007

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

Mr. Milsap,

I will be unable to attend the meeting due to my work schedule, so I am submitting the following comments for your consideration. Like most New Mexicans, I wholeheartedly support the re-introduction of the Mexican gray wolf to New Mexico and I am astonished at the horrible job the USFWS has done over the past six years. In fact, I would be embarrassed to work for such an agency due to the fact that your agency continues to ignore sound science seems to indicate that YOU have decided to make the project fail. Yet there is still time to fix the sad state of the re-introduction effort:

- 1) End all wolf removal until a stable, wild population has been reached;
- 2) To decide how many individuals such a population should contain, update the recovery plan BASED ON SCIENCE, NOT POLITICS;
- 3) As a frequent visitor to the Gila National Forest and a biologist, I know there is NO scientific reason to NOT to directly release wolvse into this forest nor should non-offending wolves be trapped for crossing the artificial boundaries of the tiny areas in which they are supposed to remain;
- 4) Instead of letting a tiny group of extremists control the entire re-introduction process, let the majority, who favor the re-introduction, be heard and have an influence;
- 5) ACTUALLY TRY TO FIND AND PROSECUTE THE VIOLENT RADICAL EXTREMISTS WHO HAVE BEEN ILLEGALLY KILLING MEXICAN WOLVES.
- 6) Require ranchers to practice clean-up of carcass and better manage their herds to avoid cattle-wolf interactions;
- 7) ACTUALLY HAVE THE USFWS COMMIT TO MAKING THE RE-INTRODUCTION A SUCCESS INSTEAD OF THE CURRENTLY POLICY OF TRYING TO INSURE THAT IT FAILS.

Thank you.

Jonathan E. Davis
PO Box 555
Mesilla, NM 88046

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"Deron Beal" <deron@freecycle.org>
12/03/2007 03:27 PM

To
<R2FWE_AL@fws.gov>
cc

Subject
Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

Hello,

My name is Deron Beal
901 N. Perry Ave.
Tucson, AZ 85705
deron@freecycle.org

I'd like to speak out in favor of providing the Mexican Gray Wolf a greater range, more freedom and more protection from being shot by ranchers and the like. The wolf is so endangered and such a beautiful and integral part of what it means to be in the Wild in the Southwest. Let's give them every chance at success and reintroduce as many as we can.

Thank you for your efforts,

Deron

Deron Beal
Executive Director
The Freecycle Network

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"So, Aaron" <SOXA130@aa.edu>
12/03/2007 04:12 PM

To
<r2fwe_al@fws.gov>
cc

Subject
Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

To Mr. John Slown,
Or Whoever It May Concern:

I am a 7th Grader from Albuquerque Academy and I am interested in the
Canis lupus reintroduction. Could you send me some information about the
program by either e-mail or Mail, to Geelon So. (Preferably by Mail):
E-mail: soxa130@aa.edu

Mail: 7900 RC Gorman Ave. NE
Albuquerque, NM 87122

I would be delighted to help in any way I can. Thank You.

Geelon So

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danicad@email.arizona.edu
12/03/2007 05:33 PM

To
R2FWE_AL@fws.gov
cc

Subject
Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

Cattle are trampling and ravaging our disappearing vegetation and
desert

wildlife resources, wolves do little more than pose a minor
inconvenience
to
ranchers. The Mexican gray wolf is an integral part of our desert
ecosystem,
cattle are not. BRING BACK THE LOBOS!

Danica Dahlquist
722 E. Drachman St.
Tucson, AZ 85719

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"Geri Tillett" <rtillett@zianet.com>
12/03/2007 10:13 PM

To
<R2FWE_AL@fws.gov>
cc

Subject
Mex. wolves

I would respectfully request that NO more wolves be killed.

With only 30 or so left, the danger is in losing the species. As a licensed wildlife rehabilitator, I understand that the latest findings of 'trap and relocate' is not working. It's compared to taking a human out of his neighborhood and placing him in another city or country where he has never been before. In either case, its questionable whether or not the animal or the human will survive. We can't afford to take that chance with so few wolves left. Therefore, trapping and releasing in another location is too risky.

