

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

The lobo or Mexican Gray Wolf is a distinctly separate sub-species from the Gray Wolf and should have its own listing as endangered animal ~~in its~~ own right.

The presence of wolves is an important component of the biodiversity and healthy ecosystem of the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area. This animal has an undeniable right to exist unimpeded in its historical habitat. If for no other reason the species must be allowed to live and breed successfully for a complete and healthy ecosystem.

The fact that ranching has used public lands for over 100 years, that are in fact the historical territory of the Mexican Gray Wolf doesn't make the case for imminent domain or permanent use by the ranching community. These lands are rented to the ranchers at a fraction of the real cost subsidized by the taxpayer. The loss of cattle on these public lands should be considered the price of publicly subsidized ranching. Alternatively, formal support by the appropriate general agency's involved in supporting voluntary grazing permit buyout in the Gila Bioregion should be facilitated.

It is essential for long term recovery that their classification be changed from experimental non essential to endangered or experimental essential. Congress has provided for the

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Classification but to date never used by the FWS. This is undoubtedly the most critical case for the use of the essential experimental classification.

Ranchers currently are not required to remove cattle carcasses which are often scavenged by the wolves and therefore may start to prey on live cattle or horses. Currently after 3 head of livestock are killed, a wolf is permanently removed by either killing or permanently placed in captivity for life. It is often not clear that a single wolf has done the killing and it is the rancher's word or a few FWS personnel who are biased against the wolf recovery effort.

Reverse the out of date recovery plan which hasn't been amended in 25 years which is precluding achievement of the reintroduction objective of 100 or more wolves. Change the rule to eliminate any maximum number in the wild population. The recent suspicious disappearance of 2 collared wolves is very suspicious for poaching illegally presumably by the ranching community.

Eliminate all restriction on wolf dispersal and movement within the recovery area of the Gila NF + Apache NF. Under current ruling those animals that leave the boundary are captured (as they can't read maps) and are relocated into the boundary area. This is destructive

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and disruptive to individuals and pack unity + viability
and sabotages population expansion and dispersal.
Wolves can be and often are injured physically + emotionally
during the capture process.

Revised rules should allow expansion without geographic
exclusion and release allowed anywhere in recovery area.
Eliminate of release only allowed in Arizona which limits
genetic augmentation of the NM population. This rule
change needs to give managers the necessary
flexibility to fulfill the mandate to promote a
viable wolf population and long term success of
the Mexican Gray Wolf

Jon Spar, MD

Beart Mente Forest Guardians

The Rewilding Institute
POB 13768, Albuquerque, NM 87192 * TRI@rewilding.org
www.rewilding.org

A North American Wolf Vision

In 1600, wolves lived in North America from the high Arctic islands to just north of the Valley of Mexico, and from Atlantic to Pacific. Beginning with the earliest European settlements, colonists declared war against wolves. By the middle of the twentieth century, wolves were essentially extirpated from the United States and Mexico.

We now know that the fear of wolves was based on myths, and that wolves are a vital and necessary part of healthy, functioning North American ecosystems. With this new knowledge, tentative efforts have been made to restore wolves in the most out-of-the-way parts of temperate North America. However, these restoration efforts by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service endeavor only to recover small, geographically isolated populations encompassing a relatively insignificant proportion of their historic range. Furthermore, the USFWS has no plans for restoring wolves to substantial areas of potentially suitable habitat (the Southern Rocky Mountains, New England, and the Pacific Northwest, for example).

We call for the recovery of wolves across North America. Such recovery means:

- Restoration of wolves in suitable habitat throughout their former range in North America, from the Northern Sierra Madre Occidental in Mexico to the Canadian Rockies and Coast Range, and from the U.S. Pacific Northwest to the Upper Great Lakes and to upstate New York and New England.
- Restoration of potentially suitable habitats and crucial linkages between patches of suitable wolf habitat where wolves are free to behave like wolves.
- Restoration of wolves in ecologically and evolutionarily effective populations so that they may fulfill their natural keystone role of ecosystem regulation, aiding the persistence of native flora and fauna.
- Restoration of wolves throughout this expanse, so that all wolf populations are connected by a continuum of functioning dispersal linkages.

In short, we envision the return of the wolf to its rightful place in North American wildlands, to a community where humans dwell with respect and tolerance for wild species.

David Parsons * Michael Soule * Brian Miller * Dave Foreman

(To endorse this vision statement individually or for a group, please contact us.)

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- Take the brochure with you and return it by mail
- Provide comments via e-mail. For your convenience, you can do that here at the computer station, or visit www.mexicanwolf.org
- Faxed comments may be sent to (505) 346-2542

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Comments:

see attached
North American Wolf
Vision

Name:

DAVE FOREMAN

Street:

THE REMILDK INST
DOB 13768

City, State, Zip:

Alb. NM

87192

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Thank you for your input!

Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping
Catharine Embrey
11628 Terra Bonita Way SE
Albuquerque, NM 87123

Key issues that need to be resolved:

- The Mexican gray wolf is an endangered species and should be treated accordingly. By removing these animals, the population will not reach a healthy number. There should not be any limit to how many wolves are in the wild. This is their natural habitat and by building a healthy population, the benefits to the ecosystem will be immense.
- There should also be no restrictions placed on the area that wolves are allowed to roam. Giving them enough space to expand their populations will make the entire recovery program more beneficial.
- There is no good coming from the removal of numerous wolves and their packs because no forward progress is happening. The hopes for a healthy 100+ population will not happen unless these animals are able to adapt and survive in their surroundings.
- The area for the wolf reintroduction is public land and the wolves' natural habitat. The issues with cattle ranching need to be resolved. These animals should not be punished for their natural instincts of survival. Ranchers should be required (on public land) to use the available resources and preventions to help support the survival of the wolves.

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Comments:

Public lands are
for Public! Not
Privatized wolves
need more room.
They were all over
the United States
& now in every
few places. They are
Victim to the Eco
System.
Put livestock
on private hand,
& get wolves
Room

They Kill To Survive
Not To hang a
head on a wall.

Name: Yeu Hueta
Street: 2913 Calif. ME
City, State, Zip: Albany, VT 05410

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Comments:

- A couple of suggestions:
- 1) Expand the boundaries of it's mandate for a way to take an educational to be re-ably restored. They can't send sign, take all.
 - 2) Change the designation of Mexican Gray wolf from "non-essential" to "essential."
 - 3) Reconsider management of Mexican Forest Service + BLM + FWS to make placement of wolf a larger factor in the management equation. The role of management interests should be somewhat reduced.
 - 4) Consider longer term involvement of science quarter north, such as the Carson Natl. Forest.

Name: Fred Lachet
Street: 1144 Academy Ridge
RD NE
City, State, Zip: ASQ NM 87111
FLACHET@princeton.edu

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John Slown
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office
2105 Osuna NE
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Nov. 30, 07

If the perpetrators responsible for the obvious demise of the three remaining members of the Durango pack, two of which were wearing radio collars, are not apprehended, prosecuted, and incarcerated, that lack of effectiveness will constitute a major professional failure and blemish on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Mike Davis
709 Tijeras NW
Albuquerque, NM 87102
512.680.3211

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

I support wide spread reintroduction & maintenance of Mexican gray-wolf populations in New Mexico.

Opposition to wolf reintroduction & maintenance is apparently led by ranching interests. It is hard to take their position seriously. The ranching interests have poor credibility for reasons including

- 1) Many ranchers, particularly in the SW, are misusing public lands. We all know that raising livestock on the grasslands of NM ~~leaves~~ leaves a legacy of degraded lands. Public lands belong to all Americans, and many ranchers are destroying our national heritage.
- 2) Ranchers are serving a shrinking market of red-meat consumers. I and my family, and most of our friends, are vegetarian or white-meat-only consumers. The "ranching livelihood" is irrelevant to us. By historical analogy, the slave trade was a livelihood for many slave-traders, but that was a weak argument in its favor. I can't see any good reason to ensure the survival of ranching in the SW.

Please safeguard the interests of the American public and our God-given wildlife. Let ranchers make their own way.

Sincerely,
Dr. Brian G. Hoover
43 Campo Rd.
Tijeras, NM 87059

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Comments:

My concern, as a resident of New Mexico is that the federal government is not truly following the steps necessary to protect and maintain a breeding population of Mexican wolves as mandated by the ESA of

1972! Although steps have been taken, they seem to be in the best interest of local ranchers and not based on the intrinsic value and ESA of wolves alone. Many cattle are using public lands, shouldn't wolves -- a native animal -- have the same right!?!?

Research shows that removal of top predators has serious ecological impacts: from increasing herbivore populations to environmental damage! I think more \$ should be put into wolf education and less into the purchase of bullets for "containing problematic wolves"! (1)

Name: Kim Sheerer

Street: 4009 Roma Ave. NE

City, State, Zip: Albuquerque

NM 87108

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

SINCE ONLY 2% OF THE AMERICAN BEEF SUPPLY GRAZES ON PUBLIC LANDS, ELIMINATION OF CATTLE GRAZING ON PUBLIC LANDS NEAR THE WOLF REINTRODUCTION AREA WILL REDUCE LIVESTOCK WOLF CONFLICTS, WHILE EXPANDING WOLF POPULATIONS. THE REDUCTION IN THE AMERICAN BEEF SUPPLY WOULD BE INSIGNIFICANT. OVERGRAZED LAND WOULD IMPROVE IN CONDITION AND ALLOW WILD GAME POPULATIONS TO INCREASE BY REDUCING COMPETITION WITH CATTLE. EXPANDING THE WOLF REINTRODUCTION AREAS WOULD SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE RODENT POPULATIONS, AND OFFER IMPROVED PROGRESS TOWARD THE 100 WOLF POPULATION GOAL.

RONALD E. DAVIS
425 VIRGINIA ST NE
ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87108

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

Mr. Moon,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on changes in rules for the Mexican wolf recovery. Changes are essential, because, currently, the wolves aren't recovering.

1. The current wild wolf population should be designated experimentally essential or endangered and treated as such. The recovery plan should be revised to reflect this. The plan should also define the end goal of full wolf recovery, without limiting the number of wild wolves.
2. Do not limit wolf releases to Arizona. Allow wolves to disperse as needed to established new territories and new packs.
3. Requires cote ranches to remove livestock carcasses or render them unedible to reduce wolf scavaging on stock.
4. Reduce the number of wolves removed from the wild in favor of other solutions to conflict. What happens to pups when their mother is removed???

Peggy Wells
505 256-1920
425 Virginia NE
A16 87108

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Comments:

Rule Changes Needed

Allow 1st releases anywhere within the BRWRA based on need for genetic diversity

Eliminate the boundary rule - or - Significantly expand

BRWRA - these animals simply need more space.

Name: Mark Blanchfield

Street: 3009 Centenary Ave

City, State, Zip: Farmington

New Mexico 87402

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

Mr. Slown,

Please make every effort to increase the Mexican grey wolf population in New Mexico and Arizona. There seem to be many ways to accomplish this increase, including expanding the wolves territory to be based on their needs rather than an arbitrary human boundary, change the classification to "experimental-essential", stop killing the wolves (this is a big step in increasing the population), enforce the removal of dead livestock from public lands so wolves are not attracted to the area, and update the Recovery plan to bring it to date with current needs. There is nothing as beautiful as species in their natural habitat and you are in the unique position of making this possible instead of being what humans so often do - care only for us at the expense of all other beings. Please help. Mindy Hale ^{89 Seneca Ct.} PO Box 1689 Corrales, NM 87048

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Comments:

FOR THE GOOD OF
THE PLANET, ECOSYSTEM,
MANKIND ELL ON THE
SIDE OF THE WOLVES,
IN ALL DECISIONS,

Name: ROBERT SHEPARD

Street: 6730 BARTH DESERT

WILLOW DRIVE

City, State, Zip: TUCSON, AZ

87543

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Comments:

USFWS has to change the status of the Mexican Gray wolf to "experimentally-essential" or "endangered".

