

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

Wolves (and other large predatory animals) are necessary to control herds of deer, elk, moose. Without them to cull old and sick animals, herds grow too large and quickly run out of food in a given area - in addition reduce adequate grazing for local rancher's stock.

Defenders of Wildlife has in the past re-imbursed ranchers for livestock lost to wolves PROVIDED it could be proven it was actually a "wolf kill"

Our government agencies have knuckled under to rancher's in the past and embarked on wolf eradication programs whenever wolves were feared.

The time has come to re-introduce them - AND NOT limit them to "small, well defined areas" if their numbers are to increase - so must their range!

Debbie Zwintz  
PO Box 64275  
Tucson, AZ 85728-4275  
(520) 319-5663

## 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.mexicanwolves.org](http://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.

Comments: Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to learn more & offer comments. In no particular order....

- 1- Wolves should be allowed to expand their territory - they can't read maps!!
- 2- Pet owners who let animals (their pets) run loose are taking their chances & should not be allowed to kill or injure wildlife - wolves, bears, or any other. Keep them on leash!
- 3- Can livestock owners be reimbursed for kills? Can they be required to have more human presence to scare off wolves?
- 4- Would like to see stronger penalties for injuring or killing wolves - they should be considered endangered.

5- Numbers should be increased.

6- Man has made enough of a mess - shooting buffalo from trains - decimating wolves - hunting/trapping/ poisoning -

Thank you for trying to restore the Natural balance of nature!!

P.S. I hope I never see or hear a wolf kill prey - but nature should be preserved...

Name: Janet A. Gamelas  
Street: 14645 W Via Manana  
City, State, Zip: Sun City West AZ 85375

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

DO NOT STAPLE  
Thank you for your input!

Beth Bruno  
1731 W. Evans Dr.  
Phoenix AZ. 85023

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

Dear Mr. John Slown,

I am writing in regards to the current Mexican Gray wolf reintroduction program.

At present this program whose goal was to "establish a population of at least 100 Mexican Gray wolves by the end of 2006", is suffering great losses, with 21 Mexican Gray Wolves missing in 2007 alone. Under the current ruling the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are not upholding their responsibility to recover the Mexican Gray Wolf. This, by itself, is evidence that the ruling needs changing.

It is my hope that the classification of the Mexican Gray wolf be changed to experimental, essential, or even more potent, endangered. This would allow the wolf stronger protections and help to ensure the survival of the species.

As well as reclassifying, expanding the territory that the wolf is able to roam is essential to helping them maintain a healthy, thriving population. The current restrictions on where the wolf is "allowed" to roam constantly contradicts any recovery attempts. The wolf is a

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

social, pack animal, wherein all members work together to help the pack survive. When one member roams beyond the boundaries that are currently established for them, they are removed and relocated. This is very damaging to the remaining pack members, it is disruptive and places the rest of the pack at risk.

If it is truly the goal for wolves to be recovered then it is necessary for the Recovery Plan to evolve, and to really do what is best for the Mexican Gray Wolves' survival. In short, the plan to date is not effective; and as a taxpayer and citizen I would like to see our funds used more efficiently.

I know these issues are not as simple as they can sometimes appear, but it is important to me that the Mexican Gray Wolf survive. I believe extinction is a clear sign of imbalance, and I also feel that it is our responsibility to preserve the species who are impacted most by our own growth and expansion. It is not too much to ask that we compromise, and maybe even give up a little of what we feel is ours by some right we've assigned ourselves.

Expanding the territory that the wolves are allowed to live on and be reintroduced into; as well as finding ways other than removal, to resolve the conflict between the Wolves and the Ranchers are just such

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

areas where compromise needs to make an appearance. This is especially true when we are dealing with areas of public lands; lands owned by the public should not be ruled by the voice of a select group. Every effort should be made to avoid a problem; education is essential, and when all those involved are aware of issues that can cause an incident, they should be held accountable for making sure they are doing their part to prevent problems, such as cleaning up dead livestock which encourages the wolf to prey on cattle. This is a small compromise for the advantage of grazing on public lands for a small fee.

I do not expect anything to be one-sided and understand the concerns of those who make their living from cattle; but for too long has it been one-sided in their favor and the Mexican Gray Wolf has suffered. It is my expectation that this will change; it is my hope that it will change for the better. Changing the plan, reclassifying the Mexican Gray Wolf, ensuring their survival and setting an example for others to follow. We can achieve a balance between human and animal, and in our position at the 'top of the food chain', I believe it is our responsibility to do so. Thank you. Sincerely, Beth Bruno

## 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.mexicanwolf.org](http://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:

MORE USE SHOULD BE MADE OF THE NEW MEXICO PORTION OF THE WOLF RECOVERY AREA. EITHER ALLOW INITIAL RELEASES, EXPAND RE-RELEASES, OR BOTH INTO THIS AREA.

ALL MEXICAN GRAY WOLVES SHOULD BE AFFORDED FULL PROTECTION UNDER THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT. THERE SHOULD BE NO KILLING OF WOLVES, EVEN ON PRIVATE LAND, AND HARASSMENT SHOULD BE KEPT TO A MINIMUM.

SOME GRAZING LEASES ON PUBLIC LANDS SHOULD BE RETIRED, PARTICULARLY IN WILDERNESS AREAS AND AREAS WITH REGULAR WOLF/CATTLE CONFLICTS.

