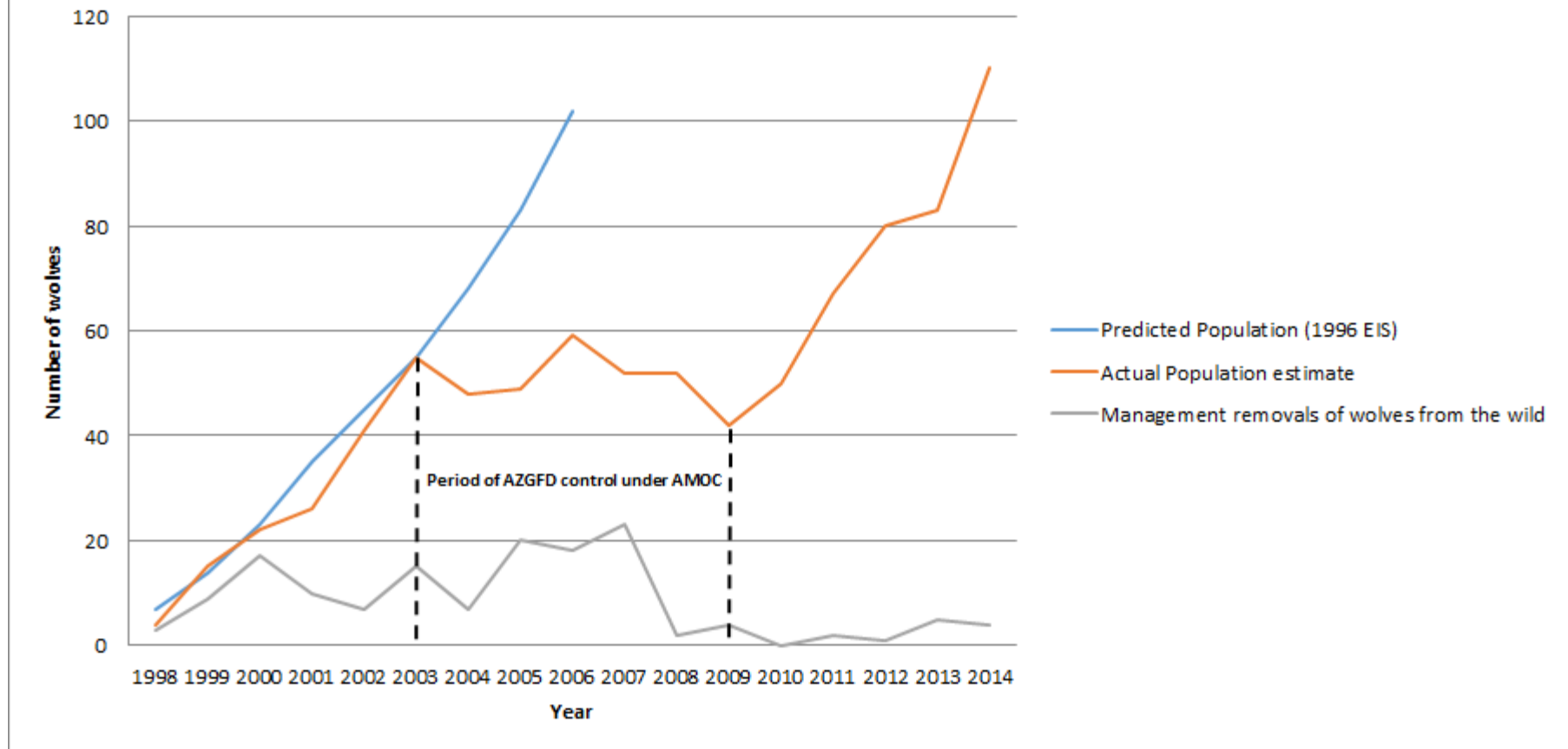


Mexican wolf population growth stalls under AZGFD management



From 1998 through 2002, the Mexican wolf reintroduction project (Project) operated under direct supervision of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, acting largely through the Interagency Management Advisory Group composed of cooperating agency and county representatives. From 2003 through 2009¹, an interagency Adaptive Management Oversight Committee (AMOC) led by Arizona Game and Fish managed the Project, during which time many individual wolves and whole families of wolves were routinely killed or removed from the wild without regard for their genetic value under Standard Operating Procedure 13 (SOP 13), which mandated killing or trapping wolves accused of depredating on livestock three times in one year. AMOC and SOP 13 ended in 2009, and the actual population trajectory once again began to follow the upward climb projected in 1996.²

¹ http://www.gf.state.az.us/w_c/wolf/adaptiveoversight.shtml

² http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/mexicanwolf/pdf/MW_popcount_web.pdf