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"ELAINE DIERS" <evdiers@msn.com>  
12/02/2007 12:05 PM

To  
<r2fwe\_al@fws.gov>  
cc  
"Elaine Diers" <evdiers@msn.com>  
Subject  
Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

New Mexico Ecological Services Office

I wish to express my concern over the disregard for the importance of conserving the remaining Mexican gray wolf population.

Wolves, if allowed, have shown that they can be very successful in the wild forest country that the greater Gila region represents. They form strong family bonds, mate for life, play and hunt together and look after each other. Most importantly they are an essential part of the wild which was wrong for humans to try to tame in the first place. Don't let the eradication happen again.

My first reason for concern is that the National Forest belongs to everyone. It is not the property of ranchers renting the ground for well under the going price. Ranchers have the responsibility to remove carcasses so they do not become prey for wolves. A revised rule must require owners of livestock using public land to clean up dead stock before wolves find and scavage on them. The U.S. is not paying the Fish and Wildlife Service to cater to ranchers, who are in the minority.

We citizens have a right to demand that they are a part of the wild. Their presence helps the land by keeping elk from overgrazing stream banks. It allows willows and cottonwoods to return which are followed by badgers and birds, which helps for a balanced ecological system.

The gigantic scare tactic used by Catron County is unfounded. There is not a single case of a wolf attacking a human in the U.S. The only incidents in North America are few, and are in Canada and Alaska, and were a result of humans feeding wolves. If Catron County is concerned for their children's welfare, they should never allow them to be around horses, the major cause of human death by animals in New Mexico.

Please change the classification from "experimental, non-essential" to "experimental, essential" or "endangered" to give wolves more protection. They are not being recovered under the existing classification. Your organization has "service" in its title, and I don't think of killing as service.

Allow wolves to expand their territory. Eliminate all restrictions to wolf dispersal and movements. Expand the initial releases to anywhere within the Blur Range Wolf Recovery Area.

Stop killing and removing wolves. A viable, self-sustaining population of at least 100 wolves is a minimum objective for the BRWRA population of wolves.

Revise the recovery plan. It is out of date, has not been amended for 25

years and does not include objectives for full recovery of Mexican gray wolves.

People value wolves and want to see them recover in southwest landscapes. they restore the balance and are part of our and our children's natural heritage. I respectfully ask you to work for all of us, not just ranchers using our ground and making unreasonable demands.

Lavern and Elaine Diers  
13208 Moondance Pl NE  
Albuquerque, NM 87111  
505-797-7590  
evdiers@msn.com

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"Ron Grubb" <rgrubb@beechtrader.com>  
12/02/2007 02:33 PM

To  
<R2FWE\_AL@fws.gov>  
cc

Subject  
Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

As a resident of New Mexico, I believe that introducing the wolf into  
the

state would be a grave mistake. These animals are predators and would have a negative impact on the cattle industry, on hunting and endanger people that like to enjoy the wilderness areas. It is time to look at this issue rationally and not take the proposed action of turning these animals into these areas.

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ann khambholja <candyannkhams@yahoo.com>  
12/02/2007 03:40 PM

To  
R2FWE\_AL@fws.gov  
cc

Subject  
Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

Please stop eradicating the wolf. It is a very important part of a

healthy animal population. Do not try to please every one at the cost  
of  
this glorious animal.

Thank you,  
Ann Khambholja  
6195 E. Rough Rock Drive  
Tucson, AZ 85706

Be a better sports nut! Let your teams follow you with Yahoo Mobile.  
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irisjim@comcast.net  
12/02/2007 05:05 PM

To  
R2FWE\_AL@fws.gov  
cc

Subject  
Mexican Wolf Reintroduction

December 2, 2007

Brian Milsap  
State Administrator  
US Fish and Wildlife Service  
New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office  
2105 Osuna NE  
Albuquerque, NM 87113

Re: Mexican Wolf Reintroduction Program

Dear Mr. Milsap,

After a decade of limited success at reintroducing wolves to the SW, it is time to get serious and implement a program that will work. Quit capturing or euthanizing every wolf that kills a small number of livestock. As an ex-cattle grower I am familiar with a term called "husbandry," unfortunately something many ranchers in wolf country are not willing to seriously engage in. They need to manage their calving and herd operations in a way to minimize wolf depredations. Just releasing cattle, rounding up for sale and killing of as many predators as possible is archaic management.

It is very important to allow wolf dispersal over a much wider range to make the reintroduction effort successful. Wolf reintroduction in as much of their former range as possible is important for the entire ecosystems of that range.

Quit micromanaging the Mexican Grey Wolf and let it live again.

Sincerely,

Jim Notestine  
7721 E Lester St  
Tucson, AZ 85715-4516

irisjim@comcast.net

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kim bauer <gartrax@hotmail.com>  
12/02/2007 05:11 PM

To  
<r2fwe\_al@fws.gov>  
cc

Subject

my comment is in favor of protecting the wolf until it is on a stable

basis and further programs to check whether scavenging and not  
predation  
is the cause of feeding on livestock, etc. also further programs to  
limit  
grazing and such on habitat in zones on wolf habitat.

You keep typing, we keep giving. Download Messenger and join the i'm  
Initiative now. Join in!

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"Elaine and Daniel Schwartz" <delschwartz@juno.com>  
12/02/2007 10:42 PM

To  
r2fwe\_al@fws.gov  
cc

Subject  
Attn; Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

Greetings Brian Milllsap, State Administrator  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

I urge you to consider more enlightened policies, regulations and the ability to implement, protect and preserve the Mexican Grey Wolf in New Mexico.

It is ironic the the University of New Mexico logo has the name Lobos prominently displayed.

Are the Lobos only the be a logo or statue or cartoon character for the flagship University?

This has already occurred in California where the Grizzly Bear is only displayed on the state flag and is the logo for the University of California, Berkeley. There are no wild grizzlies in the state.

It is ironic that humans are constructing a world where domesticated animals have the best chance of survival. Biological pollution, habitat

destruction and chemical pollution have so compromised wolfs and other wild creatures that their place and meaning on earth is so tenuous.

Human

arrogance and hubris is constructing a world where only a few wild creatures may be able to exist. Diversity and diverse ecosystems are being compromised which help keep nature in balance. Does this not impact

on humans and other creatures as well?

The fate of the earth is our fate. Once the wolf and so many other creatures become extinct there is no bringing them back.

I would ask you to think through institutional priorities as Aldo Leopold,

Rachel Carson and John Muir (among others) have done in the past. We have

a huge surfeit of cattle not wolfs in New Mexico. This notion that the "only good wolf is a dead wolf" has been applied to many animals in the past as well as humans IE Native Americans.

I applaud the reintroduction of the Mexican Wolf! Let us also consider how they were slaughtered and disappeared in the state in the first place

and not let this happen again. Let us also have the wisdom to deeply understand their relationship to the earth and place on earth. They deserve more compassion, care and I dare say love then we can ever offer

them. Let us start with the heartfelt knowledge not to continue to break

the chain or the web of life. All creatures have purpose whether we understand it all or not.

I hope you will take my words in good faith and in the spirit which they

were written.

Regards,

Daniel Schwartz

(For Identification Only)

Lecturer

Environmental Sociology

Sociology Department

University of New Mexico

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"brown pride" <desi666@hindunet.com>  
12/03/2007 08:13 AM

To  
r2fwe\_al@fws.gov  
cc

Subject  
Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

I have recently read that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have ordered

the immediate removal of two important female wolves and their pups  
from  
the wild.

Federal officials are already scouring the Gila Forest to find these  
wolves -- and if they can't quickly and easily trap them, they will  
likely  
shoot them.

Please immediately CANCEL these plans and allow the wolves to flourish  
and  
repopulate for the sake of conservation.

Thank you,  
Ravi Grover  
POB 802103  
Chicago IL 60680-2103

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pstacey@unm.edu  
12/03/2007 08:36 AM

To  
R2FWE\_AL@fws.gov  
cc

Subject  
Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

I am providing comments on the Mexican Gray Wolf Program.

The effort by the USFWS to re-establish the Mexican Gray Wolf back into a small part of its historic range in New Mexico and Arizona has been a dismal failure. This is because the USFWS in the Southwestern Region has allowed politics to always prevail over good science.

The re-establishment of the Gray Wolf into the northern parts of its range has, in contrast, been very successful. This is because the USFWS in that region acted in a professional way to insure the success of the program.

The actions needed to insure a successful re-establishment of the Mexican Gray Wolf are well known, since they are similar or identical to what was done for the Northern Gray Wolf. But this will require that the USFWS enforce the law, and adhere to higher standards of professionalism.

Critical to the success of the program will be for the USFWS to stop interacting constantly with the captive animals before they are released (this should have been obvious), and to stop capturing them anytime anyone complains about their presence in an area (this also should have been obvious). The wolves will succeed on their own if they are simply left alone. This has been shown over and over again.

A small but vocal group of individuals that use public lands for their own economic benefit, the ranching community, is vehemently opposed to the re-establishment of the wolves. But they should be told that the USFWS will enforce the laws whether they (the ranchers) personally like it or not. This is what was done in the Northern Gray Wolf re-establishment program. And once this was understood by everyone, everyone worked together to make the program successful.

In summary, the biology of how to re-establish the wolves is well known. What is required is for the USFW to base its decisions upon the best available science, rather than always doing what will please a small minority of the public (the ranchers) and a few powerful politicians.

Dr. Peter Stacey  
Department of Biology  
University of New Mexico  
Albuquerque, NM 87131  
505-277-0869

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"Jim Feerst" <jimfeerst@comcast.net>  
12/03/2007 12:01 PM

To  
<R2FWE\_AL@fws.gov>  
cc

Subject  
Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

We strongly support the continuing effort to reintroduce the Mexican Gray Wolf into designated areas in Arizona, New Mexico and elsewhere. The wolves are a key and irreplaceable component of a natural, healthy, and sustainable ecosystem in all areas of their historic range and should/must be nurtured/reintroduced wherever possible. The loss of livestock, while regrettable, is a small price to pay for a healthy, balanced ecosystem. Those who suffer livestock losses must be generously compensated and educational efforts describing the unquestioned benefits of the Mexican Gray wolf reintroduction program must be accelerated. This program represents an opportunity for us to begin to correct a terrible, misguided eradication effort that was once widely supported. The cost, to the environment, of that sad chapter of our nation's history has only recently been fully realized. We now know without doubt that the top predator, the wolf, is necessary if our environment and the full ecosystem is to regain it's full health and vigor.

We support the reintroduction of the Mexican Gray wolf.

James and Judith Feerst  
6613 North Eagle Ridge Drive  
Tucson, Arizona 85750

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-----

"Jim & Becky Brown" <brown1700@comcast.net>  
12/03/2007 12:18 PM

To  
<r2fwe\_al@fws.gov>  
cc

Subject  
Mexican wolf

Brian Millsap, State

Administrator  
US Fish and Wildlife Service

Dec. 3, 2007

Dear Mr. Millsap:

I am a native New Mexican and have hiked and camped in the Gila and Pecos Wilderness areas for 50 years. I have always been thrilled by the beauty of these places and the purity and the naturalness they represent. You can imagine my total dismay and frustration over the continued killing of the Mexican wolf in the Gila. There is so much brutality and cruelty in this world that it seems beyond comprehension that we would add to it with the extermination (in the wild) of this magnificent animal. There are important points for you to consider:

1. The safety argument used by the ranchers is totally specious. Statistics would indicate, if they were really interested in the safety of their children, that they should deny them the right to drive, remove all loaded weapons from the ranch house, prevent them from joining the military, police or fire departments, stop them from ever trying liquor or drugs, avoid sex (STD), prevent them from attending a major university in an urban area, etc., etc.
2. Cows and deer yearly kill more people than wolves.
3. The continued killing of the wolf on land that is owned by the PUBLIC and the corresponding fact that a majority of citizens want the wolf to exist should be the major factors in a pro-wolf decision. It seems to me that nothing more really needs to be said. Yet why is majority will ignored? Is it because we now live under a system where numerous social and political issues seem impervious to influence by the desires of the majority? If true, this is a sad conclusion to draw and a far cry from the "democracy" we profess to cherish.
4. The death of the wolf will not alleviate the economic problems for these small ranchers and it should be clear that their attitude toward the wolf merely represents frustration with their present lifestyle. If you side with the ranchers you will not solve their problems - competition from outside sources of beef, climate change and the lack of desire on the part of their children to follow such a hard lifestyle all point to inevitable difficulties for these people. Financial success and happiness are not in their future and that fact really has nothing at all

to do with the wolf.

5. All of Catron County would benefit from tourism in general and wolf tourism in particular if only a wider concept of the common good would prevail. Imagination, not hatred is required.

Lastly, with the announcement of further trappings and/or killings, I have to ask just when has your organization ever sided with the wolf and not the rancher? Please, as environmental change clearly threatens wildlife across the globe, take an honorable stand to save these animals for a future that does not place the selfish interests of a small group of people above a vision of life, cooperation and compatibility. You face a moral and ethical choice that demands courage and vision. Please do the right thing. Save the Mexican Wolf!

Sincerely,

James C. Brown  
1700 Dietz Pl NW  
Abq, NM 87107

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTTP id 2007120406425640-421719 ; Tue, 4 Dec 2007 06:42:56 -0700  
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Please Do Not Reply This Email.

Public Comments on Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants;  
Notice  
of Scoping Meetings and Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact  
Statement and Socio-Economic Assessment for the Proposed Amendment of  
the  
Rule Establishing a Nonessential Experimental Population of the Arizona  
and New Mexico Population of the Gray Wolf (`Mexican Gray  
Wolf):=====

Title: Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Notice of Scoping  
Meetings and Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and

Socio-Economic Assessment for the Proposed Amendment of the Rule  
Establishing a Nonessential Experimental Population of the Arizona and  
New

Mexico Population of the Gray Wolf (``Mexican Gray Wolf)

FR Document Number: E7-14626

Legacy Document ID:

RIN: 1018-AV40

Publish Date: 08/07/2007 00:00:00

Submitter Info:

First Name: Natalie

Middle Initial:

Last Name: Reid

Mailing Address: PO Box 96

Mailing Address 2:

City: Troy

Country: United States

State or Province: NH

Postal Code: 03465

Email Address: nreid@sde.com

Phone Number:

Fax Number:

Organization Name:

Submitter's Representative:

Government Agency Type:

Government Agency: null

Comment Info: =====

General Comment:I am disgusted, totally disgusted, that the US  
government  
is so cruel to the native  
wildlife in our country. It is inexcusable that you would "remove" (ie  
kill) any  
animal, particularly those that are in danger of extinction, simply  
because they are  
following their instinct to survive. Ranchers and farmers who are on  
PUBLIC land  
or who receive PUBLIC subsidies have NO RIGHT to execute wildlife that  
may  
prey on livestock. They can get livestock guard dogs or deal with a  
few  
deaths -  
that's nature.