Name: DON BENTLEY

Street: 301 W. WINDSOR AVE.

City, State, Zip: PHOENIX, AZ 85003

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

DO NOT STAPLE  
Thank you for your input!

## 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.mexicanwolf.org](http://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:

① Change the classification of Mexican Gray Wolves to "experimentally essential" or "endangered" in all wolf recovery areas.  
② Eliminate all restrictions to wolf dispersal and movement so there is no exclusion of geographic areas from potential occupation by wolves.

③ Expand the area for initial release to anywhere within the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area. <sup>PUBLICIST</sup>

④ PLEASE as far as can be estimated, the cost of cattle grazing to the last paying public on the Blue Range wolf recovery area.

⑤ Stop billing ("TAXE") wolves a reducing the gene pool, the current SGP is extremely excessive. Reduce the take significantly.

⑥ Place no limits on the number of wolves in the wild with this rule change.

⑦ Include no rules in this review that would limit in any way future options for recovery of Mexican Gray wolves anywhere outside the current boundaries of the BRWRA

Name: BOB KUHNERT

Street: 3370 N. HAYDEN

STE 123 PMB 666

City, State, Zip: SCOTTSDALE

AZ 85251

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

DO NOT STAPLE  
Thank you for your input!

## 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.mexicanwolves.org](http://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.

## Comments:

Nothing is simple although this should be. The wolf is endangered so change its classification to experimented ESSENTIAL.

The primary area is way too small. Start expanding it by doubling its size every 2 years and change 10(j) Rule to allow them to move out of the recovery area.

Develop more discouraging items such as the fleg fences (fladny) Provide this for free. What about guard dogs for sheep?

Since wolf and man have the same game/food, reduce the hunting allotment.

Require ranches to pick up injured/dead stock. A FREE meal is loved by all but encourages wolves to go after livestock.

Ranches need to reduce the number of head anyway due to the destruction of the land.

Pet owners should be allowed to throw objects near wolves attaching pets. They should be able to yell or chase. Allowing

Shooting into the air becomes problematic because what goes up will come down and potentially injure the winter ad.

Let's eventually be flexible enough to allow the old range to be re-established if the habitat is still usable.

Since wolves, elk and deer were here before man and livestock, stop "taking" wolves for killing cattle. Livestock is just like the desert they never had hundreds of years ago.

Revise the Recovery Plan and stay flexible. Make changes that don't restrict future recovery thoughts

Name: Sharon Hotham

Street: 209 E. Brack Hollow Dr.

City, State, Zip: Phoenix, AZ.

85022

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

DO NOT STAPLE

Thank you for your input!



December 7, 2007

Mr. 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:

Since the reintroduction of the Mexican Gray Wolf in 1998 their populations have grown to the extent that we now have wolves born in the wild as they were meant to be. Wolves are an integral part of the environment and will ultimately over time make the ecosystem a stronger and more natural one. Wolves and other predators generally feed on the weaker animals ultimately ensuring a stronger and more fit elk and deer population.

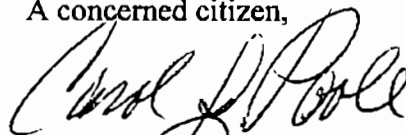
Other elements in the ecosystem will also benefit. More riparian areas will evolve, as the elk will tend to stay away from the higher grasses along the riverbeds. This will allow the cottonwoods and other streamside vegetation to grow, as the elk and deer won't be eating the grasses and saplings. They will learn to fear predators hiding in the tall grass. If these riparian areas are allowed to evolve naturally the birds and other animals of the natural ecosystem will return.

History has shown that the elimination of a species only causes a cascading effect in the environment. When predators were eradicated there was an overpopulation of the animals they preyed on creating an imbalance in the environment. Predators are a necessity in a healthy ecosystem.

I'm asking you to please continue to protect these wonderful and magnificent animals. They need our help to ensure their survival.

Sincerely,

A concerned citizen,



Carol J. Poole  
17439 N 17<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Phoenix, AZ 85023  
602-548-0387

ATTN: MEXICAN GRAY WOLF  
NEPA SCOPING

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

COMMENT ON CHANGES TO THE RULES GOVERNING THE  
MEXICAN GRAY WOLF REINTRODUCTION PROJECT:

FIRST - FISH & WILDLIFE IS MANDATED TO RE-ESTABLISH THE  
MEXICAN GRAY WOLF IN THE WILD. INSURING WOLF SURVIVAL,  
NOT CONTROL, IS YOUR PRIMARY GOAL. THE CURRENT  
PROGRAM IS NOT DESIGNED TO ACHIEVE THIS GOAL - IS, IN  
MANY WAYS, COUNTER TO IT. THE WOLF NEEDS TO BE  
CLASSIFIED AS ENDANGERED & ESSENTIAL - BECAUSE THEY  
ARE VERY MUCH ENDANGERED AND ARE ESSENTIAL TO  
THE ECOSYSTEM. BOUNDARY RESTRICTIONS NEED TO BE  
ELIMINATED TO ACCOMMODATE THEIR HABITAT NEEDS  
AND ALLOW FOR ANIMALS TO BE RELEASED IN NM.  
WOLVES AND RANCHERS WOULD BENEFIT FROM A REQUIREMENT  
THAT RANCHERS PROPERLY DEAL WITH CATTLE CARCASSES.  
AS THE GOAL IS 100+ WOLVES REINTRODUCED - REMOVAL  
OF WOLVES MUST BE DECREASED. THE RECOVERY PLAN  
NEEDS TO BE REVISED TO INSURE FUTURE RECOVERY  
ACTIONS - AND ALL AMENDMENTS / RULE CHANGES  
NEED TO INSURE THE RECOVERY AS WELL  $\Rightarrow$  OF  
AT LEAST ~~100~~ A POPULATION OF 100 WOLVES (THERE  
REALLY SHOULD BE NO CAP)