As the Lobo is one of the most imperiled mammals on Earth in other designation fits, and the ecosystem is equally imperiled without the presence of large carnivores like Mexican Gray wolves.

Without the designations of "essential" or "endangered", the BRWRP will remain in ~~the~~ perpetual semi-failure with the low wolf populations eventually bottlenecking genetically. To prevent this, more wolves must be released, and into New Mexico as well. The wolves must be

allowed to expand outside the BRWRA, and land management policies must be revised to reduce conflict w/ ranchers + wolves, i.e. enforcement of grazing restrictions and mandated carcass removal. Lastly, USFWS and other AMOC agencies must reflect the imperiled status of lobos, and halt predator control policies ~~until~~ a minimum 100 wolves is achieved.

Name: Phil Carter

Street: 222 1/2 Vassar

SE

City, State, Zip: Albuquerque

NM 87106

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Comments:

I am totally opposed to removing or killing any wolf reinsert into the wildlifers area -- unless bears & mountain lions are also managed in a similar manner.

I propose that cattle be limited to restricted areas and kept out of wolf territory.

I propose that farmers who shoot or endanger the wolves be given trophy collars to wear -- on a second violation by the farmer, the farmer should be relocated.

All farmers be mandated to take a course to inform them about eco-system balances and the need to have a complete eco system that balances the existence of all wildlife.

Name: Al FEDORAVICIUS Ph.D.

Street: 1908 Shirlane Pl. NE

City, State, Zip: Albus. NM 87112

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

As a New Mexican I'm
ashamed a state like ours
can't support even the smallest number
of wolves. Every effort must
be taken to increase the number
of wolves remaining wild on our
public lands.

As a US Citizen I'm tired
of the ranching community ROBBING
me in terms of subsidies and
free use of public lands. ~~to~~
~~ranchers.~~

The least Ranchers can do is
allow wolves to live on the land
they have taken from me.

David Bruner
235-9683

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Comments:

6) a collar on the cow that emitted a pitch that would hate.

1) Can we buy out leases of Ranchers
2) change law to allow lease w/o cattle or ex. lease

3) Spray cattle w/ something w/ value
kate

4) captured wolves will be shocked if they go near a cow in the cage

5) use fences that keep cattle away from water, lease lease water use under MKT Value.

A. M. Caffrey

Name: W. A. Wiley

Street: 2005 Quail Run

Alb, N.M. 87122

City, State, Zip: _____

www.Amtrianetwork.com

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Comments:

I am disappointed
by an experience
I had recently
on public lands
near Cabeson/Ojito area.
I was driven off
by a man in
a truck who
has grazing
rights and feels
he owns the
land! It was
allowed to
be hiking there
(I checked w/ the
BGM) but he was
very aggressive!

Name: _____

Street: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

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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

Use some professional mediators to help ranchers and environmentalists to come to some solutions to increasing the wolf population.

As a part of the "general public" I want wolves on our public lands. Many people would be willing to contribute money to save the wolves. Use the Zoo, nature center, and other general public sites to fundraise for money to support the program (so it doesn't come as "blood money" from "crazy environmentalists!").

Let the ranchers know that the general public, and not just extreme environmentalists, will boycott eating beef. Get Op.rals involved in supporting a rational reintroduction where the wolves are successfully introduced, instead of just discouraging eating beef.

Dorothy H. Clough, Ph.D

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

Dear Mr. Slown,

I am very concerned about ^{the} current state of the wolf recovery program in New Mexico. Public lands don't just belong to ranchers for cattle grazing which destroys habitat. I would like to see a healthy wolf population in Southwestern New Mexico. In other areas where wolves have been reintroduced there has been a recovery of habitat and other species.

Ranchers are compensated for cattle loss. And although the losses may sound heavy, a study by Industrial Economics shows that in 2002 the loss was only 0.25% of the cattle in the area - that is ~~less~~ cattle killed by wolves.

Ranchers lose more cattle to disease and other predators than to wolves.

To insure recovery of the wolf I would like to see the following:

- more wolves released to the wild
- ~~stricter enforcement of~~
- greater protection of wolves from killings
- easier and quicker compensation for cattle loss to ranchers (one of their complaints)

Nancy Murray
5419 Hummingbird Lane NE
Albuquerque, NM 87121
Kimmur@aol.com

increase the range of wolf release & area they are allowed to roam.

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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

My name is Linda Patterson and I am a member of the Albuquerque Wildlife Federation. The Mexican Grey wolf is dear to my heart - not only because it is a beautiful animal but because it is the focus of so much undeserved hatred, currently it is legal to remove them ("take") without concern to the reintroduction objective. The welfare of the animal is not taken into consideration.

It is my understanding that ranchers do not need to remove dead cattle and, when wolves are drawn to the carcasses, they are killed and blamed. I understand that ranchers receive compensation for each head of cattle lost and think this provides incentive for blaming the wolves - even though the wolf has not been involved in the killing of the animal. Nature thrives through the existence of an elaborate food chain - remove a link in the chain and all of nature suffers.

Mexican Grey wolves are an "endangered" species. Please support their reintroduction as part of a vital link for all humanity. Please include a Conservation Alternative which includes the term "endangered" to get more protection for these magnificent animals.

In addition - please expand the territory for the release of wolves - they cannot stay within "human set" boundaries. The way it is now they are set up to fail. It is absolutely unrealistic to expect them to stay within boundaries set by humans.

Thank you.

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

I have major objections to the lack of protection for the "endangered" Mexican gray wolf. They are native to the area and need to have their territory expanded. Don't relocate and break up packs.

Ranchers are wanting to control our land. The National Forests belong to everyone. Ranchers are not paying the going rate to rent ~~the~~ land.

No one cares about ecology but they should. The ~~Forest~~ Fish and Wildlife Services should know the benefits that happen when wolves are re-introduced. Check out Yellowstone

Fish and Wildlife Services should be protecting wildlife, not killing it.

Elaine Diers
13208 Montadance Pl NE
Albuquerque, NM 87111

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

As a citizen of New Mexico, I took pride in our ability to help bring back this amazing animal. I view this animal as a potential source of tourism revenue for our state. Please do not enact any program that will reverse or delay their recovery. Please reclassify these animals as "essential" and "endangered" which they surely are.

Nichelle Bruner
Albuquerque, NM

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

30 NOVEMBER 07

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

HAVING GROWN UP IN THE LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY IN THE NORTHERN PART OF N.M., I FEEL I HAVE SOME FAMILIARITY WITH THE LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY AND I TOTALLY SUPPORT THE WOLF REINTRODUCTION PROGRAM. FOR YEARS, MY PERSONAL RECOLLECTION OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SPENDING TAXPAYER MONEY TO CONTROL PREDATORS ALWAYS DISGUSTED ME.

MY PERSONAL OPINION IS THAT ~~THE~~ A LARGE NUMBER OF RANCHERS THAT GRAZE ON PUBLIC LAND HAVE COME TO RELY ON U.S. DA. FOREST SERVICE, AND OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES TO MAKE UP FOR THEIR ~~THEIR~~ LACK OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY SKILLS.

THE WOLVES ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ~~THE~~ THE PASTORAL NEEDS OR DESIRES OF INATTENTIVE RANCHERS.

SAVE THE WOLVES.

ARNOLDE TORREZ
500 BEAR CANYON LN. N.E.
ALBUQUERQUE, N. MEX.
87113

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

30 NOVEMBER 07

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

DEAR MR. MILLSAP,
I COULD LIST SEVERAL PAGES
OF ALL THE INCREDIBLE REASONS
WHY WE SHOULD STOP KILLING WOLVES,
BUT THE MOST IMPORTANT REASON
IS THAT THE WILD NEEDS THEM,
AND WE NEED THE WILD.
THE HEALTH OF EXISTING DEER
AND ELK HERDS NEED THEIR
CHILLING SKILLS.

THE CATTLE RANCHERS NEED
TO STOP BLAMING THE WOLVES FOR
THEIR LACK OF CARE, AND BAD ANIMAL
HUSBANDRY SKILLS.

THANK YOU,
ARNOLD TORRES
BOO BEAR CANYON LN. N.E.
ALBU. N. MEX.
87113

Attn: 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

11-30-07

Wolves should be covered under the ESA in the recovery area.

Manage the program in such a manner as to ensure an increase in wolf population.

Eliminate the cap on the number of wolves in the program.

Eliminate the "3 strikes" rule.

Work with the USFS and BLM to ensure livestock practices that reduce conflicts with wolves.

Stop all killings of wolves in the program.

Eliminate all restrictions on wolf dispersal and movement.

Expand the release area to include the entire region.

Overall manage the program to ensure that there is a viable population that can sustain itself over time. Anything less is not a recovery program.

The wolves are generally on public land, not on someone's private property. The wolves, like the land, belong to all American citizens.

C. Wesley Leonard

3012 Sombra del Rio

Albuquerque, NM 87107

505-344-0548

CLLEONARD@UTEP.EDU

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- Faxed comments may be sent to (505) 346-2542

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Comments:

The recovery of wolves to New Mexico is ~~is~~ returns an important ecological element which will assure the health of these areas. Thus far, the USFWS program has had some serious problems it has not made actual recovery a priority. In particular, the continued shooting of the wolves is one of the part of a successful program. "3 takes"

by a wolf is too few especially when they are reintroduced to areas where cull/le occur. There cull/le ~~is~~ need to be removed if the grazing allotments closed. Because these are public lands, the greater good needs to be considered that greater goods wolves not a few ranchers or government welfare. The USFWS should not amend rules to allow shooting of wolves on private property (including protection of pets). Other means that protect wolves are available & the public needs to be better educated on alternatives to shooting.

Boundaries for wolf recovery need to be expanded as they have proved inadequate. These Mexican wolves have precious genetic material & should not be considered experimental. There is too much at stake. Removal of wolves should only be as a last resort. Individual wolves need to be viewed as a precious resource. Please continue to work reintroduction & implement changes to allow for the actual recovery of wolves to the SW. The benefits will be enormous.

Name: Karen Bugive

Street: 1912 Telesfor Dr SW

City, State, Zip: Albuquerque

NIM 87105

Tape closed with address on outside, and add a stamp.

DO NOT STAPLE

Thank you for your input!

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping


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

MY NAME IS DAVID BLAEG. I OWN A RANCH AND FARM IN MOBA AND SAN MIBUEL COUNTIES, WITH 3/4 MILE OF THE SAPULPO RIVER AND 50 ACRES OF SENIOR WATER RIGHTS.

THE BATTLE WE CONTINUE TO FIGHT FOR THE MEXICAN GRAY WOLF'S SUSTAINED REINTRODUCTION IS HARD TO UNDERSTAND. THEY ARE ESSENTIAL IN SO MANY WAYS, AND ALTHOUGH I HAVE CATTLE ON MY RANCH, I THINK THERE SHOULD BE NO INSTANCE WHEN A WOLF IS REMOVED DUE TO A KILL, ESPECIALLY WHEN CATTLE ARE SO EASY TO TAKE, AND ONLY REPRESENT A DOLLAR FIGURE TO THE OWNER. PAY FOR THE LOSS, KEEP THE WOLF PACKS THRIVING, AND ALLOW THEM TO EXPAND THEIR TERRITORIES. THIS WILL INSURE GENETIC DIVERSITY, AND ~~ENSURE~~ THE FUTURE OF THIS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT SPECIES. RATHER THAN CONTINUING TO TAKE INDIVIDUALS OR PACKS OUT, YOU SHOULD BE ~~RETHINKING~~ RETHINKING YOUR WHOLE PLAN, AND FINDING WAYS TO INTRODUCE MORE WOLVES BACK INTO THE WILD.