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTTP id 2007120322131540-412028 ; Mon, 3 Dec 2007 22:13:15 -0700  
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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

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTTP id 2007120317332810-406241 ; Mon, 3 Dec 2007 17:33:28 -0700  
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SendTo: R2FWE\_AL@fws.gov  
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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

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTTP id 2007120316124952-403723 ; Mon, 3 Dec 2007 16:12:49 -0700  
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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

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTMP id 2007120315275048-401559 ; Mon, 3 Dec 2007 15:27:50 -0700  
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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

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTMP id 2007120315164519-401001 ; Mon, 3 Dec 2007 15:16:45 -0700  
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SendTo: <r2fwe\_al@fws.gov>  
Subject: Mexican gray wolf meeting in Las Cruces on Dec. 4th, 2007  
PostedDate: 12/03/2007 03:16:43 PM  
Importance: 2  
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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 wolfse 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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John Alcock <j.alcock@asu.edu>  
12/03/2007 02:26 PM

To  
R2FWE\_AL@fws.gov  
cc

Subject  
Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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:

As a professional biologist, I write to add my voice to those who feel strongly that the Mexican Gray Wolf program needs to be supported and expanded in Arizona and New Mexico. This species was of course once part of the mammalian fauna of these states. The restoration of the wolf to a small part of its original range is something that we as a society can and should do. The objections of a very few ranchers and the like should not be permitted to block or scale back the program inasmuch as public lands, not private ranching lands, are involved. Ranchers are moreover reimbursed for any livestock losses they encounter. To have the wolf back is good for wildlife, is good for recreational users of public lands, is good for the restoration of wilderness in our country.

Thank you

John Alcock  
705 E Loyola Drive  
Tempe, AZ 85282

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"Selbin, Susan X" <selbinsx@state.gov>  
12/03/2007 02:26 PM

To  
<R2FWE\_AL@fws.gov>  
cc

Subject  
Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

I oppose the various plans to eliminate wolves from New Mexico and totally

oppose any moves to permit wolves to be destroyed if not captured and removed.

Wolves are just beginning to recover; numbers are small and pose little real threat to livestock. We live in a state with wonderful natural habitats that must be protected and that includes the wildlife within those locations/

I urge you to support protection for wolves in their present locations.

Susan Selbin

600 Alcalde Pl. SW, Albuquerque, NM 87104

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John Alcock <j.alcock@asu.edu>  
12/03/2007 02:26 PM

To  
R2FWE\_AL@fws.gov  
cc

Subject  
Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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:

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Thank you

John Alcock  
705 E Loyola Drive  
Tempe, AZ 85282

----- Forwarded by Magdalena Etemadi/R2/FWS/DOI on 12/03/2007 03:08 PM  
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"Selbin, Susan X" <selbinsx@state.gov>  
12/03/2007 02:26 PM

To  
<R2FWE\_AL@fws.gov>  
cc

Subject  
Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

I oppose the various plans to eliminate wolves from New Mexico and totally oppose any moves to permit wolves to be destroyed if not captured and removed. Wolves are just beginning to recover; numbers are small and pose little

real threat to livestock. We live in a state with wonderful natural habitats that must be protected and that includes the wildlife within those locations/

I urge you to support protection for wolves in their present locations.

Susan Selbin

600 Alcalde Pl. SW, Albuquerque, NM 87104

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Susan Selbin

600 Alcalde Pl. SW, Albuquerque, NM 87104

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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:

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Thank you

John Alcock  
705 E Loyola Drive  
Tempe, AZ 85282

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"Comments" <info@mexicanwolfeis.org>  
12/03/2007 12:40 PM

To  
<R2FWE\_AL@fws.gov>  
cc

Subject  
Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

test

----- Forwarded by Magdalena Etemadi/R2/FWS/DOI on 12/03/2007 12:46 PM

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"Comments" <info@mexicanwolfeis.org>  
12/03/2007 12:41 PM

To  
<R2FWE\_AL@fws.gov>  
cc

Subject  
Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

Test2:41

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"brown pride" <desi666@hindunet.com>  
12/03/2007 08:13 AM

To  
r2fwe\_al@fws.gov  
cc

Subject  
Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

I have recently read that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have ordered the immediate removal of two important female wolves and their pups from the wild. Federal officials are already scouring the Gila Forest to find these wolves -- and if they can't quickly and easily trap them, they will likely shoot them.

Please immediately CANCEL these plans and allow the wolves to flourish and repopulate for the sake of conservation.

Thank you,  
Ravi Grover  
POB 802103  
Chicago IL 60680-2103

--

This email was brought to you by Hindunet Mail  
<http://hindunet.com/>

----- Forwarded by Magdalena Etemadi/R2/FWS/DOI on 12/03/2007 12:45 PM  
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pstacey@unm.edu  
12/03/2007 08:36 AM

To  
R2FWE\_AL@fws.gov  
cc

Subject  
Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

I am providing comments on the Mexican Gray Wolf Program.

The effort by the USFWS to re-establish the Mexican Gray Wolf back into a small part of its historic range in New Mexico and Arizona has been a dismal failure. This is because the USFWS in the Southwestern Region has allowed politics to always prevail over good science.

The re-establishment of the Gray Wolf into the northern parts of its range has, in contrast, been very successful. This is because the USFWS in that

region acted in a professional way to insure the success of the program.

The actions needed to insure a successful re-establishment of the Mexican Gray Wolf are well known, since they are similar or identical to what was done for the Northern Gray Wolf. But this will require that the USFWS enforce the law, and adhere to higher standards of professionalism.

Critical to the success of the program will be for the USFWS to stop interacting constantly with the captive animals before they are released (this should have been obvious), and to stop capturing them anytime anyone complains about their presence in an area (this also should have been obvious). The wolves will succeed on their own if they are simply left alone. This has been shown over and over again.

A small but vocal group of individuals that use public lands for their own economic benefit, the ranching community, is vehemently opposed to the re-establishment of the wolves. But they should be told that the USFWS will enforce the laws whether they (the ranchers) personally like it or not. This is what was done in the Northern Gray Wolf re-establishment program. And once this was understood by everyone, everyone worked together to make the program successful.

In summary, the biology of how to re-establish the wolves is well known. What is required is for the USFW to base its decisions upon the best available science, rather than always doing what will please a small minority of the public (the ranchers) and a few powerful politicians.

Dr. Peter Stacey  
Department of Biology  
University of New Mexico  
Albuquerque, NM 87131  
505-277-0869

----- Forwarded by Magdalena Etemadi/R2/FWS/DOI on 12/03/2007 12:45 PM  
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"Jim Feerst" <jimfeerst@comcast.net>  
12/03/2007 12:01 PM

To  
<R2FWE\_AL@fws.gov>  
cc

Subject  
Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

We strongly support the continuing effort to reintroduce the Mexican Gray Wolf into designated areas in Arizona, New Mexico and elsewhere. The wolves are a key and irreplaceable component of a natural, healthy, and sustainable ecosystem in all areas of their historic range and should/must be nurtured/reintroduced wherever possible. The loss of livestock, while regrettable, is a small price to pay for a healthy, balanced ecosystem. Those who suffer livestock losses must be generously compensated and educational efforts describing the unquestioned benefits of the Mexican Gray wolf reintroduction program must be accelerated. This program represents an opportunity for us to begin to correct a terrible, misguided eradication effort that was once widely supported. The cost, to the environment, of that sad chapter of our nation's history has only recently been fully realized. We now know without doubt that the top predator, the wolf, is necessary if our environment and the full ecosystem is to regain it's full health and vigor.

We support the reintroduction of the Mexican Gray wolf.

James and Judith Feerst  
6613 North Eagle Ridge Drive  
Tucson, Arizona 85750

----- Forwarded by Magdalena Etemadi/R2/FWS/DOI on 12/03/2007 12:45 PM  
-----

no-reply@erulemaking.net  
12/03/2007 12:21 PM

To  
R2FWE\_AL@fws.gov  
cc

Subject  
Public Submission

Please Do Not Reply This Email.

Public Comments on Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants;  
Notice  
of Scoping Meetings and Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact

Statement and Socio-Economic Assessment for the Proposed Amendment of the  
the  
Rule Establishing a Nonessential Experimental Population of the Arizona  
and New Mexico Population of the Gray Wolf (`Mexican Gray  
Wolf):=====

Title: Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Notice of Scoping  
Meetings and Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and  
Socio-Economic Assessment for the Proposed Amendment of the Rule  
Establishing a Nonessential Experimental Population of the Arizona and  
New  
Mexico Population of the Gray Wolf (`Mexican Gray Wolf)  
FR Document Number: E7-14626  
Legacy Document ID:  
RIN: 1018-AV40  
Publish Date: 08/07/2007 00:00:00  
Submitter Info:

First Name: melissa  
Middle Initial: s  
Last Name: uthgenannt  
Mailing Address:  
Mailing Address 2:  
City: winona lake  
Country: United States  
State or Province: IN  
Postal Code: 46590  
Email Address:  
Phone Number:  
Fax Number:  
Organization Name:  
Submitter's Representative:  
Government Agency Type:  
Government Agency: null

Comment Info: =====

General Comment:Your job is to help protect the mexican gray wolf- not  
"remove (ie Kill)" them. It  
seems that due to your lack of real protection, the mexican gray wolf  
population  
continues to dwindle. What is even more troubling is to find out that  
the  
USFWS is  
primarily responsible for the termination of this endangered species. I  
stronly urge  
for more protection and support for these animals.

----- Forwarded by Magdalena Etemadi/R2/FWS/DOI on 12/03/2007 12:45 PM  
-----

"Jim & Becky Brown" <brown1700@comcast.net>  
12/03/2007 12:18 PM

To  
<r2fwe\_al@fws.gov>

cc

Subject  
Mexican wolf

Brian Millsap, State  
Administrator  
US Fish and Wildlife Service

Dec. 3, 2007

Dear Mr. Millsap:

I am a native New Mexican and have hiked and camped in the Gila and Pecos Wilderness areas for 50 years. I have always been thrilled by the beauty of these places and the purity and the naturalness they represent. You can imagine my total dismay and frustration over the continued killing of the Mexican wolf in the Gila. There is so much brutality and cruelty in this world that it seems beyond comprehension that we would add to it with the extermination (in the wild) of this magnificent animal. There are important points for you to consider:

1. The safety argument used by the ranchers is totally specious. Statistics would indicate, if they were really interested in the safety of their children, that they should deny them the right to drive, remove all loaded weapons from the ranch house, prevent them from joining the military, police or fire departments, stop them from ever trying liquor or drugs, avoid sex (STD), prevent them from attending a major university in an urban area, etc., etc.
2. Cows and deer yearly kill more people than wolves.
3. The continued killing of the wolf on land that is owned by the PUBLIC and the corresponding fact that a majority of citizens want the wolf to exist should be the major factors in a pro-wolf decision. It seems to me that nothing more really needs to be said. Yet why is majority will ignored? Is it because we now live under a system where numerous social and political issues seem impervious to influence by the desires of the majority? If true, this is a sad conclusion to draw and a far cry from the "democracy" we profess to cherish.

4. The death of the wolf will not alleviate the economic problems for these small ranchers and it should be clear that their attitude toward the wolf merely represents frustration with their present lifestyle. If you side with the ranchers you will not solve their problems - competition from outside sources of beef, climate change and the lack of desire on the part of their children to follow such a hard lifestyle all point to inevitable difficulties for these people. Financial success and happiness are not in their future and that fact really has nothing at all to do with the wolf.

5. All of Catron County would benefit from tourism in general and wolf tourism in particular if only a wider concept of the common good would prevail. Imagination, not hatred is required.

Lastly, with the announcement of further trappings and/or killings, I have to ask just when has your organization ever sided with the wolf and not the rancher? Please, as environmental change clearly threatens wildlife across the globe, take an honorable stand to save these animals for a future that does not place the selfish interests of a small group of people above a vision of life, cooperation and compatibility. You face a moral and ethical choice that demands courage and vision. Please do the right thing. Save the Mexican Wolf!

Sincerely,

James C. Brown  
1700 Dietz Pl NW  
Abq, NM 87107

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTMP id 2007120312413024-391754 ; Mon, 3 Dec 2007 12:41:30 -0700  
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Brian Millsap, State  
Administrator  
2007

Dec. 3,

US Fish and Wildlife Service

Dear Mr. Millsap:

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Sincerely,

James C. Brown  
1700 Dietz Pl NW  
Abq, NM 87107

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Please Do Not Reply This Email.

Public Comments on Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants;  
Notice  
of Scoping Meetings and Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact  
Statement and Socio-Economic Assessment for the Proposed Amendment of  
the  
Rule Establishing a Nonessential Experimental Population of the Arizona  
and New Mexico Population of the Gray Wolf (`Mexican Gray  
Wolf):=====

Title: Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Notice of Scoping  
Meetings and Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and

Socio-Economic Assessment for the Proposed Amendment of the Rule  
Establishing a Nonessential Experimental Population of the Arizona and  
New

Mexico Population of the Gray Wolf (``Mexican Gray Wolf)

FR Document Number: E7-14626

Legacy Document ID:

RIN: 1018-AV40

Publish Date: 08/07/2007 00:00:00

Submitter Info:

First Name: melissa

Middle Initial: s

Last Name: uthgenannt

Mailing Address:

Mailing Address 2:

City: winona lake

Country: United States

State or Province: IN

Postal Code: 46590

Email Address:

Phone Number:

Fax Number:

Organization Name:

Submitter's Representative:

Government Agency Type:

Government Agency: null

Comment Info: =====

General Comment:Your job is to help protect the mexican gray wolf- not  
"remove (ie Kill)" them. It  
seems that due to your lack of real protection, the mexican gray wolf  
population  
continues to dwindle. What is even more troubling is to find out that  
the  
USFWS is  
primarily responsible for the termination of this endangered species. I  
stronly urge  
for more protection and support for these animals.

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We strongly support the continuing effort to reintroduce the Mexican Gray

Wolf into designated areas in Arizona, New Mexico and elsewhere. The wolves are a key and irreplaceable component of a natural, healthy, and sustainable ecosystem in all areas of their historic range and should/must be nurtured/reintroduced wherever possible. The loss of livestock, while regrettable, is a small price to pay for a healthy, balanced ecosystem. Those who suffer livestock losses must be generously compensated and educational efforts describing the unquestioned benefits of the Mexican Gray wolf reintroduction program must be accelerated. This program represents an opportunity for us to begin to correct a terrible, misguided eradication effort that was once widely supported. The cost, to the environment, of that sad chapter of our nation's history has only recently been fully realized. We now know without doubt that the top predator, the wolf, is necessary if our environment and the full ecosystem is to regain it's full health and vigor.

We support the reintroduction of the Mexican Gray wolf.

James and Judith Feerst  
6613 North Eagle Ridge Drive  
Tucson, Arizona 85750

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I am providing comments on the Mexican Gray Wolf Program.