SECOND - OTHER THAN THE FACT THAT ~~THE~~ FWS IS MANDATED  
TO REESTABLISH THE WOLF IN THE WILD - THIS ACTION  
NEEDS TO BE CARRIED OUT BECAUSE IT IS THE RIGHT  
THING TO DO. WOLVES, WHEN COMPARED TO ALL OTHER  
CAUSES OF CATTLE DEATHS, ARE AN INSIGNIFICANT THREAT.  
DOMESTIC DOGS - WHICH NO ONE TARGETS - ARE A MUCH  
GREATER THREAT. PREDATORS - INCLUDING WOLVES - ARE  
AN ESSENTIAL PART OF ANY ECOSYSTEM. PLEASE  
DON'T IGNORE YOUR RESPONSIBILITY - LEGALLY & TO THE  
PLANET & FUTURE GENERATIONS - TO PROTECT THE  
WOLVES, FACILITATE THEIR RECOVERY

JODY JOHNSON  
10210 S. 43RD PL  
PHOENIX, AZ 85044

FROM:

## 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.mexicanwolf.org](http://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:

Thanks to the agencies which have organized and hosted this event.

Having been a resident of AZ since 1969, and having traveled throughout the state, I am of the belief that we have large areas of Public Lands available for the increase and dispersing of a number of packs. Comparing to the Inyo of Yellowstone population, the Inyo of Yellowstone population 1400? Certainly we can sustain more (1000 or more) in the presently defined areas. In addition, other areas near the North Rim or the non-essential areas in Arizona should definitely be included. Releases should be allowed in a much larger area, on the currently defined "Non-essential" areas.

"Non-essential" ranges

Compensation to the ranches should be increased, bypassing the justification process. As well as urging moratorium public lands for grazing be removed from leasos...

Wolves need to expand their territories and not be limited to arbitrary boundaries.

Revision of the recovery plan is necessary... Expand the areas, the number and decrease the manage ment of this wild population

Name: Dr. Larry Soller

Street: 6333 North Third Street

City, State, Zip: PHX. AZ. 85012

l.soller@cox.net

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

Marlene Manzer  
22519 W. Hammond Dr.  
BUCKEYE AZ 85326

December 8, 2007

Dear Sir:

I am a teacher in the Phoenix area and live in Buckeye, AZ. Living in a metropolitan area and being a lover of nature, I look forward each summer to going backpacking in the White Mountains of AZ. How exciting it has been to get a glimpse of a black bear, fox and elk while on my hikes. I guess I feel that this chance to view these animals in their natural habitat is my God-given right. Especially, when it is on public lands. What a thrill it would be to perhaps someday see a wolf.

I do not understand why the Mexican Wolves are not given the distinction of an endangered species, but rather are classified as experimental, non-essential. I also would support laws that require ranchers/farmers to clean up their dead livestock or at least make them inedible so wolves do not scavenge on them. I understand that this is a law in the Yellowstone area. (By the way, it is a law that I am not allowed to litter public lands on my hikes... why are ranchers excluded?)

My family is from ranch country in South Dakota. I understand their way of life and that they just want to make a living. But this is an issue of being responsible for your livestock, caring for your dogs, pets by keeping them close to home so they don't interact with wolves.

Lastly, what a boring world this would be without wildlife. Why do humans think they have the right to eliminate a species that God/creator/whatever has put on this earth?

Sincerely,  
Marlene Manzer

## 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.mexicanwolves.org](http://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.

## Comments:

DEXPAND AND ZONE  
TO INCLUDE NORTHERN  
PART ( ) EXPERIMENTAL  
POPULATION BOUNDARY  
(FROM GRAND CANYON  
-7 ASH FURK -?  
(CA)

2) I FEEL THAT WITHIN  
WOLVES EXPERIMENTAL  
THE EXPERIMENTAL BOUNDARY  
POPULATION BOUNDARY  
AND THE ZONE

RECORD RECOVER THE  
SHOULD PROTECT THE  
SPACE FOUND  
AS WOLVES THESE  
OUTSIDE PROTECTION.

AREAS ( PROTECTIVE  
AND WILDLIFE

NEEDS TO TAKE  
PEOPLE OF THEIR ANIMALS  
CARRIED WITH THEM  
- PAGES CAN BE KILLED  
BUT NOT THAT ARE  
WILDLIFE PROTECTIVE OUR ENVIRONMENT  
CARRIED, RODENTS, ETC.

Name: BOYLAND

Street: 2632 E. GRANDVIEW

City, State, Zip: PHOENIX, AZ,  
85032

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

DO NOT STAPLE  
Thank you for your input!

