

## H.R. 2910, the Bipartisan Mexican Wolf Transparency and Accountability Act

**Endorsed by:** Public Lands Council, Arizona Cattleman's Association, Arizona Farm Bureau, Arizona Cattle Growers' Association, Arizona Cattle Feeders' Association, New Mexico Farm and Livestock Bureau, Americans for Limited Government, Coconino County Farm Bureau and Cattle Growers Association, Yavapai Cattle Growers Association, Navajo/Apache Cattle Growers Association, Greenlee Cattle Growers Association, La Paz Stockmen's Association, Mohave Livestock Association, Gila County Cattle Growers Association, Maricopa County Cattle Growers Association, Cochise /Graham Cattle Growers Association, Southern Arizona Cattlemen's Protective Association

**Current Sponsors and Cosponsors (10):** Mark Amodei, Trent Franks, Louie Gohmert, Paul Gosar, Martha McSally, Steve Pearce, Collin Peterson, Matt Salmon, David Schweikert and Ryan Zinke

Dear Colleague,

We invite you to become an original cosponsor of the Mexican Wolf Transparency and Accountability Act.

This commonsense legislation seeks to ensure that the United States Fish and Wildlife Service's (the Service's) new rule issued on January 16, 2015—implementing new regulations for the nonessential experimental population of the Mexican wolf under Section 10(j) and listing the Mexican wolf as an endangered subspecies—has no force or effect. The bill also prevents the January 16, 2015 decision to list the Mexican wolf as an endangered subspecies from having any force or effect. These actions are necessary to protect local communities and to rein in the Service for failing to comply with federal law before implementing this new directive.

For years, officials have been calling for an updated recovery plan that includes metrics that, if met, will allow for a delisting of the Mexican wolf. The Mexican wolf was first listed as an endangered species in 1976. In 1982, Mexico and the United States signed the Mexican Wolf Recovery Plan. The Fish and Wildlife Service has acknowledged that, "The recovery plan did not contain objective and measurable recovery criteria for delisting as required by section 4(f)(1) of the Act."

Yet, the Service has utilized the same recovery plan for the Mexican wolf since the early 1980s, failing to update the plan to include recovery criteria as required by federal law which will allow for the downlisting and delisting of this subspecies of wolves. As a result, this plan is significantly outdated and is not based on the best available science. Even more troubling, the Service indicated on a conference call on January 17, 2015, that the agency failed to secure funding for the 10(j) nonessential experimental population program before implementing these new regulations, which is a violation of the Anti-Deficiency Act.

On June 8, 2015, the Arizona Attorney General and the Arizona Game and Fish Department [filed a lawsuit against the secretary of the Department of Interior and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service](#) "for failing their statutory duty to develop an updated recovery plan to guide Mexican wolf recovery."

Without an updated plan that includes recovery criteria, the Mexican wolf will remain on the endangered species list in perpetuity. To make matters worse, the new regulations implemented by the Service dramatically expand the area the wolves can roam. Such actions defy commonsense as nearly 90% of the wolf's original habitat was within the borders of Mexico.

This unlawful, expanded regulation poses a serious threat to ranchers and citizens in these regions and may cause significant harm to local economies. An [independent economic analysis](#) found that the Mexican wolf's presence in one county has caused a direct economic loss of \$5 million and resulted in "1,172 calves lost annually to wolf depredation." A Mexican wolf recently had to be put down by the Service for [repeatedly stalking children, women and men in New Mexico](#). In fact, Mexican wolves have caused so many problems in recent years that [12 wolves have had to be lethally removed](#) and [more than 150 others](#) have been forced to be relocated.

The Mexican Wolf Transparency and Accountability Act requires the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to comply with federal law, rejects the new overreaching regulation that established the dangerous experimental population program, and seeks to protect local communities from a poorly implemented and unlawful recovery plan for the wolf.

If you have questions or to cosponsor the bill, please contact Jeff Small at [jeff.small@mail.house.gov](mailto:jeff.small@mail.house.gov) or Rob MacGregor at [Robert.macgregor@mail.house.gov](mailto:Robert.macgregor@mail.house.gov)

Sincerely,

Paul A. Gosar  
Member of Congress

Steve Pearce  
Member of Congress