Mrs. Geri Tillett
2140 Gladys
Las Cruces, NM 88001
rtillett@zianet.com

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Cfapjm@aol.com
12/04/2007 09:42 AM

To
r2fwe_al@fws.gov
cc

Subject
Atten: Mexican Gray Wolf Scoping

I am writing today to ask that the same protections given to the wolves
in

the Northern Rockies be given to the Mexican Gray Wolf. The beautiful animals are vital to the balance of the environment and should never have been exterminated. Please make the necessary changes to the rules to ensure the successful recovery of the Mexican Gray Wolf. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Carla Morin
9346 W. Clara Ln.
Peoria, AZ 85382

Check out AOL Money & Finance's list of the hottest products and top money wasters of 2007.

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Saun41@aol.com
12/04/2007 10:19 AM

To
R2FWE_AL@fws.gov
cc

Subject
Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

Dear People,

It is so important that the Mexican Grey Wolf be protected, by what ever means we canmuster. This important animal, once held a place in our ecosystem and that system was healthier because of the Mexican Gray Wolf.
In trying to keep our special Sky Islands protected and safe, we need to make sure there is a place for all the animals that once knew this habitat as their own. Please do everything you can to make sure the Mexican Gray Wolf has a safe home.

Thank you
Sande Rego-Ross
9208 North Condor Place
Tucson, AZ 85742

Check out AOL Money & Finance's list of the hottest products and top money wasters of 2007.

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Heather Bradley <hahabradley@yahoo.com>
12/04/2007 12:12 PM

To
r2fwe_al@fws.gov
cc

Subject
Mexican Gray Wolf

Thank you for doing everything you can to keep the Mexican Gray Wolf
alive

in New Mexico. I support all efforts of wolf recovery in my state.

We must share the earth with these amazing creatures! Thanks for counting my voice.

Heather Bradley

Be a better pen pal. Text or chat with friends inside Yahoo! Mail. See how.

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User <jessie@mac.com>
12/01/2007 06:08 PM

To
R2FWE_AL@fws.gov
cc

Subject
Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

For biodiversity and a healthy forrest bring back the wolves. Who gives man the right to decide who lives or dies.?

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----- Forwarded by Magdalena Etemadi/R2/FWS/DOI on 12/04/2007 02:29 PM

"bill berlat" <billinthewild@msn.com>
08/08/2007 12:23 PM

To
<mexwolf@azgfd.gov>, <R2FWE_AL@fws.gov>
cc

Subject
NEPA scoping & AMOC

Gentlemen or Gentleladies, whatever may be the case

I really like this line:

"The Service established a nonessential, experimental population of the Mexican gray wolf in 1998 and has since introduced more than 90 wolves into Arizona and New Mexico."

The key words here are "non essential" and "experimental." Not the first

I have heard of the feds "exerimenting" on folks without their consent, but thought that had been stopped years ago. This non essential experiment

should never have been allowed without the consent of those being experimented on, the residents of Alpine and the Blue area.

I see the term Endangered Species Updates. These critters were never an endangered species in Arizona, they were an extirpated species. Next thing one knows some basket case will be arguing for a critical habitat designation.

My comments are as follows:

1. This Mexican wolf project has been an abysmal failure from the get go.
2. A waste of tax dollars that could have been better spent in maintaining and enhancing existing wildlife resources and species in Arizona.
3. A abuse of federal power by inflicting these critters on the people of the Alpine and Blue area, and other areas since then, without their consent.
4. A creation of a continuing source of income for those engaged in this forced nuisance.

Suggestions:

1. Eliminate AMOC
2. End the project
3. Enlarge ability to shoot the devils when any domestic animal, dogs included, are threatened, or,
4. Issue permits for their take.
5. Request a psychiatric exam for all those engaged in and pursuing this "project."
6. Get the AZ G&F department and the commission back on its intended course. Hunting and fishing, and management and protection of existing wildlife resoruces.

The people of Arizona and New Mexico deserve a better use of their tax dollars. Critters once having been rendered extinct by act of nature or by act of man, should not be reintroduced. The changing human and increased population in these areas does not lend itself to reintroduction without great inconvenience to those affected.

End the project.

Bill Berlat
Past member, AZ G&F Commission
Box 2651
Pinetop, AZ 85935

"If we ever forget that we are one nation under God, then we will be a
nation gone under."
Ronald Reagan

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"rev. joseph burns smith" <joseph@reverendjbsmith.org>
08/08/2007 07:57 PM

To
R2FWE_AL@fws.gov
cc

Subject
wolves

as conflicts between wolves and cattle appear to be an issue, one
option

is to buy out the grazing rights in the area of the reintroduction.
such
action would have a series of positive aspects.