## 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.mexicanwolfeis.org](http://www.mexicanwolfeis.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:

I strongly support wolf reintroduction. To my knowledge every area that have had reintroduction have seen healthier populations of other animals (prey). This relationship is well documented in Yellowstone Park. Even plant populations have benefited.

I also believe that nothing has been more destructive to the ecology of the land than the heavy-hoofed ~~stet~~ stock brought in by European settlers. It is a sad thing and a grave ecological error for cattle to take political precedence over the wild. Thank you.

-Gary Russell

Name: Gary Russell  
Street: 347 S. Pioneer  
Mesa, Ariz  
City, State, Zip: 85204

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

Dear Mr. Slown:

12/8/07

I am thoroughly convinced that the Mexican Gray Wolf Recovery program is not managed to ensure the Wolves' recovery, but influenced to fail by politics and special interest groups. The current state of the program is unacceptable. To ensure the turnaround and success of the program, I strongly urge you to adopt the following:

- Based on scientific facts, the Mexican Gray Wolf must be classified as "endangered." The current classification of "experimental, nonessential" is incorrect.
- Allow the Wolves to "act natural" and expand the currently restrictive territory. It's obvious to most that Wolves cannot recognize boundaries.
- Allow initial releases anywhere within the Recovery Area. Again, this is just smart science and would allow a genetic augmentation benefit.
- Require livestock owners using public lands to be responsible and remove or make inedible livestock carcasses. To not require this is irresponsible.
- Think outside the box to ensure the program works. The incredible positive impact that Wolves provide to the ecosystem is immeasurable.

Sincerely, *Jeff Squires*

Jeff Squires Mesa, AZ  
2929 E. Leland St. 85213

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

Regarding Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping:

Dear Sirs

I am concerned that the Mexican Gray Wolf will not survive under the current policies and programs that you have. I urge you to take the following steps.

1. Eliminate all restrictions to wolf dispersal and movements.

2. Expand the area for initial releases to anywhere within the Blue Range Wolf Recovery area. Arizona should not be the only state.

3. Reclassification from "experimental, non-essential" to "experimental, essential" or "endangered" for stronger protections.

4. Require owners of livestock that use public land to clean-up dead stock before wolves find and eat them.

5. Stop Killing and removing wolves.

Sincerely Yours

Jeffrey Heimer  
1106 W Turney Ave  
Phoenix AZ 85013



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

ATTN: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

Fish & Wildlife,

As a citizen that is concerned about the future of the Mexican gray wolf I would like a conservation Alternative.

The Blue ridge range population of wolves is essential to long term recovery of this endangered subspecies. Captive populations will not safeguard Mexican wolves from extinction in the long term.

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

Allow the wolves to roam outside of the current arbitrary political boundaries just as other endangered species

they currently face many problems in trying to survive such as inbreeding, government killing, and limits on releases. Not to mention illegal killings.

regards,  
Chris Carlson  
2902 W. Curry St.  
Chandler, AZ 85224

**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 Sir,

As an AZ native, from a AZ family predating  
Statehood, I employ you to do your part to  
reclassify the work with the "Mexican Gray Wolf"  
the "Blue Ledge Population", to "essential or experi-  
mental or endangered".

I currently live 15 minutes from the center  
of Phoenix, & co-exist with coyotes, hawks, owls,  
racoons, many small desert mammals & birds.

We, in AZ, are blessed with much empty  
land, State & Federal, & have plenty of brain  
power & concern available to make wolves  
permanently a part of our landscape.

Thanks, and please make this work

Linda Brock

F.V., AZ 85253

## 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.mexicanwolfets.org](http://www.mexicanwolfets.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:

I HOPE YOU WILL NOT  
HOLD BACK THE WOLVES  
FROM GOING TO DIFFERENT  
AREAS. I VOTE FOR THE  
WOLVES IN ALL ASPECTS.

*Charles Agster*

Name: CHARLES AGSTER

Street: 5507 N. 76TH PL.

City, State, Zip: SCOTTSDALE

AZ, 85250

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

I strongly support the reintroduction of the Mexican gray wolf. I believe focus needs to shift from wolf control to wolf survival. These wolves must be considered endangered and given all protection necessary for their survival. The wolves need more territory - they do not know political boundaries. Also ranches should remove dead livestock so as not to attract wolves as they do in Wyoming. I believe the goal should be a minimum of 100 wolves around BRWRA. The Lobo was our school mascot. Please save the Lobo.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kimberly Smith  
8301 N 103 Ave #206  
Peoria AZ 85345

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: Alex's Sandoval  
12409 N. 47th Dr.  
Glendale, AZ, 85304

Hello people. This is all year old  
girl talking. I don't feel all  
that good about people and ranchers  
killing wolves. There's is barely  
any animals left in the world!  
I mean I love ~~horses~~ horses but  
Wolves belong in Arizona  
and America they are part of the  
Eco system I mean isn't that  
why God put them here right.  
God wanted everyone and animals to  
live peacefully!! From Alex ~~Sandoval~~

**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 definitely feel that we have to do something now to save our wolves - they are disappearing way too fast. They are a beautiful animal & they deserve a place in our world.

They should be able to expand their territory & increase their population.