THANKS FOR YOUR TIME & CONSIDERATION.

RESPECTFULLY,

J DAVID BLAEG 21 LEAPING POWDER RD.
 SAN JUAN, NM 87508
505-660-6645

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

fr:
James Deans
410 1/2 Princeton Drive
Alb, NM, 87106
575-770-8916

The wolves are an endangered species
and need the protection and recognition
as such, now! Get with the program
John. If you want some sense talked
into you, call me.

- James Deans

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

The New Mexico gray wolf reintroduction project should be expanded to include the classification of "endangered" and their territory should be expanded beyond the Blue Range Area.


TIM HOLLAND

1306 Leisak LN
Santa Fe NM 87501

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

Nov. 30, 2007

Dear Mr. Slown,

It seems the current recovery plan for the Mexican Gray wolves is not effective because of the high number of wolves being killed. The "take" number should be reduced. Another suggestion would be to allow the wolves to expand their territory. As a concerned citizen, the recovery plan should be revised once again. Thank you for listening.

Sincerely,
Parlitta Dodge
6101 Sequoia Rd #E7
Albuquerque, NM
87120

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

11/30/07

Dear Sir,

I am interested in the Mexican Gray wolf recovery program.

I recommend changing the classification of the wolf population from "Experimental-non-essential" to "Experimental, essential."

Also it seems like they are restricted by the boundaries of the Blue Range Recovery Area. There is a lot of Great habitat to the North and South of this area. The ~~experimental~~ Mexican gray wolf Recovery Area should be Expanded. Wolves should be allowed to disperse into all suitable habitats.

New Mexican Gray wolves, should not be killed for any reason. Take of New Mexican gray wolves should be reduced!

Kerri Lathrop

Kerri Lathrop
P.O. Box 1512
Cedar Crest, NM 87008

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

11/30/07

Dear Mr. Slown,

It is very disheartening to revisit this topic after 10 years. Through a great elementary school teacher my then 10yr old daughter became an outspoken "little" activist on behalf of the wolves in N.M.

Now it appears that the hard work has not paid off and quietly we appear to be back to the same crossroads: Raulders vs. citizens who believe in ecological diversity and who embrace the wildlife.

Wolves should be protected, allowed to roam freely, outside of designated areas, and observed (not managed or removed) Time will tell the truth if not "meddled with". This effort can not be judged if it not allowed to happen!

Sincerely, Dorothee HUTCHINSON
312 SHANGRI LA CT. N.W., ABQ 87107, 345-0456, gutenberg@comcast.net

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

I would like to see USFWS take whatever steps they have to take to recover wolves in the American Southwest.

If ranchers want to make it a situation of they get what they want (which is the complete elimination of wolves) then they should be ignored. The law says the wolves must reach levels of viability. Ranchers who are concerned should work towards having that happen in ways that allow their operations to continue. Those who want to bar it are being unreasonable.

Ranchers should be required to remove carcasses of livestock. Wolves should not be removed from the range if they leave the recovery area. Release areas for the wolves should be expanded.

USFWS and local authorities should vigorously investigate and prosecute the killing (illegally) of wolves. The Recovery Plan should require the viable and self-sustaining population of wolves into perpetuity.

Sincerely,

Randy Lantz

Randy Lantz
633 San Pablo NE
Albuquerque, NM 87108

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

Dear Sir,

I am interested in the success of the Mexican Gray wolf recovery in New Mexico. There are some things that could be changed to improve that opportunity.

Expand the recovery area -
they need more room - & there ~~are~~^{is} lots of suitable habitat.

At Reduce the ~~poter~~ potential for human/cow by requiring removal of dead bovine carcasses -

Patricia M. Hester
1916 Madeira Dr NE
ABQ, NM 87110

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Comments:

I believe in bio-diversity and I think wolves contribute to that idea. I want Mexican wolves in New Mexico. I am willing ~~to~~ to help pay for livestock losses. Could it afford to loose cattle or horses, so I believe ranchers should be reimbursed when wolves kill their livestock. Paying for stock losses is a small price to pay for diversity. We need to study the animals and their biology so the appropriate population size can be determined & then managed.

Name: Clint Hubbard

Street: 309 Tulame SE

City, State, Zip: ABQ, NM 87106

Tape closed with address on outside, and add a stamp.

DO NOT STAPLE
Thank you for your input!

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Comments: I have hunted in New Mexico for 30 years, I have seen hundreds of thousands of cattle. I have never seen a wild Mexican Grey wolf in the wild. I hope to have that experience one day before I die.

Name: Garry Dwyer

Street: 21 Fleetfoot

Tijeras NM

City, State, Zip: 87059

Tape closed with address on outside, and add a stamp.

DO NOT STAPLE
Thank you for your input!

How to Submit Comments

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Comments:

Why not pay Defender of Wildlife (through a contract) to pay livestock owners for more than the value of stock that is killed by wolves. There as much as the value of the livestock, with periodic adjustments of the "depreciation payments". This would give livestock owners an incentive to protect the wolves.

Do not give pets the same protection as livestock.

Establish a wolf area in the W/S/M/R and stock it with prey (beaver, goats, cattle?) Maintain the boundary.

Name: Toby Rosenblatt

Street: 600 Camino del Sol

City, State, Zip: Santa Fe

NM 87505

Tape closed with address on outside, and add a stamp.

DO NOT STAPLE
Thank you for your input!

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

Hello:

The role of the Mexican Gray Wolf is vital in the wild to restore the balance of nature. Given the opportunity to hunt their Natural prey (elk, deer, etc.) they will flourish as will the prey population. Moving these animals from "endangered" to a "non-essential experimental" population in the BRWRA hinders the recovery of these animals. Wolves cannot govern themselves and are dependent upon the mandates of humans. They need expanded territory to roam and move natural game to hunt.

Please remove the false boundaries. Please educate the AZ + NM ranchers (and the public) about true wolf behavior and not fairy tale villifying them!

Susi Spirita Wolf

505-881-1220

5325 Heritage Way NE
#C ABQ NM 87109

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

I urge you to limit your changes to the rules governing the Mexican Gray Wolf Reintroduction Project to those that will strengthen protection of the wolves and increase their chance of recovery, in keeping with the Endangered Species Act. Instead of a healthy, growing population restoring the balance of nature in the Gorda and Apache National Forests, as has been achieved ~~in~~ with wolf recovery efforts elsewhere in the country, the New Mexico and Arizona packs are declining. The frequent killing and removing of wolves within the Blue Range Area is inconsistent with the mandate given to the Fish and Wildlife Service and must be stopped.

It may seem to some that only those who live nearby should have a voice in this issue, but I strongly believe this is a much broader topic. Those of us who visit and care about the health of the planet, not just our particular corner, have at least as big a stake in the outcome.

Beth Morris

(Elizabeth S. Morris)

2861 Glaswood Dr NW
Albuquerque, NM 87107

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

For the livestock farmers ...

Is it possible to encourage livestock farmers to
use alpacas or llamas with their cattle,

as protection. With a bigger diversity of animals,
there is a less chance that a "precious cow" will
be killed, also, again the use of protected dogs.

How about the Irish Wolfhound!; or require
livestock farmers to watch their animals, it is not
the responsibility of the federal govt to watch other
peoples animals from wild animals.

Stephanie Russo
3168 Shoshone Dr. Apt 10-A
Prescott, AZ 86301

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

Incentivize protection of wolves by paying ranchers more than the value of livestock killed. Contract with Defenders of Wildlife to pay out this additional amount. (They make the compensation payment - Feds ~~pay~~ ~~on~~ ~~the~~ add on the incentive amount, which is the amount over the value of the livestock.)

Do this inside and outside of the reintroduction areas - (everywhere).

Liz Gresham
1741 Coronado Road
Corrales, NM 87048

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

November 30, 2007

Dear Mr Slown,

In response to the US FWS's request for public input on changes to the rules governing the Mexican gray wolf reintroduction project, I urge you to take this opportunity to improve the program and shift the focus from wolf control to wolf recovery. Please include a conservation alternative that will change the classification from "experimental, non-essential" to "experimental, essential" to give wolves more protection as they are not being recovered under the existing classification. Also that you allow wolves to expand their territory by eliminating restrictions to wolf dispersal & movements, as well as expand the area for initial releases to anywhere within the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area. Please work to resolve livestock-wolf conflicts in ways that keep wolves in the wild and achieve progress towards reintroduction objectives, for example require that owners of livestock using public land clean up dead stock before wolves can find and scavenge them. Stop killing and removing wolves. Please reduce the "take." Revise the out-of-date recovery plan, which does not include objectives for full recovery of Mexican Gray Wolves. Expand the number of wolves in the wild population to a minimum of 100 wolves. Please also keep future recovery options open. Wolves are essential to a balanced wildlife population and they enhance wild lands for people to enjoy.

Sincerely, Dr. Pilar M. Sanjuan. Pilar Sanjuan PhD
813 Hermosa Dr
Albuquerque, NM
87110

Include nothing in the amended rule that would preclude future recovery options.

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.

The deadline for comments is December 31, 2007

Comments can be hand-delivered at the open house or submitted in any of the ways listed below. Be sure to include "Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping", your full name and your return address in your message.

FAX
(505) 346-2542

EMAIL
r2fwe_al@fws.gov

ONLINE
www.mexicanwolfeis.org

MAIL

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

For more information, go to www.mexicangraywolf.org

To: Brian Millsap, NM State Admin
US Fish & Wildlife Service

Re: Mexican Gray Wolf Reintroduction Project

I urge you to limit your changes to the rules governing this project to those that will strengthen protection of the wolves and increase their chances of recovery, in keeping with the Endangered Species Act. The frequent killing and removing of wolves within the Blue Range Area is inconsistent with progress and must be stopped. Instead of a healthy, growing population, ~~the wolf population~~ ^{with little recovery efforts} as has been achieved elsewhere in the country, the NM & AZ packs ~~are~~ ^{are} declining.

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

Mr. Slown:

I am a WWII Veteran and a
lifelong wildlife conservationist.

I am convinced that humans,
pets, and livestock can co-exist with lobos
and other predators. Predators help to keep
the wilderness and all wild creatures
healthy.

John M. "Jack" Pickering
Senior Mentor, Wild Friends,
Center for Wildlife Law, UNM

gundi3@aol.com

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

Dear Mr. Slown:

It has been observed in other areas of the country that the recovery of wolf populations has led to an increase in tourist and economic vitality. This is especially prevalent within Yellowstone. Yellowstone, with the introduction of wolves, has seen an increase in overall forest health. This decline in health was due to elk and other ungulates not migrating throughout a region. They were able to purchase other new tree growth.

Cattle are no different. Unfortunately I recognize that one way in which income is generated is through leasing ranching rights. Unfortunately, the leases are practically given away. Due to this fact, I recognize that ranchers need to accept the inherent risks of ranching on public (and wild) land. Maybe instead of the current \$2-3 per head of cattle per month the ranchers should be charged a more appropriate amount that would fund projects that would reverse the damages caused by cattle. Until such a point in time, let us have a more sensible policy.

The inherent fear that people have of wolves is not based in fact or science. While science can sometimes be wrong, I don't think it is in this case. Wolves help keep the environment stable.

