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(Original Signature of Member)

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R.

To ensure the United States Fish and Wildlife Service’s Mexican wolf non-essential experimental population 10(j) rule has no force or effect, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. GOSAR introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To ensure the United States Fish and Wildlife Service’s Mexican wolf nonessential experimental population 10(j) rule has no force or effect, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Mexican Wolf Trans-
5 parency and Accountability Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. NO FORCE OR EFFECT.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds the following:

1 (1) The Mexican wolf population has increased
2 by 10 percent in recent years, including increases in
3 population in each of the last 5 years.

4 (2) At the end of 2014, the United States Fish
5 and Wildlife Service documented a presence of a
6 minimum of 109 Mexican wolves on the landscape.
7 The Service further stated on a conference call on
8 January 17, 2015 that there are an additional 250
9 Mexican wolves in captivity.

10 (3) The Mexican wolf population not in cap-
11 tivity increased 31 percent in 2014.

12 (4) Nearly 90 percent of the Mexican wolf's
13 original habitat was within the borders of Mexico.

14 (5) The United States Fish and Wildlife Serv-
15 ice, under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16
16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.), has been using the same recov-
17 ery plan for the Mexican wolf since the early 1980s.

18 (6) That plan is not based on the best available
19 science and is significantly out of date.

20 (7) Officials have been calling for years for an
21 updated recovery plan that includes metrics that, if
22 met, will allow for delisting of the Mexican wolf .

23 (8) The United States Fish and Wildlife Service
24 has failed to issue and comply with an updated re-

1 covery plan despite acknowledging that the current
2 plan is not in compliance with that Act.

3 (9) New rules issued for the Mexican wolf dra-
4 matically expand to parts of New Mexico and Ari-
5 zona, the border of Mexico, and the border of Texas
6 the area for an experimental program.

7 (10) The 10(j) nonessential experimental popu-
8 lation program for the Mexican wolf failed to secure
9 funding before being implemented.

10 (11) Any future recovery plan for the Mexican
11 wolf must incorporate the recovery work underway
12 in Mexico.

13 (b) NO FORCE OR EFFECT.—The determination by
14 the United States Fish and Wildlife Service of the endan-
15 gered status for the Mexican wolf (*Canis lupus baileyi*)
16 under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C.
17 1531 et seq.), published January 16, 2015 (80 Fed. Reg.
18 2488), and the listing of such species as an endangered
19 species under that Act pursuant to such determination,
20 shall have no force or effect.

21 (c) TERMINATION OF RULE.—The final rule entitled
22 “Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Revi-
23 sion to the Regulations for the Nonessential Experimental
24 Population of the Mexican Wolf”, published January 16,

1 2015 (80 Fed. Reg. 2512) shall also have no force or ef-
2 fect.