The effort by the USFWS to re-establish the Mexican Gray Wolf back into a small part of its historic range in New Mexico and Arizona has been a dismal failure. This is because the USFWS in the Southwestern Region has

allowed politics to always prevail over good science.

The re-establishment of the Gray Wolf into the northern parts of its range has, in contrast, been very successful. This is because the USFWS in that region acted in a professional way to insure the success of the program.

The actions needed to insure a successful re-establishment of the Mexican Gray Wolf are well known, since they are similar or identical to what was done for the Northern Gray Wolf. But this will require that the USFWS enforce the law, and adhere to higher standards of professionalism.

Critical to the success of the program will be for the USFWS to stop interacting constantly with the captive animals before they are released (this should have been obvious), and to stop capturing them anytime anyone complains about their presence in an area (this also should have been obvious). The wolves will succeed on their own if they are simply left alone. This has been shown over and over again.

A small but vocal group of individuals that use public lands for their own economic benefit, the ranching community, is vehemently opposed to the re-establishment of the wolves. But they should be told that the USFWS will enforce the laws whether they (the ranchers) personally like it or not. This is what was done in the the Northern Gray Wolf re-establishment program. And once this was understood by everyone, everyone worked together to make the program successful.

In summary, the biology of how to re-establish the wolves is well known. What is required is for the USWF to base its decisions upon the best available science, rather than always doing what will please a small minority of the public (the ranchers) and a few powerful politicians.

Dr. Peter Stacey  
Department of Biology  
University of New Mexico  
Albuquerque, NM 87131  
505-277-0869

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I have recently read that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have ordered the immediate removal of two important female wolves and their pups from the wild.

Federal officials are already scouring the Gila Forest to find these wolves -- and if they can't quickly and easily trap them, they will likely shoot them.

Please immediately CANCEL these plans and allow the wolves to flourish and repopulate for the sake of conservation.

Thank you,  
Ravi Grover  
POB 802103  
Chicago IL 60680-2103

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Greetings Brian Milllsap, State Administrator

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

I urge you to consider more enlightened policies, regulations and the ability to implement, protect and preserve the Mexican Grey Wolf in New Mexico.

It is ironic the the University of New Mexico logo has the name Lobos prominently displayed.  
Are the Lobos only the be a logo or statue or cartoon character for the flagship University?  
This has already occurred in California where the Grizzly Bear is only displayed on the state flag and is the logo for the University of California, Berkeley. There are no wild grizzlies in the state.

It is ironic that humans are constructing a world where domesticated animals have the best chance of survival. Biological pollution, habitat destruction and chemical pollution have so compromised wolfs and other wild creatures that their place and meaning on earth is so tenuous.  
Human arrogance and hubris is constructing a world where only a few wild creatures may be able to exist. Diversity and diverse ecosystems are being compromised which help keep nature in balance. Does this not impact on humans and other creatures as well?

The fate of the earth is our fate. Once the wolf and so many other creatures become extinct there is no bringing them back.

I would ask you to think through institutional priorities as Aldo Leopold, Rachel Carson and John Muir (among others) have done in the past. We have a huge surfeit of cattle not wolfs in New Mexico. This notion that the "only good wolf is a dead wolf" has been applied to many animals in the past as well as humans IE Native Americans.

I applaud the reintroduction of the Mexican Wolf! Let us also consider how they were slaughtered and disappeared in the state in the first place and not let this happen again. Let us also have the wisdom to deeply understand their relationship to the earth and place on earth. They deserve more compassion, care and I dare say love then we can ever offer them. Let us start with the heartfelt knowledge not to continue to break the chain or the web of life. All creatures have purpose whether we understand it all or not.

I hope you will take my words in good faith and in the spirit which they were written.

Regards,

Daniel Schwartz  
(For Identification Only)  
Lecturer

Environmental Sociology  
Sociology Department  
University of New Mexico

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my comment is in favor of protecting the wolf until it is on a stable basis and further programs to check whether scavenging and not predation is the cause of feeding on livestock,etc. also further programs to limit grazing and such on habitat in zones on wolf habitat.

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December 2, 2007

Brian Milsap  
State Administrator  
US Fish and Wildlife Service  
New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office  
2105 Osuna NE  
Albuquerque, NM 87113

Re: Mexican Wolf Reintroduction Program

Dear Mr. Milsap,

After a decade of limited success at reintroducing wolves to the SW, it is time to get serious and implement a program that will work. Quit capturing or euthanizing every wolf that kills a small number of livestock. As an ex-cattle grower I am familiar with a term called "husbandry," unfortunately something many ranchers in wolf country are not willing to seriously engage in. They need to manage their calving and herd operations in a way to minimize wolf depredations. Just releasing cattle, rounding up for sale and killing of as many predators as possible is archaic management.

It is very important to allow wolf dispersal over a much wider range to make the reintroduction effort successful. Wolf reintroduction in as much of their former range as possible is important for the entire ecosystems of that range.

Quit micromanaging the Mexican Grey Wolf and let it live again.

Sincerely,

Jim Notestine  
7721 E Lester St  
Tucson, AZ 85715-4516

irisjim@comcast.net

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTMP id 2007120215404423-356029 ; Sun, 2 Dec 2007 15:40:44 -0700  
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SendTo: R2FWE\_AL@fws.gov  
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Please stop eradicating the wolf. It is a very important part of a healthy animal population. Do not try to please every one at the cost of this glorious animal.

Thank you,  
Ann Khambholja  
6195 E. Rough Rock Drive  
Tucson, AZ 85706

Be a better sports nut! Let your teams follow you with Yahoo Mobile.  
Try  
it now.

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As a resident of New Mexico, I believe that introducing the wolf into the state would be a grave mistake. These animals are predators and would have a negative impact on the cattle industry, on hunting and endanger people that like to enjoy the wilderness areas. It is time to look at this issue rationally and not take the proposed action of turning these animals into these areas.



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SendTo: <r2fwe\_al@fws.gov>  
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\$RespondedTo: 2

Brian Millsap  
State Administrator  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
New Mexico Ecological Services Office

I wish to express my concern over the disregard for the importance of conserving the remaining Mexican gray wolf population.

Wolves, if allowed, have shown that they can be very successful in the wild forest country that the greater Gila region represents. They form strong family bonds, mate for life, play and hunt together and look after each other. Most importantly they are an essential part of the wild which was wrong for humans to try to tame in the first place. Don't let the eradication happen again.

My first reason for concern is that the National Forest belongs to everyone. It is not the property of ranchers renting the ground for well under the going price. Ranchers have the responsibility to remove carcasses so they do not become prey for wolves. A revised rule must require owners of livestock using public land to clean up dead stock before wolves find and scavage on them. The U.S. is not paying the Fish and Wildlife Service to cater to ranchers, who are in the minority.

We citizens have a right to demand that they are a part of the wild. Their presence helps the land by keeping elk from overgrazing stream banks. It allows willows and cottonwoods to return which are followed by badgers and birds, which helps for a balanced ecological system.

The gigantic scare tactic used by Catron County is unfounded. There is not a single case of a wolf attacking a human in the U.S. The only incidents in North America are few, and are in Canada and Alaska, and were a result of humans feeding wolves. If Catron County is concerned for their children's welfare, they should never allow them to be around horses, the major cause of human death by animals in New Mexico.

Please change the classification from "experimental, non-essential" to "experimental, essential" or "endangered" to give wolves more protection. They are not being recovered under the existing classification. Your organization has "service" in its title, and I don't think of killing as service.

Allow wolves to expand their territory. Eliminate all restrictions to wolf dispersal and movements. Expand the initial releases to anywhere within the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area.

Stop killing and removing wolves. A viable, self-sustaining population

of at least 100 wolves is a minimum objective for the BRWRA population of wolves.

Revise the recovery plan. It is out of date, has not been amended for 25 years and does not include objectives for full recovery of Mexican gray wolves.

People value wolves and want to see them recover in southwest landscapes. they restore the balance and are part of our and our children's natural heritage. I respectfully ask you to work for all of us, not just ranchers using our ground and making unreasonable demands.

Lavern and Elaine Diers  
13208 Moondance Pl NE  
Albuquerque, NM 87111  
505-797-7590  
evdiers@msn.com

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Hello,

I am strongly in favor of continuing and expanding the wolf reintroduction program. I do not agree with the policy of killing wolves who feed on livestock. I understand there are programs that compensate ranchers. I think it is unreasonable for ranchers to be able to turn loose their herds on public lands, with no guardians or other supervision, and not expect some losses. It is more than enough to compensate them financially. It is also my understanding that wolves get blamed for killing cattle that may have died from other reasons, and the wolves are just eating them as carrion.

Maybe you should be thinking about reducing human hunting in wolf areas so that more deer and elk are available to the wolves. I am concerned with how heavily weighted USFWS is with hunters. I believe that your employee ratio of hunters to non-hunters is far greater than the proportion of hunters in society at large. How much influence are they having on the decision to track and kill a wolf (quite an opportunity for hunters) rather than find ways to keep the wolves alive in the wild? We cannot hope to preserve our wild lands and ultimately our environment unless we allow normal, healthy predator/prey relationships to resume. The needs of cattle ranchers, who are in reality a small number of very recent, in terms of natural history, interlopers in the southwest, simply do not trump the needs of wildlife and restoring the balance of nature.

Cynthia Loucks  
Prescott, AZ

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

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I am writing this to express my strong support to continue and possibly expand your efforts to reintroduce the Mexican Gray Wolf into the wild lands of the Southwest. As similar programs in Yellowstone has shown having an ecosystem with a wide range of predators is very beneficial to the health of all plants and animals in the system. I believe you are charged with the responsibility to properly manage public lands to protect the interests of the general public. From every survey I have

seen, the public overwhelmingly support this type of program and you should follow their wishes. After all it is public land and it should b

managed as the general public directs. The only group I have ever heard

against this and I dare say all Forest Service management programs is the ranching industry. For their objections I have the following three comments: 1)they are using public lands, if they don't want to use our land as the public wants then they should get off it and raise they cattle somewhere else; 2)ranchers are compensated for kills that are made by wolfs; 3) while ranchers that graze on public land may be an important economic factor to small communities, they contribute less than one percent of the national meat supply. I am offended that such a

small group has so much say over the management of our public land. They have been allowed to use and in many cases abuse our lands in the West for far too long. They should be required to pay a realistic grazing fee and be limited to numbers that can be sustained without negatively impacting the ecosystem. Keep the wolf and hold paramount what is best for our forests and future generations of Americans.

Gary Collins  
Santa Fe, NM

--

Gary Collins  
gbcollins@fastmail.fm

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From: Paul Van Steenberghe <vansteen@math.umaine.edu>  
Subject: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping  
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\$RespondedTo: 2

To: John Slown  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office  
2105 Osuna NE  
Albuquerque, NM 87113

From: Paul Van Steenberghe  
287 Fourth St.  
Old Town, Me 04468  
pvansteen@aol.com  
vansteen@math.umaine.edu

Re: Mexican Gray Wolf Comments

I am very concerned about the recovery of the Mexican Gray Wolf in the US.

I think that the current regulations are pretty good but that the rule that

allows one to "Kill or injure a wolf in the act of killing your livestock

on

private or tribal lands, and report it within 24 hours." should be moved to

the list of activities one may not do. Also, I don't think animals should

be removed or destroyed if they are a "nuisance". Move them, but don't destroy them. Expand their range with animals that must be moved.

Anyhow, I think it is very important to protect these wolves and to give

them plenty of space to roam. The 50 to 400 sq. mi. mentioned as their present range is really quite small. Other recovery areas would be nice,

even if it is politically difficult to do. We need to act as stewards for

these endangered species and do all we can to get them to prosper again.

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I was at the meeting in Albuquerque last night. I appreciated the opportunity to speak to a representative on the matter. I am in favor of the program. I just hope that places can be picked that will be as safe as possible for the wolf. Not in areas that will shoot the wolf regardless of the laws that are being broken. Mary Kotzen 7212 Minehead st nw Albq NM 87120 5057921193

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTTP id 2007120112035144-345199 ; Sat, 1 Dec 2007 12:03:51 -0700  
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From: Jess Alford <easyjess@nmia.com>  
Subject: Re: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping - the real issue and the only true solution  
PostedDate: 12/01/2007 12:03:42 PM  
SendTo: <p\_davis@envirologicinc.com>  
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To: U. S. Fish and Wildlife  
From: Jess Alford

I t's a great puzzlement to me as to why I should need to write U.S.F.W to justify prioritizing wolf recovery over livestock grazing. After all isn't the Mexican Wolf a native species to the Western United States and isn't the stated mission of U.S.F.W. "Conserving the Nature of America?" And isn't the introduction of domestic animals into western ecosystems in direct opposition to "Conserving the Nature of America?"

Wolves are a distinct part of our western ecosystem and fit into the overall plan of preserving this ecosystem. Domestic livestock destroy riparian areas, which is the habitat of eighty five percent of our wildlife, by totally consuming cottonwood, willow and aspen along stream beds leaving wide , shallow streams void of vegetation unsuitable for either native fish or wildlife. Added to this destruction is the pollution in the form of livestock feces in the streams and methane to add to overall global warming.

Should livestock be allowed to stay, which would still be a detriment in itself, then the addition of wolves would keep these domestic creatures moving giving the riparian vegetation a chance to flourish as has been exemplified by the successful reintroduction of wolves into the Yellowstone area of Wyoming.

Ranching on public lands is not a sustainable venture and would likely soon vanish were it not for a plethora of government subsidies among which is the mass killing of wildlife by Wild Life Services under the guise of protecting livestock. Wildlife Services slaughters not just wolves but mountain lions, coyotes, bears, prairie dogs and other wildlife while trying it best to stay out of the public eye so that we don't know of the havoc they spread.

In addition, the largest nutrition study ever done spelled out in a book titled "The China Study" by Dr. T. Collin Campbell, a team project of Cornell University, Oxford University and the Chinese Sciences Academy, showed the number one cause of cancer to be animal protein.

The worry of diseases among livestock would be calmed with wolf introduction. Deer carrying whirling disease, rabbits carrying tularemia, and other species carrying diseases would be the easiest prey for

wolves.

Prioritizing wolf recovery over livestock would not only be a great step toward a healthy western ecosystem but would amount to our coming to terms with our own western land, to bring it toward the beauty it once held, to Conserving the Nature of America and to bring ourselves a step closer to who we really are.

Thank you for lending an ear to all our comments,

Jess Alford

On Dec 1, 2007, at 11:21 AM, Paul Davis wrote:

Dear Mr. Sloan,

I attended last evenings on the reintroduction of the Mexican gray wolf in New Mexico and Arizona. I would appreciate it if you would consider the following comments in your deliberations.

General Comment

My overall feeling at last nights hearing was that our priorities and rational have gotten so turned around that we are debating how and, in some locations, whether or not a native species should be reintroduced to the wild.

This is insane.