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----- Forwarded by Magdalena Etemadi/R2/FWS/DOI on 12/04/2007 02:28 PM

"Nancy Kaminski" <kaminski_nancy@hotmail.com>
09/25/2007 11:51 AM

To
R2FWE_AL@fws.gov
cc
kaminskinancy@hotmail.com
Subject
Scoping

Mexican wolves would be better able to recover if we allowed them the freedoms listed below.

- 1 The wolves need the boundries removed. Allow wolves to set up territory outside the Blue Range Recovery Area.
- 2 Direct release wolves into New Mexico.
- 3 Amend SOP 13 so that wolves who have scavenged on dead cows cannot be removed for depredations on cattle after being habituated to eating beef by the failure to remove cow carcasses from wolf territory.
- 4 Remove White Sands Missile Range from possible recovery areas for the Mexican wolf due lack of sufficient prey density.
- 5 Mexican wolves need to be treated as the Endangered Species that they are. They should not be killed when killing any domestic animal.
- 6 All residents within the wolf recovery area need up-to-date common sense wolf education programs. Fearful adults may be frightening children through their own misinformation.

Nancy L kaminski
General Delivery
San Lorenzo, NM 88041
kaminskinancy@hotmail.com

A place for moms to take a break!
http://www.reallivemoms.com?ocid=TXT_TAGHM&loc=us

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Christine Wells <cwells@newmex.com>
09/30/2007 05:39 PM

To
R2FWE_AL@fws.gov
cc

Subject
wolf recovery program in AZ and NM

Brian Millsap
State Administrator

NM Ecological Services Field Office
2105 Osuna NE
Albuquerque, NM 87113

Dear Mr Millsap:

I support the Mexican Wolf Recovery Program---even though it has met with dire circumstances and difficulties.

I believe that wolves should be able to roam beyond the artificial boundaries of the recovery area, and that trapping and shooting of wolves must halt until recovery goals are met.

Ranchers should be REQUIRED to practice responsible husbandry, which includes proper care of ill livestock and of young calves and their mothers. Penned calving areas may be the answer. Herding with dogs may also be an appropriate practice.

The USFWS has a responsibility to protect the biome and to restore that which our predecessors have destroyed. Wolves were here before man or cattle.

I urge you to do whatever you can to ensure Mexican Wolf Recovery.

Sincerely,

Christine L. Wells, Ph.D.
PO Box 730
Arroyo Seco, NM 87514
cwells@newmex.com

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----- Forwarded by Magdalena Etemadi/R2/FWS/DOI on 12/04/2007 02:27 PM

Doug Fine <fine@well.com>
10/05/2007 08:00 AM

To
r2fwe_al@fws.gov
cc
Nancy Kaminski <Kaminskinancy@hotmail.com>
Subject
Support of Mexican Wolf Program

I just sent a support email for the Mexican Wolf Recovery Program via the contact form on the F&W Service Wolf Web site. I wanted to point

out that the Federal Register Notice PDF download ends right where it is about to give contact addresses. I would request that this be fixed so people can make comments on the program. I hope my email from the "contact" link at the top of the Web page is considered an official comment. Thanks.

-Doug Fine, New Mexico

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Bob Brister <bbrister@greens.org>
10/17/2007 07:29 PM

To
r2fwe_al@fws.gov
cc

Subject
wolves

Please require ranchers to remove or render inedible dead cattle in
wolf territory.

Thank you.
Sincerely,
Bob Brister
1102 S 800 E #A
Salt Lake City, UT 84105

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coper1658@aol.com
10/18/2007 07:34 AM

To
R2FWE_AL@fws.gov
cc

Subject
Wolves

More Wolves
Less humans

cal lash

Email and AIM finally together. You've gotta check out free AOL Mail!

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----- Forwarded by Magdalena Etemadi/R2/FWS/DOI on 12/04/2007 02:26 PM

Doug Fine <fine@well.com>
10/30/2007 08:18 AM

To
R2FWE_AL@fws.gov
cc

Subject
Mexican Wolf Recovery Comment

I wish to fully support the Mexican Wolf Recovery Program.
Predator/pray balance is good for people as well as forest ecosystems.

As a New Mexico resident and neighbor of the Gila National Forest, I, like many of my neighbors, urge the agency to continue and grow this program so that healthy, wild populations of wolves repopulate our area as nature intended and as benefits the ecosystem. Any concerns about livestock predation on private land should be mitigated with timely, market-based financial payments until the program is complete.

