

Mexican Wolf Recovery Program
Estimated Funds Expended by Primary Agencies for
Mexican Wolf Recovery and Management

(Revised: December 31, 2024)

This summary provides the best-available information on costs to date of the primary agencies involved in Mexican wolf recovery and management: Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD), New Mexico Department of Game and Fish (NMDGF), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), U.S.D.A.-APHIS Wildlife Services (APHIS/WS), U.S. Forest Service (USFS), and White Mountain Apache Tribe (WMAT). Since WMAT only expends Mexican wolf funds received from USFWS, their costs are included in the USFWS cost column. From June 2011 to November 2019, the New Mexico State Game Commission directed the NMDGF to suspend all participation in Mexican wolf reintroduction, thus the lack of costs displayed during that time.

This is not an exact accounting of actual costs of the subject activities. It is simply the best-available estimate. If a more exact accounting is required, please contact the specific agency of interest.

Several cautionary notes should be kept in mind about the estimates provided herein:

1. The figures contained herein are estimated costs, not exact expenditure figures. Exact expenditure figures cannot be generated because:
 - a. Cost accounting systems for these agencies are not sufficient to provide exact figures, especially for pre-1997 years; and
 - b. The reporting periods (Fiscal Years) differ among these agencies (State Fiscal Years end on June 30; Federal Fiscal Years end on September 30), and neither the cost accounting system records nor project staff historical recollections are sufficient to prevent redundancies among the estimates. However, we estimate that actual costs probably do not exceed the estimates reported herein by more than 10% in any given area and are probably less than 2% overall.

Estimated Primary Agency Costs of Mexican Wolf Recovery and Management

Caution: See Page 1 (Introduction) and Page 3 (Endnotes) for information essential to understanding the limitations of the information provided below. The costs reported herein are “best possible” estimates, not exact figures.

This summary¹ begins with 1977 because, to the best of our knowledge, no records (not even estimates) exist for prior years.

Fiscal Year	AGFD State ²	AGFD Federal ³	NMDGF State ⁴	NMDGF Federal ⁵	USDA FS ⁶	USDA WS ⁷	USFWS ⁸	Total
77 – 90 ⁹	25,800	14,100	0	0	0	0	55,000	94,900
91	15,888	26,664	0	0	0	0	2,000	44,552
92	14,046	25,038	0	0	0	0	100,000	139,084
93	17,133	25,599	0	0	1,000	0	125,000	168,732
94	22,250	44,250	0	0	3,000	0	150,000	219,500
95	63,633	35,680	0	0	3,000	0	435,000	537,313
96	12,967	22,102	0	0	3,500	0	479,000	517,569
97	4,750	750	0	0	3,500	0	433,000	442,000
98	60,632	25,797	0	0	3,000	0	489,700	579,129
99	36,094	100,100	9,301	0	10,000	0	581,750	737,235
00	50,896	139,513	20,632	0	11,500	0	744,187	966,728
01	56,500	168,711	15,040	0	13,500	0	936,589	1,190,340
02	53,000	161,277	19,753	0	7,000	0	781,223	1,022,253
03	110,000	188,163	21,685	0	12,500	150,000	819,977	1,302,325
04	174,357	210,135	20,080	0	62,500	150,000	833,790	1,450,862
05	279,942	312,246	26,612	0	142,500	150,000	1,057,000	1,968,300
06	378,975	327,340	42,524	0	62,500	150,000	1,117,000	2,078,339
07	363,542	304,463	72,470	80,774	66,000	150,000	1,264,000	2,301,249
08	399,855	363,632	75,366	161,954	100,000	150,000	1,206,159	2,456,966
09	117,973	124,123	88,286	176,531	147,500	150,000	1,609,795	2,414,208
10	127,685	204,605	36,734	148,079	137,500	150,000	1,649,546	2,454,149
11	116,705	179,192	53,918	243,267	181,500	150,000	1,882,508	2,807,090
12	105,623	316,868	0	0	191,250	150,000	2,133,861	2,897,602
13	126,776	312,000	0	0	159,750	150,000	2,019,795	2,768,321
14	163,311	234,641	0	0	148,000	119,012	2,157,988	2,822,952
15	12,330	411,368	0	0	158,500	100,000	2,278,815	2,961,013
16	212,763	503,255	0	0	153,500	125,000	2,261,927	3,256,445
17	300,598	558,254	0	0	166,208	125,000	2,494,388	3,644,448
18	146,642	586,569	0	0	161,200	119,813	2,463,677	3,477,901
19	238,834	116,339	0	0	178,200	138,440	2,448,077	3,119,890
20	26,000	375,000	30,000	0	178,200	348,568	2,743,405	3,701,173
21	34,928	370,055	58,859	176,576	147,917	365,000	2,813,780	3,967,115
22	135,000	422,578	78,503	235,511	260,696	375,000	3,649,996	5,157,284
23	110,000	432,247	107,659	322,998	\$276,918	685,000	3,648,237	5,583,059
24	97,928	267,450	156,866	470,597	272,741	702,000	3,400,000	5,367,582
Total	4,213,356	7,910,104	934,288	2,016,287	3,424,580	4,852,833	51,266,479	74,617,927

