

March 18, 2003

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Successful Recovery of the Gray Wolf

What does it mean to Nevada?

Species is now “threatened” instead of “endangered,” which allows for more flexible management of the species.

No “official” wolf sightings have been documented in Nevada, though there are rumors of sightings in Elko county.

Service has NO intention of restoring wolves in Nevada.

The closest permanent population of wolves is found in Idaho, but wolves can travel over 500 miles looking for a mate or a place to live

State does NOT have to develop a management plan for wolves

A citizen can shoot a wolf on his private land if the wolf is in the act of wounding or killing a person, livestock, herd dogs, guard dogs, or domestic dogs, but must provide proof of attack within 24 hours of incident and not disturb the wolf carcass

Report suspected wolf incidents to Nevada Wildlife Services, 775-784-5081, or USFWS Wolf Recovery Coordinator toll free at 888-264-0103.

Citizens should report problem wolves to Federal authorities who will in turn take action to control wolves by means of trapping, relocation or killing if necessary

Problem wolves on private or public lands will be managed by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service or USDA Wildlife Services; State is NOT responsible

Citizens should report wolves that attack livestock or herd dogs on public lands (grazing allotments) to receive help in removing wolves or in getting a permit to kill wolves on public lands.

Accidental killing of wolf by a car or by a trap is allowed but must be reported within 24 hours.

Accidental shooting that kills a wolf is still illegal. Any killing of a wolf will be investigated by Federal authorities.

QUICK WOLF FACTS

WESTERN GRAY WOLF

There were no known breeding pairs of the wolf in the West in 1974 when the species was added to the Endangered Species List. Today there are 43 breeding pairs. The recovery plan goal was 30 pairs.

Canadian wolves were introduced into Yellowstone and Idaho in 1995 & 96 to help speed up recovery of the wolf in the Rocky Mountains. Today there are over 650 wolves in MT, ID, & WY. These wolves are included in the Western population that includes UT, NV, CA, OR & WA.

Since 1996, annual livestock kills in MT, ID & WY average 24 cattle and 70 sheep. Through Dec. 2002, a total of 15 lambs in UT are the only other known kills in other states.

The Defenders of Wildlife reimburse livestock producers the fair market value of a livestock confirmed killed by a wolf (up to \$2000) and 50% for a probable kill.

WOLVES ACROSS THE U.S.

First listed as endangered in 1974, with the Minnesota population listed as threatened.

Gray wolves in the Eastern and Western populations segments now total over 3700 and will be listed as threatened.

Mexican gray wolves will remain listed as endangered in Arizona & New Mexico where there are only 21 known wolves.

There are only 100 Red wolves found in North Carolina, so that population will also remain endangered.

The 6,000 to 8,000 wolves found in Alaska and the 50,000 found in Canada do not need protection under the Endangered Species Act.