Instead of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service standing in front of us and defending the reintroduction of native animals to the wild, we should immediately remove all cattle (and sheep) from all public lands. Then we could have ranchers in front of us defending why they should be allowed to introduce non-native species into the wild. Can you imagine the NEPA process for the introduction of non-native species into the wild? The

ranchers would have to defend why a 1,000 pound animal from a humid climate should be introduced into the semi-arid west. They would have to defend the use of the vast majority of our water resources for growing alfalfa and feed corn. They would have to defend why their non-native species should be allowed to pollute our streams and rivers. They would have to defend why they should be allowed to kill any wildlife that interferes with their non-native species. They would have to defend criss-crossing our public lands with barbed wire fences. They would have to defend why adjacent land owners would be required to fence out their non-native species. They would have to defend the myriad of tax write offs and subsidies required for the introduction of their non-native species. They would have to defend the creation local, state, and federal agencies needed to support the introduction their non-native species into the wild. They would have to convince the tax payers why so many millions of their dollars are required to introduce and maintain a non-native species on our public lands. They would have to defend the extinction of wild animals to support the introduction of their non-native species into the wild. They would have to defend why we should allow increased fire risk due to the introduction of their non-native species into the wild. They would have to defend the encroachment of junipers into historic meadows due to the introduction of their non-native species into the wild. They would have to defend the increased soil erosion due to the introduction of their non-native species into the wild. And the list goes on and on and on.

At least the NEPA process would be direct and short - no one in their right mind would allow the introduction of cows onto our public lands if they had to follow NEPA or any rational decision process.

Now as a native New Mexican whose family roots go back many generations in New Mexico, I understand how we got to this point. I understand that when cows were introduced we did not understand the delicate balance of the semi-arid landscape. My Spanish ancestors saw beautiful pastures and did not realize that these pastures were the result of a balance between the native species and the climate. They couldn't see that the introduction of a very large non-native species from a humid climate would dramatically tip the balance. The survival of this non-native species required water subsidies. That is, we had to divert our surface and groundwaters to alfalfa and corn fields to subsidize the feeding of these non-native species. At the time, the water resources seemed to be limitless. Unfortunately, we are now painfully aware of how wrong that

assumption was.

And we all know how hard it is to change direction even in the face of an absolute wrong like cattle grazing. For many, many years America embraced slavery beyond the time where the vast majority of Americans agreed it was dreadfully wrong. They continued slavery because of the vested interests of a few and the ill-defined and indefensible reason called 'tradition.'

Now we have environmental slavery. Cattle grazing enslaves the vast majority of our public lands. I don't make this claim lightly. As a professional earth scientist and as a native New Mexican who is familiar with almost all of this state's public lands, the destruction is beyond obvious. The destruction slaps me in the face every time I drive down our highways and roads or hike in our public lands. I live in a US Forest Service inholding adjacent to one of their (our) grazing allotments. I am continually sickened by what I see.

And the reason this atrocity continues? The vested interests of a few shored up by the elusive concept of tradition.

Well it is time for a new tradition. A tradition of respect for the land and nature, a tradition of fiscal responsibility, and a tradition of sustainability.

With regard to the issue at hand, the new tradition begins with the introduction of wolf to their entire natural range and the elimination of all cattle grazing on our public lands.

#### Specific Comments

These comments attempt to respond to issues raised in the slide show you presented at last night's hearings.

As you can guess from my general comment, I do not think that the wolves that have been introduced should be considered as 'experimental.' They are essential to the ecosystem. The cows are non-essential and the results of a failed experiment - remove them. You are concerned about primary and secondary territories and the associated rules used to manage those areas. In my view, wolves should be introduced to their entire original habitat. There should be no

restrictions on their migration and movement.  
Resolve livestock-wolf conflicts by removing all livestock. Truly if  
you  
cared about the "U.S. Fish and Wildlife" this is the first thing you  
would  
do. While in the process of doing this, I recommend that no wolves be  
killed for any purpose (killing livestock, pets, etc.).

Sincerely,

Paul A. Davis  
PO Box 1736  
Tijeras, New Mexico 87008  
Phone: 505-383-5376  
Cell Phone: 505-688-6053  
Fax: 505-286-8438  
Email: [p\\_davis@EnviroLogicInc.com](mailto:p_davis@EnviroLogicInc.com)

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Please protect this endangered species and halt the killing of the Aspen pack. I am shocked that unthinking people cave in to political pressure.

I am calling the governor now to get a stay so as not to kill these creatures.

Barbara Fisher  
Santa Clara, New Mexico

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 ESMTTP id 2007120111222267-344890 ; Sat, 1 Dec 2007 11:22:22 -0700

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Received: from PaulLifebook ([76.113.87.36]) by home with MailEnable ESMTTP; Sat, 01 Dec 2007 11:22:08 -0700

ReplyTo: <p\_davis@envirologicinc.com>

From: "Paul Davis" <p\_davis@envirologicinc.com>

SendTo: <r2fwe\_al@fws.gov>

CopyTo: <senator\_bingaman@bingaman.senate.gov>,<ask.heather@mail.house.gov>

Subject: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping - the real issue and the only true solution

PostedDate: 12/01/2007 11:21:46 AM

Organization: EnviroLogic, Inc.

\$MessageID: <000b01c83447\$0f794fb0\$0602a8c0@PaulLifebook>

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Dear Mr. Sloan,

I attended last evenings on the reintroduction of the Mexican gray wolf in New Mexico and Arizona. I would appreciate it if you would consider the following comments in your deliberations.

#### General Comment

My overall feeling at last nights hearing was that our priorities and rational have gotten so turned around that we are debating how and, in some locations, whether or not a native species should be reintroduced to the wild.

This is insane.

Instead of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service standing in front of us and defending the reintroduction of native animals to the wild, we should immediately remove all cattle (and sheep) from all public lands. Then we could have ranchers in front of us defending why they should be allowed to introduce non-native species into the wild. Can you imagine the NEPA process for the introduction of non-native species into the wild? The ranchers would have to defend why a 1,000 pound animal from a humid climate should be introduced into the semi-arid west. They would have to defend the use of the vast majority of our water resources for growing alfalfa and feed corn. They would have to defend why their non-native species should be allowed to pollute our streams and rivers. They would have to defend why they should be allowed to kill any wildlife that interferes with their non-native species. They would have to defend criss-crossing our public lands with barbed wire fences. They would have to defend why adjacent land owners would be required to fence out their non-native species. They would have to defend the myriad of tax write offs and subsidies required for the introduction of their non-native species. They would have to defend the creation local, state, and federal agencies needed to support the introduction their non-native species into the wild.

They would have to convince the tax payers why so many millions of their dollars are required to introduce and maintain a non-native species on our public lands. They would have to defend the extinction of wild animals to support the introduction of their non-native species into the wild. They would have to defend why we should allow increased fire risk due to the introduction of their non-native species into the wild. They would have to defend the encroachment of junipers into historic meadows due to the introduction of their non-native species into the wild. They would have to defend the increased soil erosion due to the introduction of their non-native species into the wild. And the list goes on and on and on.

At least the NEPA process would be direct and short - no one in their right mind would allow the introduction of cows onto our public lands if they had to follow NEPA or any rational decision process.

Now as a native New Mexican whose family roots go back many generations in New Mexico, I understand how we got to this point. I understand that when cows were introduced we did not understand the delicate balance of the semi-arid landscape. My Spanish ancestors saw beautiful pastures and did not realize that these pastures were the result of a balance between the native species and the climate. They couldn't see that the introduction of a very large non-native species from a humid climate would dramatically tip the balance. The survival of this non-native species required water subsidies. That is, we had to divert our surface and groundwaters to alfalfa and corn fields to subsidize the feeding of these non-native species. At the time, the water resources seemed to be limitless. Unfortunately, we are now painfully aware of how wrong that assumption was.

And we all know how hard it is to change direction even in the face of an absolute wrong like cattle grazing. For many, many years America embraced slavery beyond the time where the vast majority of Americans agreed it was dreadfully wrong. They continued slavery because of the vested interests of a few and the ill-defined and indefensible reason called 'tradition.'

Now we have environmental slavery. Cattle grazing enslaves the vast majority of our public lands. I don't make this claim lightly. As a professional earth scientist and as a native New Mexican who is familiar with almost all of this state's public lands, the destruction is beyond obvious. The destruction slaps me in the face every time I drive down our highways and roads or hike in our public lands. I live in a US Forest Service inholding adjacent to one of their (our) grazing allotments. I am continually sickened by what I see.

And the reason this atrocity continues? The vested interests of a few shored up by the elusive concept of tradition.

Well it is time for a new tradition. A tradition of respect for the land and nature, a tradition of fiscal responsibility, and a tradition of sustainability.

With regard to the issue at hand, the new tradition begins with the introduction of wolf to their entire natural range and the elimination of all cattle grazing on our public lands.

#### Specific Comments

These comments attempt to respond to issues raised in the slide show you presented at last night's hearings.

As you can guess from my general comment, I do not think that the wolves that have been introduced should be considered as 'experimental.' They are essential to the ecosystem. The cows are non-essential and the results of a failed experiment - remove them. You are concerned about primary and secondary territories and the

associated rules used to manage those areas. In my view, wolves should be introduced to their entire original habitat. There should be no restrictions on their migration and movement. Resolve livestock-wolf conflicts by removing all livestock. Truly if you cared about the "U.S. Fish and Wildlife" this is the first thing you would do. While in the process of doing this, I recommend that no wolves be killed for any purpose (killing livestock, pets, etc.).

Sincerely,

Paul A. Davis

PO Box1736

Tijeras, New Mexico87008

Phone: 505-383-5376

Cell Phone: 505-688-6053

Fax: 505-286-8438

Email: [p\\_davis@EnviroLogicInc.com](mailto:p_davis@EnviroLogicInc.com)

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Dear Sir

My family & I fully SUPPORT PROTECTION FOR THE MEXICAN GRAY WOLVES.

It is morally wrong to kill them & to kill the 2 main females & their pups.

It is wrong for our woefully inadequate government to order the killings & to have federal officials wasting time hunting them in the Gila Forest

when there is much more important work for them to do.

The wolves are misunderstood & feared & hated. The US government promotes this hatred & fear & killing the wolves. Again, it is morally wrong.

Please do not let the federal government continue the rampage of hate against wolves.

Please STOP THE KILLING OF WOLVES.

Phyl Morello  
984 Harrison Ferry  
White Pine TN 37890

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Jane Pauls [Mrs] 12609 Colony Place, Albuquerque, NM 87122. I am confused by the state and country wide feeling at the grass roots level that endangered animals, and the balance of nature, need

preservation, which conflicts with the news that the Aspen pack is being sought and hunted. Will the pack be placed in a Preserve situation to keep the gene pool healthy? Are livestock being lost because the ranchers are exterminating natural prey? What is the plan? What are the contingency plans? I would be interested in hearing more and I could not be at the meeting in Albuquerque at the IPCC last evening. Thank you for being available by e-mail.

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Attn:Mexican grey Wolf NEPA Scoping---The removal of the Aspen pack would be a tragedy.

That said, I wonder why 3,000 Minnesota wolves and 300 in N. Carolina are a tourist attraction, but 25 in New Mexico are a crisis?

Is there enough forage for deer and elk here? Are the deer and elk overhunted(or over poached) by man?Have cattle eaten all the grasses?Or are the S.W. wolves just cattle-hungry? I always thought it

was a shame to go into some remote supposed wilderness area to find the predominate species is bovine.

Perhaps letting the Mexican wolves out of their artificial boundary might take some pressure off them and off the ranchers in that area.

Maybe people from the International Wolf Center in Minnesota could add their experiences to help.

Anne P. Lewis  
P.O. Box 1501  
Tijeras, N.M.

87059

[sumac2@cybermesa.com](mailto:sumac2@cybermesa.com)

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Dear Bill Millsap,

I am writing to you to please consider my plea to let the wolves stay living in the Gila Wilderness here in New Mexico.

Natural predators are an integral part of our ecosystem. Scientists have been studying this and have proof of the great impact of changing ecosystems, can essentially kill life as we know it. And inevitably even killing humans by our own ignorant actions to kill everything that seems a threat. If the climate is screwed up so will our chances of survival in this fast changing world. If the building block diversity of life if knocked down, us as humans at the top of the food chain will have a fast fall. The balance is delicate. Every species that we can save is crucial. I believe that many more people want the wolves here than don't want the wolves here. Eradication is no different than genocide. The American people have done hunted wolves and buffalo to practical extinction for example. We regret this greatly. We don't have to hate and kill because we have choice and solution and tolerance. Please. I hope the wolves can make it with your help!

Ellen DeWitt  
509 Valverde dr se  
Abq, NM 87108

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

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The wolf is a natural part of the habitat. Without predators the ecosystem is out of balance. Please make a sensible decision.

Peter Sinclair  
Phoenix, Arizona

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It is curious to me that the reintroduction of the Mexican Gray Wolf has

been so difficult. Certainly, though cantankerous, ranchers in southern Arizona and New Mexico are no worse than ranchers in Idaho where wolves have repopulated quite successfully, much to the dismay of numerous locals.

If one is to believe the rumor mill or word of mouth, the difference is in the tenacity of the USFWS staff in implementing the recovery, often bowing to pressure from locals rather than holding firm on ESA, which is federal law.

Certainly ranchers and other locals who choose to do so can undermine the effectiveness of any restoration effort by willfully killing or poisoning wolves, so perhaps there is some cause to placate them. However, resistance is based on fear - fear of loss, fear of change, fear of not being the top predator. Everyone must simply move past this and grow accustomed to sharing the landscape with predators other than ourselves.

USFWS has picked too small a recovery zone and has too limited a vision for recovery, along with a weak attitude toward success.

Using the 1998 10j rule to limit distribution of wolves is pointless. If successful at breeding in the wild wolves will naturally expand their range and should be allowed to go wherever they wish. Trapping wolves that leave the recovery zone is a waste of taxpayer dollars and an endless effort that serves no purpose.

Left to their own devices wolves will repopulate wherever suitable habitat and food exists. They should be allowed to do so.

Also, it seems to me that the area of the Arizona Strip north of the Grand Canyon, the Navajo and Hopi Reservations, the Kaibab Plateau extending into the Grand Staircase National Monument and Zion National Park offers a second recovery zone within historical habitat where there is currently very little human population. This area would make an excellent choice for a second recovery zone.

Finally, changes must be made to grazing practices on public lands. No doubt promises were made to ranchers that their traditional grazing leases on public lands wouldn't be affected by wolf reintroduction. This is inappropriate and change is overdue. Wolves were present when the grandfathers of current ranchers first introduced cattle to this landscape. No doubt losses were incurred by wolves and this is in part

what prompted their extirpation.

Men have to make room for other species and for a fully functioning landscape. Cattle grazing should be limited or eliminated entirely as necessary to restore landscape function. Men and wolves can co-exist and it is foolish to think that men aren't going to have to give up something to allow this to happen.

The entire idea of some managed recovery area bounded by a zone where animals will be trapped and relocated wrecks of big government and wasted dollars.