Sincerely,

Doug Fine
New Mexico

--

"Half the Story Has Never Been Told." --Bob Marley

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Chjastch@aol.com
10/31/2007 08:21 AM

To
r2fwe_al@fws.gov
cc

Subject
Wolves

I'm all for the reintroduction of the Mexican gray wolf, how bout letting

us keep some single track motorcycle trails open, we can trade support.

Thanks,

Charlie

See what's new at AOL.com and Make AOL Your Homepage.

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"dr anthony west" <drawest@gmail.com>
11/04/2007 11:33 AM

To
r2fwe_al@fws.gov
cc

Subject
MEXICAN GREY WOLF NEPA SCOPING

November 04, 2007

Subject: Public Comment Regarding The Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

To: Brian Millsap, et al

From: Dr Anthony West

Dear Mr Millsap, et al,

Thank you for taking time to read this personal input regarding the rule changing process at hand. In preface to the viewpoint offered here, it may be helpful to consider the underlying premise to my public comment. Simply stated, it is inextricably seated in the democratic ideals we cherish, ergo, "we the people" believe the single most important role of government, above all else, is to exact the will of the majority.

Growth and development of the West are unarguably on an historic acclivity from sparsity to density in some areas. On the rise as well, is an increasingly informed resident population with a sensitivity to the issues the Fish and Wildlife Service must grapple with in the Southwest's theater of change. To this extent may I suggest, given the constant of change, the demographic majority served by the Fish and Wildlife Service has shifted over the years. Clearly in the past, the appropriate response of the Fish and Wildlife Service was to address the public majority concerns of ranchers and gaming sportsmen.

In this present day, public majority concerns are now represented by a resident population far out-numbering ranchers and sportsmen. The vox populi arising from this mass tends to nourish a desire for an aesthetic lifestyle characterized as nearly as practicable to a natural environment thought of as the "Old Southwest".

To this end, may I ask the Fish and Wildlife Service to expand the rules associated with the protection of the Mexican Gray wolf. Doing so will reintroduce a natural balance to the region that lends to the Southwestern aesthetics sought by a majority of concerned residents. This is not to say ranchers and sportsmen are not without formidable issues, but those issues might now more realistically be regarded as a representation of minority concerns. In keeping with our democratic principles, ranchers' and sportsman's issues might be more properly processed and resolved secondary to the majority will of the people, which I believe in this instance to be: broadened protection of the Mexican Gray wolf.

Sincerely,
Anthony West

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----- Forwarded by Magdalena Etemadi/R2/FWS/DOI on 12/04/2007 02:25 PM

"Todd Hilson" <todd@thhilson.com>
11/04/2007 10:08 PM

To
<R2FWE_AL@fws.gov>
cc

Subject
Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

As an interested party of endangered species, in general, and the Mexican Gray Wolf, in particular, I would like to extend my approval for most of the proposed issues suggested in the amendment. I am in full agreement with issues: a, b, c and f. However, I disagree with the Fish & Wildlife's suggestions for issues d and e, as I believe these suggestions will result in the injury and/or death of increasing numbers of wolves. If additional harassment methods and the authority to "take" wolves are granted to private citizens, this will prove to be detrimental to the endangered wolf population. Better suggestions might be to provide additional training for the public (e.g. public service announcements, etc.) and to post additional warning signs throughout the BRWRA, where the majority of conflicts will arise. As long as private citizens have been educated and warned about the potential conflicts the Mexican Gray Wolves pose, it is their responsibility to avoid engaging in behavior that might attract these animals to encroach on their private land. In other words, if you own a domestic dog and live near the BRWRA, don't leave your dog unsupervised in your yard. Similarly, if you are a farmer and have livestock near the BRWRA, it is your responsibility to protect your livestock from predation using non-lethal means of deterrence. Farmers located in this area will need to keep a closer watch over their livestock. What is the point of spending all of the time and resources into reintroducing an endangered species if you are going to let a private citizen or farmer kill the endangered species because that animal encroached on their land?... isn't this a violation of the Endangered Species Act?