Please change your rules to allow for wolf recovery. The current system is not working, as acknowledged by both sides.

Respectfully,

Summer Williams.

2900 1st Del Rey 21C
Albuquerque, NM 87112

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

November 30, 2007

Dear Mr. Millsap,

These are my comments regarding changes to the rules governing the Mexican gray wolf reintroduction project. My comments are intended to assure Mexican gray wolf survival in the wild.

The classification of the Mexican gray wolf should be changed from "experimental non-essential" to "experimental, essential" or to "endangered". A "non-essential" or captive population of wolves will not assure their survival in the wild or protect them from extinction.

Eliminate all restrictions to wolf dispersal and movements. Mexican gray wolves need access to good habitat throughout their historic range and often cross political lines invisible to them in search of dens and prey. In the revised rule, there should be no exclusion of geographic areas from potential occupation by Mexican gray wolves.

By expanding the area for initial wolf releases to anywhere within the Blue Rang Wolf Recovery Area, the portion of the wolf population living in New Mexico could benefit from genetic diversity within the Mexican gray wolf population. The new rule should allow new wolf releases in New Mexico and throughout the BRWRA.

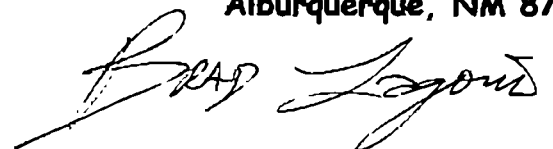
Under the current rules, ranchers using public lands are not required to remove or render inedible the carcasses of livestock that die. Wolves are attracted to, and often scavenge on these carcasses, then may prey on other livestock nearby. A rule change must require livestock owners using public lands to clean up dead stock before wolves find and scavenge on them. No longer should the wolves be penalized in these cases.

Also regarding livestock grazing on public lands in the BRWRA, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service should be in the business of offering cash to retire grazing allotment to those ranchers who wish to do so.

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

Thank you for accepting these comments.

Sincerely, Brad Lagorio
2405 Meadow Rd SW
Albuquerque, NM 8710



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Comments:

- Stop the removal and killing of wolves in the primary and secondary recovery zones! Enforce illegal killing of these animals everywhere. • Work Furder with ranchers to work with, not against the program
- change the classification of Mexican grey wolves from "experimental, nonessential" STOP killing the to "endangered" to give wolves !!! them more protection
- stop harassment and capture of wolves in the gila wilderness areas to keep packs intact.
- Make grazing permittees responsible for their own cattle
 - grazing is a privilege
 - absentee ranching should not shape policy
- Expand population goals about 100

- Seek to maintain a long

term population

- expand recovery area into the secondary recovery zone in New Mexico

City, State, Zip: AIB. NM 87106

Tape closed with address on outside, and add a stamp.

DO NOT STAPLE
Thank you for your input!

Name: RONAN LOPEZ

Street: 322 CARISLE NE

6124 Mosquero Place NW
Albuquerque, NM 87120

30 November 2007

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

Dear Dr. Millsap:

By any objective measure the Mexican Gray Wolf recovery effort in the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area is a long way from the original BRWA reintroduction project goals and the recovery of a species under the Endangered Species Act. The BRWA Mexican Gray Wolf population is not self-sustaining. It is being hampered more by management decisions and the taking of wolves by the US Fish and Wildlife Service than any other reason. To get to a truly recovered status, this imperiled species must receive more aggressive protection from the agency charged with its recovery.

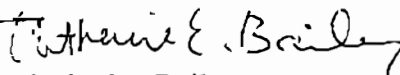
To that end we urge the US Fish and Wildlife Service to adopt a "Conservation Alternative" as proposed by Dave Parsons, et al. that will include:

- A classification change from "experimental, non-essential" to "experimental, essential" or "endangered to give the Mexican gray wolf a level of protection that will bolster its chances for survival.
- Eliminate all restrictions to wolf dispersal and movements.
- Expand the area for initial release to anywhere within the BRWA.
- Resolve livestock-wolf conflicts that keep wolves in the wild and achieve progress towards reintroduction efforts.
- Stop killing and removing wolves from the wild.
- Revise the recovery plan to include a plan for full recovery of Mexican gray wolves.
- Place no cap on the number of wolves in the wild population.
- Include nothing in the amended rule that would preclude future recovery options.

Although incredible gains have been made in increasing the captive Mexican gray wolf population since its listing as an endangered species, parallel gains in the wild have not occurred. This animal belongs on the North American landscape not in a zoo. As a highly interactive species and top level carnivore the wolf's inclusion in huge swaths of habitat is critical to biodiversity and ecological health. The recovery of the Mexican gray wolf must allow for its eventual expansion into as much of its historic range as possible. The US Fish and Wildlife Service must make a stronger effort to involve other partners, particularly the USDA Forest Service, in taking proactive management steps to facilitate wolf recovery. Furthermore, the US Fish and Wildlife service needs to take a more active role in education efforts regarding the Mexican gray wolf and the importance of its recovery.

Respectfully yours,


Daniel Shaw


Catherine Bailey

How to Submit Comments

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- Fill out the comment portion of this brochure and leave it in the drop box
- Take the brochure with you and return it by mail
- Provide comments via e-mail. For your convenience, you can do that here at the computer station, or visit www.mexicanwolf.org
- Faxed comments may be sent to (505) 346-2542

Please note: In order to be considered part of the formal record, your comments must include your name and address. Comments may be submitted through December 31, 2007.

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment--including your personal information--may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Comments:

The wolf is an ancient part of the west + it is our responsibility to ensure it continues in the wild. I urge USFWS + NMG + F to not bow to the pressure of a minority + continue to ~~the~~ ^{continue to} ~~the~~ ^{program.} ~~listen~~ ^{to} the science, not the politicians. We humans need to keep wolf - need it to keep the length balance of the ecosystem, + need it for our souls. We are on the road to recovering from the mistake our society made in ~~the~~ ^{terminating} the wolf in the U.S. - let's not go backward, but forward with longer wolf numbers in the wild.

Name: Catherine H. Hubbard

Street: 309 Tulare St

City, State, Zip: Albany NY
12210

Tape closed with address on outside, and add a stamp.

DO NOT STAPLE
Thank you for your input!

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- Faxed comments may be sent to (505) 346-2542

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Comments:

I think we need to expand the area available for the wolves, restrict the shooting of wolves, and remove all cattle from the recovery area. It could release bond cover on the white lands range to provide food for the wolves for example. I can't believe white sands is not large enough. We could allow for the experimental range area, to green on the poster, to be a full use for recovery area. In other words quit trapping wolves, let them roam. Humans have to learn to adapt. We also need more, and stepped up criminal investigations, and apparently prosecution of those who are hunting and shooting the wolves. There are ~~apparently~~ a lot of criminal syndicates or gangs involved in attacking this fine federal

Program which brings more value to our society than do cows, cattle. These people really miss the larger message that supporting wolf populations would do for tourism and outside support. Even on private land wolves should be protected, there are many private landowners who could be integrator in this program, or future sales of property could be required of new owners to protect wolves. If necessary we should buy out or pay ranchers to not place cattle on this fragile desert landscape.
Name: Robert Anderson
Street: 324 Richmond Dr SE
Albuquerque, NM
City, State, Zip: 87106
This meeting is a desecration in that there should
Tape closed with address on outside, and add stamp.
Name: Robert Anderson
DO NOT STAPLE
Thank you for your input on organized discussion.

How to Submit Comments

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- Take the brochure with you and return it by mail
- Provide comments via e-mail. For your convenience, you can do that here at the computer station, or visit www.mexicanwolf.org
- Faxed comments may be sent to (505) 346-2542

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Comments:

So notification or notification of values would be useful.

I Personally don't have any experience with wolves but I know they can be toxic. Save the wolves, give 'em a chance. No to

shorting. No to harming. Let them be, they eat good (instead, don't hurt it) you can always get new livestock. You can't always get new wolves.

Name: _____

Street: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Tape closed with address on outside, and add a stamp.

DO NOT STAPLE
Thank you for your input!

How to Submit Comments

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Comments:

Keep the wolf in
the wild. Don't
shoot them. Allow
them peace. How
would ~~they~~ like it
if they shot us?
NO + cat coll.

Name: Lee Hubbard

Street: 307 Turner St

City, State, Zip: Albuquerque, NM,
87706

Tape closed with address on outside, and
add a stamp.

DO NOT STAPLE
Thank you for your input!

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Comments:

The wolf is
becoming endangered
so we should do
every thing we can
to help it we do
that to other
animals! The wolf
is a great part
of our culture and
New Mexico.
Save the wolf!
Stop the stereotype
of wolfs being
bad, they are
great!

SAVE
THE
WOLF @

Name: Elizabeth Hernandez
Street: 3001 Tuamase

Albuquerque NM

City, State, Zip: 87106

Tape closed with address on outside, and
add a stamp.

DO NOT STAPLE
Thank you for your input!

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Wolves are a vital part of a healthy ecosystem. The Blue Range + Gila will only benefit from wolf recovery. The Mexican gray wolf is an American treasure and should be so valued.

Comments:

- Wolves must be allowed to expand their territory. All restrictions to wolf dispersal & movements must be eliminated.
- Extend the area for initial releases to anywhere in the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area.
- Include a 'Conservation Alternative' that will change the classification from 'experimental, non-essential' to 'experimental, essential' or 'endangered'!
- Mexican gray wolves must have more protection if recovery is to be successful.
- Stop killing & removing wolves: this is essential for recovery.
- Expand the number of wolves in the wild population and set a maximum number. Set 100 wolves as the minimum objective for the Recovery Plan.
- Resolve wolf-livestock conflicts in ways that keep wolves in the wild, are non-lethal and achieve progress towards reintroduction objectives.
- Revise the out-of-date and inadequate Recovery Plan. Recovery must be defined and any rule changes must not preclude future recovery actions.
- Keep future recovery options open

Name: Jean Crawford

Street: 309 Palomas NE

City, State, Zip: ABQ, NM

87108

Tape closed with address on outside, and add a stamp.

DO NOT STAPLE
Thank you for your input!

11-30-07

Attn: 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 Mr. Millsap -
First: **Stop KILLING
the WOLVES!**

Second: Stop Taxpayer
Fraud - "Wolf Recovery"
program indeed!

Sincerely,

Hildegard Adams
7720 Oakland Ave NE
Albq NM 87122

Third: Are you servants of
the public or just servants
of the ranchers??

How to Submit Comments

Written comments accompanied by name and address will become part of the formal record of the scoping process. While you may provide your ideas verbally during the meeting, we want to make sure your input is formally captured in your own words. You may submit written comments in three ways:

- Fill out the comment portion of this brochure and leave it in the drop box
- Take the brochure with you and return it by mail
- Provide comments via e-mail. For your convenience, you can do that here at the computer station, or visit www.mexicanwolfleis.org
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Comments:

Very informative! Especially liked the format and the ~~diversity~~ diversity of agency representatives.

Thanks!

Name: ANTHONY M. FISCHER

Street: 1023 EDITH ST SE

City, State, Zip: Alb., NM, 87102

Tape closed with address on outside, and add a stamp.

DO NOT STAPLE
Thank you for your input!