Let's just face the facts here folks and get on with recovery. Let the wolves roam and fine or jail anyone caught shooting or poisoning them.

In summary then, I make the following points:

- 1) Establish a second recovery area in northern Arizona, southern Utah, northwest New Mexico, and southwest Colorado.
- 2) Allow wolves to wander wherever they will and afford them full protection under ESA.
- 3) Change the practice of year round grazing, eliminating grazing entirely in key areas and employing rotational grazing schemes where appropriate in order to benefit habitat on public lands.
- 4) Replace current USFWS staff with program staff that will get the job done in spite of local attitudes or resistance.

James P McMahon  
ecologist  
375 Cedar Tree Drive  
Brookside, UT 84782  
435-574-2711

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To:  
Brian Millsap, State Administrator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,  
Albuquerque, NM 87113

I am concerned about the Mexican Gray Wolf. There has to be a balance of

nature. The wolfs keep the rabbit population under control. Without them the rabbits would totally destroy all the cactus plants by eating the roots out. I am sure that the wolfs keep other things in balance as well.

Working together with agencies that care about the desert and it's balance would benefit everyone. We have a responsibility to care for the earth its animals, plants and atmosphere.

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Dear Sirs:

I am encouraged by the reintroduction of wolves into a small portion of their former range, and especially by the gray wolf back into small portions of Arizona (my home) and New Mexico.

We have seen numerous problems resulting from overpopulation of deer and elk when their natural predators are eliminated. The eastern U.S. is a good example. As a control measure, human hunting of deer and elk tends to focus on the healthy and best specimens, and not the weakest and less able of the prey who are instead more vulnerable to natural predators.

When wolves were introduced to the Yellowstone area, it was also observed that resident elk become more wary and stopped congregating near water, and in large groups, which damaged their environment. Presence of wolves dispersed elk populations. There can be little argument that a healthy predator population is good for the environment.

Of course we also have to contend with the human element and address the concerns of some. One sector sees wolves as competition in killing of prey. I think there is enough for all, and this need to limit wolf populations to make deer and elk more available to human hunters becomes an unfounded, and sometimes irrational argument. Another objection is that wolves cause property losses because they kill livestock. This is a more legitimate concern and not so easily dismissed. Our reintroduction programs should address this by providing compensation and by selecting wolves who don't depend excessively on livestock. Another partial solution to decrease the number of complaints might be to avoid devoting some government-owned land to ranching by leaseholders when the leases are for less than market value. There is no universally acceptable solution, and I think you have to reach a reasonable compromise. That decision should be based first and foremost on good science and promotion of a healthy natural environment. This will not provide an insurmountable impediment towards beneficial reintroduction of the wolf.

Charles Broder  
6171 N. Via Acacia  
Tucson, AZ 85718

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Att: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

Dear Mr. Milsap,

In the past I never understood why certain environmental groups pushed for the re-introduction of the Mexican gray wolf. I always thought it was a contentious issue that activists should stay away from.

I have come to understand how wolves help to provide a healthy ecosystem. I now realize why certain groups have taken it on as a cause...even though it evokes anger in ranchers and other community members. As I have become educated about the integral part the wolf plays, I think in the end it benefits all members of the community. I understand that ranchers have a history of resentment towards wolves, but I believe they can come to accept their place and beneficial effect.

I hope you will look at the big picture of environmental health when it comes to the rule changes that will provide a place for the Mexican gray wolf in Arizona and New Mexico.

Yours truly,

Daisy Kates  
PO Box 661  
Placitas, New Mexico 87043

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ATTN: MEXICAN GRAY WOLF NEPA SCOPING

I am submitting these comments solely as a private individual interested in wildlife and the environment. Please withhold my personal identifying information from public review to the greatest extent possible.

Clearly, the reintroduction of the Mexican gray wolf is not doing as well

as hoped. Therefore, I offer the following comments, using the Federal Register listing as a guideline:

a) Current management stipulations that require wolves that establish home ranges outside the BRWRA to be removed and re-released into the BRWRA

or taken into captivity:

These stipulations need to be changed to give the Service the authority to allow wolves to establish territories outside the BRWRA so that the reintroduction project objective can be met and, preferably, exceeded.

b) Current management stipulations allow for initial Mexican gray wolf releases from captivity only into the primary recovery zone of the BRWRA:

Since management experience has show that this stipulation sets impractical limits on the reintroduction process, it should be limited,

allowing wolves from the captive breeding populations to be released into

New Mexico.

c) Definition of the White Sands Missile Range as the White Sands Wolf Recovery Area:

Since it is not of sufficient size to function as an independent recovery area, it should not be designated as such.

d) Limited provisions for private individuals to "harass" wolves engaged

in nuisance behavior or livestock depredation, or which are attacking domestic pets:

I strongly disfavor permitting any treatment which could potentially injury or kill Mexican gray wolves. The line must remain firm on this point. Livestock and pet wellbeing is not a priority in this situation.

The survival of a wild species is the priority.

e) Current provisions in the 1998 NEP final rule that don't allow for "take" of wolves in the act of attacking domestic dogs on private or Tribal Trust lands:

I do not consider the "taking" of Mexican gray wolves in favor of domestic dogs to be justifiable. Permitting individuals to kill an endangered, nearly extirpated wild animal which is barely functioning in

only a portion of its historic range is highly misguided. Again, the wellbeing of domestic animals is not the priority here; humans will have

to adjust to that fact.

f) Livestock carcass management and disposal issue:

At the very least, livestock operators on public land should be exclusively responsible for proper disposal of their livestock carcasses,

and the terms "nuisance wolves" and "problem wolves" should be redefined

so as to exclude wolves that scavenge on the carcasses of livestock that died of non-wolf carcasses. I do not believe that wolves should be penalized at all for scavenging on the carcasses of livestock. Furthermore, I do not believe that wolves should be penalized for killing livestock. I do not believe that livestock operators should be permitted to operate on public land in the first place. The livestock, not the wolves, are the exotic animals in this area, and their very presence is at best neutral, more likely harmful to the local ecosystem because of overgrazing. Again, in a clash of interests, the wellbeing of the wild animals in their historic range has to be the priority.

I urge the Service to make all necessary changes so that the reintroduction can fully and quickly succeed.

Thank you for your attention to these comments.

Priscilla J. Mattison  
351 Hidden River Road  
Narberth PA 19072

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

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTTP id 2007113016070576-332981 ; Fri, 30 Nov 2007 16:07:05 -0700  
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Public Comments on Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants;  
Notice  
of Scoping Meetings and Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact  
Statement and Socio-Economic Assessment for the Proposed Amendment of  
the  
Rule Establishing a Nonessential Experimental Population of the Arizona  
and New Mexico Population of the Gray Wolf (`Mexican Gray  
Wolf):=====

Title: Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Notice of Scoping  
Meetings and Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and

Socio-Economic Assessment for the Proposed Amendment of the Rule  
Establishing a Nonessential Experimental Population of the Arizona and  
New

Mexico Population of the Gray Wolf (``Mexican Gray Wolf)

FR Document Number: E7-14626

Legacy Document ID:

RIN: 1018-AV40

Publish Date: 08/07/2007 00:00:00

Submitter Info:

First Name: Venessa

Middle Initial:

Last Name: Hughes

Mailing Address: 126 Ashland Ave.

Mailing Address 2: 1st Fl.

City: Buffalo

Country: United States

State or Province: NY

Postal Code: 14222

Email Address: hughesv@wildmail.com

Phone Number:

Fax Number:

Organization Name:

Submitter's Representative:

Government Agency Type:

Government Agency: null

Comment Info: =====

General Comment:First of all, you need to stop using the euphemism  
"remove" and replace it with  
what you are really doing: "killing" the animals. People who read the  
word  
could get it confused, and think you are actually moving the animals to  
another  
place, which you are not doing, you are killing the wolves, who are on  
the  
brink  
of extinction.

While I appreciate that people need to make a living, people are  
animals as  
well, and don't deserve any special treatment because of the profession  
they  
chose to go into in terms of being allowed more lenience to kill the  
wolves who  
threaten "their" livestock. The wolves are only doing what they were  
created to  
do: prey on animals that are weaker than them. If humans had chosen  
not to  
encroach on their lands, we wouldn't be having this problem today.

A better reintroduction plan has been needed since the first one was  
drafted,  
but it should not include leniency for human beings to kill more  
wolves.



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Document ID

FWS-2007-0338-0001

I am writing to comment on the above proposal. It is imperative to protect the Mexican wolf from extinction. Ranchers do not own public land and need to be more responsible ranchers. They need to pick up dead livestock so the wolves will not become acclimated to livestock as well as many other ways of making it hard for wolves to endanger their livestock. Wolves do not know boundaries and ranchers should not be allowed to graze on public land where wolves are located. There is no need to get rid of the wolves - rein in the ranchers. The ranchers seem to think, for some reason, they do not have to obey the law like everyone else does. There needs to be some sanity in this program somewhere. The Mexican wolf should be allowed to live and thrive in its native areas without the interference of man.

It is also well know that wolves are less than 1/2 of 1% of livestock losses but get the credit for everything. This characterization by the ranching community needs to be stopped. If everything that kills livestock was destroyed, there would be very little wildlife in America.

Thank you.

Laura Jobe  
Pearland, TX

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Dear Brian Millsap,

I can not attend the meeting in Tucson regarding the Mexican Gray Wolf, but want to forward my comments as I am extremely interested in the future of wolves in Arizona and New Mexico.

This program of reintroduction has struggled for 10 years, and there have been many mistakes made.

The political and artificial boundaries imposed on the wolves is a direct cause of many problems for this species.

The wolf is an important predator for this region and should be allowed to play out its natural role in the environment. Certainly concessions have to be made for the welfare of people and livestock, but the actions of your agency have been too restrictive and therefore the reintroduction has suffered and many wolves have unnecessarily died in the process.

Please remedy those past mistakes and finally, let's get his program going in the right direction. Let's truly give these magnificent animals the right to claim some space without meaningless boundaries being imposed only for the sake of politics. You have the opportunity to preserve an endangered species and restore the ecological balance. Please don't let that slip away.

Thank you for reading this message.

Cynthia Wicker

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Public Comments on Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants;  
Notice  
of Scoping Meetings and Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact  
Statement and Socio-Economic Assessment for the Proposed Amendment of  
the  
Rule Establishing a Nonessential Experimental Population of the Arizona  
and New Mexico Population of the Gray Wolf (`Mexican Gray  
Wolf):=====

Title: Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Notice of Scoping  
Meetings and Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and

Socio-Economic Assessment for the Proposed Amendment of the Rule  
Establishing a Nonessential Experimental Population of the Arizona and  
New

Mexico Population of the Gray Wolf (``Mexican Gray Wolf)

FR Document Number: E7-14626

Legacy Document ID:

RIN: 1018-AV40

Publish Date: 08/07/2007 00:00:00

Submitter Info:

First Name: Margie

Middle Initial: L

Last Name: Szymanskyj

Mailing Address:

Mailing Address 2:

City: Crystal Lake

Country: United States

State or Province: IL

Postal Code: 60014

Email Address:

Phone Number:

Fax Number:

Organization Name:

Submitter's Representative:

Government Agency Type:

Government Agency: null

Comment Info: =====

General Comment:Wolves have little chance of survival with mankind  
being  
its predator. Mankind, what an  
oxymoron that is. Allowing private citizens to hunt and kill these  
animals should not be  
allowed. Killing these animals because they hunt, as they were meant  
to  
do, and  
because humans continue to destroy and encroach upon more and more of  
their  
habitat is deplorable. Humans are supposed to be smarter than animals.  
If  
so, then let  
us find a way to keep our livestock safe without murdering innocent  
animals.

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

Dear Sir:

In case you were not alerted to this, please read the following carefully:

Governor Richardson has instructed the Director of the Department of Game & Fish and members of the State Game Commission to work with the state's partners in the Mexican Gray Wolf Recovery Program to review and revise standard operating procedures related to the control of nuisance (non-depredating) and problem (depredating) Mexican wolves. The Governor has also called for the immediate suspension of the use of Standard Operating Procedure 13 (SOP 13) procedures in New Mexico pending these revisions. "I strongly support the effective recovery of endangered Mexican wolves in the Southwest, done in a responsible and sensitive way," said Governor Bill Richardson. "Changes must be made to the protocol for the wolf re-introduction program."

From the head of our state government, Bill Richardson, to a vast majority of New Mexico citizens, we all seem to be saying the same thing . . . . your government agency's handling of the wolf reintroduction in New Mexico is unacceptable. In polls, time and time again, we New Mexicans have stated we were FOR wolf reintroduction in New Mexico. We don't want to see endangered wolves destroyed for killing a few cattle, who, last time I checked, were no where near being listed on the Endangered Species List.

But, in the case of the Aspen Pack removal, it sounds like the US Fish and Wildlife Service is conducting business as usual.

So, my question to you is, exactly whose wishes are you carrying out by proceeding as usual and what are you doing to comply with Governor Richardson's, and a majority of New Mexican's, stated wishes?

I await your response.

Sincerely;

Gary Cascio

P.S. And if you haven't figured it out by now, you can add my name to the list of New Mexicans who are against the way you are currently running this program. We demand you run this program FOR WOLF RECOVERY and not kowtow to a minority group of activists ranchers.

Late Nite Grafix, Inc.  
3600 Cerrillos Road • Suite 729 A

work (505) 984-0941  
fax (505) 471-2861  
Santa Fe, NM 87507  
[www.latenitegrafix.com](http://www.latenitegrafix.com)

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTTP id 2007113012470414-322992 ; Fri, 30 Nov 2007 12:47:04 -0700  
Received: from p01c11m093.mxlogic.net (mxl144v247.mxlogic.net [208.65.144.247]) by smtp1.fws.gov (Postfix) with ESMTTP id 0419919E800A for <r2fwe\_al@fws.gov>; Fri, 30 Nov 2007 12:13:40 -0700 (MST)  
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Received: from ame8.swcp.com (ame8.swcp.com [216.184.2.163]) by mx1a.swcp.com (8.13.4/8.13.4/Debian-3sarge3) with ESMTTP id 1AUJl2w3028656 for <R2FWE\_AL@fws.gov>; Fri, 30 Nov 2007 12:47:02 -0700  
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\$MessageID: <475068B5.6010107@swcp.com>  
PostedDate: 11/30/2007 12:47:01 PM  
From: leon fager <desertf@swcp.com>  
User\_Agent: Thunderbird 2.0.0.9 (Windows/20071031)  
MIME\_Version: 1.0  
SendTo: R2FWE\_AL@fws.gov  
Subject: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping  
X\_Greylist: Sender succeeded SMTP AUTH authentication, not delayed by milter-greylist-3.0 (ame8.swcp.com [216.184.2.128]); Fri, 30 Nov 2007 12:47:01 -0700 (MST)  
X\_Virus\_Scanned: ClamAV 0.91.2/4965/Fri Nov 30 09:59:13 2007 on ame8.swcp.com  
X\_Virus\_Status: Clean  
X\_Spam\_Checker\_Version: SpamAssassin 3.2.3 (2007-08-08) on ame8.swcp.com  
X\_Spam\_Level:  
X\_Spam\_Status: No, hits=-0.0 required=10.0 tests=NO\_RECEIVED,NO\_RELAYS autolearn=no version=3.2.3  
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Categories:  
\$Revisions: 01/04/2008 09:20:14 AM

\$MsgTrackFlags: 0  
DeliveredDate: 11/30/2007 12:47:05 PM  
\$RespondedTo: 2

Dear US Fish and Wildlife Service:  
11/30/2007

I would like to go on record opposing the removal of Mexican Gray Wolves from public lands in Arizona and New Mexico. The Mexican Gray Wolf is public property using public lands. Domestic Livestock are private property with the privilege, not a right, to use National Forest lands. Public use of public lands should take precedent over private use. If ranchers lose livestock to wolves they are more than compensated by the ultra-low grazing fees they are charged. Loss of livestock to predators is one of the risks the ranchers take by using public land for their private activities.

