

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

DRAFT RESOLUTION

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 bailey*); 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, once management authority is returned to the state, Colorado's existing wolf management plan describes how wolves will be managed and tolerated throughout the state, 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,

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 and hereby opposes any introduction of Mexican or intentional reintroduction of gray wolves in the State of Colorado.

Adopted January 13th (or 14th), 2016

Robert W. Bray, Chairman