We need more support in this program

Donna B. Abraham  
PO Box 5009  
Alondra AZ  
85312

Bobbie Holaday  
1413 East Dobbins Road  
Phoenix, AZ 85042  
Phone: 602 268-1089  
[azwolflady1@cox.net](mailto:azwolflady1@cox.net)



October 24, 2007

BRIAN MILLSAP, STATE ADMINISTRATOR  
U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office  
2105 Osuna NE  
Albuquerque, NM 87113

Dear Mr. Millsap:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment during the scoping period for a draft environmental impact statement (EIS) and socio-economic assessment and a proposed rule amendment to the 1998 rule that authorized the establishment of nonessential experimental population of Mexican gray wolves in Arizona and New Mexico. With all due respect to the current request from the Sierra Club for all members to request altering this classification to full protection of these wolves, I do not support such a change. This request exhibits a lack of understanding that the limitations of the full protection category would make reasonable management of the released wolves impossible. Despite their idealistic theory of full protection, the resulting restrictions would run counterproductive to progress toward the desired self-sustaining population of 100 wolves.

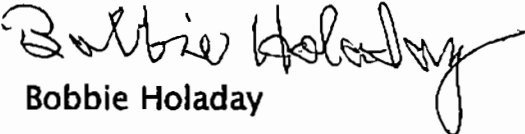
My other comments are mainly based on the recommendations found in the Mexican Wolf Blue Range Reintroduction Project 5-Year Review of the Adaptive Management Oversight Committee Recommendations Component.

I was glad to see most of these issues discussed in the Department of the Interior notice of the public scoping meeting under Issues Related to the Scope of the NEP. I refer to item (a) concerning the change in the 1998 NEP final rule that would provide the Service with the authority to allow wolves to establish territories outside the boundaries of the BRWRA; item (b) that would change the 1998 NEP final rule to provide the Service the authority to release Mexican gray wolves from the captive breeding population into New Mexico; and, item (c) that would discontinue consideration of the White Sands Wolf Recovery Area as an independent recovery area. I recommend that all of these issues be implemented and so documented in the EIS. In addition, I concur with the recommendation of the Center of Biodiversity report that call for requiring livestock operators to dispose of livestock carcasses so that wolves do not become habituated to feeding on livestock.

I call your attention to recommendation 12 in the above mentioned AMOC review, and ask that the EIS requests AMOC to develop a "Federally, State, and/or Tribally-funded incentives program to address known and potential economic impacts of wolf nuisance and livestock depredation behavior on private, public, and Tribal Trusts lands." I will not quote the entire AMOC review item here, but recommend that such an incentives program be established that would encourage the local people affected by wolf behavior to be more accepting of their presence.

I have recommend that the socio-economic assessment take into consideration the proven financial benefits from the influx of tourists and wildlife watchers to areas such as northern Minnesota and Yellowstone because of the presence of wolves. I look forward to reviewing the EIS that will follow the scoping the session.

Sincerely,

  
Bobbie Holaday



Attn: Mexican Gray Wolf NEPA Scoping

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

Dear Sir,

Ever since I was a little girl my family & friends would go camping to enjoy all the beautiful landscape & get away from it all. For fun we'd always howl out into the night, waiting for a response which used to always come. I loved hearing the call of the wild singing back to me in the night. Sadly, it has been years since I've heard that song & it's heartbreaking to know it is something that my own children will probably never hear... unless we do something now. I do not understand why we can't share the land & earth with such wonderful & unique creatures. As humans we are said to possess compassion & superior reason yet I am always amazed at how little of this we exhibit. While "taking" wolves may seem like an easy answer, why don't we use our compassion & intelligence to come up with better options & alternatives. Wolves need to be given endangered status in order to make it easier to keep others aware.

Wolves know no boundaries. They are free & wild & they should be allowed to live as such. Trying to continue to force them into a 'territory' is just futile. Their numbers should be allowed to grow unrestrained as Mother Nature has her own version of check & balances.

It is also important that farmers do their part by cleaning up carcasses to keep wolves from acquiring a taste for livestock. That is not their usual diet it is something they learn to scavenge for. The Recovery Plan needs to be updated to protect wolves; not shoot them out. Overall I don't want to imagine a world without wild life ... no one should have to. Please ~~and~~ consider what's right here.

Sincerely,

Carolyn DeJonge  
158 S. Cobblestone Dr  
Gilbert, AZ 85296  
602-326-3528

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

Dear MR Slown:

I am writing to implore the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS) to make changes to the rules governing the Mexican Gray Wolf reintroduction project to provide more protection for the wolves and to emphasize the goal of wolf recovery and wolf sustainability in the wild.

I was privileged to see a Mexican gray wolf in the national forest near Alpine, AZ in 2005. I was thrilled by this magnificent animal. I want my grandchildren and their grandchildren and generations which follow to have the opportunity for such a thrilling experience.