11-30-07

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

STOP
Killing the
WOLVES!
STOP

Sincerely,

Hildegard Adams
7720 Oakland Ave NE
Albq. NM 87122

Attn: 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

FROM: ELISABETH J. PRICE
2809 CAROLINA NE
ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87110
NOVEMBER 30, 2007

- CLASSIFICATION SHOULD BE CHANGED FROM EXPERIMENTAL NON-ESSENTIAL TO EXPERIMENTAL ESSENTIAL
- ALLOW WOLVES TO EXPAND THEIR TERRITORY
- EXPAND AREA TO ANYWHERE WITHIN THE BLUE RANGE WOLF RECOVERY AREA
- MAKE RANCHERS REMOVE THE CARCASSES OF LIVESTOCK SO AS NOT TO GIVE WOLVES A "TASTE" OF DOMESTICATED ANIMALS.
- REDUCE TAKE SO THAT THE WOLVES CAN COME UP TO STRENGTH.
- EXPAND NUMBER WOLVES IN THE WILD POPULATION
- KEEP FUTURE OPTIONS OPEN FOR REAL RECOVERY

WHY DOES ALL THIS NEED TO BE IMPLEMENTED?

BECAUSE WHEN WOLVES BECOME ESTABLISHED THE HABITAT BECOMES HEALTHIER WITNESS WHAT HAS BEEN HAPPENING IN YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK SINCE THEIR INTRODUCTION IN 1995-96.

SINCERELY,
E. J. PRICE

Attn: 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

The current Wolf Recovery Program is flawed in several ways. Nothing ill can be said of the intentions; nothing can be more beneficial than reintroducing an important part of the natural ecosystem. However, this program was designed, from its outset, to fail. The most important thing that must be done is to remove the ability for wolves to be removed from the wild. If the program is to succeed at all, this is the first and most crucial step. Secondly, the boundaries of this program must be removed. Wolves will naturally keep themselves within the general conservation area. In nature, man-made boundaries are irrelevant. Thirdly, wolves must be reclassified from "experimental, non-essential" to, in the very least, "experimental, essential" but most preferably, "endangered". This, ~~and~~ along with more harsh penalties for people who kill wolves, will ensure that the population has the freedom from harm that is necessary to thrive. The final step that must be taken is to promote public education so that there is no longer any ignorant bigotry toward wolves. Following these steps will allow for the basic foundation that will allow for this program to actually work. After this is done, more can be done to encourage a larger movement to ensure the preservation of all of the remaining species on the planet.

Thank You,

Nicholas Volterro
2912 San Joaquin SE
Albuquerque, NM 87106

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

Nov by 30, 2007

Mexican wolves need more protection by a change of their designation to experimental essential. Their range must be increased so they can be more effective in balancing nature, & fulfill their essential role as predators + forest keepers.

Kathryn Colbert
P.O. Box 1432
Albuquerque NM 87103

GREY WOLF

WE ARE SENDING YOU TO THAT GREAT GOD,
TELL HIM THAT WE WHO INVENTED FORGIVENESS DO NOT FORGIVE;
THAT WE, WHO SPEAK OF TRUST CANNOT TRUST;
THAT WE, WHO INVOKE FAITH WOULD NOT BELIEVE.

I WRITE AS THOUGH YOU COULD READ,
BUT I KNOW YOU UNDERSTAND.

WHEN YOU HAVE LEFT THE FORESTS AND TUNDRAS AND NO
LONGER LEAVE YOUR SINEWY TRAILS WITHIN THE SNOWS,
TELL HIM THAT YOU WERE MADE ON A DIFFERENT DAY.

YOUR HOWLS OF BEWILDERMENT WILL ECHO WITH
THE MOUNTAIN WINDS.

AND YOUR SONGS WILL JOIN THOSE OF THE WHALES.
TELL HIM FOR ME,

"FORGIVE THEM FATHER FOR THEY KNOW NOT WHAT THEY DO."

O. FRED DONALDSON

BILL BROWN
468 SEDILLO RD
TIERRAS, NM 87059

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

Dear John - having just moved to New Mexico from New York, I'm fascinated how important the environment ^{is} ^{history} is to New Mexicans. Gray wolves are part of this. Amazingly very few people I have talked to are even aware of the dangerously low levels of the gray wolf in New Mexico today. With the help of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service -

- * classify these creatures to "experimental essential" or "endangered"
- * allow wolves to expand their territory. these animals are wild and this is what they do instinctually over time.
- * require farmers to clean up dead stock when using public lands. This is only common sense since they are potentially causing some of the problems they are facing.

Once these beautiful animals are gone ~~away~~ from the wild, the dreams of the founders of BFWRA will be too. Unfortunately, most people want to take action after its too late. With less than 50 gray wolves left in the wild, that time is fast approaching.

And on an important side note, please help the Aspen pack immediately before this strong genetic pool is possibly killed off.

Thank you for your future help. If I can be of any assistance to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, please let me know how.

Sincerely,
Matthew Roberts
4601 Tennyson Rd NE Albuquerque, NM 87111
#5207 (505) 478-4293

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

-Mr. Slown:

I have recently been made aware of not only the already dangerously low numbers of the Mexican Gray wolf, but also the staggering and dwindling number of them on a daily basis. As a native New Mexican who grew up with my Grandfather, Judge Jibo J. Chavez, teaching me about the rich culture of New Mexico; the herbs on the mesa; traditions; and of course respect for the land and wildlife in it. These are a part of my heritage. To hear that the Mexican Gray Wolf is on the brink of extinction is disheartening and frankly, completely unacceptable. I implore you to stop the downward slope we're already on. To do ~~so~~ so will take planning and time. Here are a few suggestions I would like to see implemented:

- #1) Change the status of the Mexican Gray Wolf to experimental essential.
- #2) Revise the rules so Rancheros & Farmers are required to remove dead livestock off their lands a) to not attract the wolf and b) prevent the spread of disease.
- #3) Expand the # of wolves in the wild.

I sincerely hope you take my comments and suggestions seriously and to heart. This epidemic must stop today.

Sincerely,
Elaina C. Chavez

Comments:

- 1) I would like to see the boundary area expanded.
- 2) I would also like to see the primary recovery zone + recovery area expanded. Perhaps we could have several dispersed recovery zones/areas.
- 3) Thresholds for permanent removal: It seems to me that this threshold should be assigned to wolves that approach homes, human beings, children.
- 4) I am in favor of opting for the rights

of wolves over cattle + livestock. Cattle / livestock on public lands are hard on the environment, while wolves are part of our natural ecosystem.

5) We need to support economic incentives for ranchers to diversify away from the cattle industry.

6) Prosecute those who kill ^{wolves} needlessly!

Name: Jeanne Pahl

Street: 324 Richmond SE

City, State, Zip: Albuquerque
New Mexico 87106

Tape closed with address on outside, and add a stamp.

DO NOT STAPLE

Thank you for your input!

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

November 30, 2007

Dear Mr. Slown.

I urge you to Allow the Mexican Gray Wolf to come back to the South West. I can understand that there is fear of wolves but wolves have shown in Yellow Stone how they help the whole ecosystem. I believe you must make ~~them~~ ^{their} classification as "endangered!" With the change in climate we must allow wolves to expand their territory. I fully understand that ranchers have a way of life but they are using public lands to sustain their life styles. I believe there has to be more accommodation of the wolves. Ranchers must be held accountable for their management of their herds. The ability to turn out livestock and collect them at the end of the summer must be changed. They have to take responsibility for the removal of dead or sick animals.

Through favorable public information programs

explain why and how the wolves help the land and the
~~the~~ natural animals that inhabit it. You need to
revise the recovery plan by including the
requirement for full recovery of Mexican gray wolves.

You need to expand the number of wolves in
the wild — Allow wolves to expand their territory.

Revise the rule there should be no exclusion
of geographic areas from occupation by wolves

Find different areas for initial releases.

Stop killing and removing wolves — allow wolves
and reduce take.

Please keep future recovery options open
for the Mexican gray wolves anywhere outside
the boundaries of the BRWRA.

Thank you for your consideration
Wolves are part of our natural
heritage — let us keep it for
future generations

1 Ph Steele
1109 Sagebrush Tr SE
Albuquerque, NM 87123
Ph 284-4353 (W) 294-1846

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

Dear Sir:

As a sportsman I have several recommendations for the lobo recovery effort.

First, I am in favor of the lobo reintroduction effort. Formerly I lived in SW Montana, and enjoyed the experience of hunting elk in landscapes that were shared with wolves. One of my greatest thrills was tracking elk, and seeing wolf tracks revealing wolves tracking the same elk.

It was clear the elk of Montana behaved differently with wolves around - they acted wild, and I enjoyed that experience.

In short, here are my recommendations:

- expand the lobo recovery area so they fulfill their natural role across the landscapes that will support them.
- expand release areas so it allows more opportunities to avoid livestock conflicts
- Prosecute, with extreme prejudice, those who are illegally killing wolves. It reveals a complete lack of respect for wildlife and the law that this continues to occur.

Furthermore I wish to emphasize some relevant points:

- Yellowstone's wolves have generated \$70 million per year for the surrounding communities, according to the U. of Montana economist Jim Duffield.
- Since reintroduction in 1998, it appears the Gila elk population has actually increased by 14-18%. I don't think that should ~~be~~ be the bottom line, however.
- 60% of New Mexicans approve of wolves in the Gila, according to research by Resource Management in 2005.
- Catron County ranchers receive \$2.66 million in subsidies ~~since~~ between 1995-2005; furthermore they receive discounted grazing fees ~~of~~ more than 80% ~~of~~ on public lands. And they receive compensation for a good deal of time. They need to watch their cattle better. On top of that, cattle in AZ + NM are more likely to be struck by lightning than killed by lobos.

Thank you

Jon Schwedler
1137 Columbia Dr N
116... NM 87106

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

Bill Sanderson
1830 Alpine Court
Bosque Farms, NM 87068
cell # 820-8827
email: jobs@sandersonemployment.com

① I believe the key to the success of the wolf reintroduction program is to educate and convince the ranchers opposed to the program that the cattle industry can thrive and prosper at the same time as a successful population of wolves in the wild. The mentality that existed in the late 1800's and early 1900's that led to the concerted effort of the ranching industry and the US Fish & Game to exterminate the wolf cannot be repeated. But for some luck of a few remaining wolves left in Mexico ~~the~~ the Mexican Grey Wolf would be no more of a species. There is a short list of changes that I believe need to be made for the wolf reintroduction program to succeed.

① Expand the wolf recovery area to allow wolves to roam and breed and form packs more in

freely.

② ~~Reinstate~~ Reinstate the reimbursement of ranchers for confirmed wolf kills on an unlimited basis and eliminate the policy of trapping or killing a wolf which kills three ~~or~~ or more cattle in a year. This fund should be maintained at all times to cover cattle kills by wolves.

③ If possible try to restrict cattle grazing in public land and wilderness areas where wolves will be concentrated. The less contact the better.

④ Require ranchers to patrol and remove dead cow carcasses that wolves are tempted by and thus might develop a taste for cattle.

⑤ Educate and try to convince ranchers that wolves are not some kind of evil devil creature but an important part in maintaining the balance in our ecosystem.

⑥ Our public lands and wilderness areas belong to all of us and not a select few ranchers who happen to pay a minimal lease to graze their cattle. This does not give them ^{them} carte blanche right to exterminate our wolves for a second time. Shame on all of us if we let this happen.

