

Resolution No. 4-1215

Whereas, the WI DNR established a wolf goal of 350 (minimum overwinter count) animals in 1999, and reaffirmed this minimum overwinter count goal in 2007, based on prey availability and human population density, and nothing has happened to increase prey availability or decrease human density in the intervening years, and

Whereas, the WI DNR plans to review and revise the previous wolf management plan, adopted in 1999 and revised in 2007.

Whereas, the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation and WI Farm Bureau have officially approved a WI wolf goal of 350 or less.

Whereas, the Wisconsin Conservation Congress Spring Hearings (2011) overwhelmingly supported a WI wolf minimum over winter count goal of 350 or less.

Whereas, twenty (32) county boards Wisconsin have passed resolutions that recommend a wolf population goal of 350 (7) or 350 or less (24), or 50 or less (1),

Whereas, Wisconsin's residents have experienced depredations and threatening incidents involving wolves, including 81 incidents to animals and 6 threats to human safety in 2013, occurring in 21 counties, and

Whereas, the high predator population, in particular wolves, has resulted in the reduction of the deer population where wolves are plentiful, reduced hunting opportunities, curtailed livestock and pleasure horse activities, and are a danger to pets and people,

Therefore, be it resolved that the Iowa County Board advises that Wisconsin approve a wolf overwinter minimum count goal of 100 or less in the next revision of the Wisconsin Wolf Plan, and

Be it further resolved that the Iowa County Board requests that the Wisconsin DNR and other partners implement meaningful population controls in the next Wisconsin Wolf Plan to bring the wolf minimum overwinter count to goal levels, and

Be it further resolved that the Iowa County Board requests that the WI DNR not relocate wolves that have caused problems in Wisconsin or other areas into any county in Wisconsin.

Be it further resolved that the Iowa County Board favors management of Wisconsin's wolves by the State of Wisconsin, not the federal government.

WOLVES – WHY 350 (OR LESS) IS THE MAXIMUM FOR WISCONSIN

WHO SUPPORTS A WOLF GOAL OF 350 OR LESS IN WISCONSIN?

- Thirty-two Wisconsin County Boards have passed resolutions supporting a wolf goal of 350 (7) or 350 or less (24), or 50 or less (1). The votes: Barron, Burnett, Vilas, Taylor, Florence, Forest, Iron, Jackson, Lincoln, Marinette, Oconto, Oneida, Price, Shawano, Waushara, Waupaca, Grant all passed unanimously, Adams, 16 for, 2 against, Ashland 16/2, Clark 27/1, Langlade 14/3, Rusk 10/1, Sawyer 10/2, Douglas 22/2, Wood 14/3, Bayfield 9/3, Portage 22/2, Marathon 32/2, Marquette 16/1, Juneau & Polk motion carried, voice vote. Washburn voted for 50 or less 11 in favor, 9 opposed. These votes represent 1,025,000 WI citizens.
- The Wisconsin Farm Bureau's 44,000 members support a wolf goal of 350 or less.
- The Wisconsin Farmer's Union supports a wolf goal of 350.
- The Wisconsin Cattleman's Association supports a wolf goal of 80, the original recovery number.
- The Indianhead Polled Hereford Assoc., N. WI Beef Producers Assoc., and WI Hereford Assoc. all support a wolf goal lower than 350.
- The WI Bowhunter's Association Board and membership supports a wolf goal of 350 or less.
- The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation, representing 198 organizations, officially supports a wolf goal of 350 or less.
- The WI Trapper's Assoc. supports a goal of 350 wolves.
- The Wisconsin Bear Hunter's Association supports a goal of 100 wolves.
- In an attitude study done by the Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies, UW Madison, 66.5% of respondents favored a wolf population of 350 or less - Wisconsin Wolf Policy Survey – Changing Attitudes, 2001 – 2009, Adrian Treves, et al.
- The WCC Spring Hearing in 2011 voted overwhelming in favor of reducing the wolf population to 350 or less (3989 for/827 against, passed in all 72 counties). 350 or less was again approved by WCC delegates at the 2013 annual convention.

WHERE DID THE NUMBER 350 COME FROM?

In the WI Wolf Management Plan approved in the 1999 and 2007 the goal was 350 wolves.

Wolf population modeling studies done the late 1990s by David Mladenoff, Professor of Forest Ecology, U.W. Madison, used a spatial landscape projection to estimate the potential wolf population in primary wolf habitat. Wolves have shown a willingness to live in many areas not originally seen as primary wolf habitat. Whatever biological carrying capacity wolves may have, social carrying capacity is a limiting factor for wolf numbers in WI.

In social surveys worldwide, results show less enthusiasm for wolves in areas where people encounter them, and more enthusiasm by people who are less likely to encounter wolves. Familiarity does not seem to increase tolerance.

At this time, wolves are again on the endangered species list, but several methods of returning wolves to state control are being explored. The federal relisting number for wolves remains at 100 wolves in MI and WI, under authority of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service removal plan.

Wisconsin will soon release a draft revision of the Wolf Management Plan. What wolf goal will best serve the needs of Wisconsin's residents and its wildlife?

Questions or comments: contact Laurie Groskopf 715-453-6301, harrisonhounds@hotmail.com 7/23

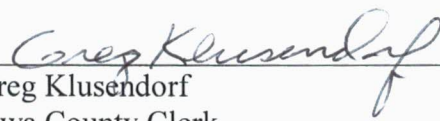
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Adopted this 15th day of December, 2015.



John M. Meyers
Iowa County Chairman

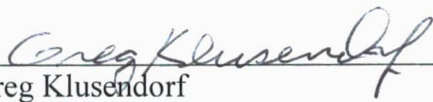
ATTEST:



Greg Klusendorf
Iowa County Clerk

CERTIFICATION OF ADOPTION

This is to certify that the attached resolution was duly adopted by the Iowa County Board of Supervisors on the 15th day of December, 2015.



Greg Klusendorf
Iowa County Clerk