

**DOLORES COUNTY RESOLUTION NUMBER: 12-19-10**

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING ANY EFFORTS TO INTRODUCE OR EXPAND THE POPULATIONS OF WOLVES INTO COLORADO, SUPPORTING RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COLORADO WOLF WORKING GROUP ADOPTED BY THE COLORADO PARKS AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION IN 2005, AND SUPPORTING THE POSITION TAKEN BY THE COLORADO PARKS AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION IN ITS RESOLUTION 16-01

WHEREAS, Dolores County, State of Colorado is a legal and political subdivision of the State of Colorado for which the Board of County Commissioners (the "Board") is authorized to act in the interest of health, safety and welfare; and

WHEREAS, Dolores County residents and visitors enjoy abundant outdoor recreational opportunities, especially viewing, photographing and hunting the Western Slope's large population of deer, elk and moose; and

WHEREAS, the livestock industry and big game hunting are two of the primary components of the economy, and are major contributors to the economic and social wellbeing of Dolores County; and

WHEREAS, predation by wolves of the wildlife and domestic livestock is a serious problem that Dolores County should not encourage or condone; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the negative economic and social impacts of wolf introduction, wolves pose a danger to the physical health of household pets and people due to predation and the transmission of diseases; and

WHEREAS, based upon the scientific input from the federal and state agencies tasked with managing wildlife populations, ongoing private efforts to reintroduce wolves into Colorado are unnecessary; and

WHEREAS, efforts to introduce the Gray wolf to the northern Rocky Mountains have exceeded recovery goals, Colorado is not part of the historic range of the Mexican wolf, and existing federal wolf recovery efforts do not include establishing populations of either the Gray wolf or the Mexican wolf in Colorado; and

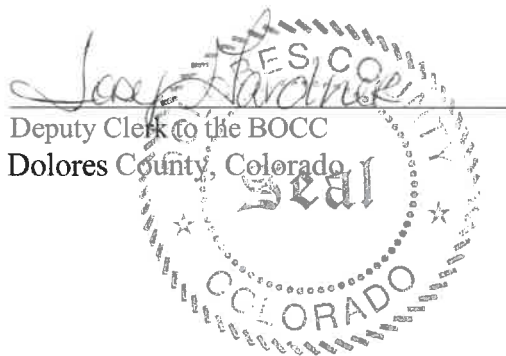
WHEREAS, the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission passed Resolution 16-01 opposing the intentional release of any wolves into Colorado.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Board opposes any efforts to introduce or expand the populations of wolves into Colorado.
2. The Board supports recommendations of the Colorado Wolf Working Group, which were adopted by Colorado Parks and Wildlife in 2005.

3. The Board supports the position taken by Colorado Parks and Wildlife in its Resolution 16-01.
4. The Board supports delisting of all wolf species under the Endangered Species Act to allow management of wolves at the state and local levels.
5. The Board requests that any federal or state wolf management plans include funding to offset the negative impact of wolves on livestock, wildlife management, hunting, and other adversely affected sections of local economies.
6. The Board supports efforts to include a requirement that any publicly funded or sponsored wolf education programs include comprehensive and balanced discussions about the impact of wolves on local economies, and include the perspective of livestock producers, hunters and public health officials.

Approved and adopted this 16th day of December, 2019.



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS,
DOLORES COUNTY, COLORADO

Floyd L. Cook
Floyd Cook

Steve Garchar
Steve Garchar

Julie R. Kibel
Julie R. Kibel

Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission
Resolution - 16-01
Regarding Introduction/Reintroduction of Wolves

WHEREAS, the former Colorado Wildlife Commission adopted two resolutions regarding the active introduction/reintroduction of wolves to Colorado (dated January 1982 and September 15, 1989), and

WHEREAS, Colorado is not part of the historic range of the Mexican wolf (*Canis lupus baileyi*); the historical range of this subspecies of the gray wolf is restricted to Mexico and the southwestern United States, and

WHEREAS, reintroduced gray wolf (*C. l. occidentalis*) populations in the northern Rocky Mountains have expanded in numbers and distribution, and have exceeded recovery goals, and

WHEREAS, existing federal recovery plans for Mexican and gray wolves do not include efforts to introduce/reintroduce or actively establish wolf populations within Colorado, and

WHEREAS, the Commission accepted the 70 recommendations in the 2004 Wolf Management Working Group report which describes how wolves will be managed and tolerated throughout the state, once management authority is returned to the state, and includes

- accepting a wolf presence in Colorado with conditions
- urging that wolves migrating into Colorado be allowed to live with “no boundaries” where they find habitat
- advocating that wolves be left wherever found, provided they are not causing problems
- taking measures to avoid conflicts through non-lethal methods if possible and if wolves cause problems, manage to resolve the problems,
- recommending that funding for wolf management come from sources other than hunting license sales, and

WHEREAS, the State of Colorado has invested millions of dollars to manage diverse wildlife resources, including big game populations that support a significant recreational economy, and

WHEREAS, the State of Colorado’s livestock ranching industry is of considerable importance to the state’s economy, and

WHEREAS, any introduction or reintroduction of wolves into Colorado is in potential conflict with the State’s livestock industry and current big game management efforts,

Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission
Resolution - 16-01
Regarding Introduction/Reintroduction of Wolves

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission affirms its support of the Wolf Working Group's recommendations adopted by the Wildlife Commission in May 2005, opposes the intentional release of any wolves into Colorado, recommends that Mexican wolf recovery efforts be confined to the subspecies' historic range, and emphasizes the importance of bi-national recovery planning with Mexico.

Adopted January 13, 2016



Chris Castilian, Chairman