R. W. Anderson

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

Bill Sanderson 11-30-01
1830 Alpine Court Friday
Bosque Farms, NM 87068
cell # 620-8827
email jobs@sandersonemployment.com

1. As long as wolves and cattle are both on public land it is not realistic to expect occasional wolf kills of cattle. The original policy of reimbursing ranchers for confirmed wolf kills should be reinstated and it should no longer be the policy of trapping or killing a wolf that preys on three or more cows per year. Public land is all taxpayers public land and not the fiefdom of individual ranchers to dictate ~~what~~ whether a wolf lives or dies because he may loose a few cows to wolf predation. Ranchers loose a much larger number of cows due to disease, starvation, and severe weather conditions ~~than~~ than they do from wolf predation. Ranchers need to realize that their access to our public

lands is a privilege and not a right. They need to learn and educate themselves on the ecosystem and the balance of nature that the wolf provides to our ~~wilderness~~ wilderness. God put the wolf in this land for a good purpose and the selfish interest and narrow mindedness of the ranching industry should not prevail over the continued existence of the Mexican Grey Wolf in our southwest. If the people in India can coexist with man-eating tigers and rampaging herds of elephants certainly our ranchers should be able to do the same with a hundred or so wolves in a pretty vast area of wilderness. In the last hundred years there has been no recorded attack or killing of a human being by a wolf. Ranchers are in more danger from bulls and protective mother cows than they are from wolves attacking them. Bill Anderson

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

I support the reintroduction of wolves and I'm very upset about the current situation. I don't think everything is being done to allow their survival in the wild - the Blue Range population should be considered essential and protected under the endangered species act. To expect them to realize their boundaries and inappropriate food sources is unrealistic. It seems the biggest conflict is over cattle, & I would rather see my forests managed for wildlife than for cattle. I think ranchers should be required to remove carcasses and perhaps provide additional surveillance during calving season. Have you ever tried to reintroduce wolves to elk/deer meat? I think if a wolf group is preying on cattle you should try to leave ~~the~~ wild meat carcasses. I definitely do not approve of all the retrapping and killing of wolves that don't follow the behavior guidelines we currently have set forth.

It is obvious that this current low level effort ~~is~~ ~~still not okay~~ which is attempting to accommodate rancher's needs is still not convincing ranchers of the need of wolves in the environment. Way too many wolves have been killed by USFWS and private citizens. Koone has been prosecuted for taking the law into their own hands

and committing murder of an endangered species.

Peggy Norton
PO Box 991
Mountainair, NM
87036

From: Sandra B. Cooper,

UNM GRADUATE STUDENT

Attn: 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

I have 3 comments:

- 1) If ranchers feel uncomfortable receiving compensation money from "environmentalist" organizations, the money needs to come from a source that is not labeled "environmentalist." I will push for a pool of \$ from many sources but if it can ~~be~~ have a return address that ranchers are more likely to accept, this is a step towards appeasement on both "sides."
- 2) I have heard people say they will not stand for wolf extermination. Please help with your expertise to inform ranchers ~~if~~ it may not be an option not to deal w/ wolves, so they might want to seriously consider compensation for losses that will occur, AND to educate people who have radical beliefs due to myths that the Fish & Wildlife Service —

"never listens," or is "pretending to listen."

Help them see you do care :)

3) I have heard the saying, "we are raising cattle for America, not for wolves," as an argument to accepting compensation for killed animals. . .

a percentage of
but¹ the Americans they
are feeding do support
Wolves in New Mexico!

(And a percentage of
America does not benefit
~~from~~ or, rather - partake
in the cattle raised. . .

→ ~~but~~ they do want

the public lands for
other uses → everyone

has preferences. . . + they

are important to everyone, but
not everyone is "important" to everyone.

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

Marjorie Dearden

2538 Campbell Rd NW
ABQ NM 87104

I am very much in favor of recovery of the Mexican Wolf first because a rich biodiversity makes life more interesting. Already there are probably too many humans on earth which I feel we as people should be involved in doing something to discourage.

Having a wild population of wolves also discourages humans from moving into such areas. Animals don't build houses + roads etc. which keeps the earth healthier and more diverse. Do they drive automobiles etc. that pollute the air. "In wilderness is the preservation of the world", a statement of one of the environmental groups.

Humans, most of us I believe, enjoy seeing other animals and living with them and just knowing that they are here whether we see them or not. We all know about the Galapagos (Sp.?) and appreciate the existence of such a place whether or not we can go there. We create zoos, take pictures of animals.

All in all I believe life would be less ~~interesting~~ interesting, less worth living without other creatures to share in our lives, so please help the Mexican Wolf to recover. Also, since animals don't need cars + highways, we will keep more forests and wild places which I believe all, or most, humans are in favor of.

Kron

Feeling the way I do, I am strongly in favor of
lawful protection of the wolves - as well as wild
places where they can live as much as possible in
peace & security -

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

Dear Folks:

We really need our top predators in the wild to flourish so that our natural places will be restored to the proper balance that was intended.

Please give our wolves the proper designation of endangered so that they can be fully protected.

Please do not put up false boundaries. Unfortunately wolves don't need (yet) and stay on to off limit territories and get into trouble. Take away these false boundaries -

Please require ranchers using public lands to remove dead cattle so wolves do not learn to eat them and get into trouble -

Do not kill wolves! And make it highly illegal and punishable by large fines - maybe even jail time - if people kill wolves -

Let's release some wolves in
New Mexico. Our state deserves
a lot of wolves!

Please rethink how we manage
the grey wolf. The current
plan has not been as successful
as it could have been -

Please allow as many wolves
in the wild areas as the
land can support.

Thank you for listening!

Janet W Steele
1109 Sagebrush Tr SE
Albuquerque, NM
87123

P.S. please, please
continue to educate
the ranches as to the
benefit of wolves!

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

Nov 30, 2007

Mr Slown!
I believe in ~~BALANCE~~ within
the environment, humans and native
wildlife living as much harmony as
possible! I came to the Mexican Wolf
open house to get friends!
I am from the "practical" East
Alabama, VA to be exact. I know
how involved and cumbersome it is
to change policy ~~laws~~ and
regulations. The (Gray) Wolf Recovery
Plan is 25 years old and needs to
be reassessed. Certainly, ranchers
are concerned, but is it perhaps
an ingrained reaction to wolves
that they are indiscriminate predators?
To my knowledge, they "prey" on ^{diseased}
or old and weakened cattle/sheep
IF AT ALL. BALANCE!

Let's keep options open and
^{reassess} address the entire (Gray) Wolf
Recovery Plan and all its
^{ramifications} ramifications - from territory to
in production areas to removing

animal carcasses is compromising
for the lives of all.

Sincerely,

Robyn D Twito

Robyn D Twito
rdtwito@comcast.net
(505) 489-2884

People and values and
other wildlife are ESSENTIAL!

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

I believe it is extremely important to develop a revised and improved set of rules governing the recovery of Mexican Gray Wolves in AZ & NM. Wolves are an important part of our natural environment and have the right to reestablish themselves on at least part of their original habitat. New rules should no longer list the wolves recovery as "non-essential" but rather as "essential". Wolves should be allowed to expand their range beyond the territory of the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area (BRWRA). Wolves have large area requirements and they would still be restricted to an area that is a small fraction of their original habitat. Similarly, captive wolves should also be released in NM in addition to AZ.

~~On~~ Rules to prevent wolves conflicts with livestock should be revised. Ranchers should be required to quickly remove ^{dead} livestock from public lands so that wolves don't become accustomed to eating livestock. The removal and killing of wolves must be dramatically reduced in order to create a viable Mex. Gray Wolf population. A minimum population of at least 100 wolves needs to be maintained => (back)

It is important for our generation & future generations to grow the Mexican Gray Wolf population in the Southwest. It is our responsibility and our governments responsibility to protect the Mexican Gray Wolves.

T C *Monson*

Todd C. Monson
1127 Narcisco St. NE
Albuquerque NM 87112

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

Dear Mr. John Slown and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,

Hello, my name is Shantel Rilely. I am a student at CNM, learning Environmental Science. I would like to urge the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to classify the Mexican gray wolves as "endangered" and move their "experimental, non-essential" to "Experimental, Essential." Having only 59 wolves does not constitute a population - albeit it is a small one - but if this were the Whooping Crane, surely, everything would be done to increase the members of the gray wolf population. I know Whooping Cranes don't kill cattle, but the encroachment of man on "wild" land reduces a wolf's ability to adequately provide for not only itself as an individual, but also for the whole wolf pack. We leave the human inhabited land - leaving the wolf to find an alternative food source. As educated people, I am sure you know this. I am asking that the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area ~~be~~ not be the only area where wolves can roam and occupy. As I have seen in a video in class shown by my teacher, Jim Swan, the Yellowstone wolves need more land because they are territorial. If one wolf leaves because ~~it~~ its pack rejected him/her, then that one wolf would have to

16

go to an area of land that isn't occupied by another pack. Wolves do not know boundaries - this is an idea ~~made~~ made up by man. " Please allow the population of the wolf to increase. Please allow wolves to roam as is their nature. Please stop killing wolves and removing wolves - known as "take." Please come up with a compromise with cattlemen who wish the wolf gone. Please have the ranchers living and raising cattle on public land - land that I help pay for ~~by~~ by paying my taxes - to remove any dead cattle, ~~so~~ so that wolves would not be drawn to their livestock. I realize that this issue isn't black and white, but what is, is that we need wolves here in New Mexico and Arizona. And all efforts should be made to ensure the beautiful, spectacular animals are not allowed to become extinct.

Thank you for your time,

Sincerely, Shantel Riley

9109 Reba Sw.

Albuquerque, N.M. 87121

(505) ~~831-1160~~ 831-1160

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

Dear Sirs,
I have been hunting, fishing & hiking in the
Sierra for 30 years. I have found it to be one of the premier wilderness
areas in the country. Since the wolf introduction it seems to be
more complete & I find myself down there more & more & spending
more than a few dollars in Canon Co. I fully support the reintroduction.
Though the wolf introduction should be a priority for the USFWS
it seems too though it has been understaffed & mishandled. After
drawing out & winning a day with a biologist through the
spin program I was surprised to learn there is only one USFWS
biologist in NM.

In order for this program to ~~not~~ succeed some changes
need to be implemented. First wolves should be allowed to
roam outside the boundaries of the recovery area. They need to
follow prey to survive & wildlife do not read maps.

Classification needs to be changed to essential or endangered
there is no such thing as a non essential Mexican wolf. With
such a small population every wolf is valuable. (For more valuable than
cattle).

⊗ Livestock-wolf encounters are inevitable. Every effort must
be made to keep wolves in the wild. Presently this is not the
case. Outriders could be utilized & ranchers must be required to
render carcasses inedible.

We need to revise the recovery plan. & keep all options open including expanding the number of wolves in the wild to more than the 100 wolf objective. The Superior National Forest is approximately the size of the Gila with much higher visitation rates. There are over 500 wolves that inhabit this area.

I have encountered wolves in Alaska, Arizona, Northwest Territories & Nunavut Canada. Not once have I ever felt threatened & have treasured each encounter. ~~As a~~ Wolves are good for wildlife & vegetation. As a sportsman & fifty year resident of the four corners I urge the USFWS to change direction with this program. ~~I want~~ It would be disturbing to witness the second extinction of the Jobs in the wild in order to accommodate a small group of public land rangers.

