

WHAT NEEDS TO BE ADDRESSED...

CPW's Final Wolf Management Plan and the USFWS Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) 10j was reviewed by our staff and found to be wholly deficient. On February 22nd, 2023, CPW wildlife commission removed Phase 4, which eliminated any lethal means of take of wolves.

Ranching and Farm agricultural industries create \$47 BILLION in revenue to Colorado and employs 195,000 people.

CPW Conservation Easements paid for by sportsman's habitat stamp monies exceed \$180 MILLION for wildlife conservation.

Recreational hunting and fishing are crucial to Colorado's economy, contributing an astounding \$3.2 BILLION annually to our state through varying sources including licenses and lodging.

Outfitting Industry generates \$200 MILLION of revenue annually to Colorado.

CCA feels that CPW has not acknowledged the hundreds of millions of dollars spent on habitat improvements, wildlife restoration projects, endangered species impacts, conservation easements or their fiduciary responsibility to protect those investments.

CPW began releasing gray wolves in the state without notifying landowners, livestock producers and other concerned individuals of the location of the releases. Five of the released wolves came from packs with a known history of chronic livestock depredation.

January 24, 2024 : Shortly after CCA filed its final legal arguments to stop additional wolf introductions—CPW filed a Notice with the Court that they will not release any additional wolves in Colorado prior to Dec. 1, 2024.

May 2, 2024 : Our lawsuit continues and will be heard in Federal District Court

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COLORADO CONSERVATION ALLIANCE is a collaborative organization of private property landowners, ranchers, farmers, livestock producers, sportsmen, sportswomen, outfitters, natural resource affiliations, and businesses, with a mission to protect our Colorado outdoor heritage, wildlife habitats, businesses, state and local economies, through responsible science-based wildlife and natural resource management.

Send Contributions to:

Colorado Conservation Alliance
13976 W. Bowles Ave. #200
Littleton, Co 80127



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Colorado is not an experiment for the environmentalists. We believe that Wildlife Issues within the State should be managed by the Wildlife Professionals in the State who's job it is to do so. Sound, scientific procedures should be adhered to and not the wishes of an under-informed, mostly metropolitan voter base. We also believe that the will of the people does not circumvent the letter of the law.

The State of Colorado has a fiduciary responsibility to protect and preserve the investments that landowners, livestock operators, sportsmen, NGO's, government entities and local businesses have made in Colorado to land, wildlife, waters and people.



The Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) Wolf Restoration and Management Plan ("Plan") is inadequate to protect Coloradans and our Western way of life. CCA has concluded that ***CPW's position was to bypass Federal National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements.*** The requirement for NEPA by federal law is triggered "When there is a proposal for a major federal action that significantly affects the quality of human health and the environment" per CFR 1508.

Planning to release wolves as proposed by CPW Plan still required NEPA regardless of their release on private or state lands in order to protect human health and the environment.

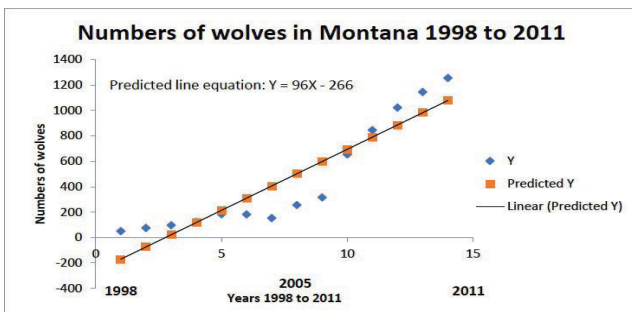
**PROTECTING OUR
WESTERN WAY OF LIFE**

WHAT'S AT STAKE

Colorado lost public trapping in 1996. In May of 2023, the Polis CPW Commission removed any lethal method of take from the wolf management plan. This leaves Colorado with no way to manage the population growth of wolves. Based on wolf population growth data from Idaho and Montana, prior to delisting in those two states, wolf numbers increased rapidly past the intended introduction delisting goals. Lawsuits filed by the radical environmentalists kept the delisting from being declared in Wyoming, Idaho, and Montana.

The Alliance has worked with Biologist Matt Cronin (Northwest Biology Company LLC) who analyzed the growth of wolf populations in Montana (Graph 1) and used these data to predict wolf population growth in Colorado (Graph 2).

Without management of wolves, Colorado will have a large and growing wolf population which will prey on big game and livestock. (Graph 2).



Graph 1 : Numbers of wolves in Montana 1998 to 2011 prior to hunting/trapping of wolves. The diamond shaped symbols are observed numbers. The line equation is for the line connecting the predicted square symbols and can be used to predict the numbers for future years.

POINTS TO CONSIDER

56 of Colorado's 64 Counties Signed Resolutions Against Wolf Introduction.

Ballot-box Biology still remains a bad idea for Colorado. Wildlife Professionals making Wildlife decisions is the only real answer.

CPW's Wolf Plan does not define chronic depredation. Without a definition, the 10(j) becomes unusable.

Colorado has no hunting or trapping of wolves and wolves are listed as a non-game animal.

To date, Montana, Wyoming & Idaho still refuse to provide Colorado donor wolves.

Approximately 6 million people live in Colorado. By contrast, less than 3 million people live in Montana, Idaho, and Wyoming combined.

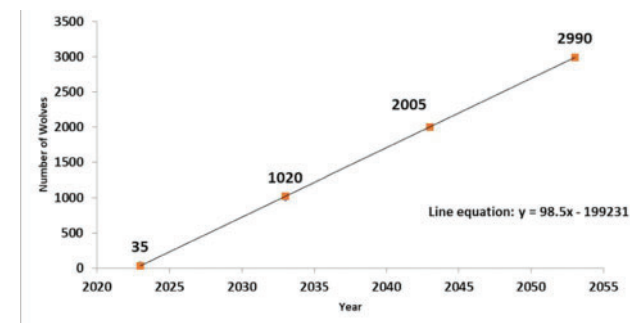
CCA believes that only a full NEPA process will address all of the unanswered questions. Without a legal pause to this mandate and a Court direction to get the answers first, the State of Colorado will rush headlong into the same issues that Idaho, Montana and Wyoming now face. We'll just get there sooner than they did.



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WHERE WE'RE AT

Predicted number of Wolves in Colorado



Graph 2 : Colorado has no public trapping due to Amendment 14 in 1996. In May of 2023, the CPW Commission removed any lethal method of take from the Colorado Wolf Management Plan.

On December 14, 2023, Colorado Conservation Alliance filed a lawsuit in Federal Court against the United States Fish and Wildlife Service ("USFWS"), Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission, Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife (collectively, "CPW"), Dan Gibbs in his capacity as the Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Natural Resources, and Jeff Davis in his capacity as Director of the Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife (collectively, "Defendants"). The Complaint seeks to stop the Defendants from moving forward with gray wolf introductions in Colorado until a full and adequate environmental study has been completed.

