

Bulletin

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Comment Period Opens on Proposals Relating to Protections for the Gray Wolf and Mexican Wolf

The Service's proposal to remove the gray wolf (*Canis lupus*) from the Endangered Species Act's List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife published today in the Federal Register, along with a second proposal to revise the existing nonessential experimental population designation of the Mexican wolf (*Canis lupus baileyi*). The publications trigger a 90-day public comment period for each proposed rule that will remain open until 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on September 11, 2013.

Written comments and information concerning each proposed rule can be submitted by one of the following methods to the appropriate docket numbers:

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: www.regulations.gov. Follow the instructions for submitting comments to the following docket numbers:
 - Gray wolf: Docket No. [FWS-HQ-ES-2013-0073]
 - Mexican Wolf: Docket No. [FWS-R2-ES-2013-0056]
- U.S. mail or hand-delivery: Public Comments Processing, Attn: [please use appropriate docket number for each species – see above]; Division of Policy and Directives Management; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, MS 2042-PDM; Arlington, VA 22203.

The Service intends that any final action resulting from these proposed rules will be based on the best scientific and commercial data available, and be as accurate and as effective as possible. Comments and materials, as well as supporting documentation used in preparing the proposed rules, will be available for public inspection at www.regulations.gov under the above docket numbers. In addition, details on the kinds of information the Service is seeking are available in each proposed rule.

The Service will post all comments on www.regulations.gov. This generally means the agency will post any personal information provided through the process. The Service is not able to accept email or faxes.

The Federal Register publication of these notices is also available online at www.fws.gov/policy/frsystem/default.cfm by clicking on the 2013 Proposed Rules under Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants.

The Endangered Species Act provides a critical safety net for fish, wildlife and plants, and to date has prevented the extinction of hundreds of imperiled species, as well as promoting the recovery of many others. The Service is actively engaged with conservation partners and the public in the search for improved and innovative ways to conserve and recover imperiled species. To learn more about the Endangered Species Program, visit: www.fws.gov/endangered/.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit www.fws.gov. Connect with our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/usfws, follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/usfwshq, watch our YouTube Channel at www.youtube.com/usfws and download photos from our Flickr page at www.flickr.com/photos/usfwshq.