Charles B Houston
3531-B Rio Grande Blvd NW
Albuquerque, N.M. 87107
505-344-9747
sandhill@swcp.com

11/30/2007

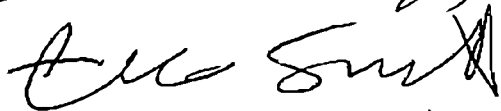
Dear John Slown
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office
2105 Osuna NE
Albuquerque, NM 87113

- We are killing too many ^{Mexican} wolves!
Please include a "conservation alternative" that changes the Mexican Wolf status to "experimental, endangered" or "endangered."
- Wolves don't recognize arbitrary boundary lines:
allow ^{Mexican} wolves to expand past BRWRA boundaries by eliminating ~~the~~ restrictions on dispersal and movement
- It's ridiculous that we allow only "problem wolves" to be relocated into the cow-free ^{portion of} Gila Wilderness:
we need to allow releases of Mexican wolves directly into the cow-free part of the Gila
- It's time to ~~make~~ ^{Mexican} the Wolves and the Endangered Species Act ~~the~~ a priority over Federal Grazing ~~the~~ on our public lands in New Mexico & Arizona:
kick off the damn cows!! (A)

Further Suggestions:

- revise the rule to allow > 100 wolves in the wild; no maximum should be set
- revise the recovery plan to allow for full recovery of Mexican Wolves
- ~~any~~ any rule change should not ~~limit~~ limit the recovery of wolves outside of BRWRA or ~~the~~ numbers of wolves
- revoke SOP 13

Sincerely,



Eric Smith

2317 Chapman Ln NW

Albuquerque NM 87104

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

I Love wolves, I CARE ABOUT THEM,
I DON'T WANT THEM TO BE GONE WHEN
MY CHILDREN ARE NEW MEXICANS. DO YOU
CARE? I NEED TO TELL YOU JOHN THAT
WE NEED THOSE WOLVES. DID YOU TAKE
BIOLOGY, YOU MUST HAVE JOHN. THERE FOR
YOU MUST KNOW WHAT NICHIA IS. THE
WOLVES ARE A NICH JOHN, AN IMPORTANT ONE,
I DON'T KNOW YOU, BUT IT SEEMS
TO ME THAT YOU HAVE SOME POWER.
USE IT. HOW MANY MUST WE MANIFEST
OUR DESTINY BEFORE WE LEARN TO SHARE
YOU CAN'T PLACE BOUNDRIES ON AN ANIMAL
EVOLVED TO CREATE ITS OWN BOUNDRIES.
PLEASE JOHN, DO WHAT YOU CAN, DO
WHAT YOU MUST.

Sincerely,

MAVERICK PAUL
NAZELROD
17 yrs. old
that's fa Reel

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

Dear Mr. Slown -

As a resident of New Mexico for the past couple decades, I have followed with interest the progress of the Mexican Wolf Recovery Project. It is very apparent that this project currently represents a token effort not seriously designed to foster wolf re-population. The experiences of other states that have taken realistic measures to re-establish the wolf population make plain the enormous ecological benefits. It is essential that if we are to give wolf recovery a viable shot, we must establish a range for them that corresponds to the natural wolf habitat. The current practice of limiting wolves to an artificial, small habitat is a set-up for failure.

The current rules must be revised to require ranchers to clean up carcasses if we are to discontinue the re-capture of wolves who respond in a normal fashion to dead livestock. Ranchers are already permitted to have wolves re-captured who prey on livestock - to allow the lure of carcasses to foster a taste for livestock certainly will continue to doom wolf recovery efforts to failure.

Please establish a realistic plan for wolf recovery. It will enrich the New Mexico ecosystem and the lives of all creatures who inhabit it.

Thank you.

Carol Mason
8925 8th St NW
Albuquerque NM 87114

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

Dear Mr. Slown,

Thank you for your time and attention to the dire situation facing our precious Mexican wolves.

I ask you to support the wolf recovery by making some very important changes to existing wolf recovery plans. This species needs to survive in the wild and the Fish and Wildlife Service holds the future of wolves in its hand.

First of all I would ask that Fish and Wildlife make needed changes like allowing less "take" of wolves. Far too many wolves are being killed and removed. ~~Bye~~ The missing Durango pack is a prime example. Rogue ranchers have obviously disposed of this pack, although I will reserve true judgement. I've spent a great deal of time in the Gila area and in the Alpine, Az area, and most ranchers have had zero wolf interaction, yet would not hesitate to kill one if given half the chance.

These ranchers must be held accountable for removing livestock carcasses in a timely manner so that wolves don't become accustomed to the free meal.

Also, please open the area where wolves can be released, and don't return them to old territory if they try to relocate. Their boundaries must be expanded. We need this project to work here in New Mexico and in Arizona. Look at the success of wolf recovery in Yellowstone, and allow the same to happen here.

Thank you,

Katherine Winski
1603 Solano Dr NE
Albuquerque, NM 87110

Kat@winski.com

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

Dear Mr. Slown,

Thank you for this opportunity to give my comments regarding the Mexican gray wolf reintroduction project. I am asking you allow this project to grow and flourish. In order for this project to work, restrictions to wolf movement + boundaries must be removed. Wolves naturally require large areas for their habitat. Right now under the existing rule, wolves that leave the BRWRA boundary have to be captured + relocated back to the limited area they are allowed. We need a revised rule that does not have exclusive areas for the wolves. This Blue Range population of Mexican gray wolves is absolutely essential to their long-term recovery. I feel that wolves should be classified as essential - as their survival in the wild at this point is very fragile at best.

If anything, we need to expand the number of wolves released and to stop immediately the killing + removing of wolves in the wild. Of course there are issues with livestock - but quick removal of livestock carcasses by ranchers on public lands →

would help clean up the problem of these "attractive nuisances" that can cause a wolf or wolves to be killed or placed back in captivity based on the "3 strikes - you are out" policy.

I value wolves in the wild mainly because they will help recover the balance of the ecosystem. This has been elegantly shown in Yellowstone. We should use their success story to build on the small gains we have achieved here in the Southwest.

Again, I am asking for an expansion of the number of wolves & the area they are able to populate. Federal laws to this end are absolutely essential.

Thank you.

Dr. Christine M. Mermier
232 Aliso Dr NE
Albuquerque NM 87108

How to Submit Comments

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- Take the brochure with you and return it by mail
- Provide comments via e-mail. For your convenience, you can do that here at the computer station, or visit www.mexicanwolves.org
- Faxed comments may be sent to (505) 346-2542

Please note: In order to be considered part of the formal record, your comments must include your name and address. Comments may be submitted through December 31, 2007.

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment--including your personal information--may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

TO: U. S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Comments:

I AM WRITING THIS TO SUPPORT THE SURVIVAL OF THE MEXICAN GRAY WOLF IN THE WILD. EVEN MORE SPECIFICALLY IN WILD AREAS OF ARIZONA AND NEW MEXICO, I DEMAND THAT THE U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE CHANGE THE CLASSIFICATION IN THE BLUE RANGE POPULATION FROM "EXPERIMENTAL, NON-ESSENTIAL" TO "EXPERIMENTAL, ESSENTIAL" OR "ENDANGERED" IMMEDIATELY.

THIS TO BE INCLUDED IN A CONSERVATION ALTERNATIVE, I

ALSO BESEAKH YOU TO ALLOW THE CURRENT POPULATION OF MEXICAN GRAY WOLVES IN THE WILD TO EXPAND THEIR TERRITORY AND THAT YOU ELIMINATE ALL RESTRICTIONS ON WOLF DISPERSAL AND MOVEMENTS. IN ADDITION EXPANIN

THE AREA FOR INITIAL RELEASE OF WOLVES TO ANYWHERE WITHIN THE BLUE RANGE WOLF RECOVERY AREA. I WANT TO SEE YOU RESOLVE WOLF-LIVESTOCK CONFLICTS BY ANY MEANS NECESSARY TO ALLOW WOLVES TO REMAIN IN THE WILD AND TO SEVERELY REDUCE TAKE. AS A FEDERAL TAXPAYER AND CITIZEN OF THIS GREAT NATION I BELIEVE AND EXPECT THAT WILD AREAS BE LEFT FOR WILD ANIMALS. I RESENT THAT I SUBSIDIZE RANCHERS' LIVELIHOODS THROUGH BELOW MARKET COSTS FOR GRAZING ALTOGETHER'S WASTE

Name: GLENN RICE →

Street: 4963 ARROYO CHAMISANO

City, State, Zip: ALBUQUERQUE

NM 87111

Tape closed with address on outside, and add a stamp.

DO NOT STAPLE
Thank you for your input!



Mexican Gray Wolf Your Input Requested

The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service and its partners have been reintroducing Mexican gray wolves into the wild since 1998. Based on recent reviews, we have made the decision to continue the wolf reintroduction.

This scoping meeting is the first step in the process of determining how the reintroduction will continue - whether or not there will be changes, and what the changes, if any, might be. There will be additional opportunities for involvement over the next year as the process moves forward.

The scoping step is the information-gathering stage. We want to hear from you about what you have learned during this time. We want your recommendations for recovering the Mexican wolf.

AND WITH
THIS THEIR VIEWPOINT ON
THIS ISSUE IS HELD IN
HIGHER REGARD BY YOU.
THE RECOVERY OF THE WOLF
IN THE WILD SHOULD TAKE
PRECEDENCE OVER RANCHING
CONCERNS. THIS IS WHAT THE
MAJORITY OF AMERICANS
BELIEVE,

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

YOU SIMPLY MUST REMOVE ALL
BARRIERS TO THE SUCCESSFUL
REGENERATION OF A SELF-
SUSTAINING POPULATION IN THE
WILD. I WILL FOLLOW YOUR
PROGRESS WITH GREAT INTEREST.
THANK YOU FOR MAKING THE
RECOVERY OF THE MEXICAN



AT TODAY'S MEETING you have the opportunity to:

- Review information about Mexican gray wolves and the current reintroduction process
- View a 5-minute presentation describing why we are considering changes to the reintroduction process. This presentation will be made every 15 minutes with the last showing 15 minutes before the end of the meeting.
- Talk one-on-one with agency representatives; ask questions and provide information
- Submit your formal written comments
- Sign up to receive updates on the process

All of the information presented at this meeting is at www.mexicanwolves.org.

GRAY WOLF A GREAT
SUCCESS.

SINCERELY
Alfynn L. Rine
ALFYNN L. RINE

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Comments: I am writing this in hopes that the U.S. Fish + Wildlife Service will make some big changes to the rules governing the Mexican gray wolf reintroduction project. The objective was to establish a population of at least 100 Mexican gray wolves. We are nowhere close to this number + to date in 2007, 21 Mexican wolves have been killed, gone missing or been removed from the wild population. The project has been a total failure + the following changes need to be made:

- ① Change the classification from experimental, non-essential to *ENDANGERED or experimental, ESSENTIAL
- ② Allow wolves to EXPAND their territory - ELIMINATE ALL RESTRICTIONS TO WOLF DISPERSAL + MOVEMENTS.

③ Expand the initial releases to ANYWHERE within the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area.

④ Resolve livestock-wolf conflict in ways that keep wolves in the wild + achieve progress towards reintroduction goals.

⑤ STOP KILLING + REMOVING WOLVES (Remember You are Fish + WILDLIFE, not Fish + Cattle or Fish + Dead Wildlife!)

⑥ Revise the Recovery Plan -

⑦ EXPAND the number of wolves in the wild population. 100 is the bare minimum + we are NO where close to this number! Wolves are amazing animals. PLEASE, PLEASE DO!

Name: Kelly Rice

Street: 4963 Arroyo Chamisa

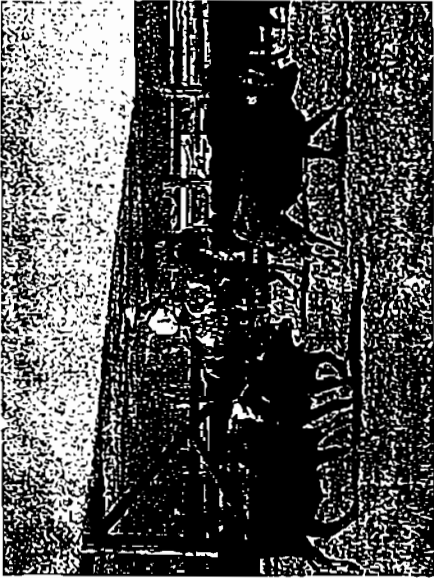
Rd. NE

City, State, Zip: Albuquerque,

NM 87111

Tape closed with address on outside, and add a stamp.