Sincerely,

Todd H. Hilson
1N119 Wheatberry Drive
Carol Stream, IL 60188
todd@thhilson.com

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mustenga@cybermesa.com
11/06/2007 06:13 PM

To
R2FWE_AL@fws.gov
cc

Subject
Scoping Comments pursuant to Federal Register Vol. 72, No. 151,
Pages
44065-44069

U.S. F&WS State Administrator Brian Millsap
2105 Osuna NE
Albuquerque, NM 87113

Dear Dr. Millsap,

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The ESA requires that our lobos be managed in order to "further

the conservation of the species." Our obligation to recover Mexican wolves, however, goes beyond a legal mandate. Returning wolves to their rightful place on the landscape is both a moral and ecological imperative. Thank you for this opportunity to be a voice for wolves. I firmly believe that God put diversity on the planet so we can learn compassion. Please take this life-affirming opportunity to show the world you are powerful and compassionate at the same time.

Sincerely, Diane Stayner
PO Box 791
Mc Intosh, NM 87032

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Eric Dillingham <edillingham@fs.fed.us>
11/07/2007 08:21 AM

To
R2FWE_AL@fws.gov
cc

Subject
Mexican Gray Wolf scoping

Hello -

You can see from my title and address that I am professionally affiliated with the Forest Service. Operating in a personal capacity, I would like the condensed version of your documents sent to:

Eric Dillingham
1307 South Canyon
Alamogordo, NM 88310
505.434.3501

I don't have the time or patience to weed through an entire EIS (get enough of that, thanks) but would gladly review anything related to paleontological and prehistoric range of gray wolves as well as the short version of your planned reintroduction and perceived impacts. Also, if you'd post the condensed version on your web site, then maybe we can save some postage and a later trip to the dump.

Thanks,

Eric Dillingham
Assistant Forest Archaeologist
Lincoln National Forest
1101 New York Avenue
Alamogordo, NM 88310
505.434.7276 or .7200
FAX 505.434.7218

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----- Forwarded by Magdalena Etemadi/R2/FWS/DOI on 12/04/2007 02:24 PM

nortykalishman@gmail.com
11/07/2007 11:17 AM

To
R2FWE_AL@fws.gov
cc

Subject
Scoping Comments pursuant to Federal Register Vol. 72, No. 151,
Pages
44065-44069

U.S. F&WS State Administrator Brian Millsap
2105 Osuna NE
Albuquerque, NM 87113

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Please do not make my personal contact information public as a result of participating in this comment process.

Sincerely, Norton Kalishman
1043 Columbia Dr NE
Albuquerque, NM 87106

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trais.kliphuis@state.nm.us
11/07/2007 11:17 AM

To
R2FWE_AL@fws.gov
cc

Subject
Scoping Comments pursuant to Federal Register Vol. 72, No. 151,
Pages
44065-44069

U.S. F&WS State Administrator Brian Millsap
2105 Osuna NE
Albuquerque, NM 87113

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Please do not make my personal contact information public as a result of participating in this comment process.

Sincerely, Trais Kliphuis
2445 Camino Capitan
Santa Fe, NM 87505

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weigelsj@yahoo.com
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To
R2FWE_AL@fws.gov
cc

Subject
Scoping Comments pursuant to Federal Register Vol. 72, No. 151,
Pages
44065-44069

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Sincerely, Stephanie Weigel
983 E 7th St
Chico, CA 95928

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gausfahl@aol.com
11/07/2007 11:17 AM

To
R2FWE_AL@fws.gov
cc

Subject
Scoping Comments pursuant to Federal Register Vol. 72, No. 151,
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44065-44069

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Albuquerque, NM 87113

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Sincerely, Gary Ausfahl
600 S Watson Ln
Littleton, CO 80123

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jeffkurtpetersen@gmail.com
11/07/2007 11:17 AM

To
R2FWE_AL@fws.gov
cc

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Sincerely, Jeff Petersen
unknown
unknown

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kausfahl@aol.com
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R2FWE_AL@fws.gov
cc

Subject
Scoping Comments pursuant to Federal Register Vol. 72, No. 151,
Pages
44065-44069

U.S. F&WS State Administrator Brian Millsap
2105 Osuna NE
Albuquerque, NM 87113

Dear Dr. Millsap,

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Please allow me to express my concern that today, almost a decade after wolves were reintroduced into the BRWRA, fewer than 60 lobos exist in the wild. The Mexican gray wolf is a charismatic and integral part of our ecological heritage, which deserves our protection. Lobos belong in the American Southwest. We hope that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will utilize this rule-making process to implement the conservation mandate of the ESA, and thus facilitate success for our Mexican gray wolf program.