I ask the FWS to include the following provisions in the proposed changes:

- Include a "conservation alternative" to change the classification to "experimental, essential" or "endangered" to give wolves the protection they need and deserve.
- Permit wolves to expand their territory & eliminate restrictions to wolf movement.
- Enlarge the area for initial release to anywhere within the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area (BRWRA).
- Revise the outdated Recovery Plan before or concurrent with this rule change to avoid conflicts and inconsistencies.
- Reduce "take" as defined in the Endangered Species Act (ESA) & make changes to stop the killing & removal of wolves.
- Increase the number of wolves in the wild population.
- Resolve livestock-wolf conflicts in a way to strengthen progress toward wolf recovery. Revise the rules to require livestock owners on public lands to clean up dead livestock ~~before~~ promptly.
- Keep future recovery options open. Do not make any changes which would limit future options for wolf recovery outside the current boundaries of the BRWRA. (MNR)

I am a property owner in Alpine, AZ. My family was in the cattle business for many years. I believe it is time to correct the excesses of the past and to restore balance to our remaining "wild" lands. As a taxpayer, land owner and someone who appreciates our public lands I wholeheartedly support wolf recovery. I ask the FWS to change the rules to strengthen wolf protection and to foster wolf recovery.

Thank you for your consideration.

Betty Orr  
Betty Orr  
8732 E Sells DR  
Scottsdale AZ 85251  
Q  
PO Box 95  
Alpine, AZ 85920

**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

As an almost native Arizonan, I'd like to speak out in supporting the wolf recovery program. Understanding existing rule, the Fish and Wildlife Service is not fulfilling its mandate under the ESA to "recover" Mexican gray wolves. In order to improve the program, and increase the wolves chances of survival, I would like to make the following suggestions:

- Give the wolves more protection, by changing the classification from "experimental, nonessential" to "endangered"

- Allow wolves to expand their territory and eliminate all restrictions to wolf dispersal and movements. wolves don't read maps! :)

- Force ranchers to remove dead livestock carcasses, so the wolves don't scavenge on the animals and acquire a "taste" for cattle.

- expand the numbers of wolves "in the wild" population. A viable, self-sustaining population of at least 100 wolves is a minimum objective. There should be no maximum.

Please protect and improve the Mexican Gray Wolf Recovery Program. These are part of our natural heritage. As long as the rancher is not hurt economically, wolves should be allowed to roam in the Southwest.

Tessera Couler  
304 E. Campbell Ave #2039  
Phoenix AZ 85018

5/20/00

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

From: James S. Lea  
3020 N. 14th St #222A  
Phoenix AZ 85014  
602 266 6038  
NO E-mail (Sorry)

1. I really totally support a designation of "experimental" population for <sup>the</sup> wolves. Why hasn't this been done before? Wolves require all the protection they can muster. They are not facing all that well as it is.
2. Why or why are wolves released from captive populations only allowed in Arizona? Why is New Mexico off limits? Is there something political going on in N. Mex. Releasing wolves outside of Arizona will give more tools for agency managers to help assess population of the wolves.
3. I find it hard to believe that ranchers are not required to remove or render inedible carcasses of livestock that die due to disease/starvation. This is totally irresponsible of lazy ranchers and the Forest Service employees. If I own a business I am responsible for taking care of my property. Public lands are taxpayers lands and ranchers need to be held responsible as well as the Forest Service.
4. The Recovery Plan, ~~done~~ <sup>done</sup> ~~Get rid of them off their backs~~ <sup>done</sup> is outdated and should ~~should~~ <sup>should</sup> expand the number of wolves & territory. No maximum number of wolves should be named.

over

5. We also need more room to roam. We taxpayers pay for management of our public lands. Private interests such as people's steers are a ~~private~~ secondary interest and should be only allowed if it doesn't interfere with wildlife.

6. Pets - People who have pets on public lands should have them under control at all times. If a dog is roaming & gets attacked by a wild animal it is the owners responsibility of such a loss. If owners love their pets, as I do, they are to be responsible owners.

Jane Shea



12-8-07

**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:

I am writing to you to encourage the Fish + Wildlife Service to change your rulings in regards to the Mexican gray wolf. Up to this point, the FWS has not been doing what the Endangered Species Act spells out. Since this law is meant to help us save species that have a right to live on this earth, + you are ~~the~~ the organization that has responsibility to see that the law is carried out, there are several rules that need changing.

Wild animals, <sup>specifically, the gray wolves,</sup> need to have a large place to live + by expanding their range so that there is plenty of room, available food + shelter is essential. 100 wolves should just be the starting point. All life needs to have a large breeding pool to remain genetically healthy. They can help by expanding the initial releases to encompass anywhere in the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area.

By revising this out of date Recovery plan now it will help to keep future recovery options open.

I was very upset to learn that you are meeting with the livestock industry on the sly in order to stop releasing more wolves into the wild

Don't you realize that what makes "the wild, wild" is the presence of all kinds of species. I learned in grade school that a healthy ecosystem needs predators + prey. Yet you seem to be at odds with this idea. How do you expect a wild animal to not eat carcasses of cows that are left around?

If they, ranchers, would clean them up, a problem could be solved. But I feel you are happy to leave them there so you have a reason to kill wolves that are just trying to survive.

I would like to request a revision of the rule that allows excessive wolf removal, This is essential for the healthy breeding program. When you are involved in shooting alpha males + females, it is unthinkable. Why does the FWS feel it has the power to wipe out a species that God put on this Earth for a reason?

If I had this power, I would insist that the law was followed + each species had a chance to live as it was meant to do. By specifically designating an essential or endangered classification, the Mexican gray wolf can be safe to be part of this world.

Thank you for considering my opinions.