I want my public lands used for wildlife, recreation and water quality rather than subsidizing the life style of ranchers. As far as I am concerned all livestock should be removed from public lands and there is no compelling reason that their use is compatible with the other uses of the land. The wolf is part of our national heritage and biodiversity and should be protected and recovered by all possible means. If the livestock industry can't coexist with the wolf and other wildlife species on our public lands the them find another line of work.

I think it's time that when a wolf is trapped or killed because of livestock loss that a cow be trapped or killed and I am ready to take this action.

Sincerely,  
Leon Fager  
2500 Chip Ct  
Rio Rancho, NM  
87124  
505-891-1906

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTTP id 2007113011292137-318968 ; Fri, 30 Nov 2007 11:29:21 -0700  
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Received: from unknown [63.231.195.112] (EHLO mpl-s-qmqp-01.inet.qwest.net) by p01c11m014.mxlogic.net (mx1\_mta-5.2.0-1) with ESMTTP id 08650574.2716638128.250355.00-044.p01c11m014.mxlogic.net (envelope-from <lynnledgerwood@nwpavement.com>); Fri, 30 Nov 2007 11:29:20 -0700 (MST)  
Received: from mpl-s-pop-06.inet.qwest.net (mpl-s-pop-06.inet.qwest.net [63.231.195.6]) by mpl-s-qmqp-01.inet.qwest.net (Postfix) with QMQP id 28E981A9D74 for <R2FWE\_AL@fws.gov>; Fri, 30 Nov 2007 18:29:20 +0000 (UTC)  
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From: "Lynn Ledgerwood" <lynnledgerwood@nwpavement.com>  
SendTo: <R2FWE\_AL@fws.gov>  
Subject: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping  
PostedDate: 11/30/2007 11:29:23 AM  
MIME\_Version: 1.0  
\$Mailer: Microsoft Office Outlook, Build 11.0.5510  
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thread\_index: Acgzfu5IsPaTL9JgR3KRWDavh6lSkA==  
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November 30, 2007

I was APPALLED to hear that the US Fish and Wildlife Service, while holding meetings on the future of wolves in New Mexico, have ordered the

immediate removal of two important female wolves and their pups from the wild. I was further DISTRESSED to learn that federal officials are already searching the Gila Forest for these wolves and if they cannot be easily trapped, you will likely shoot them! My God, what are you people doing?

I truly expect the destruction of wild places and the wildlife that reside there from the Bush Administration - they have shown nothing but contempt for sound science and the wishes of a MAJORITY of US citizens that our wild places and wildlife be saved. The US Fish and Wildlife Service is expected to be ABOVE political interference.

In closing, I am begging you to save the Lobo. If we allow these magnificent creatures to pass into extinction, then there is little hope for the remaining wild places and creatures that reside there. Please do the right thing and fully protect the Mexican Gray Wolves now. Save the Lobo!

Lynn Ledgerwood

2605 Otis St. SE

Olympia, WA 98501

360-570-3392

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTTP id 2007113011010311-317208 ; Fri, 30 Nov 2007 11:01:03 -0700  
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Subject: FW: Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping  
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PostedDate: 11/30/2007 11:01:00 AM  
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X\_MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft Exchange V6.5  
X\_MS\_Has\_Attach:  
X\_MS\_TNEF\_Correlator:  
Thread\_Topic: Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping  
thread\_index: Acgzehr6BLAmToAXQ5610DmwAPd7tgAANUSA  
From: "Chip Cunningham | Uncharted Outposts"  
<Chip@unchartedoutposts.com>  
SendTo: <r2fwe\_al@fws.gov>  
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\$MsgTrackFlags: 0  
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\$RespondedTo: 2

Dear Mr. Millsap,

Having been involved in Africa wildlife conservation for many years I have seen the damage done to the habitat by the killing of species like the African wild hunting dog what was systematically destroyed in the same way

and for the same reasons the Grey Wolves are being killed here in the US.  
You need to stop trying hyper-manage this animal and find alternative solutions to the present situation.

Please reconsider your ordered for the immediate removal of two important female wolves and their pups from the wild.

Respectfully,

Charles Cunningham

Charles "Chip" Cunningham  
Uncharted Outposts, Inc.  
9 Village Lane  
Santa Fe, NM87505  
1 (888) 995-0909 or (505) 795-7710  
[www.UnchartedOutposts.com](http://www.UnchartedOutposts.com)

PPlease consider the environment before printing this email

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTMP id 2007113010533275-316746 ; Fri, 30 Nov 2007 10:53:32 -0700  
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From: "alan seegert" <alan.se@gmail.com>  
SendTo: R2FWE\_AL@fws.gov  
Subject: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping  
MIME\_Version: 1.0  
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\$RespondedTo: 2

Greetings: As a Catron County resident, I want to express my disappointment with the performance of the reintroduction effort to date. It seems obvious to me that the program is faltering, and that not enough protection is being afforded the wolves. The recent decision to remove more wolves from the Aspen pack is a good example. The ranchers should be reimbursed for any losses, and the wolves should be left alone. There simply isn't enough genetic diversity in the subspecies to be killing or removing animals just because they preyed on a few cattle. Regards, Alan.

Alan Seegert  
Box 44  
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 2007113010460706-316364 ; Fri, 30 Nov 2007 10:46:07 -0700  
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Received: from Tia2 (w066.z064000141.lax-ca.dsl.cnc.net [64.0.141.66]) (Authenticated sender: tia@anlf.com) by agamemnon.cnchost.com (ConcentricHost(2.60) Relay) with ESMTTP id CB376F7C5 for <R2FWE\_AL@fws.gov>; Fri, 30 Nov 2007 12:45:59 -0500 (EST)  
From: "Tia Triplett" <tia@anlf.com>  
SendTo: <R2FWE\_AL@fws.gov>  
Subject: "Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping"  
PostedDate: 11/30/2007 10:51:16 AM  
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\$MsgTrackFlags: 0  
DeliveredDate: 11/30/2007 10:46:11 AM  
\$RespondedTo: 2

[IMAGE]

Please save these magnificent animals. Do not hurt or kill them. They deserve to be left alone and live out their life especially the pups with their Mothers. It would be inhumane/cruel to trap or kill them.

Sincerely,

Tia Triplett

4073 Bledsoe Avenue

Los Angeles, Ca., 90066

Principal: CN=R2FWE\_AL/OU=R2/OU=FWS/O=DOI  
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Recipients: CN=John Slown/OU=RO/OU=R2/OU=FWS/O=DOI@FWS  
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SaveOptions: 1  
\$PaperColor: 1  
From: CN=Magdalena Etemadi/OU=R2/OU=FWS/O=DOI  
AltFrom: CN=Magdalena Etemadi/OU=R2/OU=FWS/O=DOI  
Logo: stdNotesLtr0  
useApplet: True  
DefaultMailSaveOptions: 1  
Query\_String:  
tmpImp:  
Sign:  
Encrypt:  
SendTo: CN=John Slown/OU=RO/OU=R2/OU=FWS/O=DOI@FWS  
CopyTo:  
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----- Forwarded by Magdalena Etemadi/R2/FWS/DOI on 11/30/2007 07:24 AM  
-----

"Michael Harris" <michael@kineticstrategies.com>  
11/29/2007 02:16 PM

To  
<R2FWE\_AL@fws.gov>  
cc

Subject  
Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

Please keep the process of wolf recovery moving forward. Predators are a major part of the whole ecosystem. In order to maintain a healthy planet wolves need to be in it.  
Adrienne Waltking  
10020 S. 46th Place  
Phoenix, AZ 85044

----- Forwarded by Magdalena Etemadi/R2/FWS/DOI on 11/30/2007 07:24 AM  
-----

Charlotte Taft <taftoram@cybermesa.com>  
11/29/2007 02:22 PM

To  
r2fwe\_al@fws.gov  
cc

Subject  
Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

Dear Mr. Millsap,

We are writing in support of efforts to return wolves to the wilds of Arizona and New Mexico. We realize that balancing wildlife and human society can be difficult, but we believe that it is critical to keep our wild lands as natural as possible. Wolves are an important part of that balance.

Sincerely,

Charlotte Taft and Shelley Oram  
Box 428  
Glorieta, NM 87535  
505-757-2991

----- Forwarded by Magdalena Etemadi/R2/FWS/DOI on 11/30/2007 07:24 AM  
-----

Ronisfree@aol.com  
11/29/2007 04:14 PM

To  
r2fwe\_al@fws.gov  
cc

Subject  
Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

We are sending this email to provide our support for the recovery of the Mexican Wolf in New Mexico and Arizona. We recognize there are other viewpoints on this issue but we firmly believe in the natural diversity our beautiful state can and should preserve. We also believe that all the parties involved can reach a compromise that saves this beautiful animal. Please find a way through the "spin" that results in a rational decision for all.

Ron & Joy Mandelbaum  
47 Happy Trails  
Santa Fe, NM 87505  
505-992-1970

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

----- Forwarded by Magdalena Etemadi/R2/FWS/DOI on 11/30/2007 07:24 AM  
-----

"ziabear@juno.com" <ziabear@juno.com>  
11/29/2007 04:25 PM

To  
R2FWE\_AL@fws.gov  
cc

Subject  
wolf

Please stop the killing of these wild life animals in this state, there are only a few, keep what we have. Thank you

----- Forwarded by Magdalena Etemadi/R2/FWS/DOI on 11/30/2007 07:24 AM  
-----

"warren harkey" <harkey@zianet.com>  
11/29/2007 09:14 PM

To  
<R2FWE\_AL@fws.gov>  
cc

Subject  
wolf eradication program

We strongly support our Governor in his efforts to safeguard the last  
wild  
wolves in New Mexico. Please listen to the majority in this state!

Warren Harkey  
3201 Bowman  
Las Cruces, NM  
88005

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTMP id 2007112921145908-292560 ; Thu, 29 Nov 2007 21:14:59 -0700  
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From: "warren harkey" <harkey@zianet.com>  
SendTo: <R2FWE\_AL@fws.gov>  
Subject: wolf eradication program  
PostedDate: 11/29/2007 09:14:57 PM  
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Categories:  
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\$RespondedTo: 2

We strongly support our Governor in his efforts to safeguard the last wild wolves in New Mexico. Please listen to the majority in this state!

Warren Harkey  
3201 Bowman  
Las Cruces, NM  
88005

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTMP id 2007112916265684-286698 ; Thu, 29 Nov 2007 16:26:56 -0700  
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MIME\_Version: 1.0  
From: "ziabear@juno.com" <ziabear@juno.com>  
PostedDate: 11/29/2007 04:25:41 PM  
SendTo: R2FWE\_AL@fws.gov  
Subject: wolf  
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Please stop the killing of these wild life animals in this state, there

are only a few, keep what we have. Thank you

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTTP id 2007112916150187-286292 ; Thu, 29 Nov 2007 16:15:01 -0700  
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Brian Millsap, State Administrator  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

We are sending this email to provide our support for the recovery of the Mexican Wolf in New Mexico and Arizona. We recognize there are other viewpoints on this issue but we firmly believe in the natural diversity our beautiful state can and should preserve. We also believe that all the parties involved can reach a compromise that saves this beautiful animal. Please find a way through the "spin" that results in a rational

decision for all.

Ron & Joy Mandelbaum  
47 Happy Trails  
Santa Fe, NM 87505  
505-992-1970

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

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTTP id 2007112914342034-281742 ; Thu, 29 Nov 2007 14:34:20 -0700  
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SendTo: r2fwe\_al@fws.gov  
From: Charlotte Taft <taftoram@cybermesa.com>  
Subject: Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping  
PostedDate: 11/29/2007 02:22:05 PM  
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\$Revisions: 01/04/2008 09:19:58 AM  
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DeliveredDate: 11/29/2007 02:34:21 PM  
\$RespondedTo: 2

Dear Mr. Millsap,

We are writing in support of efforts to return wolves to the wilds of Arizona and New Mexico. We realize that balancing wildlife and human society can be difficult, but we believe that it is critical to keep our wild lands as natural as possible. Wolves are an important part of that balance.

Sincerely,

Charlotte Taft and Shelley Oram  
Box 428  
Glorieta, NM 87535  
505-757-2991

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTTP id 2007112914164444-280786 ; Thu, 29 Nov 2007 14:16:44 -0700  
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From: "Michael Harris" <michael@kineticstrategies.com>  
SendTo: <R2FWE\_AL@fws.gov>  
Subject: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping  
PostedDate: 11/29/2007 02:16:14 PM  
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\$RespondedTo: 2

Please keep the process of wolf recovery moving forward. Predators are a major part of the whole ecosystem. In order to maintain a healthy planet

wolves need to be in it.  
Adrienne Waltking  
10020 S. 46th Place  
Phoenix, AZ 85044

Principal: CN=R2FWE\_AL/OU=R2/OU=FWS/O=DOI  
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Recipients: CN=John Slown/OU=RO/OU=R2/OU=FWS/O=DOI@FWS  
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DefaultMailSaveOptions: 1  
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tmpImp:  
Sign:  
Encrypt:  
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CopyTo:  
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----- Forwarded by Magdalena Etemadi/R2/FWS/DOI on 11/29/2007 12:33 PM  
-----

VZ <etheric11@yahoo.com>  
11/29/2007 09:33 AM

To  
R2FWE\_AL@fws.gov  
cc

Subject  
Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

Mr. Brian Milsap, State Administrator  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services

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

Dear Mr. Milsap:

I am emailing to voice my support of changing the Fish and Wildlife Service rules to ensure that the Mexican Wolf is no longer exterminated just for being a carnivore.

Ranchers have a number of options for protecting their livestock that do not involve unnecessarily killing wolves.

The Mexican wolf is a vital part of the natural balance that keeps our Southwestern ecosystems healthy and thriving. I am an avid hiker and have seen for myself how the rodent population explodes when there are not enough natural predators to keep their numbers in check.