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Please do not make my personal contact information public as a result of participating in this comment process.

Sincerely, Karen Ausfahl
600 S Watson Ln
Littleton, CO 80123

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bspriddy@yahoo.com
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R2FWE_AL@fws.gov
cc

Subject
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Pages
44065-44069

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Albuquerque, NM 87113

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Sincerely, Brenda Priddy
PO Box 381
Quemado, NM 87829

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vegsister@yahoo.com
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R2FWE_AL@fws.gov
cc

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Pages
44065-44069

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Albuquerque, NM 87113

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Please do not make my personal contact information public as a result of participating in this comment process.

Sincerely, Kirsten Stade
430 W 116th St
New York, NY 10027

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phidippides26@mac.com
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R2FWE_AL@fws.gov
cc

Subject
Scoping Comments pursuant to Federal Register Vol. 72, No. 151,
Pages
44065-44069

U.S. F&WS State Administrator Brian Millsap
2105 Osuna NE
Albuquerque, NM 87113

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(Please do not make my personal contact information public as a result of participating in this comment process.)

Sincerely, John McAndrew
8 Bonito Ct
Santa Fe, NM 87508

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edwardacampbell@gmail.com
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cc

Subject
Scoping Comments pursuant to Federal Register Vol. 72, No. 151,
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44065-44069

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Sincerely, Ed Campbell

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jack@premierbrass.com
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R2FWE_AL@fws.gov
cc

Subject
Scoping Comments pursuant to Federal Register Vol. 72, No. 151,
Pages
44065-44069

U.S. F&WS State Administrator Brian Millsap
2105 Osuna NE
Albuquerque, NM 87113

Dear Dr. Millsap,

As a career wildlife manager, I am ashamed of the USFWS actions regarding not only the Mexican wolf, but a host of other endangered species. Has the Service no shame? Who the hell will stand for wildlife if not us? Are the political pressures so great that the Service will abdicate its responsibility, its mandate? Tell me no, tell me that there exists enough spine within the Service to stand on principle and not cave in to the perceived political threats.

That said, thank you for this the opportunity to submit scoping comments on Scoping Comments pursuant to Federal Register Vol. 72, No. 151, Pages 44065-44069: Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Notice of Scoping Meetings and Intent to prepare and 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")--the proposal to revise the Endangered Species Act (ESA) Section 10(j) rule that established and governs the management of the nonessential experimental population of Mexican wolves in the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area (BRWRA).

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Sincerely, Jack Schweitzer
PO Box 428, 10 Koala Ct
Eagle Nest, NM 87718

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mcd@nets.com
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Subject
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Please do not make my personal contact information public as a result of participating in this comment process.

Sincerely, M.C. Domandi
unknown
unknown

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lcolt@fguardians.org
11/07/2007 11:32 AM

To
R2FWE_AL@fws.gov
cc

Subject
Scoping Comments pursuant to Federal Register Vol. 72, No. 151,
Pages
44065-44069

U.S. F&WS State Administrator Brian Millsap
2105 Osuna NE
Albuquerque, NM 87113

Dear Dr. Millsap,

Thank you for this the opportunity to submit scoping comments on Fish and Wildlife Service's intent to prepare and 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 Mexican Gray Wolf.

Please allow me to express my concern that today, almost a decade after wolves were reintroduced into the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area (BRWRA), fewer than 60 lobos exist in the wild. The Mexican gray wolf is a charismatic and integral part of our ecological heritage, which deserves our protection. Lobos belong in the American Southwest. We hope that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will utilize this rule-making process to implement the conservation mandate of the ESA, and thus facilitate success for our Mexican gray wolf program.

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Please do not make my personal contact information public as a result of participating in this comment process.

Sincerely, Lori Colt
312 Montezuma Ave
Santa Fe, NM 87501

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rtalbott@allegghenydefense.org
11/07/2007 11:32 AM

To
R2FWE_AL@fws.gov
cc

Subject
Scoping Comments pursuant to Federal Register Vol. 72, No. 151,
Pages
44065-44069

U.S. F&WS State Administrator Brian Millsap
2105 Osuna NE
Albuquerque, NM 87113

Dear Dr. Millsap,

Thank you for this the opportunity to submit scoping comments on Scoping Comments pursuant to Federal Register Vol. 72, No. 151, Pages 44065-44069: Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Notice of Scoping Meetings and Intent to prepare and 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")--the proposal to revise the Endangered Species Act (ESA) Section 10(j) rule that established and governs the management of the nonessential experimental population of Mexican wolves in the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area (BRWRA).