Keri Smith  
8864 W. Bluefield Ave  
Peoria AZ 85382



## Maricopa Audubon Society

4619 EAST ARCADIA LANE • PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85018

Dec. 3, 2007

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

Dear Brian Millsap:

On behalf of the 2300 members of the Maricopa Audubon Society here in central Arizona, we wish to comment on the scoping phase of the rulemaking regarding the Mexican Gray Wolf Recovery Program.

Our members consider keystone predators such as the Mexican Gray Wolf most important in the ecology of the Southwest. Our members have participated in field trips in Greenlee County and the Apache Sitgreaves and Gila National Forest over the past many years and decades. The P-J, ponderosa, mixed conifer and boreal life zones of the forests of those regions have precious and unique wildlife that deserve protection along with that keystone predator, the Mexican Gray Wolf. Hannigan Meadows, Escudilla Peak etc. have been among the destination points for our nature study trips in the area as well as the many other forested areas in the A/S and Gila National Forests.

A great nation should be able to protect endangered species within its borders. Wolves are a vital lynchpin species which determine the health and diversity of the plants and animals in this landscape.

Wolves protect riparian habitats by preventing the removal of streamside vegetation cattails, willows etc. by herbivores. Uplands are protected from overgrazing and abuse by grazing and browsing wildlife species. The health of both riparian and non riparian landscapes and their animals and plants depend upon keystone predators like wolves.

Without predators deer and elk over-browsing could erode upland topsoil, create gullies, and cause deep eroded canyons and, as just mentioned, destroy vital riparian habitats. Wild predators are the keystone of a balanced ecosystem.

Likewise, wolves balance and control coyote populations.

Tragically little remains today of the wild species in the Southwest whether it was wolves, jaguars, or grizzlies.

Regarding specific comments on the upcoming rulemaking of the wolf introduction program:

**Include a “Conservation Alternative” that will change the classification from “experimental, non-essential” to “experimental, *essential*” or “endangered” to give wolves more protection. They are not being recovered under the existing classification.**

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

**Eliminate all restrictions to wolf dispersal and movements.**

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

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

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

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

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

**Stop killing and removing wolves: reduce “take.”**

The current rule allows excessive wolf removal (defined as “take” in the ESA) that is precluding achievement of the reintroduction objective of 100+ wolves in the BRWRA population. A revised rule must allow less “take” of wolves.

**Revise the Recovery Plan.**

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

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

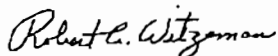
A viable, self-sustaining population of at least 100 wolves is a *minimum* objective for the BRWRA population of wolves. Recovery has yet to be defined through revision of the recovery plan. No maximum should be set for the number of wolves in the wild through this rule change.

**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.

Please keep us posted on all actions, documents, hearings and opportunities for public input in this matter. Thank you for this opportunity to respond.

Sincerely,



Robert A. Witzeman, M.D., Conservation Chair, Maricopa Audubon Society  
[witzeman@cox.net](mailto:witzeman@cox.net)  
602 840-0052, fax 602 840-3001



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

Dear Mr. Slown,

I am writing in response to the proposed amended rules governing the Mexican gray wolf reintroduction project. I ask that the FWS enact the following to ensure wolf survival in the wild.

1. Change the classification of the wolf population from "experimental, non-essential" to "experimental, essential" or "endangered". The current classification is not offering necessary protection.
2. Allow the wolves to expand their territory, and eliminate restrictions to wolf dispersal and movement. Wolves require large territory and artificial boundaries do not support wolf recovery.
3. Expand the area for initial release anywhere within the Blue Range Recovery Area. This would assist in creating a genetically diverse, sustainable population.
4. Require ranchers to manage livestock carcasses to discourage wolves from scavenging and hunting livestock. Carcasses should be removed or rendered inedible.
5. Reduce "take" to more strictly limit

the number of wolves that are removed.

6. Revise the extremely out-dated recovery plan. The revised plan must include objectives for full recovery of wolves.
7. Expand the number of wolves in the wild population. The population of 100 wolves is a minimum objective.

Thank you for your consideration & look forward to hearing more from FWS on this process.

Sincerely,

Lynn DeBenth  
2961 W. Comstock Drive  
Chandler, AZ 85224



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

DEAR MR. SLOW:

I AM GOING TO TRY TO KEEP MY COMMENTS SHORT.  
SIMPLY PUT HUMANS AND WILD ANIMALS,  
PARTICULARLY ENDANGERED ONES, MUST FIND WAYS  
TO LIVE TOGETHER. THAT MEANS SOME  
GIVE AND TAKE ON BOTH SIDES, BUT MORE SO  
FOR HUMANS. IT IS UNREASONABLE TO  
EXPECT PREDATORS TO NOT EXIST  
IN THIS NATION. THEY HAVE AS MUCH  
RIGHT TO LIFE, AND HABITAT, AS WE  
CLAIM TO HAVE AS HUMANS. THE TIME  
HAS COME FOR HUMANS TO GIVE  
BACK TO NATURE & WILDLIFE. TO  
GIVE THEM BACK LIFE, TERRITORY,  
FOREST, PREY GAME, BREEDING RIGHTS, &  
ROAMING RIGHTS -- TO NAME A FEW.  
THE TIME HAS COME FOR US TO  
BE TRUE STEWARDS OF THE LAND,  
RATHER THAN DEPLETING IT & STRIPPING  
IT BARE.