¹ This Summary supersedes all previous versions. The costs outlined herein (especially for the early years), are simply “best estimates.” See Endnotes below for additional comments regarding information in this Table.

² “AGFD State” includes all AGFD funds other than those received from Federal sources.

³ “AGFD Federal” includes all funds expended by AGFD that were of Federal origin via ESA Section 6, Pittman-Robertson, Wildlife Conservation and Restoration Program, State Wildlife Grants, and/or contract with USFS, or another Federal agency. It does not include USFWS Mexican Wolf Recovery Program contract funds conveyed to AGFD from FY98 onward (all of which are included in the USFWS column in this Table, to avoid duplication) are as follows: FY98 \$400; FY99 \$88,100; FY00 \$126,513; FY01 \$152,711; FY02 \$146,277; FY03 \$162,623; FY04 \$189,795; FY05 \$0 (zero); FY06 \$175,000; FY07 \$170,398; FY08 \$207,500; FY09 \$225,000; FY10 \$133,000; FY11 \$165,000; FY12 \$165,000; FY13 \$165,000; FY14 \$165,000; FY15 \$165,000; FY16 \$165,000; FY17 \$255,000; FY18 \$233,328; FY19 \$246,672; FY20 \$165,000; FY21 \$165,000; FY22 \$240,000; FY23 \$240,000; and FY24 \$240,000

⁴ “NMDGF State” includes all NM funds other than those received from Federal sources.

⁵ “NMDGF Federal” includes all funds expended by NMDGF that were of Federal origin via ESA Section 6 and State Wildlife Grants. Prior to FY07, all Federal Funds received by NMDGF were USFWS Mexican Wolf Recovery Program contract funds. USFWS Mexican Wolf Recovery Program contract funds conveyed to NMDGF from FY98 onward (all of which are included in the USFWS Federal Funds column in this Table, to avoid duplication) are as follows: FY98 \$0; FY99 \$27,903; FY00 \$61,895; FY01 \$45,120; FY02 \$59,258; FY03 \$65,053; FY04 \$60,240; FY05 \$79,835; FY06 \$127,571; FY07 \$69,244; FY08 \$100,000; FY09 \$100,000; and FY10 \$145,000.

⁶ “USFS” cost figures through 2002 are estimates generated in April 2003. USFS costs are for the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests (Alpine, Black Mesa, Clifton, and Springerville Ranger Districts), Cibola National Forest (Magdalena Ranger District), and the Gila National Forest (Black Range, Glenwood, Quemado, Reserve, and Wilderness Ranger District).

⁷ “USDA WS” cost figures through 2012 represent directed Congressional allocations specifically for wolf work in AZ-NM. It does not include USFWS Mexican Wolf Recovery Program contract funds conveyed to USDA WS, which are as follows: FY18 \$9999.99; FY19 \$75,000; FY22 \$30,000; FY23 \$30,000; and FY24 \$30,000.

⁸ “USFWS” cost figures are for the Service’s Mexican Wolf Recovery Program only, and (from FY98 onward) include all funds conveyed by contract to AGFD (ongoing), NMDGF (terminated with FY11) USDA WS (terminated with FY03) and WMAT (ongoing) for work in recovery and management of Mexican wolves and to SCAT for wolf-related activities that are not part of the Reintroduction Project (i.e. SCAT is not a Signatory Partner in Mexican wolf recovery and management and Tribal Council policy requires immediate removal of any Mexican wolf present on the San Carlos Apache Reservation).

⁹ FY77-90 “USFWS” is an estimate of the total funds expended from Federal FY77 through FY90. USFWS does not have a per-year estimate for that period.