Please allow me to express my concern that today, almost a decade after wolves were reintroduced into the BRWRA, fewer than 60 lobos exist in the wild. The Mexican gray wolf is a charismatic and integral part of our ecological heritage, which deserves our protection. Lobos belong in the American Southwest. We hope that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will utilize this rule-making process to implement the conservation mandate of the ESA, and thus facilitate success for our Mexican gray wolf program.

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Please do not make my personal contact information public as a result of participating in this comment process.

Sincerely, Ryan Talbott
unknown
unknown

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lckelly35@yahoo.com
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R2FWE_AL@fws.gov
cc

Subject
Scoping Comments pursuant to Federal Register Vol. 72, No. 151,
Pages
44065-44069

U.S. F&WS State Administrator Brian Millsap
2105 Osuna NE
Albuquerque, NM 87113

Dear Dr. Millsap,

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Please do not make my personal contact information public as a result of participating in this comment process.

Sincerely, Lynette Kelly
1349 Lexington Ave Apt 5G
New York, NY 10128

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jwilliams@wsahealth.com
11/07/2007 11:39 AM

To
R2FWE_AL@fws.gov
cc

Subject
Scoping Comments pursuant to Federal Register Vol. 72, No. 151,
Pages
44065-44069

U.S. F&WS State Administrator Brian Millsap
2105 Osuna NE
Albuquerque, NM 87113

Dear Dr. Millsap,

Please accept these comments on saving the Mexican Grey Wolf, which is a key to the health of other species and of habitats in New Mexico. My comments are on the Fish and Wildlife Service's 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 Mexican Gray Wolf.

Please allow me to express my concern that today, almost a decade after wolves were reintroduced into the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area (BRWRA), fewer than 60 lobos exist in the wild. The Mexican gray wolf is a charismatic and integral part of our ecological heritage, which deserves our protection. Lobos belong in the American Southwest. We hope that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will utilize this rule-making process to implement the conservation mandate of the ESA, and thus facilitate success for our Mexican gray wolf program.

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a voice for wolves.

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Sincerely, Judith Williams

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bkwarner@windstream.net
11/07/2007 11:41 AM

To
R2FWE_AL@fws.gov
cc

Subject
Scoping Comments pursuant to Federal Register Vol. 72, No. 151,
Pages
44065-44069

U.S. F&WS State Administrator Brian Millsap
2105 Osuna NE
Albuquerque, NM 87113

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Please do not make my personal contact information public as a result of participating in this comment process.

Sincerely, Barbara Warner
unknown
unknown, KY 40033

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stormf5@riseup.net
11/07/2007 11:44 AM

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R2FWE_AL@fws.gov
cc

Subject
Scoping Comments pursuant to Federal Register Vol. 72, No. 151,
Pages
44065-44069

U.S. F&WS State Administrator Brian Millsap
2105 Osuna NE
Albuquerque, NM 87113

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Please do not make my personal contact information public as a result of participating in this comment process.

Sincerely, John Waters
136 Clingman Ave
Asheville, NC 28801

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weaintu@yahoo.com
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R2FWE_AL@fws.gov
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Subject
Scoping Comments pursuant to Federal Register Vol. 72, No. 151,
Pages
44065-44069

U.S. F&WS State Administrator Brian Millsap
2105 Osuna NE
Albuquerque, NM 87113

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Please do not make my personal contact information public as a result of participating in this comment process.

Sincerely, david Barnes
7278 W Maple Ridge Dr
Tucson, AZ 85743

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twistbanks@mac.com
11/07/2007 11:49 AM

To
R2FWE_AL@fws.gov
cc

Subject
Scoping Comments pursuant to Federal Register Vol. 72, No. 151,
Pages
44065-44069

U.S. F&WS State Administrator Brian Millsap
2105 Osuna NE
Albuquerque, NM 87113

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Sincerely, Glen Banks
PO Box 333
Placitas, NM 87043

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idyllharmony@fuse.net
11/07/2007 11:49 AM

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R2FWE_AL@fws.gov
cc

Subject
Scoping Comments pursuant to Federal Register Vol. 72, No. 151,
Pages
44065-44069

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2105 Osuna NE
Albuquerque, NM 87113

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Please do not make my personal contact information public as a result of participating in this comment process.