I URGE YOU TO PROTECT & ENDORSE  
WOLF REINTRODUCTION PROGRAMS. I URGE  
YOU TO REQUIRE HUMANS TO  
BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR LIVESTOCK  
(i.e. rendering it inedible). I URGE YOU  
TO CURB HUMAN EXPANSION INTO  
WOLF TERRITORY. I URGE YOU  
TO ALLOW WOLVES TO BREED FREELY  
IN THE WILD. I URGE YOU TO ALLOW  
WOLVES TO ROAM OUTSIDE OF PUBLIC  
LANDS. I URGE YOU TO SUPPORT  
THE PROTECTION & THE FUTURE OF,  
ONE OF THE MOST MAJESTIC  
CREATURES IN THIS COUNTRY, THE  
WOLF.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME & ATTENTION  
TO MY LETTER.

DEBRA & ROBERT J. HARRIS

957. S 240<sup>TH</sup> DRIVE

BUCK EYE, AZ 85326

623-327-3249



**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 very first thing that needs to be done is to change the classification of Mexican Grey Wolves to Essential-endangered and remove the "experimental-essential" term from any discussion.

It is unrealistic to expect wolves to stay within the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area. Wolves need to be allowed to roam where ever they choose. Political boundaries that may mean something to politicians and wildlife managers mean nothing to wolves. To capture and relocate a wolf back into the BRWRA is to put any given wolf into a situation that is unnecessarily stressful to the animal. Providing good, unrestricted habitat for the wolves is very important for the wolves to thrive and increase in numbers.

New Wolf releases need to take place throughout the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area. There is no scientifically justifiable reason why wolves cannot also be released in New Mexico.

Livestock owners need to remove dead animals from public lands and/or render these carcasses inedible. The "three strikes and your out" regulation needs to be removed. Ranchers are being compensated for proven wolf kills. Politics needs to be guided and informed by science when it comes to the wolf reintroduction program. This is not occurring.

(over)

There is no such thing as an "excessive" number of wolves. This is a ridiculous concept. Again, ~~science~~ politics needs to be informed by science.

The re-introduction goal of having over 100 wolves will never be met if you allow a wolf "take". A population of 100 wolves should be seen as a minimum number. Scientific ~~estimates~~ estimates suggest that the BRWRA could support, at a minimum, 200 wolves. Your goal of 100 wolves is way to low.

The whole of the BRWRA, with a few small inholdings, is public land. This means that ALL AMERICANS have a right to be involved in what happens on public land. Yet, the "Local influence area" is quite literally having too much influence on what happens with the wolf reintroduction program. Politics needs to be informed by science and not vice-versa.

Your power point program shows photos of dead cattle and yet no pictures of dead wolves that may have been killed illegally. The wolves are the endangered animal, not the cattle. This point needs to be made.

Sincerely,  
Jim Vaaler  
jimvaaler@msn.com

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

STEPHEN REINT  
SREINT@YAHOO.COM  
1024 S. PRIZER  
TEMPE, AZ 85281

DEAR S.I.R,

I AM WRITING TO EXPRESS MY THOUGHTS AND CONCERNS REGARDING THE RULES GOVERNING THE MEXICAN GOAT WOLF RE-INTRODUCTION PROJECT; I BELIEVE THE WOLFS SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO EXPAND THEIR TERRITORY IN ORDER TO ~~KEEP~~<sup>PROMOTE</sup> THEM AS VIABLE PREDATORS IN ANY AREA THAT COULD USE THE NATURAL ECOLOGICAL BALANCE THEY PROVIDE,

ALSO, THEY ARE PACK ANIMALS AND TERRITORIAL AND LIMITING THEIR RELEASE TO ARIZONA PROMOTES CONFLICT BETWEEN ESTABLISHED WOLF PACKS AND NEWLY RELEASED ANIMALS. THE RULES SHOULD BE AMENDED TO ALLOW NEW WOLVES (TO BE RELEASED FROM CAPTIVITY) TO BE SET FREE ANYWHERE IN THE BRWRA  
DEVISE NEW METHODS TO RESOLVE RANCHER/WOLF CONFLICTS! RANCHERS SHOULD BE REQUIRED TO CLEAR

UP AND DISPOSE OF DEAD ANIMAL CARCASSES  
ON THEIR LAND IN ORDER TO REDUCE THE LIKELIHOOD  
OF WOLF SCAVENGING AND WOLF ATTRACTION  
TO HERDS,

REDUCTION OR ELIMINATION OF THE  
"TAKE" OF WOLVES UNTIL A SUSTAINABLE  
POPULATION IS ACHIEVED IS ESSENTIAL AS WELL  
WHETHER THIS IS DONE THROUGH ~~RE-CLASSIFICATION~~  
RE-CLASSIFICATION OR OTHER MEANS IS A  
MATTER FOR COMMITTEE.

PLEASE ALSO KEEP FUTURE OPTIONS OPEN  
AND LET THE NEW GUIDELINES BE DESIGNED  
~~BE~~ WITH THE SURVIVAL OF THIS GREAT  
ANIMAL AS THEIR PRIMARY FOCUS. THEY  
ARE ESSENTIAL TO A BALANCE IN THE REGION  
THAT IS MUCH MORE COMPLEX THAN WE HAVE  
THE CURRENT SCIENTIFIC ABILITY TO REALIZE.

SINCERELY,  
STEVE REUTZ