Please do all that you can to protect and restore the Mexican Wolves population.

Thank you,

Val Zeff  
1208 E. Hubbell St  
Phoenix, AZ 85006

---

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[http://mobile.yahoo.com/sports;\\_ylt=At9\\_qDKvtAbMuh1G1SQtBI7ntAcJ](http://mobile.yahoo.com/sports;_ylt=At9_qDKvtAbMuh1G1SQtBI7ntAcJ)

----- Forwarded by Magdalena Etemadi/R2/FWS/DOI on 11/29/2007 12:33 PM

-----

"susan singer" <sue.singer@gmail.com>  
11/29/2007 10:01 AM

To  
r2fwe\_al@fws.gov  
cc

Subject  
Restoring the balance: more wolves, better protection

Dear FWS Folk:

Attending a scoping meeting in Flagstaff, Arizona this week only reinforced my own research and opinion. We need to restore the ecological balance, at least in our national forests. The ecology of fear is necessary to a healthy environment. When there are predators, the elk may not be as easy a target for hunters and those who make their living from always guiding hunters to a kill but the rest of the natural system will benefit greatly. Elk behave normally, as prey, and their normal movement allows seedlings to grow restoring healthy growth of cottonwoods, willows, aspen and others in areas where these trees have not thrived. The growth of trees reduces erosion, protects streams and creates habitat for other animals. When wolves are reintroduced into areas in which they had been eradicated, there's a positive ripple effect reversing the trophic cascade that resulted from removing this crucial player from the ecosystem.

There seem to be just two major complaint groups against wolf populations: ranchers and hunters. Ranchers cite wolves killing stock although the number of cases that are known to be wolf kills seem tiny given the numbers. Since groups like Defenders of Wildlife have programs to reimburse ranchers for any verified stock kill, ranchers suffer no actual loss. That ranchers are allowed to graze animals in our National Parks and Forests is something I question as they don't pay much for the privilege. They also do not remove the carcass of their animals who die from disease or other causes, allowing predators to become accustomed to their stock as 'food' and exacerbating the problem. If there is a conflict between a domestic and a wild animal in one of the few areas reserved for wildlife, why are there still cattle and sheep in our parks and forests?

As for the hunters, while there are growing numbers of groups who are now convinced as to the benefits of a healthy ecological balance, others constantly voice their complaints about road closings and predators alike. When natural predators are present, elk and other game would be naturally fearful and less prone to hanging around grazing so hunters might have to actually track and hunt rather than waiting for one to appear at a designated spot. They might then have to field dress and tote their game out rather than being able to drive up, shoot something and drive the carcass to a butcher. Man has gotten accustomed to being the only predator and that must change. The sane upshot is really just that

hunters might have to work a bit harder to kill their limit. I favor leveling the hunting playing field. There are plenty of game in areas where wolf populations have been restored, it ebbs and flows naturally as it should.

We should do whatever is possible to reintroduce wolves to more of their habitat areas. I'd like to see the program expand the borders as wolves do not read maps. Surveys show that more than 80% of Arizonans favor expanding the wolves territory in this state and protecting them from human predators. I support their habitat extending from the Blue range through the Grand Canyon ecoregion in all suitable habitat. Wild wolves belong in the Southwest and should be afforded all possible protection from human predators.

Sue Singer  
Flagstaff, Arizona  
928 526-9380

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"The one thing that doesn't abide by majority rule is a person's conscience."

Harper Lee

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\$RespondedTo: 2

Dear FWS Folk:

Attending a scoping meeting in Flagstaff, Arizona this week only reinforced my own research and opinion. We need to restore the ecological balance, at least in our national forests. The ecology of fear is necessary to a healthy environment. When there are predators, the elk may not be as easy a target for hunters and those who make their living from always guiding hunters to a kill but the rest of the natural system will benefit greatly. Elk behave normally, as prey, and their normal movement allows seedlings to grow restoring healthy growth of cottonwoods, willows, aspen and others in areas where these trees have not thrived. The growth of trees reduces erosion, protects streams and creates habitat for other animals. When wolves are reintroduced into areas in which they had been eradicated, there's a positive ripple effect reversing the trophic cascade that resulted from removing this crucial player from the ecosystem.

There seem to be just two major complaint groups against wolf populations: ranchers and hunters. Ranchers cite wolves killing stock although the number of cases that are known to be wolf kills seem tiny given the numbers. Since groups like Defenders of Wildlife have programs to reimburse ranchers for any verified stock kill, ranchers suffer no actual loss. That ranchers are allowed to graze animals in our National Parks and Forests is something I question as they don't pay much for the privilege. They also do not remove the carcass of their animals who die from disease or other causes, allowing predators to become accustomed to their stock as 'food' and exacerbating the problem. If there is a conflict between a domestic and a wild animal in one of the few areas reserved for wildlife, why are there still cattle and sheep in our parks and forests?

As for the hunters, while there are growing numbers of groups who are now convinced as to the benefits of a healthy ecological balance, others constantly voice their complaints about road closings and predators alike. When natural predators are present, elk and other game would be naturally fearful and less prone to hanging around grazing so hunters might have to actually track and hunt rather than waiting for one to appear at a designated spot. They might then have to field dress and tote their game out rather than being able to drive up, shoot something and drive the carcass to a butcher. Man has gotten accustomed to being the

only predator and that must change. The sane upshot is really just that hunters might have to work a bit harder to kill their limit. I favor leveling the hunting playing field. There are plenty of game in areas where wolf populations have been restored, it ebbs and flows naturally as it should.

We should do whatever is possible to reintroduce wolves to more of their habitat areas. I'd like to see the program expand the borders as wolves do not read maps. Surveys show that more than 80% of Arizonans favor expanding the wolves territory in this state and protecting them from human predators. I support their habitat extending from the Blue range through the Grand Canyon ecoregion in all suitable habitat. Wild wolves belong in the Southwest and should be afforded all possible protection from human predators.

Sue Singer  
Flagstaff, Arizona  
928 526-9380

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"The one thing that doesn't abide by majority rule is a person's conscience."

Harper Lee

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

Dear Mr. Milsap:

I am emailing to voice my support of changing the Fish and Wildlife Service rules to ensure that the Mexican Wolf is no longer exterminated just for being a carnivore.

Ranchers have a number of options for protecting their livestock that do not involve unnecessarily killing wolves.

The Mexican wolf is a vital part of the natural balance that keeps our Southwestern ecosystems healthy and thriving. I am an avid hiker and have seen for myself how the rodent population explodes when there are not enough natural predators to keep their numbers in check.

Please do all that you can to protect and restore the Mexican Wolves population.

Thank you,

Val Zeff  
1208 E. Hubbell St  
Phoenix, AZ 85006

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Mike Marino - Writer/Author <roadheadchronicles@yahoo.com>  
11/28/2007 12:55 PM

To  
r2fwe\_al@fws.gov  
cc

Subject  
GALLUP INDEPENDENT MEDIA INQUIRY

Just received an email regarding the public input meeting tomorrow, Thursday, November 29 in Grants on

the wolf issue and wanted to know the contact person at your offices that will be on hand to present the event. Contact info, etc if you could.

I am headquartered here in Grants and can be reached at:

(505) 285-6184.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Mike Marino

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<http://overview.mail.yahoo.com/>

----- Forwarded by Magdalena Etemadi/R2/FWS/DOI on 11/29/2007 07:44 AM  
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"dixiedavis46@earthlink.net" <dixiedavis46@earthlink.net>  
11/28/2007 02:09 PM

Please respond to  
dixiedavis46@earthlink.net

To  
r2fwe\_al@fws.gov  
cc  
"Glenda Muirhead" <gmuirhead1@msn.com>  
Subject  
Wolf Recovery Support

Dear Mr. Millsap:

We strongly support the re-establishment of free roaming wild wolves in New Mexico. The current Catron county appeasement policies are another shameful episode in the US Fish and Wildlife Service's administration of the ESA. Real wildlife administrators would form a solid front AGAINST the political meddlers and secure the wild wolf population as most citizens want done as they have stated over and over and over again when queried.

Sincerely yours,

Jeff and Dixie Davis  
2 Nizhoni Ct.  
Sandia Park, NM 87047  
dixiedavis46@earthlink.net

----- Forwarded by Magdalena Etemadi/R2/FWS/DOI on 11/29/2007 07:44 AM  
-----

"Aija Thacher" <aijathacher@comcast.net>  
11/28/2007 05:06 PM

To  
<R2FWE\_AL@fws.gov>  
cc

Subject  
Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

We are adding our comment to the Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping record. Wolves are an important part of a healthy ecosystem and their removal in the past has caused imbalance problems. Financial compensation to ranchers has been established for the occasional loss of livestock. Ranchers are already getting low cost grazing on public lands. The public has the right to have some ecological balance restored by the reintroduction of wolves into at least part of their habitat.

Philip and Aija Thacher  
524 Camino del Bosque NW  
Albuquerque, NM 87114

----- Forwarded by Magdalena Etemadi/R2/FWS/DOI on 11/29/2007 07:44 AM  
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"Felicity Broennan" <felicitytoys@hotmail.com>  
11/28/2007 06:27 PM

To  
r2fwe\_al@fws.gov  
cc

Subject  
Wolf Recovery Program

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

November 28, 2007

Dear Mr. Millsap,

We write to you today regarding our grave concerns about the handling of the Mexican Gray Wolf reintroduction program in New Mexico and Arizona. For several decades now, wildlife managers all agree on the necessity of predators as part of a healthy ecosystem management plan. The dismal failure of the FWS to support the wolves in a manner conducive to their thriving in the Gila and the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area is shameful.

As New Mexico residents following this tragic saga, we kindly request that you begin to follow successful reintroduction models that will protect the wolf, making them less vulnerable to the threats they face.

The random shooting, the separation of healthy packs, and the orphaning of pups only perpetuates the decline of the ecosystems. Why have you conceded valuable land that you know these animals will need to roam into as their numbers increase? Why are you not insisting that ranchers who are using our public lands take full responsibility for their downed cows and carcasses, such that the wolves do not become habituated? The responsibility for cows MUST fall with those who own them, and your agency could enforce this, instead of appearing to be beholden to them.

The health of our ecosystems in these forests must supercede any one private or government interest. With all the parties at the table, you have an opportunity to save the wolf, one of our most vital contributors to the natural world. We urge you to not let this opportunity slip by. Please do everything in your power to follow what we all know is excellent science for the health of New Mexico and Arizona wild lands, and for the wolves.

Sincerely,

Mary Mackintosh  
Eliza Kuelthau  
Barbara Colman  
Craig Hansen  
Felicity Broennan

Felicity Broennan

"If you want to build a ship,  
don't drum up people together to collect wood  
and don't assign them tasks and work,  
but rather teach them to long for the endless immensity of the sea."

~Antoine de Saint-Exupery~

----- Forwarded by Magdalena Etemadi/R2/FWS/DOI on 11/29/2007 07:44 AM  
-----

"Phil Latham" <platham@prescott.edu>  
11/29/2007 05:47 AM

To  
<R2FWE\_AL@fws.gov>  
cc

Subject  
I-10

Dear Mr. Milsap,

I am strongly opposed to any project that further compromises the habitat of the Mexican Gray Wolf or any other species. It is time for us to look at our transportation problems from a new perspective, one that takes into account the irreparable damage we're doing to our planet for the sake of growth (read: profits for developers). It's time for the decision makers to put the brakes on the wanton destruction of the desert; Phoenix and Tuscon have grown out of control over the last half-decade, ruining hundreds of thousands of acres of desert habitat and only a few benefit from this while many suffer. The current regime of growth and profit-taking is clearly not sensible nor is it sustainable, so please do what you can to make a case against this short sighted approach and save what little is left.

Sincerely,  
Phil Latham  
Prescott

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I am strongly opposed to any project that further compromises the habitat of the Mexican Gray Wolf or any other species. It is time for us to look

at our transportation problems from a new perspective, one that takes into account the irreparable damage we're doing to our planet for the sake of growth (read: profits for developers). It's time for the decision makers to put the brakes on the wanton destruction of the desert; Phoenix and Tuscon have grown out of control over the last half-decade, ruining hundreds of thousands of acres of desert habitat and only a few benefit from this while many suffer. The current regime of growth and profit-taking is clearly not sensible nor is it sustainable, so please do what you can to make a case against this short sighted approach and save what little is left.

Sincerely,  
Phil Latham  
Prescott

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Brian Millsap, State Administrator

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office

2105 Osuna, NE

Albuquerque, NM 87113

November 28, 2007

Dear Mr. Millsap,

We write to you today regarding our grave concerns about the handling of the Mexican Gray Wolf reintroduction program in New Mexico and Arizona. For several decades now, wildlife managers all agree on the necessity of predators as part of a healthy ecosystem management plan. The dismal failure of the FWS to support the wolves in a manner conducive to their thriving in the Gila and the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area is shameful.

As New Mexico residents following this tragic saga, we kindly request that you begin to follow successful reintroduction models that will protect the wolf, making them less vulnerable to the threats they face.

The random shooting, the separation of healthy packs, and the orphaning of pups only perpetuates the decline of the ecosystems. Why have you conceded valuable land that you know these animals will need to roam into as their numbers increase? Why are you not insisting that ranchers who are using our public lands take full responsibility for their downed cows and carcasses, such that the wolves do not become habituated? The responsibility for cows MUST fall with those who own them, and your agency could enforce this, instead of appearing to be beholden to them.

The health of our ecosystems in these forests must supercede any one private or government interest. With all the parties at the table, you have an opportunity to save the wolf, one of our most vital contributors to the natural world. We urge you to not let this opportunity slip by.

Please do everything in your power to follow what we all know is excellent science for the health of New Mexico and Arizona wild lands, and for the wolves.

Sincerely,

Mary Mackintosh

Eliza Kuelthau

Barbara Colman

Craig Hansen

Felicity Broennan

Felicity Broennan

"If you want to build a ship,  
don't drum up people together to collect wood  
and don't assign them tasks and work,  
but rather teach them to long for the endless immensity of the sea."

~Antoine de Saint-Exupery~

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\$RespondedTo: 2

We are adding our comment to the Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping record.

Wolves are an important part of a healthy ecosystem and their removal in the past has caused imbalance problems. Financial compensation to ranchers has been established for the occasional loss of livestock. Ranchers are already getting low cost grazing on public lands. The public has the right to have some ecological balance restored by the reintroduction of wolves into at least part of their habitat.

Philip and Aija Thacher

524 Camino del Bosque NW

Albuquerque, NM 87114

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTTP id 2007112814093843-229891 ; Wed, 28 Nov 2007 14:09:38 -0700  
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SendTo: r2fwe\_al@fws.gov  
CopyTo: "Glenda Muirhead" <gmuirhead1@msn.com>  
Subject: Wolf Recovery Support  
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\$RespondedTo: 2

Dear Mr. Millsap:

We strongly support the re-establishment of free roaming wild wolves in New Mexico. The current Catron county appeasement policies are another shameful episode in the US Fish and Wildlife Service's administration of the ESA. Real wildlife administrators would form a solid front AGAINST the political meddlers and secure the wild wolf population as most citizens want done as they have stated over and over and over again when queried.