Sincerely, Chris Guy
1266 DAY CIR E
MILFORD, OH 45150

Principal: CN=R2FWE_AL/OU=R2/OU=FWS/O=DOI
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catallport@earthlink.net
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R2FWE_AL@fws.gov
cc

Subject
Scoping Comments pursuant to Federal Register Vol. 72, No. 151,
Pages
44065-44069

U.S. F&WS State Administrator Brian Millsap
2105 Osuna NE
Albuquerque, NM 87113

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Please do not make my personal contact information public as a result of participating in this comment process.

Sincerely, catherine allport
2240 West Alameda St.
no. 8
santa fe, NM 87507

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drkathrynhahn@yahoo.com
11/07/2007 11:54 AM

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Subject
Scoping Comments pursuant to Federal Register Vol. 72, No. 151,
Pages
44065-44069

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Sincerely, Kathryn Hahn
unknown
unknown

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dougsplanet@mac.com
11/07/2007 11:59 AM

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R2FWE_AL@fws.gov
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Subject
Scoping Comments pursuant to Federal Register Vol. 72, No. 151,
Pages
44065-44069

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Albuquerque, NM 87113

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Sincerely, Doug Deaton
unknown
Albuquerque, NM 87102

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sufi.mustafa@state.nm.us
11/07/2007 11:59 AM

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R2FWE_AL@fws.gov
cc

Subject
Scoping Comments pursuant to Federal Register Vol. 72, No. 151,
Pages
44065-44069

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2105 Osuna NE
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Sincerely, Sufi Mustafa
1356 State Highway 313
Algodones, NM 87001

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ecoolley60@yahoo.com
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R2FWE_AL@fws.gov
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Subject
Scoping Comments pursuant to Federal Register Vol. 72, No. 151,
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44065-44069

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2105 Osuna NE
Albuquerque, NM 87113

Dear Dr. Millsap,

Thank you for this the opportunity to submit comments on Fish and Wildlife Service's intent to prepare and 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 Mexican Gray Wolf.

Please allow me to express my concern that today, almost a decade after wolves were reintroduced into the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area (BRWRA), fewer than 60 lobos exist in the wild. The Mexican gray wolf is a charismatic and integral part of our ecological heritage, which deserves our protection. Lobos belong in the American Southwest. We hope that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will utilize this rule-making process to implement the conservation mandate of the ESA, and thus facilitate success for our Mexican gray wolf program.

Sweeping changes will be necessary in order to get our wolf program back on track. First and foremost, the Mexican gray wolf (*canis lupus balieyi*) should be listed as endangered in its own right, separate and distinct from the gray wolf (*canis lupus*). At the very least, the population of Mexican wolves in the BRWRA should be designated as "experimental, essential" under ESA Section 10(j).

Beyond this initial "uplisting," the Service can and should make many changes to the ways in which wolves are managed in the Southwest. These include: promulgating formal management procedures or guidelines for improving or maximizing the genetic integrity and viability of the BRWRA population of Mexican wolves; revising the current 10(j) rule to include authority to conduct initial releases of captive wolves anywhere within the BRWRA; eliminating all restrictions to wolf dispersal and movements; requiring livestock operators on public land to remove, bury, or render inedible carcasses of dead livestock to reduce the likelihood that wolves become habituated to feeding on livestock; formally support and encourage voluntary grazing permit buyout in the Gila bioregion; repeal Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) 13 until the 100 wolf threshold has been met; and immediately reinitiate recovery planning on behalf of the lobos.

The ESA requires that our lobos be managed in order to "further the conservation of the species." Our obligation to recover Mexican wolves, however, goes beyond a legal mandate. Returning wolves to their rightful place on the landscape is both a moral and ecological imperative. Thank you for this opportunity to be a voice for wolves.

I lived until 1959 at the eastern side of the Gila. As has been fully established in Wyoming and Montana, the stream habitat and strength of elk and similar species is actually improved in the presence of wolves. The Gila needs the wolf, many of the ranchers are in need of removal as their actions are not only detrimental to the wolf, but to the ecology of the whole area. Please consider using the wolf to improve the habitat for the whole area which would be of national, and possibly international benefit.

Sincerely, Rev. Theodore Cooley
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