DO NOT STAPLE
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Mexican Gray Wolf Your Input Requested

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The scoping step is the information-gathering stage. We want to hear from you about what you have learned during this time. We want your recommendations for recovering the Mexican wolf.

→ what it takes to SAVE THE MEXICAN WOLF! Do the right thing & think of the environment, our State, our Country, our children, our grandchildren & generations to come! Let's make New Mexico a Wolf Success Story!!

Sincerely,
Kelly A. Rice

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

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- Faxed comments may be sent to (505) 346-2542

Please note: In order to be considered part of the formal record, your comments must include your name and address. Comments may be submitted through December 31, 2007.

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment--including your personal information--may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

I would really like to know names + addresses of ranchers who are cooperating + positive about the reintroduction. I would like to send them a note of appreciation!! ☺

Comments: I am totally in favor of continuing the release of wolves in the recovery zone. I can understand the concern of ranchers, but I feel they had to come to grips with the issue. It seems to me that game + fish has bent over backwards to accommodate ranchers' concerns. Ranchers need to find ways to protect their cattle from predators which also include other animals (bears, coyotes, crows...). Wolves are just another part of the ecosystem.

Is there anyway to condition wolves not to attack cattle?

What about using battery electric shocks when they are young. Put out cattle carcasses that are wired to give a shock from teeth to tail.

Have other game w/ no wires. Wolves are smart - they may learn that the cattle are no-no. Electric fences sure work on my dogs - if they hit into something they quit. Maybe raising the amount ranchers get for killed cattle? Also, on maybe really working on young ranchers + education. Attempts be more sensitive.

Name: Rolene Barnett
Street: 2417 Cutler Ave NE
City, State, Zip: Albuq, NM 87106

~~To the wolf. Other ranchers~~
Tape closed with address on outside, and add a stamp. are pretty rigid + DO NOT STAPLE. Get agenda of the Thank you for your input! Recovery + probably will never change.



Mexican Gray Wolf Your Input Requested

The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service and its partners have been reintroducing Mexican gray wolves into the wild since 1998. Based on recent reviews, we have made the decision to continue the wolf reintroduction.

This scoping meeting is the first step in the process of determining how the reintroduction will continue - whether or not there will be changes, and what the changes, if any, might be. There will be additional opportunities for involvement over the next year as the process moves forward.

The scoping step is the information-gathering stage. We want to hear from you about what you have learned during this time. We want your recommendations for recovering the Mexican wolf.

*This program was great,
It is just what we need.
The more the public knows,
the more support you will
get for recovery.*

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

AT TODAY'S MEETING you have the opportunity to:

- Review information about Mexican gray wolves and the current reintroduction process
- View a 5-minute presentation describing why we are considering changes to the reintroduction process. This presentation will be made every 15 minutes with the last showing 15 minutes before the end of the meeting.
- Talk one-on-one with agency representatives; ask questions and provide information
- Submit your formal written comments
- Sign up to receive updates on the process

All of the information presented at this meeting is at www.mexicanwolfeis.org.



Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

Mr. Slown,

I'm respectfully writing this letter to express my concern about the future of the Mexican Gray Wolf. It is no secret that the wolf is an integral part of the history of New Mexico and it should also be an important part of our future for many reasons. One of these reasons is that the wolf is a top predator that keep its surrounding ecosystem in balance. Another reason is the pride that it instills in New Mexicans, not to mention the wolf's sheer beauty. As a Native American, I know that the wolf is also greatly appreciated and valued in native spirituality and culture.

It is for these reasons, and many more, that I would like to ask you to consider the following recommendations:

- Please upgrade the status of the wolf to "endangered" so that it can enjoy greater protection.

- Allow ~~the~~ the wolves to move freely without geographical - and arbitrary - boundaries (at least until the wolf learns to read maps and navigate with a GPS system).

- STOP killing and removing or "taking" wolves all together! They need to come back, and that will never be possible if we keep on killing them. I know that wolves get "taken out" for conflicts with livestock but, isn't the livestock moving into the wolves ancestral territories? Livestock owners are just as responsible for such conflict. Don't you think?

- More important than anything, it is time to revise a clearly failing policy.

Let's not wait until it is too late!

Sincerely

748 97th St - SW
Albq. NM 87121

Albert Ortega
~~Albq. NM~~

Malcolm R. MacPherson, Ph.D.

Brian Millsap, Ph.D., State Administrator
United States Fish and Wildlife Service
New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office
2105 Osuna NE
Albuquerque, New Mexico 97113

27 November, 2007

Dear Dr. Millsap:

Ref: Changes needed in the Mexican gray wolf restoration plan.

Background: I am a retired scientist. As an avocation, I've studied wolves and their ecosystems both in the wild and in the literature for many years. It is clear to me that wolves play an indispensable role in our native ecosystems. I believe the wolf is the most misunderstood animal in nature.

The subspecies, Mexican gray wolf, is listed as *endangered* under the Endangered Species Act. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) introduced this wolf as *experimental, non-essential* into the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area (BRWRA) in 1998 (however, in view of small numbers and a restricted gene pool, there was nothing *non-essential* about these animals). There were two key growth objectives: *at least* 100 Mexican gray wolves in the wild and *at least* 18 breeding pairs by the end of 2006. At the beginning of 2007 the population stood at less than 60 % of its objective and the number of breeding pairs reached only one third of its objective. Also, to date in 2007 21 Mexican wolves are missing, killed, or removed from the wild by the Service. This week, the Service slated the Aspen Pack to be removed. Clearly, we will have much lower numbers by the end of 2007.

We must allow the Mexican gray wolf population in southwestern New Mexico and southeastern Arizona to reach a level where it can become ecologically effective in an evolutionary sense and have sufficient numbers to persist in perpetuity. Further, there needs to be a healthy population across the border in Mexico. The current number of Mexican gray wolves in the recovery area is far, far too low to be ecologically effective.

The Service is not accomplishing its mandate under the ESA to recover this species. It has an obligation to ensure its long-term sustainability. Immediate changes are needed to get the recovery program for the Mexican gray wolf back on track.

The Service is currently soliciting scoping comments for possible modifications of the reintroduction program through a series of meetings in Arizona and New Mexico. It has prepared a PowerPoint presentation listing six policy areas where it would like input on current rules. I believe that Service must address a new recovery plan simultaneously with looking at rule modification.

A new recovery plan:

Reconvene the recovery plan working groups immediately. The Service is working from a recovery plan completed in 1982. That plan is clearly out of date. Both the public and the Service have learned a lot in the

Malcolm R. MacPherson, Ph.D.


past 26 years through many programs, including the very successful gray wolf reintroduction in the northern Rockies! A new recovery plan for the Mexican gray wolf should be tailored after *the successful results* of that plan. This activity should be restarted immediately and any proposed new rules rolled into it, rather than the other way around.

New rule changes. There are a number of “current rules” that inhibit Mexican gray wolf recovery to an ecologically effective population. I believe the following changes must be made:

- Wolves must be allowed to find suitable habitat anywhere they can. Under the existing rules, wolves that leave the BRWRA are captured and relocated back into the recovery area. Restrictions on wolf dispersal must be eliminated.
- Wolf releases from the captive population should be made at any suitable area within the BRWRA. Releases are now only allowed in a part of the BRWRA located in Arizona (about 25 % of the total). Since wolves are very territorial, the current rule severely limits agency release options.
- The Service must stop authorizing the removal of wolves from the wild until the recovery objectives are met. The no-growth population figures over the last several years are a direct result of excess agency removal from, or killing of wolves in the wild. Livestock owners using the public land must clean up dead stock before wolves find and scavenge on them. I believe native wildlife must take management precedence on public lands. That is clearly not the case now.
- Allow the wild population to grow to carrying capacity on the land. Wolves, being extremely territorial, will roughly limit their own population by the available food supply. We can see this happening in Yellowstone National Park over the last few years. 100 wolves and 18 breeding pairs is simply a minimum short-term objective. No maximum is required.
- Reclassify the Mexican gray wolf as endangered everywhere. The *experimental, non-essential* classification for the reintroduced population was a fundamental mistake from the beginning. Gray wolves reintroduced in the northern Rockies were also so classified. However, should that recovery plan have failed, there were many remaining sources of gray wolves in Canada and Alaska. On the other hand, should the Mexican gray wolf plan fail, we have remaining only the captive breeding population with a very limited gene pool. An endangered classification for this subspecies everywhere is entirely appropriate.

Thank you for considering my thoughts on recovery of the Mexican gray wolf in the southwest.

Sincerely,



Bob MacPherson

34 Coyote Mountain Road
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Phone: 505-989-9502
nr1mrm@cnsf.com

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

I have had the pleasure of spotting a Mexican Gray wolf in 2003. As a concerned resident of New Mexico, I ask and urge the following changes:

- change the classification from 'experimental, non-essential' to 'experimental, essential' as pondered for by Congress.
- allow our wolves to expand their territory by eliminating restrictions to wolf dispersal and movements.
- expand the area for initial releases to anywhere within the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area.
- resolve livestock-wolf conflicts that keep wolves in the wild.
- stop killing wolves: reduce take.
- revise Recovery Plan - it is out of date and not responsive to the wishes of the majority of New Mexicans.
- expand the number of wolves in the wild.
- do not allow the rule change to include any provisions that limit future options for recovery.

Sincerely,

Pamela Koster

Po Box 1689

89 Senoscu Ct

Corrals, NM 87048

Please contact me for any other information

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

Mr. Slown,

Sometime in the 1960s or early '70s people wanted to build an atomic power plant on the shore of Lake Michigan. They said, in support of their project, that it would only raise the temperature of Lake Michigan by 2 degrees. Scientists proved that raising the temperature of Lake Michigan would kill the lake. The power plant was never built. The reasoning was that an increase of 2° would kill some very small creature which a bigger creature needed for food. I think you get the picture.

All life in the lake depends other life in the lake. I believe it is true on land also. Therefore, all wild animals should be protected within reason but never allowed or caused to become extinct. If I am correct about animals depending on each other then we need wolves. And, in the lower 48 states they should be classified as endangered. They should be allowed to roam and people should be educated

(over)

as to how to keep wolves out of their fields,
etc.

Sincerely,
Robert A. Schiller

Robert A. Schiller
2613 Garner SW
ABQ NM 87105

P.S. I plan to stay informed concerning the wolf.

P.P.S. Little Red Riding Hood LIED!

Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

11/30/07

Dear Mr. Slown

I am a resident of Albuquerque,
I wanted to make several comments
on the Wolf recovery Program -

1. I do want to see this program succeed -
2. There needs to be more tolerance of the wolves on public lands so they can survive without so much manipulation -
3. There needs to be more responsibility placed on the Ranchers to do their part to make this program work -
4. The Public lands are the best areas for the wolves to live, especially the Wilderness areas -
5. The boundaries for the wolf release area should expand into the whole recovery area in New Mexico & Arizona, not just the small area in Arizona -
This will allow for more biodiversity for the wolves increasing a stronger genetic pool

6. I would like to see more flexibility given to the management to make better decision in implementing the success of the wolf recovery program.

Thankyou,

Rene Horvath

898-2114

5515 Palomino Dr. N.W.

Albq., New Mex - 87120