Sincerely yours,

Jeff and Dixie Davis  
2 Nizhoni Ct.  
Sandia Park, NM 87047  
dixiedavis46@earthlink.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 2007112812570864-225611 ; Wed, 28 Nov 2007 12:57:08 -0700  
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Received: from [71.213.172.124] by web45510.mail.sp1.yahoo.com via HTTP; Wed, 28 Nov 2007 11:55:16 PST  
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From: Mike Marino - Writer/Author <roadheadchronicles@yahoo.com>  
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\$RespondedTo: 2

Just received an email regarding the public input meeting tomorrow, Thursday, November 29 in Grants on the wolf issue and wanted to know the contact person at your offices that will be on hand to present the event. Contact info, etc if you could.

I am headquartered here in Grants and can be reached at:

(505) 285-6184.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Mike Marino

---

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<http://overview.mail.yahoo.com/>

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"Katherine Elswick" <KElswick@ccusd93.org>  
11/28/2007 10:19 AM

To  
<r2fwe\_al@fws.gov>  
cc

Subject  
Attn:Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

Before Dec. 31st, public comment invited? Mine is:

www.MexicanGrayWolf

Before Dec. 31st, public comment being received on reintroduction in AZ, NM of the Mexican Gray Wolf.

My take: If we don't learn to live in some balance with wild things; we are not going to have either: wilderness or balance.

Wolves don't eat THAT often! They predate on the weaker, slower. They control deer and elk herds. Ranchers loose little, and what they do lose can be compensated.

Living things have value in THEMSELVES; and for man, symbolic value as well. It is one of our "gifts" that we throw away when we exterminate other lives.

Read Barry Lopez ON WOLVES and MEN.

Thanks.

Katherine Elswick  
P.O. Box 4394  
Cave Creek, AZ 85327

----- Forwarded by Magdalena Etemadi/R2/FWS/DOI on 11/28/2007 11:10 AM  
-----

"Sarah Winslow" <pauraque@operamail.com>  
11/28/2007 10:46 AM

To  
r2we\_al@fws.gov, R2FWE\_AL@fws.gov  
cc

Subject  
Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

Re: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office  
2105 Osuna NE  
Albuquerque, NM 87113  
Fax: (505) 346-2542  
Email: r2we\_al@fws.gov

I am unable to attend the Mexican Gray Wolf meetings as I will be out of the area during this time. I am therefore submitting my comments in writing.

I am writing to ask that you act affirmatively in support of the following points:

- Put an immediate end to removing wolves from the wild (trapping or shooting) until population goals are reached.
- Update the Mexican wolf recovery plan with new science and numerical targets for removing the wolf from the endangered species list.
- Allow direct release of wolves from the captive population into the Gila National Forest.
- Allow wolves to roam beyond the boundaries of recovery area.
- Require livestock operators who lease public lands in the wolf recovery area to practice responsible husbandry practices, such as disposal of carcasses, seasonal (versus year-round) grazing, using penned calving areas, and other protective measures.
- Resolve livestock-wolf conflicts over the long term through a voluntary grazing retirement program that allows ranchers to relocate their livestock operations to wolf-free areas.
- Promote better understanding of wolves through fact-based education programs, especially in communities within the wolf recovery area.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Sarah Winslow

Sarah Winslow  
PO Box 22  
San Miguel, NM 88058  
732/546-8961  
pauraque@operamail.com

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Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTTP id 2007112810463682-217646 ; Wed, 28 Nov 2007 10:46:36 -0700  
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\$RespondedTo: 2

Re: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

Albuquerque, NM 87113  
Fax: (505) 346-2542  
Email: r2we\_al@fws.gov

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- Resolve livestock-wolf conflicts over the long term through a voluntary grazing retirement program that allows ranchers to relocate their livestock operations to wolf-free areas.
- Promote better understanding of wolves through fact-based education programs, especially in communities within the wolf recovery area.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Sarah Winslow

Sarah Winslow  
PO Box 22  
San Miguel, NM 88058  
732/546-8961  
pauraque@operamail.com

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Before Dec. 31st, public comment invited? Mine is:

[www.MexicanGrayWolf](http://www.MexicanGrayWolf)

Before Dec. 31st, public comment being received on reintroduction in AZ, NM of the Mexican Gray Wolf.

My take: If we don't learn to live in some balance with wild things; we are not going to have either: wilderness or balance.

Wolves don't eat THAT often! They predate on the weaker, slower. They control deer and elk herds. Ranchers loose little, and what they do lose can be compensated.

Living things have value in THEMSELVES; and for man, symbolic value as well. It is one of our "gifts" that we throw away when we exterminate other lives.

Read Barry Lopez ON WOLVES and MEN.

Thanks.

Katherine Elswick  
P.O. Box 4394  
Cave Creek, AZ 85327

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

Date: November 27, 2007

SUBJECT: MEXICAN GRAY WOLF NEPA SCOPING

Cat Care Network of Colorado and New Mexico, a 501[c]3 animal welfare organization, requests U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to include a "Conservation Alternative" that will change the classification of the Mexican Gray Wolf from "experimental, non-essential" to "experimental, essential" or "endangered" to provide wolves more protection. They are not being recovered under the existing classification.

The Blue Range population of Mexican gray wolves is essential to long-term recovery of this endangered subspecies. Captive populations will not safeguard Mexican wolves from extinction in the long-term. An "essential" or an "endangered" designation will give these wolves the stronger protections they need to succeed in the wild.

Congress provided for "experimental, essential" as a classification, yet it has never been used by the Fish and Wildlife Service. If ever a case can be made for the first ever designated "essential" experimental population, this is it.

Please allow wolves to expand their territory. Eliminate restrictions to wolf dispersal and movements.

Under current rules, Mexican wolves must stay within the boundaries of the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area (BRWRA), which comprises the Gila National Forest in New Mexico and the bordering Apache National Forests in Arizona. But wolves have large territorial requirements and can't read maps. They need access to good habitat throughout their historic range and often cross the invisible political lines in search of new homes and prey. Under the existing rule, wolves that leave the BRWRA boundary are captured and relocated back into the Blue Range, which disrupts packs, thwarts expansion and dispersal of the population, and sometimes causes serious injuries to individual wolves. In the revised rule, there should be no exclusion of geographic areas from potential occupation by wolves.

Please expand the area for initial releases to anywhere within the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area.

Under the current rules, releases of wolves from the captive population are only allowed in Arizona, a provision that severely limits the

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

Please work to prevent and resolve livestock-wolf conflicts in ways that keep wolves in the wild and achieve progress towards reintroduction objectives. Rules should apply to all players, not just wolves.

Under 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 are alleged to have killed 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 public land to clean up dead stock before wolves find and scavenge on them.

Please work to stop killing and removing wolves: reduce "take."

The current rule allows excessive wolf removal that is precluding achievement of the reintroduction objective of 100+ wolves in the BRWRA population. A revised rule must reduce unacceptable bias and prejudice, and discourage and outlaw "take" custom and practice.

Please work to revise the Recovery Plan.

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

Please expand the number of wolves in the wild population.

A viable, self-sustaining population of at least 100 wolves is a minimum objective for the BRWRA population of wolves. Recovery has yet to be defined through revision of the recovery plan. No maximum should be set for the number of wolves in the wild through this rule change.

Please keep future recovery options open.

This rule change should not include any provisions that would limit in any way future options for recovery of Mexican gray wolves anywhere outside the current boundaries of the BRWRA.

Our organization values and respects wolves as an integral part of the balance of nature. We want to see wolves recover and establish themselves once again in New Mexico. Their intelligence and social structure are exemplary, and their role in controlling populations of rodents and deer, for example, is essential when overpopulation is a real problem for farmers, ranchers and communities in many areas across the state.

Sincerely,

Ron and Norma Wiggins  
Cat Care Network of Colorado and New Mexico  
Coordinator, Low-Cost, Spay-Neuter-Shots Program in Colfax County  
FEIN 65-1281472  
1400 Scenic Road  
Raton, N.M. 87740  
E: [catcarenetwork@msn.com](mailto:catcarenetwork@msn.com)  
PH: 505-445-8756

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I am a full time resident of Alpine, AZ who will not be able to make the meeting tonight as I must be out of town. I strongly support the reintroduction of the wolves. There are people in the area who have strong (i.e. rabid) feelings about

the issue and feel that road closure is just a step on the route of the United Nations assuming actual control of our forests and the condemnation of all private property with no compensation. This group, as best I can tell, is the core of the opposition to the wolf program and road closures. I have the greatest respect for ranchers and their traditions, but they are in the same spot as the Pennsylvania steelworkers of the 1960's. (Perhaps not in Catron County, which will probably hold on for another generation or two) The value of land around here signals a shift in the economy of the area, and the future is going to be hunting, tourism, and summer people, not cattle. Wolves belong in this area. Incidentally, the wolf opposition group swears that they have proof that secret plans are underway to reintroduce grizzly bears to the White Mountains. On that cheerful note, I remain

Don MacGregor  
P.O. Box 838  
Alpine, AZ  
#20 County Road 2310

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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.

Sweeping changes will be necessary in order to get our wolf program back on track. First and foremost, the Mexican gray wolf (*canis lupus baileyi*) 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 voluntary grazing permit buyout in the Gila bioregion; repeal, or at least suspend Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) 13 until the the species has been restored to all or a significant portion of its former range, as required by the Endangered Species Act; and immediately reinstate 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.

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

Sincerely, TD Kameron  
PO BOX 1132  
ASHLAND, NH 03217

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From: "JAN ROBERTS" <jrob980@msn.com>  
SendTo: r2fwe\_al@fws.gov  
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Mr. Brian Millsap

U.S.Fish and Wildlife Service

The Mexican Gray Wolf recovery program definitely needs to be continued

and expanded. Keeping the wolves in the designated area and away from livestock seems to be the biggest problems, along with their small litter size. Could the grazing permits be cut back, reducing the area the cattle use, especially during the times when calves are small and easy prey? Or require more supervision in the area to keep wolves away from the livestock? This would not be easy and could lead to more shooting of wolves.

As wolves need large areas to roam, their allowed range needs to be expanded. The Nature Conservancy purchases land the owners keep as a conservation area. This approach could work as a way to expand the wolves allowed areas

Thank you,

Jan Roberts

804 E Clubhouse

Queen Creek, AZ 85242

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From: "LindaInBenson" <lindainbenson@hotmail.com>  
SendTo: <R2FWE\_AL@fws.gov>  
Subject: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping  
PostedDate: 11/27/2007 08:43:26 PM  
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DeliveryPriority: N  
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\$RespondedTo: 2

Dear

I live in Benson, Arizona and was reading about the Wolf reintroduction

program. Apparently, from what I read, a person cannot kill one of these  
wolves if it is injuring their pet. I think that is absolutely  
inhumane  
and ridiculous. I am disabled and cannot have human children. My  
dogs  
are my service animals, and my dogs and cats also are like my  
children,  
and if something is injuring them, especially in my own backyard, I  
should have every legal right to protect my animal, be it from a Wolf,  
Javalina, or what have you. We are trying to bring nature back in  
balance by reintroducing wolves. That's fine. However, when Wolves  
ran  
freely, so did people who used bows and arrows to protect their own  
animals and property. That IS part of the balance. I should have  
every  
legal right to protect my animals. Hopefully, it wouldn't get to the  
point of killing anything, as I love animals, but there is a very  
clear  
line between freedom and irresponsibility. If you allow Wolves to run  
around in people's yards killing innocent and smaller animals who are  
not  
"wild," then you are being entirely inhumane and unjust to all of the  
animals involved.

I am all for the Wolf reintroduction program, but not if they are  
allowed  
to kill my "children", my animals, and I have to sit back helplessly  
and  
watch it happen.

Sincerely,

Linda Culhane  
Benson, Arizona

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTTP id 2007112718553624-191090 ; Tue, 27 Nov 2007 18:55:36 -0700  
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From: "bettyt" <bettyt@wt.net>  
SendTo: <r2fwe\_al@fws.gov>  
Subject: Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping  
PostedDate: 11/27/2007 06:55:30 PM  
MIME\_Version: 1.0  
DeliveryPriority: N  
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\$RespondedTo: 2

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

Dear Mr. Milsap,

Please support the Mexican Gray Wolf recovery in New Mexico. I believe in helping the wolves survive and thrive to help return the wilderness to a natural balance. I don't think cattle add to the viability of the National Forests and wild places. I hope cattle will be restricted from grazing on public lands and leave the wilderness to the creatures who belong there.

Thank you,

Betty Tichich  
6724 Edgewood Dr. NW  
Los Ranchos de Albuquerque, New Mexico 87107

bettyt@wt.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 2007112716272703-187119 ; Tue, 27 Nov 2007 16:27:27 -0700  
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Received: from Aihugh@aol.com by imo-m14.mx.aol.com (mail\_out\_v38\_r9.3.) id y.cc5.2327ae8d (39330) for <r2fwe\_al@fws.gov>; Tue, 27 Nov 2007 18:26:47 -0500 (EST)  
From: Aihugh@aol.com  
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Categories:  
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\$RespondedTo: 2

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

Let the wolves stay. Bring them back. They belong there - they were there before us (and before farmers and ranchers). I understand the position of farmers and ranchers, but often they can be reimbursed for any losses due to wolves. Wolves are programmed to hunt animals like deer and elk, and they do a good job of keeping those herds healthy. There are wolves all over the world. Farmers and ranchers in South America or

Europe, for example, look after their cattle, goats, and sheep and protect them from predators. Our farmers and ranchers should do the same.

Aileen Hughes

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Check out AOL's list of 2007's hottest products.  
(<http://money.aol.com/special/hot-products-2007?NCID=aoltop00030000000001>)

Received: from smtp1.fws.gov ([164.159.171.2]) by ifw9bct-smtp1.fws.doi.net (Lotus Domino Release 7.0.3) with ESMTTP id 2007112716242366-187032 ; Tue, 27 Nov 2007 16:24:23 -0700  
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From: <asmcran@cox.net>  
SendTo: r2fwe\_al@fws.gov  
Subject: Mexican Gray Wolf Meetings  
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I will, unfortunately, be unable to attend any of the upcoming public scoping meetings.

I am a strong supporter of this reintroduction program, and have followed it since it started.

I recognize the rough going that the program has had, but have no  
proposed  
comments at this time.

Hopefully the wolf population can some day increase enough so that it  
becomes a "commercial tourist attraction" like the Yellowstone wolves.  
[I made the long drive there and back some years ago, and hope to go  
again  
this coming Summer.]

Alan McCready  
P.O. Box 2260  
Sierra Vista, Az 85636